



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

January 10, 2006

Addendum No. 1

RE: Contract ID: C201229 (Proposal #1)

WBS# 33210.3.1

F.A. # BRZ-1791 (3)

Henderson County (B-3665)

Bridge over Dunn Creek and

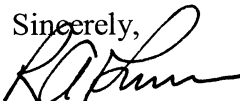
Approaches On SR-1791.

January 17, 2006 Letting

To Whom It May Concern:

Reference is made to the proposal form recently furnished to you on this project.

Page Nos. 5 thru 14 were inadvertently omitted from the proposal form. Please staple Page Nos. 5 thru 14 after Page No. 4 in your proposal. The Contract will be prepared accordingly.

Sincerely,


R. A. Garris, PE
Contract Officer

RAG/jag/pa

cc: Mr. W. S. Varnedoe, PE
Mr. S. D. DeWitt, PE
Mr. E. C. Powell, PE
Mr. J. B. Setzer, PE
Ms. D. M. Barbour, PE
Mr. Art McMillan, PE
Mr. Victor Barbour, PE

Mr. Mark Staley (2)
Mr. Robert Memory
Mr. R. E. Davenport Jr., PE
Ms. Marsha Byrd
Ms. Taylor Mishoe
Project File (2)

4. Debarment Certification – The Bidder shall provide a debarment certification in the electronic bid submittal. If a Bidder cannot provide the debarment certification required, he shall provide an explanation in the Bid Express™ miscellaneous folder within the .ebs file. The explanation will not necessarily result in denial of participation in a contract. Failure to furnish a certification or an explanation will be grounds for rejection of a bid.
5. Zero (0) is considered a valid bid. Do Not enter zero (0) in any unit price field unless zero (0) is the intended bid for that item.
6. Include all addenda in the submitted electronic bid. Bid Express™ will not accept a bid which does not contain all addenda. Section 103-2 (Correction of Bid Errors) will not apply to On-Line Electronic Bidding. All addenda and attachments will be considered part of the bid.
7. The electronic bid may be changed and resubmitted as many times as desired prior to the advertised bid opening time specified in the Invitation to Bid. The latest time stamped electronically submitted bid prior to the advertised bid opening time will constitute the Bid.
8. The provisions of Section 102-8 will apply to the preparation of bids except that the bid shall be submitted via Bid Express™ On-Line Bid Submission.
9. All bids shall be submitted with an electronically affixed digital signature. For the purpose of this provision, affixing a digital ID to the bid shall be the equivalent of signing before a notary public and placing in force the non-collusion affidavit and debarment certification on file with the Department.
10. By submitting an electronic bid, the Bidder certifies that he has read, understands, accepts, acknowledges and agrees to comply with all statements, conditions and Specifications in the electronic bid submittal.
11. Bids will be decrypted, opened, printed to paper and read publicly at the time and place specified in the invitation to bid.
12. The successful Bidder if award be made shall submit a fully executed *Execution of Contract, Non-Collusion Affidavit and Debarment Certification* signature sheet, and payment and performance bonds within 14 calendar days of receipt of award letter.
13. The Department will not be responsible if a Bidder cannot submit his bid to Bid Express™ and claims will not be accepted for this. In the event of technical difficulties, the Department reserves the right to postpone the reading of bids for up to 4 hours past the advertised bid opening time.

14. The pre-bid *Non-Collusion Affidavit, Debarment Certification signature sheet, Execution of Contract, Non-Collusion Affidavit, Debarment Certification signature sheet*, certified check or cashier’s check in lieu of electronic bid bond, payment and performance bonds shall be delivered to the Contract Office at the address shown herein:

Physical Address
State Contract Officer
Project Services Unit
Century Center Bldg. B
1020 Birch Ridge Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610

Mailing Address:
State Contract Officer
NC Department of Transportation
Contracts and Proposals
1591 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1591

SP1G60

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

07-17-01R

POLICY

It is the policy of the North Carolina Department of Transportation that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises shall have the opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part by Federal Funds in order to create a level playing field.

