

PRRIP – ED OFFICE 5/24/2017

PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SUBJECT: P17-013: Tract W1606 Slurry Wall Storage Facility

Engineering Design and Construction Administration

Services

REQUEST DATE:
PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING:
CLOSING DATE:
POINT OF CONTACT:
June 12, 2017
June 28, 2017
July 14, 2017
Kevin Werbylo

Headwaters Corporation

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I. OVERVIEW

The Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (**Program**) was initiated on January 1, 2007 between Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, and the Department of the Interior to address endangered species issues in the central and lower Platte River basin. The species considered in the Program, referred to as "target species", are the whooping crane, piping plover, interior least tern, and pallid sturgeon.

A Governance Committee (**GC**) reviews, directs, and provides oversight for activities undertaken by the Program. The GC is comprised of one representative from each of the three states, three water user representatives, three representatives from environmental groups sharing two votes, and two members representing federal agencies. The GC has named Dr. Jerry Kenny to serve as the Program Executive Director (**ED**). Dr. Kenny established Headwaters Corporation as the staffing mechanism for the Program, which is referred to as the Executive Director's Office (**EDO**). EDO staff are located in Nebraska and Colorado and are responsible for carrying out Program-related activities.

A key milestone for the First Increment of the Program (2007 to 2019) is reducing deficits to United States Fish and Wildlife Service (**USFWS**) target flows by an average of 130,000 – 150,000 acre-ft (**AF**) annually. One of the Program's Water Action Plan (**WAP**) project concepts to achieve the reduction to deficits is retiming of excess flows through surface water storage and flow augmentation. Specifically, in an effort to meet Program milestones and to maximize available resources, the Program has been evaluating existing gravel pits in the central Platte River region of Nebraska for their ability to act as storage facilities. This would be accomplished by equipping the existing (already excavated) pits with a slurry wall barrier along their perimeters to create finite storage domains. Water would then be delivered/released to/from the facilities as needed.

- During the preliminary investigation, an existing gravel pit on the Program's newly acquired Tract W1606 (near Elm Creek, NE) was selected as a priority location for construction of a
- slurry wall storage facility (Attachment A). As part of the preliminary plan, surface water is



delivered to the facility during times of high flow and released from the facility during times of low flow. Deliveries would likely be made via open channel and/or pipeline, and releases back to the river would be made in the same manner using both gravity and pumps. In general, it is believed that deliveries and releases of 20 to 30 cubic feet per second (**CFS**) can be achieved. In addition to constructing the pit on Tract W1606, the Program plans to build two additional storage facilities on Program-owned neighboring lands (Tract W201602 and Tract W1703 in **Attachment A**) to create a complex with three storage facilities spread across the three tracts (all three tracts are collectively referred to as 'complex' herein).

The GC submits this Request for Proposals (**RFP**) to provide engineering design services for the slurry wall storage facility on Tract W1606, as well as the development of a reconnaissance-level design for additional facilities at the complex. Specifically, the Consultant¹ will work with the Executive Director's Office (**EDO**) to develop a reconnaissance-level design for the construction of three slurry wall storage facilities across the complex, and to develop a final design and bid documents for the slurry wall storage facility on Tract W1606. The Consultant will then manage the bid letting process and will oversee quality control and quality assurance during the construction project.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The complex of interest is located near the town of Elm Creek, NE, at the intersection of Dawson, Phelps and Buffalo counties (**Figure 1**). The complex is located south of the Platte River and includes lands in all three of the named counties. The EDO, in conjunction with Program advisory committees, has developed an initial concept (**Attachment A**) in which water is delivered to the slurry wall storage facility on Tract W1606 by way of an existing conveyance ditch or a pipeline from a proposed well field. The water is then stored in the slurry wall facility. Preliminary analyses suggest that the pit will be able to store about 1,500 acre-feet (**AF**) of water once modified and shaped to final form. It is expected that additional storage could be made available by constructing an earthen berm and extending the slurry wall through the berm to allow for above grade storage. Water will then be released from the pit when flow augmentation is desired by the Program. Given the complexity and scale of the project, it is anticipated that the system will be controlled by a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA)-type system.

