

**EL PASO WATER – PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

RFQ 55-23

June 6, 2023

RE: Request for Qualifications (RFQ) - Professional Engineering Services

PROJECT: **ON-CALL GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES**

ATTENTION:

Proposals are being accepted by El Paso Water (EPWater) for Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from interested firms for:

ON-CALL GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

Most projects identified at this time have been approved in the FY2023/2024 capital improvements program, however others will be identified throughout the year. The nature of these contracts will be for on-call services for a period of three (3) years effective from the date of the contract award date (PSB meeting date). Within the three-year contract time, multiple task orders may be issued under each contract. However, total task orders amount will be limited to a maximum of \$1,000,000. If work on a task order is issued prior to the expiration of the contract, the work order will remain in effect until completion of the work order. EPWater may select multiple qualified consultants for this on-call contract. The estimated costs for these projects can range from \$100,000 to \$10 million (engineering and construction).

All inquiries and communication regarding this Request for Qualifications must be submitted via e-mail to AESelections@epwater.org with the Subject Line beginning with the RFQ/RFS Number followed by the title of the RFQ/RFS. Example: “RFQ 55-23 - On-Call Geotechnical Services”

Submit electronic copy of the Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) in PDF format by e-mail. File size should be no more than five megabytes (5MB). The due date for SOQ submittals is **June 28, 2023 by 3:00 P.M.**

RFQ SCHEDULE

The following Schedule of Events represents EPWater’s best estimate of the schedule that will be followed. EPWater reserves the right to modify the schedule as required.

EPWater issues RFQ.....	June 6, 2023
Deadline for Submission of Requests for Clarification	June 20, 2023 by 5:00 P.M. (MST)
EPWater provides Responses/Clarifications.....	June 22, 2023
Deadline for Submission of SOQ and PRF.....	June 28, 2023 by 3:00 P.M. (MST)
Notify Selected Team(s) Estimated Date.....	July 12, 2023
Present to Board for Approval	August 9, 2023

PROJECT SCOPE

EPWater is requesting professional engineering services to provide/assist with: On-Call Geotechnical Services. The projects will involve water, wastewater, reclaimed, or stormwater projects and includes but is not limited to construction materials testing at construction sites. Construction sites may include transmission and distribution mains, sewer interceptor and collection lines, elevated reservoirs, pump stations, stormwater facilities including conveyance systems, detention ponds, dams, and channels.

Project Scope includes any and/or all of the following tasks depending on the specific project:

Develop scope of work for assigned geotechnical services tasks based on project design requirements and required geotechnical information for owner or design consultants to complete and execute design tasks for water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure improvement projects. Geotechnical scope of work shall include providing geotechnical subsurface exploration information and recommendations for the following, but not limited to these tasks:

1. Gather and review of any historical data available to consider in the development of geotechnical engineering scope of work and recommendations.
2. Soils: Develop a scope of work with proposed subsurface exploration methods and laboratory engineering soil classification tests to develop and provide the project-required geotechnical design information and related recommendations.
 - Soil Sampling
 - Moisture-Density Relationship (Proctor) ASTM-D698 or D1557
 - Grain Size Distribution - #200 Test ASTM–D6913 & D1140
 - Atterburg Limits (PI) ASTM-D4318
 - Field Density ASTM-D6938 (Nuclear Method)
 - Field Density ASTM-D1556 (Sand Cone Method)

3. Provide geotechnical recommendations; but not limited to the following types of projects:
 - Water Storage Tanks (Elevated, Ground Supported and Buried)
 - Booster Stations
 - Lift Stations
 - Water and Sewer Pipelines and Plants
 - Utility Tunneling Projects
 - Stormwater Collection, Conveyance, and Improvement Projects
 - Back-up Power Infrastructure Projects
 - Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Below Ground and Above Ground Structure Projects
 - Dam Evaluation Projects
 - Forensic Evaluation of Existing Utility Structures

4. Geotechnical Engineering Analysis and Report shall include the following information and recommendations based on the type of projects assigned:
 - Ground water depth information and findings during field work exploration
 - Site Condition Information
 - Summary of Reviewed Historical Data and Design Plans
 - Geologic Information and Seismic Structural Coefficients
 - Potential Ground Liquefaction Conditions
 - Allowable Soil Bearing Capacity Values
 - Difficulty to Perform Earthwork Excavations and Potential Excavation Methods
 - Suitability of Encountered Soil or Rock materials during geotechnical subsurface exploration and potential construction use as pipeline backfill and engineering structural fill
 - Perform soil slope stability analysis (i.e., berms, embankments and cut slopes) and provide recommendations for slope construction (i.e., slope angles, protection, anchoring, backfilling material requirements and compaction)
 - Provide recommendations for slope protection or stabilization methods to mitigate slope erosion and maintenance
 - Provide lateral earth pressure coefficients for below grade structures and retaining wall structures
 - Trench Safety Considerations
 - Considerations for Ground Vibration and Movement Monitoring During Construction
 - Construction of Structures with shallow ground water conditions and structures under submerged conditions
 - Considerations Related Structure Buoyance