The Contractor is also encouraged to give every opportunity to allow DBE participation in Supplemental Agreements.

OBLIGATION

The Contractor, subcontractor, and sub-recipient shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR 26 in the award and administration of federally assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy, as the Department deems necessary.

GOALS

The following goal for participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is established for this contract:

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises 7%

The Contractor shall exercise all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises participate in at least the percent of the contract as set forth above as goals for this contract.

LISTING OF DBE SUBCONTRACTORS

All bidders, at the time the bid proposal is submitted, must also submit a listing of DBE participation on the appropriate form (or facsimile thereof) contained elsewhere in this proposal in order for the bid to be considered responsive. Bidders must indicate the total dollar value of DBE participation for the contract. In the event the bidder has no DBE participation, he is still required to indicate this on the forms by entering the word or number zero. Blank forms will not be deemed to represent zero participation. BIDS SUBMITTED WHICH DO NOT HAVE DBE PARTICIPATION INDICATED ON THE APPROPRIATE FORM WILL NOT BE READ PUBLICLY DURING THE OPENING OF BIDS. The Department will not consider these bids for award and they will be returned to the bidder. Bidders have the option of submitting their DBE participation in an abbreviated format as required in Paragraph A below, or the bidder may submit their DBE participation in the additional detail required by Paragraph B below. In the event the bidder elects to submit DBE participation in accordance with Paragraph A and is determined to be the apparent lowest responsive bidder, that bidder must deliver to the Department no later than 12:00 noon of the sixth day following the opening of bids, a detailed DBE submittal as required by Paragraph B below.

Only those DBE firms with current certification by the Department will be considered acceptable for listing in the bidder submittal of DBE participation.

- A. The Contractor shall indicate on the form for listing of DBE subcontractors contained elsewhere in this proposal the following required information:

REQUIRED INFORMATION

- (1) The names and addresses of DBE firms committed to participate in the contract
- (2) The Contract Item Numbers of work to be performed by each DBE firm; and
- (3) The total dollar amount to be paid to each DBE based on agreed upon unit prices.

Failure to indicate the required information on the specified form will cause the bid to be considered nonresponsive and it may be rejected.

- B. In lieu of submitting the information required by (A) above, the bidder may submit the detailed information that required below along with the bid proposal.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

- (1) The names and addresses of DBE firms committed to participate in the contract
- (2) The Contract Item Numbers and Contract Item Descriptions and agreed upon unit prices of work to be performed by each DBE firm; and
- (3) The total dollar amount to be paid to each DBE based on agreed upon unit prices.

Failure to indicate the required information on the specified form will cause the bid to be considered nonresponsive and it may be rejected.

The bidder is required to submit written documentation of the bidder/offeror's commitment to use a DBE subcontractor whose participation it submits to meet a contract goal and written confirmation from each DBE, listed in the proposal, indicating their participation in the contract.

The Department will not allow any substitutions, deletions, or other alterations to the listing of firms committed for DBE participation and/or the respective listed contract item numbers after opening of bids. The Department will not allow adjustments to total dollar amount of DBE participation after the opening of bids that would result in the DBE participation being less than the contract goal. The only exceptions to the requirements of this paragraph will be: (1) to allow for replacement of a DBE firm that had been decertified after opening of bids, and (2) to allow alteration of the listed contract item numbers subject to the Bidder submitting sufficient documentation to verify an obvious error in the initial submittal.

- C. If the DBE participation submitted in the bid by the apparent lowest responsive bidder in response to Paragraph A/B does not meet or exceed the DBE contract goal, the apparent lowest responsive bidder must submit information to satisfy the North Carolina Department of Transportation that sufficient Good Faith efforts have been made to meet the contract goals. One complete set and nine (9) copies of this information must be received in the office of the State Contractual Services Engineer no later than 12:00 noon of the sixth day following opening of bids. Where the information submitted includes repetitious solicitation letters it will be acceptable to submit a sample representative letter along with a distribution list of the firms being solicited. Documentation of DBE quotations shall be a part of the good faith effort submittal as necessary to demonstrate compliance with the factors listed below which the Department considers in judging good faith efforts. This documentation may include written subcontractor quotations, telephone log notations of verbal quotations, or other types of quotation documentation.

