

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEER, BOND COUNSEL, FINANCIAL ADVISOR, AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The South Freestone County Water Supply Corporation (“the WSC”) requests the submission of qualifications statements, which will lead to the possible award of contracts to provide services for a project involving the WSC’s water system.

Scope of Work

Services to be provided by Engineer: professional engineering services associated with proposed (a) planning, permitting, environmental, design, and construction management phase services and other additional services associated with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Texas Water Fund – Water Loss Mitigation funding programs; and (b) assistance in application preparation and documentation to federal, state, and other possible funding sources.

Services to be provided by Bond Counsel: assist in obtaining loan and/or grant funding and to provide legal opinion concerning the validity of any debt obligations issued by the WSC for capital financing; prepare of resolution authorizing and securing the debt and/or authorizing any grant or principal forgiveness agreements, as necessary.

Services to be provided by the Financial Advisor: strategic financial planning; analysis of market conditions; recommended investments of bond and grant proceeds; provide recommendations to the WSC for financing through programs established by the TWDB, including loan, grant, and principal forgiveness funding.

Services Provided by Administrative and Professional Services: assistance in organizing, preparing and substantiating the TWDB application process and fulfilling the requirements to successfully submit all necessary documentation and coordinating resources to ensure timely submittals. Providing guidance and communication with all parties.

Guidelines for Content of Qualification Statements

DO NOT INCLUDE COST INFORMATION with the qualification statement. Responses that include cost or pricing information will be rejected and will not be considered by the WSC.

Detailed instructions on preparation of the qualification statement must be obtained from the WSC. For more information on preparing and submitting the qualification statement, please contact Christal Smith, at christal.sfcwsc@gmail.com or by phone at 903-389-5952.

This information should be requested as soon as possible to allow time to prepare the document and comply with the procedures.

Submittal Deadline

The RFP is available from the WSC upon request. An electronic pdf of the official submittal of the response should be submitted by 4:00 p.m., September 19, 2024, via email to Christal Smith, General Manager at christal.sfcwsc@gmail.com.

Minimum Qualifications and Selection Criteria

The WSC will evaluate the proposals to determine which firm has the best qualifications.

Contract Terms and Negotiation Schedule

Consultants for Bond Counsel, Financial Advisor, Engineering, Administrative and Professional services are expected to negotiate an agreement for services which is acceptable to the WSC. If an acceptable contract cannot be negotiated, the WSC may formally end negotiations and begin negotiating with the next highest qualified person or firm.

Contracts are contingent upon the release of funds from the TWDB. Any contract awarded under the Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) are expected to be funded in part by a loan from the TWDB. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees are or will be a party to the RFQs, or any resulting contract. These RFQs are issued in accordance with Section 2254 of the Texas Government Code (Professional Services Act) and Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 31 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments).

This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, which includes EPA-approved fair share goals toward procurement of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) firms. EPA rules require that applicants and prime contractors make a good-faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to M/WBEs through demonstration of the six affirmative steps. For more details on the DBE Program and the current, applicable fair share goals, please visit www.twdb.texas.gov/dbe.

Equal Opportunity in Employment - All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60. Small, minority, and women-owned business enterprises are encouraged to respond.

Prime contractors are required to comply with EPA's good faith effort policy when awarding sub-agreements for construction, supplies, equipment, and services. A complete version of TWDB document, "Guidance for Utilization of Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses in Procurement", is available at: www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/instructions/doc/TWDB-0210.pdf