

SECTION 102 - BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS

Make the following amendments to said Section:

(I) Amend 102.01 Prequalification of Bidders to read as follows:

"102.01 Prequalification of Bidders. Prospective bidders shall be capable of performing the work for which they are bidding.

According to Section 103D-310, HRS, each prospective bidder shall file written notice of its intention to bid no later than 4:30 P.M., 10 calendar days before the bid opening date (not including the bid opening date), at the Contracts Office, Department of Transportation, 869 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. If the tenth day is on a Saturday, Sunday, or State holiday, the Notice of Intention to Bid is due on the last working day before the due date. Mailed notice must be received in sufficient time to meet the deadline set above. Faxed notice is acceptable provided the Contracts Office receives the faxed notice within the time stated above. The fax number is (808) 587-2132. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the Contracts Office receives the Notice of Intent on time and in a legible condition.

According to said Section 103D-310, the Department may require any prospective bidder to submit answers to questions contained in the 'Standard Qualification Questionnaire For Prospective Bidders On Public Works Contracts' on the form furnished by the Department, properly executed and notarized, setting forth a complete statement of the experience of such prospective bidder and its organization in performing similar work and a statement of the equipment proposed to be used, together with adequate proof of the availability of such equipment. Whenever it appears to the Department, from answers to the questionnaire or otherwise, that the prospective bidder is not fully qualified and able to perform the intended work, the Department will, after affording the prospective bidder an opportunity to be heard and if still of the opinion that the bidder is not fully qualified to perform the work, refuse to receive or consider any bid offered by the prospective bidder. All information contained in the answers to the questionnaire shall be kept confidential. Questionnaire so submitted shall be returned to the bidders after serving their purpose.

Failure to complete the prequalification questionnaire will be sufficient cause for the Department to disqualify a prospective bidder.

No person, firm or corporation may bid where (1) the person, firm, or corporation, or (2) a corporation owned substantially by the person, firm, or corporation, or (3) a substantial stockholder or an officer of the corporation, or (4) a partner or substantial investor in the firm is in arrears in payments owed to the State of Hawaii or its political subdivisions or is in default as a surety or failure to do faithfully and diligently previous contracts with the State."

(II) Amend 102.04 Estimated Quantities by revising the last sentence of the last paragraph to read as follows:

"The Department may increase, decrease, or omit each scheduled quantities of work to be done and materials to be furnished. When the Department increases or decreases the estimated quantity of a contract item by more than 15% the Department will make payment for such items according to Subsection 104.02 - Alterations of Plans or Type of Work."

(III) Amend 102.08 Proposal Guaranty to read as follows:

"102.08 Proposal Guaranty. The Department will not consider a proposal of \$25,000 or more unless accompanied by:

- (1) a deposit of legal tender; or
- (2) a valid surety bid bond, underwritten by a company licensed to issue bonds in the State of Hawaii, in the form and composed, substantially, with the same language as provided herewith and signed by both parties; or
- (3) a certificate of deposit, share certificate, cashier's check, treasurer's check, teller's check, or official check drawn by, or a certified check accepted by and payable on demand to the State by a bank, savings institution, or credit union insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).
 - (a) The bidder may use these instruments only to a maximum of \$100,000
 - (b) If the required security or bond amount totals over \$100,000 more than one instrument not exceeding \$100,000 each and issued by different financial institutions shall be acceptable.
 - (c) The instrument shall be made payable at sight to the Department of Transportation, State of Hawaii.

According to Section 103D-323, HRS, the above shall be in a sum not less than 5% of the amount bid."

(IV) Amend 102.12 Disqualification of Bidders to read as follows:

"102.12 Disqualification of Bidders. The Department may disqualify a bidder and reject its proposal for the following reasons:

- (1) Submittal of more than one proposal whether under the same or different name.

(2) Evidence of collusion among bidders. The Department will not recognize participants in collusion as bidders for any future work of the Department until such participants are reinstated as qualified bidders.

