

WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering Consultant Q&A

Question – On Page 1 of the RFQ Document, you indicate the need to augment your staff with a GEC to “ensure the timely delivery of this ambitious program”

a. Question – Can you share any information about the schedule?”

Answer: See [WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering fact sheet \(PDF 644KB\)](#)

Question – On Page 1 of the RFQ Document, under Project Description, you indicate, “The near-term projects include building five new hybrid-electric Olympic Class (HEOC) vessels, converting three Jumbo Mark II vessels to hybrid-electric propulsion and developing charging infrastructure at five terminals to support full battery-electric operation of the vessels.”

a. Question – Can you share the role, extent, or level of involvement you anticipate the GEC to have with respect to building the vessels?

Answer: WSF is subject to a statutory requirement for a modified design build process for the procurement of new ferry vessels (RCW 47.60.810-824). For the pending HEOC procurement, GEC support is envisioned in some or all of the following areas:

- Cost Estimate Validation Process
- General program management support
- Monitoring of technical proposal development and proposal/bid evaluation
- Development and implementation of quality control/quality assurance program

For subsequent, mid-term vessel procurements, the GEC will additionally support some or all of the additional areas:

- Pre-design studies
- Update of vessel design standards
- Cost estimate development
- Request for Proposals development

Question – On Page 1 of the RFQ Document, you indicate that, “Initial core GEC team consists of a Program Executive (Principal), Program Management Manager, Design Engineering Manager, and specialty lead for utility, electrical, mechanical, marine engineers, project and communication lead, and inclusion manager.

a. Question – Can we suggest alternatives to the core team structure and other roles to be on the core team?

Answer: The exact number and composition of the core team is determined by the consultant. The goal is to show us that you can deliver

WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering Consultant Q&A

Question – Page 1 of the RFQ Document refers to Inclusion Manager as a member of the core team.

a. Questions: Is the expectation that the Inclusion Manager will be acting broadly as the Inclusion Manager on behalf of the owner at the program level or just for internal GEC team?

Answer: The Inclusion Manager will support only the internal GEC team.

Question – On Page 2 of the RFQ Document, under “Areas for consultant program support for vessels and terminals”, you indicate that the scope includes “preliminary design” and “final design”

a. Question – Can you elaborate on the scope of preliminary and final design services anticipated?

Answer: It depends on the contracting method. For the DBB, provide services from the pre-design study to advertisement. For DB, provide services in getting the 30% package ready for advertisement.

b. Question – Do you anticipate that some design services will be contracted through separate design firms, or that all will be performed by the GEC?

Answer: Per the prior answer, for DB, the GEC will develop the 30% level design, as well as the other areas mentioned. Unless the contract is design build.

c. Question - Do you anticipate that all construction will be design/build, meaning the GEC would only be responsible for developing preliminary designs for DB procurement packages, and then providing design review services?

Answer The contracting delivery method has not yet been determined and may vary by project.

Question – Page 2 of the RFQ document, under, “Areas for consultant program support for vessels and terminals”, refers to “general contract administration”

a. Question – Is the expectation that the GEC will provide “General contract administration” support for the program broadly on behalf of the owner, or only for management of agreements and subconsultant agreements internal to the PM/GEC team?

Answer- The GEC will provide all internal GEC contract administration and may also be tasked with providing the general contract administration for the program.

Question – Page 2 of the RFQ Document, refers to “Quality Control and Quality Assurance (QC/QA)” as an area for consultant program support

a. Question - Is the expectation that the GEC will provide “QC/QA” support for the program broadly on behalf of the owner, or only for the work of the PM/GEC team?

WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering Consultant Q&A

Answer: The GEC will provide “QC/QA” support for their own deliverable. In addition, GEC will provide “QC/QA” support for the program broadly on behalf of the owner. The degree of support may vary by project.

b. Question – If WSF desires GEC QC/QA oversight of the entire program, to what extent would the GEC provide QC? Would you anticipate the GEC providing inspection and testing of the construction work?

Answer: Sub Consultants will do their own QC. The prime consultant is expected to manage the program QA. The degree of construction QA/QC support may vary by project.

Question – In the Criteria Document – under Criteria 1 – you ask for expertise in Medium Voltage Electrical Distribution system design, but for other disciplines, you only ask for knowledge or integration, but not “design”.

a. Question – Since the scope in the RFQ indicates preliminary and final design, will you anticipate we will provide design services for Medium Voltage Electrical Distribution and/or anything else?

Answer: Yes. Under project description, 2nd paragraph, states:

The program will develop the infrastructure by installing shore-side service improvements supporting medium-voltage charging stations at each terminal. Key elements to support the charging system include bringing power to the terminal, construction of conduits, vaults, power and marine submerged cables, service connections, transformers, switchgear, energy storage systems, and other supporting equipment at terminal.

Question – Page 1 of Criteria Definitions, under Scoring Criteria 1, item A, refers to Project Development.

a. Question - please provide the WSF definition of, and scope that would be included in, “Project Development”.

Answer: Project development includes predesign studies (including tradeoff analysis), requirements definition, preliminary design cost and schedule development

The degree of project development depends on the contracting method. If DBB, then scoping, 30%, 60%, 90%, 100%, and Design support during construction. If DB, then develop scoping, 30% level for DB and be the owner’s package reviewer throughout the DB of the project.

