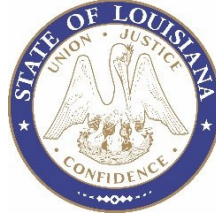


Office of State Procurement
State of Louisiana
Division of Administration

JEFF LANDRY
Governor



TAYLOR F. BARRAS
Commissioner of Administration

February 21, 2024

ADDENDUM NO. 04

Your reference is directed to RFX No. 3000022098 for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Division of Administration (DOA) – Office of Technology Services (OTS) to furnish Local Telecommunication Services which is currently scheduled to open at 10:00 a.m. (CT) on March 7, 2024.

The following change is to be made to the referenced solicitation:

Attachment A – Request for Proposal (RFP), replaced in its entirety.

The Proposer’s written inquiries received by the inquiry deadline date of January 18, 2023 and the State’s responses are included on the attached page numbers 3 – 6.

All else remains as on the original Request for Proposal.

THIS ADDENDUM IS HEREBY OFFICIALLY MADE A PART OF THE REFERENCED SOLICITATION.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: If you have already submitted your proposal and this Addendum does not cause you to revise your proposal, you should acknowledge receipt of this Addendum by identifying your business name and by signing where indicated. You may return this Acknowledgement by mail, by hand delivery, or courier to: Office of State Procurement, 1201 N. 3rd Street, Claiborne Building- Ste. 2-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or by fax to: (225) 342-9756. The State reserves the right to request a completed Acknowledgement at any time. Failure to execute an Acknowledgement shall not relieve the bidder from complying with the terms of its proposal.

Addendum Acknowledged/No changes:

For: _____ By: _____

REVISION: If you have already submitted your proposal and this Addendum requires you to revise your proposal, you must indicate any change(s) below, identify your business name and sign where shown. Revisions shall be delivered prior to proposal opening by mail, by hand delivery or courier to: Office of State Procurement, 1201 N. 3rd Street, Claiborne Building- Ste. 2-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, and indicate the RFX number and the proposal opening date and time on the outside of the envelope for proper identification, or by fax to: (225) 342-9756. Electronic transmissions other than by fax are not being accepted at this time

Revisions received after proposal opening shall not be considered and you shall be held to your original proposal.

Revision:

For: _____ By: _____

By: Krystal Frank
Office of State Procurement
Telephone No. 225-342-4672
Email: krystal.frank@la.gov

Written Inquiries
Local Telecommunications Services
Solicitation No. 3000022098
File Number: T 92595

Proposer's Inquiry #1:

Section 6.0, Contractual Terms and Conditions:

May Proposers submit exceptions to the RFP's terms and conditions, and/or provide supplemental terms and conditions for the State's consideration in order to align the final contract with the Proposer's solution?

State's Response #1:

The State will review/consider exceptions requested of the Proposer. However, the Proposer should note that some terms and conditions are non-negotiable and may result in the Proposer's proposal being deemed administratively or technically flawed.

Proposer's Inquiry #2:

Section 2.2 Calendar of Events:

Given the anticipated date for providing answers to Written and the Mardi Gras holidays that fall during the first half of February, will the State of LA consider providing an extension to push back the Bid Submission Deadline to allow ample time for proposers to evaluate the state's responses to the written inquiries then finalize the solution and provide a quality response that fully aligns with the clarifications provided in the answers to written inquiries?

State's Response #2:

The State will not amend Section 2.2 Calendar of Events at this time.

Proposer's Inquiry #3:

Section 3.2 Technical Requirements

Can the State provide any details on the applications for the requested Business Lines? (i.e.: Analog lines for basic voice Calling, Analog lines for Faxing, Compliance lines for security systems, elevators, critical telecommunications services (Red Line priority phone connections, etc)

State's Response #3:

Applications for the Business Lines are as listed along with fire alarms, modems, and credit card machines.

Proposer's Inquiry #4:

Section 3.2 Technical Requirements

Can the state provide any estimated line counts or maximum number of business lines needed per location?

State's Response #4:

The State does not have the information on business lines per location. There are over 4,000 lines in use today.