(3) Lack of proposal guaranty.

(4) Submittal of an unsigned or improperly signed proposal.

(5) Submittal of a proposal without a listing of subcontractors or containing only a partial or incomplete listing of subcontractors.

(6) Submittal of an irregular proposal according to Subsection 102.07 - Irregular Proposals.

(7) Evidence of assistance from a person who has been an employee of the agency within the preceding two years and who participated while in State office or employment in the matter with which the contract is directly concerned, pursuant to Section 84-15, HRS."

(V) Delete 102.14 American Products Preference in its entirety.

(VI) Amend 102.15 Declaration of Non-Collusion to read as follows:

"102.15 Declaration of Non-Collusion. Each bidder shall execute and submit a 'Declaration of Non-Collusion' with its bid. Failure to execute and submit said declaration will be sufficient grounds for rejection of bid."

(VII) Amend 102.16 Substitution of Materials and Equipment to read as follows:

"102.16 Substitution of Materials and Equipment.

(A) Substitution Before Bid Opening. The Department will not review substitution request before bid opening. Bidders shall base bids on the specified item.

(B) Substitution After Bid Opening. The Contractor may make substitutions that are equal or better after bid opening with the written acceptance by the Engineer."

(VIII) Add the following:

"102.18 Preferences.

(A) In-State Contractors Preference. A 7% preference shall be given to qualified In-State Contractors when awarding a contract for Public Work projects according to Act 352, SLH 1997. To qualify for the preference, Contractors must provide proof, with their bid, in the form of a tax clearance certificate, that they have filed State of Hawaii Unemployment, General excise, and Income Tax returns for the two successive years immediately prior to submitting the bid when the amount of their bid is five million dollars (\$5,000,000) or less, and for four successive years immediately prior to submitting the bid when the amount of their bid is more than five million dollars (\$5,000,000).

Contractors desiring an In-State Contractor's preference shall complete the application for a tax clearance and submit the application to DOTAX for a tax clearance certificate. Only original tax clearance certificates or certified copies will be accepted for this purpose. The tax clearance certificate required as a part of the bid proposal package described in Section 102.20 - Tax Clearance is acceptable for this purpose. However, the bidder is cautioned that the "special letter" is not acceptable for this purpose. Failure to submit the tax clearance certificate with the bid proposal automatically voids the selection of the In-State Contractor preference.

If any bidder selects and qualifies for an In-State Contractor preference, the Engineer will increase the original bid prices from bidders who do not select or qualify for the In-State Contractor preference by 7% for evaluation purposes.

In-State Contractor preference, when selected by the bidder, may not be used in combination with any other preferences, such as the Hawaii Products Preference.

(B) Preference for Hawaii Products. The bidder's attention is directed to Sections 103D-1001 and 103D-1002, HRS and Subchapter 1, Chapter 124, Subtitle 11 of Title 3, HAR which provide preferences for Hawaii Products. According to Section 103D-1002, HRS, the bidder may examine the Hawaii Products List at the State Procurement Office, State Office Building, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.

If a product listed in the Hawaii Products List is available and meets project specifications, such product will be designated in the contract documents as a qualified product which may be used in the performance of the project.

If the bidder intends to claim preference for products on the Hawaii Product List and such is not listed, the bidder shall immediately notify the Contracts Office, Department of Transportation, so the Engineer may take corrective or other appropriate actions.

It is further understood by the bidder that if the bidder elects to furnish qualified Hawaii Products, and is awarded the contract, then fails to use such products or meet the requirements of such preference, the bidder shall be subject to the statutory penalties, provided in Section 103D-1002, HRS, and such other remedies as may be available to the State.

For the purpose of determining the lowest bid price only, the provisions of Section 103D-1002, HRS., shall apply. Any contract awarded or executed in violation of Section 103D-1002, HRS, shall be void and no payment shall be made on account of such contract.