The work required by the Consultant will include the development a reconnaissance-level design for the entire complex and a final design for the slurry wall storage facility on Tract W1606. The two designs will be advanced simultaneously as to ensure the long-term plan for the complex is considered in the final design of the facility on Tract W1606. The reconnaissance-level design for the complex will include general layouts and alignments, while the final design for the facility on Tract W1606 will include but not be limited to designing the delivery systems (open channels, pipelines, gates, pumps, etc.), modifying the geometry of the existing pit to make it an

¹ In this document, the term Consultant is used to describe both the RFP respondent providing the proposal and the successful respondent who will be performing the work upon award of the project.

adequate storage facility, designing the slurry wall mix, and designing the outlet systems. Exploratory geotechnical and surveying will likely be needed. Once the final design of the facility is completed, the Consultant will be responsible for bid letting and providing on-site construction administration for quality control and quality assurance.

Figure 1: Map showing the location of the slurry wall storage complex, as well as the location of nearby towns, roadways, waterways and county boundaries.

Preliminary project specifications are listed below as an indication of the anticipated scale of the project. Please note: these are preliminary estimates and are subject to change during the design process. The selected Consultant will be responsible for evaluating and refining the information presented below.

- Earthwork will be necessary to shape the existing pit into final form, build berms to provide above grade storage, and/or provide conveyance to and from the site. The quantity of earthwork is highly dependent on the final design but is expected to be 100,000 CY or less.
- Additional construction activities will include but not be limited to: mobilization and demobilization, erosion control, installation of water conveyance and water control structures and installation of SCADA components.
- The total area of the existing pond it about 60 acres, and the total available storage after modification is expected to be about 1,500 AF.

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The Consultant will work with the EDO, Program advisory committees and other stakeholders to develop a preliminary, reconnaissance-level design for the entire complex. The preliminary

- design will be brought to a level such that it can be evaluated and agreed to by Program decision-
- makers. At that point, the Consultant will be responsible for advancing the preliminary design at
- 113 Tract W1606 to a final design and developing an associated bid package that includes but will
- not be limited to construction documents, stamped engineering plans and technical
- specifications.

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- 117 While developing the designs and bid package, the Consultant will also be responsible for
- working with an on-call Program consultant and the EDO to ensure that all construction and
- environmental permits are obtained. The on-call Program consultant has been hired to assist in
- obtaining United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 permits. In addition to
- the 404 permit, it is anticipated that at a minimum the Consultant will need to obtain a National
- Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) construction stormwater permit, as well as
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources permits necessary to store and release surface water.

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III. SCOPE OF WORK

In response to this RFP, the Program seeks proposals from Consultants to perform design, bid package development, bid letting, and construction administration services for the Tract W1606 Slurry Wall Storage Facility, as well as a reconnaissance-level design for the entire complex. A preliminary listing of scope task descriptions, timelines, responsibilities and deliverables are presented below. Please note: these are not final or all-inclusive and are solely intended to provide a general overview of project scope and requirements. The final tasks and deliverables will be developed jointly by the Program's Executive Director's Office (EDO) and the Consultant.

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TRACT W1606 SLURRY WALL STORAGE FACILITY DESIGN, PERMITTING & CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION

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1) Project Kickoff

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b) *Task Description* – The EDO will prepare a contract that will include the scope of work, fee schedule and budget (all prepared in draft form by the Consultant), as well as a full-day meeting between the Consultant and the EDO in Kearney, Nebraska where existing information (including topographic data, aerial photographs, preliminary geotechnical data, and conceptual schematic sheets) will be reviewed discussed. The meeting will also include a site visit.