Where the bidder fails to provide this information by the deadline, the Department may impose one or more of the following sanctions: (1) disqualify the contractor and any affiliated companies from further bidding for a period of time of no more than 90 days from the date of disqualification as established in notification by certified mail, (2) disqualify the Contractor and any affiliated companies for award of all contracts for which bids have been received and opened, (3) disqualify the Contractor from the contract in question.

The following factors are what the Department will consider in judging whether or not the bidder has made adequate good faith effort:

- (1) Whether the bidder attended any pre-bid meetings that were scheduled by the Department to inform DBEs of subcontracting opportunities.
- (2) Whether the bidder provided solicitations through all reasonable and available means (e.g. advertising in newspapers owned and targeted to the Disadvantaged) at

least 10 days prior to bid opening. Whether the bidder provided written notice to all DBEs listed in the NCDOT DBE directory, within the Divisions and surrounding Divisions where the project is located, that specialize in the areas of work (as noted in the DBE Directory) that the bidder will be subcontracting.

- (3) Whether the bidder followed up initial solicitations of interests by contacting DBEs to determine with certainty whether they were interested. If a reasonable amount of DBEs within the targeted Divisions do not provide an intent to quote or no DBEs specialize in the subcontracted areas, the bidder must notify DBEs outside of the targeted Divisions that specialize in the subcontracted areas, as well as call the project Compliance Officer in the Office of Civil Rights to give notification of the bidder inability to get DBE quotes.
- (4) Whether the bidder selected portions of the work to be performed by DBEs in order to increase the likelihood of meeting the contract goals. This includes, where appropriate, breaking out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate DBE participation, even when the prime contractor might otherwise perform these work items with its own forces.
- (5) Whether the bidder provided interested DBEs with adequate and timely information about the plans, specifications and requirements of the contract
- (6) Whether the bidder negotiated in good faith with interested DBEs not rejecting them as unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capabilities. Any rejection should be so noted in writing with a description as to why an agreement could not be reached.
- (7) Whether quotations were received from interested DBE firms but rejected as unacceptable without sound reasons why the quotations were considered unacceptable. The fact that the DBE firms quotation for the work is not the lowest quotation received will not in itself be considered as a sound reason for rejecting the quotation as unacceptable. The fact that the bidder has the ability and/or desire to perform the contract work with its own forces will not be considered as sound reason for rejecting a DBE quote. Nothing in this provision shall be construed to require the Contractor to accept unreasonable quotes in order to satisfy contract goals.
- (8) Whether the bidder specifically negotiated with subcontractors to assume part of the responsibility to meet the contract DBE goal when the work to be sublet includes potential for DBE participation.
- (9) Whether the bidder made any efforts and/or offered assistance to interested DBEs in obtaining the necessary equipment, supplies, materials, insurance, and/or bonding to satisfy the work requirements in the bid proposal.
- (10) Any other evidence that the bidder submits which show that the bidder has made reasonable Good Faith efforts to include DBE participation.

In the event one bidder is the apparent low bidder on more than one project within the same letting located in the same geographic area of the state, as a part of the good faith effort the Department will consider allowing the bidder to combine the DBE participation as long as the overall goal value of all projects is achieved.

Where the apparent lowest responsive bidder fails to submit sufficient participation by DBE firms to meet the contract goal and upon a determination by the Goal Compliance Committee based upon the information submitted that the apparent lowest responsive bidder failed to make sufficient reasonable efforts to meet the contract goal, the bidder will be offered the opportunity to meet in person for administrative reconsideration. A committee appointed by the Department will hear administrative reconsideration. Members of this committee will be officials who did not take part in the original determination by the Goal Compliance Committee. The bidder will have the opportunity to present written documentation or argument concerning the issue of whether it met the goal or made an adequate good faith effort. The bidder will receive a written decision on the reconsideration. Explaining the basis for finding that the bidder did or did not meet the goal or made adequate Good Faith efforts to do so. The result of the reconsideration process is not administratively appealable to the Department.

