



# Brazos River Authority

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January 25, 2021

## Addendum No. 1 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE RFP No. 21-01-1195

It is the responsibility of the Respondent to assure and guarantee by acknowledging the receipt of this Addendum in the Proposal that the Respondent has received the Addendum in its entirety, and that the Respondent accepts all conditions contained herein.

### **Question 1:**

Can BRA please provide chemical and waste inventory currently documented in its assets?

### **Answer 1:**

The following are Tier II chemicals utilized at water and wastewater treatment facilities. This list IS NOT considered a complete list of all chemicals used within BRA:

- |                            |                                   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Gaseous Chlorine        | 2) Sulfur Dioxide                 |
| 3) Liquid Ammonium Sulfate | 4) Sulfuric Acid/Aluminum Sulfate |
| 5) Activated Carbon        | 6) Sodium Hypochlorite            |

The Brazos River Authority (BRA) utilizes a variety of chemicals in water treatment plants, wastewater treatment facilities, dam structure rehabilitation projects, raw water pipeline restoration, property, building and equipment maintenance activities. Waste streams generated, from the previously mentioned activities, vary greatly depending on project scope of work, specific task and chemicals used.

A respondent must be able to safely manage (identify, abate, contain, remove, remediate, transport, dispose) any type of hazardous chemical, material or contaminant regardless of physical state (liquid, gas, solid, vapor, etc.); hazardous characteristic (corrosive, caustic, reactive, ignitable, explosive); or impact to soil, water or air.

### **Question 2:**

Can BRA please define the type of response expected within 15 minutes (i.e., is BRA referring to being able to reach a contractor team member via phone within 15 minutes to confirm deployment details and timeline)? 2. Scope of Services – e. What action(s) are sufficient to meet the requirement to “respond within 15 minutes of notification.”?

### **Answer 2:**

BRA acknowledges that a respondent may use an independent third-party answering service to respond to calls 24/7. However, from the time BRA notifies the answering service, the respondent has 15 minutes for a technical expert to contact BRA and discuss type of event; environmental and/or public impact; expected type and quantity of response team/equipment; acceptable response arrival time, etc.

### **Question 3:**

Other than accidental releases of hazardous or controlled substances, or of waste water, what other type of emergencies does BRA anticipate that will need response?

### **Answer 3:**

BRA conducts a variety of tasks to operate and maintain water treatment plants, wastewater treatment facilities, dam structure rehabilitation projects, raw water pipeline restoration, property, building and equipment maintenance activities. A variety of chemicals and materials are used to conduct these activities. Any activities could result in a public health threat or an environmental impact that may contaminate soil, water or air.

Other types of emergency examples are listed below in response to Question 15.

**Question 4:**

Will BRA accept partners identified as team members on the prime's team aimed at strengthening the team in our offering or will those be considered as subcontractors and hence be limited to only one?

**Answer 4:**

Partnering is considered subcontracting.

**Question 5:**

Can the certifications BRA is requiring for key positions be replaced with equal experience?

**Answer 5:**

No, certifications quantify minimum standards.

**Question 6:**

Can BRA please clarify the description of security services?

**Answer 6:**

In certain circumstances or site specific conditions security services may be required to protect property, equipment, etc. when left unattended. In addition, security services may be required to control access to a work site that contains BRA sensitive information, property or operations.

**Question 7:**

Does BRA currently have an emergency response plan in place, if so can we review a copy of it? If not, is BRA seeking contractor to development of emergency response plan?

**Answer 7:**

Yes, the applicable facilities have emergency response plans. Copies may be provided to the awarded respondent if applicable.

**Question 8:**

What is BRA's current incident command structure?

**Answer 8:**

As an agency of the state, BRA is required to comply with NIMS, which has also been adopted into BRA policy by the Board of Directors

**Question 9:**

Could one individual cover multiple roles or do roles need to be covered by separate individuals?

**Answer 9:**

One person may represent multiple roles if they are qualified or certified for each role. However, if one person is covering multiple roles and is unable to maintain safe and efficient operations of each role, within the agreed work schedule, the contractor may be considered delinquent in fulfilling their responsibilities.

**Question 10:**

Can BRA confirm its need to see the detail of our proposed approach to address the elements in S2 a.-d.?

**Answer 10:**

Yes.

**Question 11:**

Will BRA be providing a rate sheet like from previous years that contractors enter their suggested rates? Or do we submit our own rate sheet?

**Answer 11:**

BRA is not requesting rates at this time, please do not include rates within your submission.

**Question 12:**

Subcontracted Services on page 7 of the RFP, it lists (3) options of personnel. Are these the only (3) positions and / or services that we are allowed to subcontract?

**Answer 12:**

Refer to Section 2: Scope of Services K.2 Subcontracted Services language contained states "Subcontracted services may include, but are not limited to, the following". A, B and C are examples but not limitations.

**Question 13:**

Further down in the document Other Services are listed and include Laboratories, Transportation, Disposal, etc., are these other services not allowed to be subcontracted?

**Answer 13:**

If a respondent does not own the services or equipment listed it shall be considered subcontracted.

**Question 14:**

What is BRA's subcontracted / 3<sup>rd</sup> party markup requirements? How do we list or define the percentages?

**Answer 14:**

Subcontractor markup will be negotiated with the successful respondent.