- Dewatering Considerations
- Short and Long-Term Groundwater Monitoring Considerations
- Estimates of Structure Immediate and Long-Term Settlements and Potential Mitigation Methods
- Information related to Soil Corrosivity and Cathodic Protection
- Replacement Flexible and Rigid Pavement Design Sections
- Soil Improvement requirements for project related site-work structures (walls, sidewalks, and curbing)
- Soil Compaction Requirements and Fill Moisture Control Tolerances
- Recommended Frequencies of Testing for Soils, Concrete, Mortar, Grout, and Paving Materials
- Recommendations for Additional Soil Exploration based on findings within initial geotechnical evaluation

5. Materials Testing:

A. Concrete

- 1) Concrete Sampling Casting and Pick Up of Cylinders
- 2) Compressive Strength ASTM-C39 (4 Cylinders per set)
- 3) Concrete and Asphalt Cores

B. Hot Mix Asphaltic Concrete (HMAC)

- 1) HMAC Sampling and Testing
- 2) Molding HMAC for Flow/Stability
- 3) Extraction/Gradation
- 4) Marshall Density / Stability and Flow
- 5) Field Density Asphalt ASTM-D6938
- 6) Base Course Proctor, SA, PI (w/D-4718 Oversize Correction)
- 7) Field Density Base Course ASTM D 6938

C. Earthwork

- 1) Sampling of Select Fill and Existing Subgrade Materials
- 2) Atterberg Limits and Percent Fines
- 3) Moisture-Density Relationships
- 4) Sampling of Cement-Sand Backfill
- 5) Utility Trenching Compaction Testing
- 6) Subgrade Compaction Testing

- 7) Base Course Compaction Testing
- 8) Observation of proof-rolling operations

The objectives are to provide professional geotechnical services and materials testing services resulting in enhanced project efficiency on schedule within budget while meeting the specific Task Order assignment(s) objectives while assuring the work is to accreditation standards and in compliance with standard geotechnical, materials testing, and Utility practices.

Restriction of Communication: From the time of release of this solicitation until final award is made to a successful respondent and such award is announced, interested firms are not permitted to communicate about this solicitation or scope with any staff or any official representatives of EPWater, or their consultants, except for submission of questions as instructed in this RFQ. EPWater reserves the right to disqualify the submittal of any respondent in violation of this policy.

SUBMITTAL EVALUATION

All firms must follow the requirements listed below. It is the firm's responsibility to assure compliance with these requirements. Failure to follow these instructions may result in disqualification.

- A. The Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) is to be submitted electronically in PDF format by e-mail to aeselections@epwater.org. File size should be no more than five megabytes (5MB). Use provided SOQ template (Exhibit A). The size of the lettering shall not be less than 11 size font. Line spacing shall be single-space. Attach a cover page and a one-page cover letter on the SOQ.
- B. SOQ will be evaluated using the criteria below:
 1. **FIRM PROFILE (30 POINTS)**
 - a. Provide general information about your Firm, such as lines of business, service offerings, locations of home and other offices, number of employees (professional and non-professional), years in business.
 - b. No template required to provide this information. Three (3) pages maximum.
 2. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (Pass/Fail)**
 - a. The firm shall have a full-time registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas with minimum of eight (8) years' experience on geotechnical engineering and materials testing.

- b. Team shall have a Technical Service Group certified in the following:
 - American Concrete Institute (ACI) – Grade I and II
 - Nuclear Gauge Operator and Safety Training Certification
 - TXAPA – Level 1B and 1A
 - c. All firms on the team must be registered in the State of Texas
3. **PROPOSED PROJECT TEAM AND TEAM MEMBER EXPERIENCE (40 POINTS)**
- a. Provide Organizational Chart showing relationship between team members and sub-consultants.
 - b. The team members required for this project are:
 - Principal in-charge
 - Project Manager
 - Technical Service Group
 - QA/QC Manager
 - Scheduler
 - Sub-consultants (*if any*)
 - c. Provide team member resume showing role, qualifications, experience, and availability. Use Exhibit A, Item B template to provide this information.
 - d. Project Team and Team Members will be scored based on completeness of the team, qualifications, experience, and availability.
4. **PAST PROJECT EXPERIENCE (40 POINTS)**
- a. The firm shall provide a maximum of four (4) past project experiences similar in scope and size in the past 10 years. Use Exhibit A, Item C to provide this information.
 - b. The project experience shall include project name, name of owner, project location, reference name with current contact information including telephone number and e-mail address, original construction cost, final construction cost, original completion date, actual completion date, brief explanation for delays, change orders, project team member involved on the project and their role.
 - c. Each project experience can acquire a maximum of 10 points based on the similarity of project scope, complexity of the project, and role of the team member on the project.

POST SELECTION PROCESS

Firms who were not selected will be notified in writing of the decision. The selected Firms will contract directly with the EPWater and will work to successfully provide the full scope of professional services required to complete the project requirements.

EPWater will evaluate inquiries and issue an appropriate response. All questions and responses and additional information will be included and issued in an Addendum.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Exhibit A – Statement of Qualifications
2. Exhibit B – Project Reference Form