Question – In the Criteria Document – Criteria 2 is focused on the “Program Executive”, which you have referred to as a member of the core team and as the Program Executive (Principal) in the RFQ document. You also have asked for up to 3 examples of prior experience as a Program Executive on other projects, etc.

a. Question – Can you clarify the definition of the role of the Program Executive (Principal). In our experience, frequently the PEX (Principal) is not a member of the core team, but rather the core team is led by a Program Manager who is full-time on the program and reports to a PEX (Principal) who oversees the team. For apples-to-apples comparison, is it acceptable to provide Program Management

WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering Consultant Q&A

experience for the Project Executive, if that experience was in a leadership role over a comparable program? In many cases experience as a Program Manager on similar projects would be more consistent with what we believe you are looking for here.

Answer: The Program Executive is intended to serve as the leader of the Core Team. I did not see this an executive sponsor (part time) role. The “Program Management Manger” was a manager focused on program management functions but not overall leader of the core team.

Question – Relative to program management software systems/tools,

a. Question – Does WSF have a preferred, required and/or existing system that you wish the PM/GEC consultant to utilize, or is WSF receptive to the implementation of other PM-related software applications?

Answer: The GEC will work in WSDOT enterprise tools where they exist.

Question – The scope and program is currently fairly broadly defined

a. Question – Would WSF consider holding a pre-proposal meeting and/or site visit to share current status of planning and overall goals & objectives, and possibly more definition on scope and schedule?

Answer: No

b. Question – What delivery method(s) is/are being considered for the projects?

Answer: No decision has been made yet. Delivery methods have not been finalized and may vary by project.

c. Question – Will you anticipate the Core Team to co-locate with WSF?

Answer: No. On-site presence will be on an as-needed basis.

Question – Page 1 of the RFQ indicates that the initial core team will include “marine engineers”. Then on Page 2, in Areas for Consultant Program Support, the document lists “Naval architecture & marine engineering” and also “Terminal and vessel design integration”. Then the Criteria Definitions document under Criteria 1.A, lists “naval architecture” and also “marine (terminal and landside) engineering”.

a. Question – Do you expect one or more than one core team member in the “marine engineer” category?

Answer: The consultant is expected to provide support when needed and have a plan for delivering support in all areas listed. This will likely include marine engineers with both vessel and civil engineering expertise.

WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering Consultant Q&A

b. Question – If just one, is the preference for a terminal landside engineer or a vessel and associated systems marine engineer?

Answer: See answers above

Question – Under Scoring Criteria 5.a you request information about “a work plan”, “the work plan”, “the proposed work plan”, and “your work plan” for the project

a. Question – Please clarify if “work plan” is intended to refer to the overall Program Management Plan, or if this is only for the GEC work plan for delivery of GEC services

Answer: The “work plan” is intended to refer to your approach in developing the overall Program Management Plan and other anticipated deliverables.

Question – Under Scoring Criteria 5.a you ask, “How does your firm develop a work plan for this project.” A subsequent bullet then also asks, “Describe how your work plan addresses contingencies that may arise during the project.”

a. Question – The second bullet mentioned above seems to request our actual work plan. Do you want us to offer only our process for developing a work plan; or do you want us to provide our actual work plan (i.e., project approach).

Answer: We are looking for the approach. The intent here is to provide the process of developing the work plan.

b. Related suggestion – if the intent is not for our actual work plan, then we would offer this suggestion as to revised wording of the second bullet mentioned above: “Describe how your work plan would address contingencies that may arise during the project.”

The RFQ reads: the RFQ has “Describe each of the elements of the proposed work plan for this project; and Describe how your work plan addresses contingencies that may arise during the project.

Answer: No change to the RFQ.

Question: “Questions will be accepted through 4:00pm PST on Tuesday, September 7, 2022.”

September 7th is a Wednesday. Just wanted to clarify that you meant Tuesday, September 6th or Wednesday, September 7th?

Answer: Tuesday, September 6, 2022.

Questions on submittal instructions: Can we include a table of contents or tabs/dividers for each packet? If so, will it be counted against the page count?

WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering Consultant Q&A

Answer: Per the RFQ - Packet "A" is limited to 30 pages, single sided only, not including the front and back cover, all additional inserts will count towards 30 page maximum.

Question – Reference the Criteria Definitions, Criteria 1C, where you request, "Provide table identifying current availability of core team and resources for each firm on the proposed project team. The availability of staff must be identified as hours available per month for the first two years of the Program."

a. Question – Concerning the word "availability", is this meant to be true availability (i.e., how many hours per month is a person on hand to take assignments relative to the Electrification Program) or is this instead intended to mean "utilization" (i.e., how many hours per month will a given person be actually assigned to work on the Program)?

Answer: Base it on your work plan for the first two years

Question – Reference the Criteria Definitions, Criteria 1

a. Question – For Item A, can you provide any scoring breakdown for the various categories of expertise; also for the Org Chart?

Answer: No

b. Question – Can you provide any scoring breakdown between items A., B., C, and D?

Answer: No

Question – A-2 Debarment and Suspension

2. For all subcontracts, regardless of contract value, a Subcontractor Certification titled "Certification of Subcontractor Regarding Debarment and Suspension" is also provided under "required forms" on the first page of this advertisement web site."

Do the Prime and Subconsultants use the same form named "Government Wide Debarment and Suspension" or is there a separate form for the Subcontractors?

Answer: It's a separate form for subcontractors, please [view form. \(PDF 225KB\)](#)

Question -

1. Based on responses to recent RFQ questions and updated/clarified scope items that we are seeing as a result of those responses, we respectfully request a two week extension for this RFQ submission.

Answer: WSF is able to accommodate a one week extension.

WSF System Electrification Program General Engineering Consultant Q&A

2. Do you have a timeframe or schedule in mind for interviews for this RFQ? Can you please provide approximate dates or an anticipated timeline?

Answer: Mid to late October 2022

3. Do you anticipate having an in-person interview format?

Answer: No. Interviews will be conducted via MS Teams.