

INVITATION TO BID

Date: September 3, 2020, September 24, 2020, October 15, 2020

PROJECT: Meter Reading System Replacement (WX21117007)

SEALED BID PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT:

Northern Kentucky Water District (NKWD)

2835 Crescent Springs Rd.
P.O. Box 18640
Erlanger, Kentucky 41018

UNTIL: Date: October 8, 2020 for City of Florence Bid Items Only
Time: 2:00 p.m., local time

UNTIL: Date: November 5, 2020 for Northern Kentucky Water District Bid Items Only
Time: 2:00 p.m., local time

At said place and time, and promptly thereafter, all Bid Proposals that have been duly received will be publicly opened and read aloud. Entities on the registered list of plan holders will be sent a link to attend the virtual bid openings. The public may access the virtual bid openings by calling Barry Miller at (859) 578-7892 to get the meeting number and password.

The proposed services are generally described as follows: Provide and install all required equipment, licenses, hardware, and software to implement a system-wide meter reading system to replace the existing Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system for the Northern Kentucky Water District (District) and the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system for the City of Florence (City) (and referred to individually as "Owner" and collectively as "Owners") to record and transmit meter readings for all of the Owners' customers. The system must be a radio frequency based system employing mobile radio, fixed radio, cellular, or a combination of these technologies. Services will include installation, training, and post-installation support. A bidder may submit bids for multiple meter reading systems. For example, a bidder may submit a bid for a mobile system, for a fixed system, and for a hybrid system. The Bidder's bid must include a deployment plan that demonstrates compliance with the requirements as defined in the Technical Specifications section.

The District has approximately 85,500 water service meters. The majority of these are read quarterly using a Badger mobile AMR system. Meters consist primarily of Badger Recordall and Neptune T10 models, but also include Badger eSeries, Master Meter Octave, Neptune Mach10, Zenner, Sensus SR11, and AMCO models. The current meter interface units (Badger model CE) are no longer manufactured by the vendor. Therefore, the District desires to replace its existing AMR system by implementing a utility-wide meter reading system, to be deployed over a period of 24 months.

The City currently has approximately 8,775 water meters, which are read using a Mueller AMI system. Through this procurement, the City intends to replace the existing AMI with a new AMI meter reading system which will provide enhanced reliability and functionality. The City's deployment is expected to be completed over a period of 12 months.

Liquidated damages shall be assessed at \$750 per calendar day past substantial completion and \$500 per calendar day past final completion.

All Bids must be in accordance with the Bidding Documents. Copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained by contacting Denise Manning at 859-426-2718. There is no charge for these documents.

A virtual pre-bid meeting will be held on October 16th, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. Prospective bidders are not required to attend, although attendance is encouraged. The possibility of funding the project through a Kentucky Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) will be discussed along with the additional requirements this funding source brings. Attendees will also be afforded the opportunity to ask additional questions.

Outside of the scheduled pre-bid meeting, all inquiries must be submitted in writing to Barry Miller with Northern Kentucky Water District, email:bmiller@nkywater.org before the COB on October 22, 2020. All responses as well as the pre-bid meeting minutes will be provided by addendum.

Site visits may be accommodated upon request but are not guaranteed. Requests for the Northern Kentucky Water District can be made by contacting Barry Miller at (859) 578-7892. Requests for the City of Florence can be made by contacting Ryan Sullivan at (859) 647-5416. Bidders must provide its own personnel protective equipment.

Bids will be received on a unit price basis as described in the Bidding Documents.

Bid security, in the form of a certified check or a Bid Bond (insuring/bonding company shall be rated "A" by AM Best) in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the maximum total bid price, must accompany each Bid.

The Successful Bidder for the District will be required to furnish a Construction Payment Bond and a Construction Performance Bond (insuring/bonding company shall be rated "A" by AM Best) as security for the faithful performance of the contract and the payment of all bills and obligations arising from the performance of the Contract with the District. The Successful Bidder for the City will agree that 10% retainage will be held on payments for all work; this will be reduced to 5% at 50% completion of the Contract.