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c) Task Timeline – August 2017



d) Task Responsibilities

- i) Consultant Prepare and provide the EDO with a draft scope of work, fee schedule and budget that will be reviewed and included in the final contract. Prepare for and attend kickoff meeting.
- ii) *EDO* Prepare contract documents. Review final scope, fee schedule and project budget. Organize and attend kickoff meeting.
- e) *Deliverables* Detailed project work plan complete with a finalized scope, schedule and budget, and a final contract.

2) Project Management and Meetings

- a) *Objective* Ensure that all project meetings and communication between the EDO and the Consultant are successfully coordinated such that the project remains on-schedule.
- b) *Task Description* Meetings between the EDO and the Consultant will continue for the duration of the project. Likely, brief (roughly 15 to 30 minute) "check-in" meetings will occur via phone or web about once per week for the duration of the project. In addition, longer (roughly 1 to 3 hour) "project update" meetings will occur as needed for the duration of the project. It is expected that a minimum of 3 to 5 "project update" meetings will occur and will be either in the office of the Consultant or the ED Office in Kearney. These meetings will be used to ensure proper coordination of project activities and to keep the EDO and Program stakeholders informed of project progress. In addition, the Consultant (in conjunction with the EDO) will give presentations to Program participants, advisory committees and/or the Governance Committee (GC). It is expected that a minimum of 2 of these presentations will be necessary.
- c) Task Timeline Duration of project.

d) Task Responsibilities

- i) Consultant Provide the EDO with regular project updates, attend "check-in" and "project update" meetings, present to project stakeholders, prepare meeting materials (presentations, handouts, meeting minutes, etc.), and keep a project binder with meeting minutes and other important documents.
- ii) EDO Schedule, coordinate and attend meetings and presentations.
- e) *Deliverables* Project binder with meeting minutes and other important documents.

3) Engineering Design and Cost Estimating

a) *Objective* – Develop a preliminary, reconnaissance-level design of slurry wall storage facilities across the complex. In addition, complete a final design for the facility on Tract W1606 that can be immediately implemented.

b) *Task Description* – Review existing data and utilize conceptual schematics, survey data, aerial images, preliminary geotechnical data and other pertinent information to develop a reconnaissance-level design for the entire facility. During this phase of the project, the Consultant will identify needs for supplemental information necessary to complete the reconnaissance-level design for the complex and the final design of the facility for Tract W1606. It is likely that the Consultant will need to oversee supplemental survey and/or geotechnical campaigns to collect additional information. As part of the reconnaissance-level design, the Consultant will be responsible for identifying slurry wall options, associated infrastructure for diverting and storing water in the reservoir, and an outlet delivery system to put augmentation water into the Platte River by gravity and/or pumping. An engineering memo/report will be prepared upon completion of the reconnaissance-level design outlining the design concept, anticipated cost, and permitting considerations. The design will be reviewed by Program stakeholders using the design memo and/or a presentation. The approved design at Tract W1606 will be advanced to the final design stage.

The final design will include plans and details necessary for the construction of the slurry wall, associated infrastructure to deliver water into the completed reservoir, associated infrastructure to deliver water to the Platte River, all necessary power infrastructure to operate the project, and identification of all easements and permits to construct and operate the project. The Consultant will develop a final quantity and cost estimate for the project. Finally, the Consultant will provide an operation and maintenance schedule/manual for the Tract W1606 facility.

c) Task Timeline – August 2017 to April 2018

d) Task Responsibilities

- i) Consultant Development of a reconnaissance-level design for the complex and a final design at Tract W1606. The reconnaissance-level and final designs will be presented in the form of an engineering design report, complete with quantity and cost estimates.
- ii) EDO Provide existing information, coordinate, and review designs.
- e) *Deliverables* Technical engineering reports presenting design and quantity/cost estimates.

4) Permitting

- a) *Objective* Obtain all necessary construction permits and clearances for the final alternative at Tract W1606.
- b) *Task Description* Coordinate with EDO staff and the Program's on-call permitting consultant, as well as all necessary federal, state and local agencies/authorities to ensure that necessary construction permits and clearances are obtained. It is assumed that a

minimum of 3 to 5 in-person meetings with regulatory agencies/authorities (each about 1 to 2 hours long) will be needed specifically for this purpose.