Proposer's Inquiry #5:

Section 3.2 Technical Requirements

Does the State require > 2 PRI handoffs at a given location. If so, can the state provide an estimate of the maximum number of PRI Handoffs that would be needed at a single location?

State's Response #5:

This is not a requirement.

Proposer's Inquiry #6:

Section 3.2 Technical Requirements

Is the state open to leveraging "Over the Top" voice telecommunication services that would leverage existing Internet connections as transport for the voice services (PRIs / Business Lines) to a given location? Or does service offering need to include dedicated transport for the business lines / PRIs provided?

State's Response #6:

The State requires the dedicated transport.

Proposer's Inquiry #7:

Section 3.4 and 3.5 Service Restoration / Service orders & Trouble Reporting

Does the State require a Dedicated Service Manager in addition to the dedicated Account Manager for providing quick resolution for service issues and proactive review of service issues to identify and mitigate recurring problems.

State's Response #7:

See Revisions to Section 3.5.1 of this RFP in this Addendum No. 04. The State requires a dedicated single point of contact.

Proposer's Inquiry #8:

Section 4.1.3. Where the State stipulates – "The Proposer shall not bill and the State shall not pay for any itemized regulated charges." Is it the intent of the State to not pay for any itemized regulated charges on top of the predicted and published rates?

State's Response #8:

See Revisions to Section 4.1.3 of this RFP in this Addendum No. 04.

Proposer’s Inquiry #9:

Section 4.1.3. Where the State stipulates – “The Proposer shall not bill and the State shall not pay for any itemized regulated charges.” Just as long as the vendor does not exceed the predictable published rate, vendor may include all associated regulated charges that make up their predictable rate on invoices. If this is not an accurate interpretation, how should vendors provide details on mandated regulatory charges?

State’s Response #9:

See Revisions to Section 4.1.3 of this RFP in this Addendum No. 04.

Proposer’s Inquiry #10:

Section 4.1.3. Where the State stipulates - “The Proposer shall not bill and the State shall not pay for any itemized regulated charges.” All FCC-regulated service providers have always itemized charges for transparency purposes for any public sector entity authorized to buy of State Contract. Although the State may not have to pay certain fees and charges, other government entities are often mandated to demonstrate transparency by requiring their vendors provide itemized details of the charge components, particularly when taxes and fees are applied. This has served to protect all customer when tax and fee schedules increase or decrease. It also offers local government entities proof their fees are being applied. Examples: parish 911 fees and that they are benefiting from their tax exempt status. How should vendors respond to this RFP in respect to public sector entities that do require this level of detail?

State’s Response #10:

See Revisions to Section 4.1.3 of this RFP in this Addendum No. 04.

Proposer’s Inquiry #11:

Section 4.1.3. Where the State stipulates - “The Proposer shall not bill and the State shall not pay for any itemized regulated charges.” The Louisiana Public Service Commission has direct approval authority over certain regulated services. Has the decision to restrict vendors from itemizing taxes and fees been reviewed by the Louisiana Public Service Commission?

State’s Response #11:

See Revisions to Section 4.1.3 of this RFP in this Addendum No. 04

Proposer’s Inquiry #12:

Section 3.2.5 Where the State stipulates - “The Contractor shall participate in the FCC Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) program and have interface to the State's equal access providers for interLATA and interstate calling.” This question implies that TSP may be ordered by the State. The RFP does not allow for bidders to provide a cost structure for TSP (Install, Repair) charges. Where should vendors provide service details and pricing?

State's Response #12:

See Revisions to Section 3.2.5 of this RFP in this Addendum No. 04.

Proposer's Inquiry #13:

Section 3.2.4: "The State will not pay any construction costs that are not included in the one-time and monthly rates provided for herein." The most likely intent of this requirement is to ensure the State does not pay to build out vendor infrastructure to the property line. In certain scenarios this stipulation may preclude vendors from establishing or maintaining service to an address. Example: If a State agency requested a demark move as part of an elective remodel. So as to avoid cancelling or no-bidding a future service request, what other options would the state consider?

State's Response #13:

See Revisions to Sections 3.2.4 and 6.2.3.1 of this RFP in this Addendum No. 04. Construction costs will not be included in the contract.