The NKWD portion of the project only may be funded with funds provided by the Kentucky Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) with federal funds provided by the Environmental Protection Agency. An alternate bid is included to allow for SRF funding. If the alternate bid is selected by NKWD to enable SRF funding, SRF requirements (including American Iron and Steel and Davis Bacon) and provisions must be met by the Bidder and all subcontractors. If the

alternate bid is selected by NKWD to enable SRF funding, SRF requires federal prevailing wage rates to be paid to all employees of the Bidder and all employees of any subcontractor.

On the NKWD portion of the project for the SRF alternate bid item, Bidders must comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246 as amended, which prohibits discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex or national origin.

The NKWD portion of the project for the SRF alternate bid item will be in compliance with Executive Order 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity) as amended.

On the NKWD portion of the project for the SRF alternate bid item, all Bidders, Contractors and Subcontractors will comply with 41 CFR 60-4, in regard to affirmative action, to insure equal opportunity to females and minorities and will apply the time tables and goals set forth in 41 CFR 60-4.

On the NKWD portion of the project for the SRF alternate bid item, Bidders will make positive efforts to use small, minority, women owned and disadvantaged businesses.

On the NKWD portion of the project for the SRF alternate bid item, the procurement will be subject to DOW Procurement Guidance including the Davis-Bacon Act.

On the NKWD portion of the project for the SRF alternate bid item, all Bidders must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Anti-Kickback Act, and the Contract Work Hours Standard Act.

On the NKWD portion of the project for the SRF alternate bid item, the Successful Bidder and all Subcontractors will be required to conform to the labor standards set forth in the Contract Documents.

Evaluation of Bids and the awarding of a final contract are subject to the reciprocal preference for Kentucky resident bidders pursuant to KRS 45A.490 to 45A.494 and KAR 200 5:400. Each Bid must contain evidence of Bidder's qualifications to transact business in the Commonwealth of Kentucky or covenant to obtain such qualifications prior to award of the Contract. The Bidder's Organization Number from the Kentucky's Secretary of State and principal place of business as filed with Kentucky's Secretary of State must be included where applicable.

Owners reserve the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation the right to reject any or all nonconforming, non-responsive, incomplete, unbalanced, or conditional Bids, to waive informalities, to reject the Bid of any Bidder if Owners believe that it would not be in the best interest of Owners to make an award to that Bidder, and/or to accept a Bid that is deemed the most desirable and advantageous from the standpoint of customer value and service and concept of operations, even though such bid may not, on its face, appear to be the lowest price. Owner also reserves the right to negotiate with the apparent Successful Bidder to such an extent as may be determined by Owner.

Note that the District and the City will enter into separate contracts with the Successful Bidder, selecting the options and quantities that are most advantageous to each agency. Both agencies' Agreement Forms are attachments to this solicitation. **If there are tangible benefits to both Owners implementing the same system, Bidders should provide that information where prompted in the bid forms and their responses to the Technical**

Specifications. Note also that the District and the City reserve the right to select and contract with different Bidders.

Small, Minority, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises are encouraged to bid on this project.

Bids shall remain subject to acceptance for one year after the day of bid opening or for such longer period of time to which a Bidder may agree in writing upon request of the Owners. If a Contract is to be awarded, the Owners will give the Successful Bidder a Notice of Award during the period of time which the Successful Bidder's Bid remains subject to acceptance. Note that the Owners do not anticipate requiring a full year for acceptance of this bid; however, potentially time-consuming required activities include approval by the Kentucky Public Service Commission, the District's Board, and the City's Council.

Award of the Contract(s) will be made to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder in accordance with Article 15, Award of Contract, specified in the Instructions to Bidders.

The Northern Kentucky Water District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Lindsey Rehtin
V.P. Finance & Support Services
Northern Kentucky Water District

On behalf of the Northern Kentucky Water District and as Agent for City of Florence pursuant to Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the Owners.