In the event that the Department does not award the contract to the apparent lowest responsive bidder, the Department reserves the right to award the contract to the next lowest responsive bidder that can satisfy the Department that the contract goal can be met or that adequate good faith efforts have been made to meet the goal.

DBE DIRECTORY

Included with this Proposal is a list of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) which have been certified as such by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Only those DBE firms with current certification may be listed in the proposal.

The listing of an individual firm in the Department's directory shall not be construed as an endorsement of the firms' capability to perform certain work.

REPLACEMENT OF DBEs

(A) Performance Related

If any DBE Subcontractor submitted on the form for listing of DBE Subcontractors, contained elsewhere in this proposal, is terminated or fails to complete its work on the contract for any reason, the Contractor shall take all necessary, reasonable steps to replace the DBE Subcontractor with another DBE Subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work of the contract as the DBE that was terminated.

To demonstrate necessary, reasonable Good Faith efforts, the Contractor shall document the steps he has taken to replace any DBE Subcontractor who is unable to perform successfully with another DBE Subcontractor. Such documentation shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (a) Copies of written notification to DBEs that their interest is solicited in subcontracting the work defaulted by the previous DBE subcontractor or in subcontracting other items of work in the contract.
- (b) Efforts to negotiate with DBEs for specific subbids including, at a minimum:
 - (1) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of DBEs who were contacted;
 - (2) A description of the information provided to DBEs regarding the plans and specifications for portions of the work to be performed; and
- (c) For each DBE contacted but rejected as unqualified, the reasons for the Contractor's conclusion.
- (d) Efforts made to assist the DBEs contacted, if needed, in obtaining bonding or insurance required by the Contractor.

The contractor will not terminate a DBE subcontractor listed in the proposal for convenience or perform the work with its own forces or those of an affiliate without the written approval of the Engineer. If the Contractor fails to demonstrate reasonable efforts to replace a DBE firm that does not perform as intended or completes the work with its own forces without the Engineer's approval, the Contractor will be disqualified from further bidding for a period of up to 6 months after notification by certified mail.

(B) Decertification

1. If a Prime Contractor has listed a DBE firm in his low bid submitted and that DBE Subcontractor is subsequently decertified by the Department after a Request for Subcontract has been approved, then the Department will not require the Prime Contractor to solicit replacement DBE participation equal to the remaining work to be performed by the decertified firm. The participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm will count toward the contract goal but may not be counted toward the overall program goal.
2. If a Prime Contractor has listed a DBE firm in his low bid submittal and the DBE firm is decertified prior to the Department approving a Request for Subcontract for the named DBE firm, the Prime Contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to replace the DBE subcontractor with another DBE subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work to meet the contract goal or demonstrate that it has made a Good Faith effort to do so.

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this provision the following definitions will apply:

- (1) Socially and economically disadvantaged individuals means a person who has a net worth of \$750,000.00 or less and is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and who is:
 - (a) A Black American
 - (b) A Hispanic American
 - (c) A Subcontinent Asian American
 - (d) A Native American
 - (e) An Asian-Pacific American
 - (f) A Woman
 - (g) Members of other groups, or other individuals found to be economically and socially disadvantaged by the Small Business Administration under Section 8(d) of the Small Business Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 637(d)).
 - (h) Members of other groups, or other individuals found to be economically and socially disadvantaged by the N. C. Department of Transportation under the Criteria for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises as published by the Department.
- (2) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) means a for-profit small business concern.
 - (a) That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation in which 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals; and
 - (b) Whose management and daily business operation are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it,

COUNTING DBE PARTICIPATION TOWARD MEETING THE DBE GOAL

- (1) If a firm is determined to be an eligible DBE firm and certified by the Department, the total dollar value of the participation by the DBE will be counted toward the goal. The total dollar value of participation by a certified DBE will be based upon the value of work actually performed by the DBE and the actual payments to DBE firms by the contractor.