(C) Preference for Recycled Products. Recycled Products shall not apply to this project.

(D) Evaluation Procedures and Contract Award. The bidder may not use the In-State Contractor preference in combination with any other preference otherwise available under State or Federal law. If the bidder indicates in its proposal that it elects the In-State Contractor preference to be applied to its bid, no other preferences will be allowed and all other preference selections made by the bidder will be ignored.

For bid evaluation, the Engineer will evaluate the bids by applying the applicable preferences selected by the bidders according to the contract. The Engineer will base the calculations for adjustments upon the original bid prices offered. If more than one preference applies, the evaluated bid price shall be the sum of the original bid price plus applicable preference adjustments.

However, if the bidder selects, but does not qualify for the In-State Contractor Preference, the bidder will be given the Hawaii Products Preference for bid evaluation purposes, provided that the bidder has completed the required information in the Schedule of Acceptable Hawaii Products and Designation of Hawaii Products to be used. If a bidder has designated use of a Hawaii Product and fails to provide the product, the contract will become void and no payments will be made, even though the bidder is claiming the In-State Contractor Preference.

The Engineer will award the contract to the responsible bidder submitting the responsive bid with the lowest evaluated bid price. The contract amount of the contract awarded shall be the original bid price offered exclusive of any preference.

102.19 Certification for Safety and Health Program for Bids in excess of \$100,000. According to Section 396-18 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the bidder or offeror, by signing and submitting this proposal, certifies that a written safety and health plan for this project will be available and implemented by the notice to proceed date for this project. Details of the requirements of this plan may be obtained from the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Occupational Safety and Health Division (HIOSH)."

102.20 Tax Clearance. All bidders should submit original tax clearance certificates or certified copies from the Department of Taxation (DOTAX) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with their bid proposals when the bid is \$25,000 or more. Bidders are required to provide a tax clearance prior to entering into a public contract of \$25,000 or more, pursuant to ACT 352, SLH 1997.

Tax clearances may be obtained by completing the Tax Clearance Application (Form A-6) and submitting it to the DOTAX or the IRS. The application may be obtained from the DOTAX, or the IRS. The application may be mailed in or walked in to either the DOTAX or the IRS. Both tax agencies encourage the use of their mail-in process, which should be completed within 21 calendar days. Tax clearance certificates will be issued to the applicant upon determination that the applicant has filed all tax returns due, and has paid all amounts owing on such returns, including penalty and interest."

Only original tax clearances or certified copies will be accepted for this purpose. Failure to submit the required tax clearance certificates will be sufficient grounds for the State to refuse to receive or consider the prospective bidder's proposal.

Tax clearance certificates are valid for 6 months. The validity period will begin with the later approval date stamped on the tax clearance.

The tax clearance submitted with the bid proposals must be valid on the solicitation's first legal advertisement date or any date thereafter up to the bid opening date. Valid tax clearances submitted with the proposal will remain valid for the contract award and encumbrance.

If a business cannot obtain a tax clearance certificate because of tax delinquencies, it may submit a 'special letter' from DOTAX and/or the IRS. The 'special letter' may only be obtained if

- (1) the business has an existing installment agreement with the tax agency, or
- (2) the delinquency is the subject of an administrative or judicial appeal.

The bidder is cautioned that the 'special letter' from the IRS must be certified by DOTAX. All conditions applied to tax clearance certificates for this purpose are applicable to these 'special letters'. Instructions to obtain the 'special letter' are available from each respective tax agency.

Various combinations of tax clearance certificates and 'special letters' are acceptable for this purpose as follows:

- (1) Tax clearance signed by both tax agencies;
- (2) Individual tax clearance certificates from each tax agency, respectively;
- (3) Tax clearance certificate from one tax agency and a 'special letter' from the other tax agency; or
- (4) 'Special letter' from both tax agencies."

END OF SECTION