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c) Task Timeline – February 2018 to July 2018

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d) Task Responsibilities

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i) *Consultant* – Coordinate with EDO to ensure that everything needed for permit application is obtained.

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ii) *EDO* – Coordinate with the Consultant.

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e) *Deliverables* – Completed applications for permits and clearances needed for project construction.

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5) Bid Package Development and Bid Letting

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a) *Objective* – Develop and let bid package for the final design at Tract W1606.

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b) *Task Description* – Development of stamped construction plans and technical specifications that will make up a bid package. The Consultant will lead the bid advertisement effort, assist in pre-qualification of bidders, participate in the pre-bid meeting (on-site for about 1 to 2 hours) and bid opening (in Kearney for about 1 hour), and negotiation of a contract for construction services.

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c) Task Timeline – August 2018 (or as soon as permitting allows)

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d) Task Responsibilities

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i) *Consultant* – Prepare bid package, review bidder qualifications, and organize and coordinate the pre-bid meeting and bid opening.

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ii) *EDO* – Provide input and assistance to the Consultant. Set up scoring process for selecting Contractor based on bids received, with input from Consultant.

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e) *Deliverables* – Bid package for construction services and participation in pre-bid meeting and bid opening.

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6) Construction Administration

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a) *Objective* – Ensure that the contractor's work is consistent with the final design and technical specifications.

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b) *Task Description* – Observe and ensure quality of construction of the project such that the finished project is in substantial compliance with the design sheets and technical specifications developed by the Consultant. In addition, the Consultant will review and coordinate the construction contractor's monthly requests for payment and make recommendations to the EDO on subsequent payment to the contractor.



c) *Task Timeline* – October to December 2018, and late spring and/or early summer of 2019

d) Task Responsibilities

 Consultant – Construction observation and quality control on completed work, oversight of payments and coordinating with EDO staff. Completion of required documentation under construction-related permits.

ii) EDO – Provide input and assistance to the Consultant.

e) *Deliverables* – Weekly construction log and progress update memos. Construction permit documentation and recording.

7) Project Monitoring

a) *Objective* – Establish and oversee a monitoring program to determine the effectiveness of the completed lined reservoir and the associated infrastructure.

 b) *Task Description* – Design and install flow measurement stations to monitor groundwater seepage into the reservoir, reservoir inflows, river deliveries, precipitation and evaporation. This measurement system may include flumes, piezometers, rain gages, pan evaporation, flow meters, data loggers etc. All data will be stored and accessible by the EDO on equipment they specify and procure. Design an Xcel spreadsheet accounting form to track the flow measurement data on a daily basis.

c) Task Responsibilities

 Consultant – Design, construction oversight and calibration of monitoring program. Spreadsheet accounting form design and QA/QC checks to validate the monitoring data is being downloaded and stored accurately. Provide training to EDO staff on operation of the system.

ii) *EDO* – Provide input and assistance to the Consultant. Procure required measurement equipment as specified by Consultant.

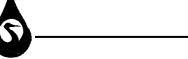
d) *Deliverables* – Operational project monitoring system, and monitoring reports.

IV. PROJECT BUDGET

 An estimated project budget should be submitted in the proposal. Proposals will not be evaluated solely on cost, but it will be a consideration in the selection process. Consultants are encouraged to be as detailed on their budget as possible. Please include labor rates and hour estimates as these will be the basis for development of the final scope and budget.

V. CONTRACT TERMS

The selected consultant will be retained by:



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- Nebraska Community Foundation
- 331 PO Box 83107
- 332 Lincoln, NE 68501

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Contracted services will be performed on a time and material not to exceed basis. Under the final contract, written Notice to Proceed from the Executive Director will be required before work begins. All work will be contingent on availability of Program funding.

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VI. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All interested parties having experience providing the services listed in this RFP are requested to submit a proposal.