- (2) When a DBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, the contractor may count toward its DBE goal a portion of the total value of participation with the DBE in the joint venture, that portion of the total dollar value being a distinct clearly defined portion of work that the DBE performs with its forces.
- (3) (a) The Contractor may count toward its DBE goal only expenditures to DBEs that perform a commercially useful function in the work of a contract. A DBE is considered to perform a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of a distinct element of the work of a contract and carrying out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. To determine whether a DBE is performing a commercially useful function, the Department will evaluate the amount of work subcontracted, industry practices, whether the amount the firm is to be paid under the contract is commensurate with the work it is actually performing and the DBE credit claimed for its performance of the work, and other relevant factors.
- (b) Consistent with normal industry practices, a DBE may enter into subcontracts. Work that a DBE subcontracts to another DBE firm may be counted toward the contract goal. Work that a DBE subcontracts to a non-DBE firm does not count toward the contract goal. If a DBE Contractor or Subcontractor subcontracts a significantly greater portion of the work of the contract than would be expected on the basis of normal industry practices, the DBE shall be presumed not to be performing a commercially useful function. The Department's decision on the rebuttal of this presumption is subject to review by the Federal Highway Administration but is not administratively appealable to USDOT.
- (c) The following factors will be used to determine if a DBE trucking firm is performing a commercially useful function.
- (1) The DBE firm must be responsible for the management and supervision of entire trucking operation
 - (2) The DBE must itself own and operate at least one fully licensed, insured and operational truck
 - (3) The DBE will receive full credit for all trucks it owns, insures, operates, and employs drivers
 - (4) The DBE will receive full credit for all trucks leased from a certified DBE firm
 - (5) The DBE will only receive credit for the fees or commission for trucks leased from a non-DBE firm
 - (6) Others may use trucks during the term of the lease so long as the lease gives priority to the DBE for the use of the truck(s).

The DBE may present evidence to rebut this presumption to the Department for commercially useful functions.

- (4) A Contractor may count toward its DBE goal 60 percent of its expenditures for materials and supplies required to complete the contract and obtained from DBE regular dealer and 100 percent of such expenditures to a DBE manufacturer.
- (a) For purposes of this provision, a manufacturer is a firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises the materials or supplies obtained by the Contractor.
 - (b) For purposes of this provision, a regular dealer is a firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, warehouse, or other establishment in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in stock, and regularly sold to the public in the usual course of business. To be a regular dealer, the firm must engage in, as its principal business and in its own name, the purchase and sale of the products in question. A regular dealer in such bulk items as steel, cement, gravel, stone, and petroleum products need not keep such products in stock, if it owns or operates distribution equipment. Brokers and packagers shall not be regarded as manufacturers or regular dealers within the meaning of this section.
- (5) A contractor may count toward its DBE goal the following expenditures to DBE firms that are not manufacturers or regular dealers:
- (a) The fees or commissions charged by a DBE firm for providing a bona fide service, such as professional, technical, consultant, or managerial services, or for providing bonds or insurance specifically required for the performance of a DOT-assisted contract, toward DBE goal, provided the fees or commissions are determined to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees and commissions customarily allowed for similar services.
 - (b) The fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement of the materials and supplies, or for transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies required on a job site (but not the cost of the materials and supplies themselves), toward DBE goals, provided the fees are not from a manufacturer or regular dealer and provided the fees are determined to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.

REPORTS

All requests for subcontracts involving DBE subcontractors shall be accompanied by a certification executed by both the Prime Contractor and the DBE subcontractor attesting to the agreed upon unit prices and extensions for the affected contract items. This document shall be on the Department's Form RS-1-D, or in lieu of using the Department's Form, copies of the actual executed agreement between the Prime Contractor and the DBE subcontractor may be submitted. In any event, the Department reserves the right to require copies of actual subcontract agreements involving DBE Subcontractors.

The RS-1-D certification forms may be obtained from the Department's Resident Engineer.