**Question 15:**

Narrative Submission – in reading the details of items that we must write narratives towards, how do we list out how many personnel, what equipment and how many, time lines, etc., if there is not a scenario spill for us to work from? For example, the Response Plan portion requests that we detail specifics; how many people, what equipment and so on. But if we do not know what the incident is and details about it, how do we determine number of personnel to respond? This is also the case with the Mobilization / Initial Response section and throughout the remaining line items listed within this section.

**Answer 15:**

Please use the following information to formulate your narrative submissions.

BRA conducted accident prevention evaluations and determine the following scenarios are the most probable types of emergency response occurrences:

- 1) Water or wastewater treatment chemical release from storage container or process supply lines,
- 2) Chemical or hazardous material release from rehabilitation or new construction project involving: raw water pipeline or lake intake structure maintenance; dam structure rehabilitation and maintenance projects; lake park and roadway maintenance projects; capital project operations,
- 3) Surface water or lake impact from boat submersion, releasing fuels, oils, lubricants, coolants, etc. on lakes Limestone, Granbury or Possum Kingdom,
- 4) Heavy equipment or vehicle incident resulting hydraulic line rupture, engine oil, lubricant or coolant release,
- 5) Wastewater bypass from treatment plant or lift stations that may result in public health threat or environmental impact.

A respondent must be capable of providing any type of response to any type of employee or hazard exposure, public health threat or environmental impact.

**Question 16:**

Tab Format – is BRA providing a document that we need to fill out or do we create our own and ensure that all required items are labelled per the Tabs that are listed within the RFP? And what about the narrative submissions, do they need to follow the Tab requirements as well? We will be submitting our response via electronic. Therefore, do we need to title each attachment as a Tab? Can we submit multiple attachments? Or does it need to be (1) pdf that encompasses all RFP requirements?

**Answer 16:**

No, Vendor is required to create their own tabs based on the outline in the solicitation. You can submit multiple attachments.

**Question 17:**

Page 9 / Tab A / #4 ask for litigation details to be listed following the “attached example”. I do not see an example listed within the RFP provided.

**Answer 17:**

The Example Response to Litigation History Question can be found in the solicitation after the Conflict of Interest Form.

**Question 18:**

Is this RFP for a “first time” contract or a replacement for an existing/expired contract?

**Answer 18:**

Replacing an existing contract that will be expiring soon.

**Question 19:**

Will there be multiple contract recipients or a single source? If there are multiple contract recipients, will they be assigned a specific geographic area? If a single source contract is issued will the response area include the total area encompassed by the BRA?

**Answer 19:**

This will be a single contract to cover all BRA operations.

**Question 20:**

2. Scope of Services – e. Comment: it is our opinion that it unreasonable to include the requirement that a Contractor “**complete any emergency services requested under this contract within 48 hours from the time the BRA representative notifies the contractor.**” Factors such as the nature of the emergency, location, nature and size of the impacted area, type of impact, access, physical and chemical characteristics of the materials involved, volume of material involved, regulatory requirements, summary reporting and a multitude of other undefined variables renders the requirement unattainable except in the simplest situations. Would you consider redrafting to “**complete any emergency services requested under this contract as quickly as practical following notification by the BRA representative.**“?

**Answer 20:**

Delete section 2 Scope of Services, E and replace with the verbiage below.

“The contractor shall respond to an emergency request within 15 minutes of notification, 24hrs/day, 7 days/week, 52 weeks/year. The contractor will provide any emergency services requested under this contract; provide work schedule and completion timeframe estimates within 2 hours of arrival to the work site. BRA understands extenuating and unanticipated circumstances may change projected completion timeframes. These circumstances and alternative timeframes must be explained to BRA immediately upon discovery and pre-approved before implementation.”

**Question 21:**

What is the rationale for the requirement in 2. Scope of Services - f. – No more than one subcontracted service, per project, is allowed for support or specialty service, unless preapproved by BRA? Would you consider preapproval of a list of various subcontract items and/or sources that could be established prior to need? What criteria would be used by BRA as the basis for approval of a subcontract service? Given that the RFP attempts to place virtually all of the responsibility for safe and efficient completion of the work, for which the exact Scope has not been defined, on the Contractor, why include a preapproval of subcontractors by a BRA representative and limit the number to one?

**Answer 21:**

BRA expects respondents to be fully equipped and employ technically advanced staff capable of resolving any environmental compliance issues, health & safety concerns, training needs, or emergency management implications identified by BRA.

**Question 22:**

In place of the degree or certification requirements for the emergency management coordinator, would training in ICS 100, 200, 300, 400, 700, and 800, plus 10 years of direct emergency management response experience, plus a B.S. be considered for this position?

**Answer 22:**

NIMS training courses (ICS 100,200,300,400,700 and 800) provides minimal training standards expected for emergency management coordinators. NIMS training is required as minimal training standards, however the Emergency Management Coordinator must hold a degree in Emergency Management or a license/certification from the International Association of Emergency Managers, Emergency Management Association of Texas or an accredited association with the same credentials.

**Question 23:**

Tab A, Section 4 asks for example projects, and a name and phone number for a client reference for each project. We also work for state agencies which do not allow their staff to provide references. However, these agencies provide a contract scorecard that rates the services we provide (the Federal Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System, and Texas Comptroller Vendor Performance Tracking System). Will it be acceptable to substitute the scorecard for a reference person for these clients?

**Answer 23:**

Yes, this will be acceptable.

Sincerely,

*Clarissa Cabrera, CTCD, CTCM*

Clarissa Cabrera, CTPM, CTCM  
Purchasing Manager, Administrative Services