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Instructions for Submitting Proposals

Proposals must be submitted in two forms: electronic and hard copy. Details are below:

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347 348 One electronic copy of your proposal (in PDF format) must be submitted and two hard copies must be submitted to the ED Office in Kearney, Nebraska no later than 12:00 pm Central Time on Friday, July 14, 2017. Both the electronic and hard copy versions of the proposal must be received by the deadlines for the proposal to be considered. Late proposals will not be accepted.

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- Submissions should be addressed to:
- 352 Attn: Kevin Werbylo
- 353 PRRIP Executive Director's Office
- 354 4111 4th Avenue, Suite 6
- 355 Kearney, NE 68845

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Note: The one electronic copy of your proposal can be submitted on a flash drive with the hard copies or it can be submitted in PDF format via email to Kevin Werbylo at werbylok@headwaterscorp.com. If emailed, it is the responsibility of the Consultant to ensure that the electronic version is of adequate size to be delivered via email.

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Questions regarding the information contained in this RFP must be submitted to Kevin Werbylo (werbylok@headwaterscorp.com) no later than 5:00 pm Central Time on Thursday, July 6, 2017. No questions on content can be submitted after this time. Questions must be emailed, they cannot be mailed, called in, or asked using any other means. Please do not call the ED Office with specific questions regarding the proposal. Questions and answers will be shared with all interested parties through the Program website (www.PlatteRiverProgram.org) in the same location as this RFP solicitation. Questions and answers may be posted intermittently during the proposal period but will be finalized and made available by 8:00 am Central Time on Friday, July 7, 2017.



Pre-Proposal Meeting

A pre-proposal meeting of interested parties will be held on **Wednesday**, **June 28**, **2017** at the Program Conference Center (4111 4th Avenue, Ste. 6) in Kearney, Nebraska from **1:00-2:30 p.m. Central Time** to address questions associated with this RFP. **Attendance** at this pre-proposal meeting is **MANDATORY**. If unable to attend in person, interested parties can attend the pre-proposal meeting via conference line. At least one representative from every team must attend either in person or via the conference line.

The meeting will include a discussion of the conceptual layout developed by EDO staff, as well as additional details about Program needs, the scope of services, and the timeline. It is the Consultant's responsibility to ask questions necessary to understand the RFP such that the Consultant can submit a proposal that is complete and in line with the RFP requirements. EDO staff will **not** take or distribute meeting minutes (this includes questions from the consultants and answers from EDO staff).

At the conclusion of the mandatory portion of the pre-proposal meeting, a site visit to the slurry wall storage facility complex will be led by EDO staff. Attendance at the site visit is **NON-MANDATORY** and interested parties will be required to provide their own transportation to and from the site. It is anticipated that the site visit will end at about 4:00 pm Central Time.

Parties interested in attending the pre-proposal meeting **must** RSVP by email to Kevin Werbylo (werbylok@headwaterscorp.com by 5:00 pm CT by Monday, June 26, 2017 with the following information: (1) list of expected attendees from your party; (2) whether you plan to attend the pre-proposal meeting in person or by conference line; and (3) whether or not you and the other attendees from your party plan to attend the site visit. If joining the meeting via conference line, the call in information will be provided to you via email prior to the meeting.

Proposal Content

1) **Executive summary:** Provide an overview of the project that condenses and highlights the contents of the proposal in such a way as to provide a broad understanding of the Consultant's qualifications and proposal approach.

Proposals should respond to the following general topics:

2) **Project understanding:** Discussion that demonstrates the Consultant's understanding of the project's purpose, key design elements and constraints.

 3) **Project approach:** Discussion of the Consultant's approach to providing the engineering design and construction administration services detailed in this RFP. The proposal should include critical issues, tasks, and other key considerations that formulated the approach detailed in the RFP. Please note: the scope provided in this document was done so as general guidance and original thinking and/or discussion of improvements to the approach/scope are welcome.



4) Qualifications and project experience: Discussion of the qualifications and project experience of the Consultant. The Consultant should include relevant projects completed by the team, team organization, and resumes/qualifications and responsibilities of the individuals on the team. A licensed Professional Engineer in Nebraska is a requirement.

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5) Schedule: Identify general schedule and critical issues for each of the tasks. As stated, the final scope/schedule will be negotiated following the selection of the winning Consultant.

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426 427 6) **Budget:** Provide an estimated project budget using the seven major tasks described in the draft scope outlined in this RFP. Include sub tasks and descriptions, complete with labor rates and estimated hours. This budget will be the basis for contract negotiation upon award of the project, once a final scope is agreed to by the Consultant and the EDO.

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7) Conflict of interest statement: Address whether or not any potential conflict of interest exists between this project and other past or on-going projects, including any projects currently being conducted for the Program.

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8) **Description of insurance:** Provide proof of insurance with the proposal as this will be required before a contract is issued to the Consultant. Minimum insurance requirements will include \$1,000,000 general liability per occurrence.

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9) **D-U-N-S number:** Provide a statement affirming that the Consultant is NOT on the federal suspended and disbarred list and provide Dun & Bradstreet (D-U-N-S) number.

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Criteria for Evaluating Proposals

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The Governance Committee appointed a Proposal Selection Panel that will evaluate all proposals and select a Consultant based on the following principal considerations:

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1. The Consultant's understanding of the project, including: goals, constraints, design elements and general approach.

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2. The Consultant's approach to meeting those objectives as detailed in the proposal. Budget will be a consideration in this task (but selection will not be made based on budget).

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3. The Consultant's qualifications and the relevant experience of the proposed project team members. Specifically, experience working on a slurry wall style storage facility. 452

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4. Performance on past Program projects. Past experience is **NOT** a requirement but will be considered, if applicable.

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5. Clarity and content of the proposal.



Award Notice

After completing the initial evaluation of each proposal the Selection Panel will select a number of Consultants to short-list and interview. After interviews, the Selection Panel will select a Consultant. The selected Consultant will be given the opportunity to negotiate with the EDO to establish a fair and equitable contract. If an agreement cannot be reached, a second firm will be invited to negotiate and so on. If the Program is unable to negotiate a mutually satisfactory contract with a consultant, it may, at its sole discretion, cancel and reissue a new RFP.

Program Perspective

The Governance Committee of the Program has the sole discretion and reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received in response to this RFP and to cancel this solicitation if it is deemed in the best interest of the Program to do so. Issuance of this RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the Program to award a contract, or to pay Consultant's costs incurred either in the preparation of a response to his RFP or during negotiations, if any, of a contract for services. The Program also reserves the right to make amendments to this RFP by giving written notice to Consultants, and to request clarification, supplements, and additions to the information provided by a Consultant.

By submitting a proposal in response to his solicitation, Consultants understand and agree that any selection of a Consultant or any decision to reject any or all responses or to establish no contracts shall be at the sole discretion of the Program. To the extent authorized by law, the Consultant shall indemnify, save, and hold harmless the Nebraska Community Foundation, the states of Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska, the Department of the Interior, members of the Governance Committee, and the Executive Director's Office, their employees, employers, and agents, against any and all claims, damages, liability, and court awards including costs, expenses, and attorney fees incurred as a result of any act or omission by the Consultant or its employees, agents, sub consultants, or assignees pursuant to the terms of this project. Additionally, by submitting a proposal, Consultants agree that they waive any claim for the recovery of any costs or expenses incurred in preparing and submitting a proposal.

VII. AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The following pertinent Program-related documents can be accessed either from the Program web site (www.PlatteRiverProgram.org) or by contacting Kevin Werbylo (werbylok@headwaterscorp.com):

- Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, Final Program Document. October 24, 2006
- Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, Attachment 5, Water Plan. October 24, 2006



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Attachment A: Tract W1606 Slurry Wall Storage Facility Concept

