



## Department of Energy

Idaho Operations Office  
1955 Fremont Avenue  
Idaho Falls, ID 83401

March 2, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Solicitation No. DE-SOL-0008687 – Pilot Interim Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel: Generic Design and Topical Safety Analysis Report

### **Dear Prospective Offeror:**

The U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office (DOE-ID) requests qualified sources to submit proposals for a generic design and topic safety analysis report for pilot interim storage of spent nuclear fuel. The intent of this solicitation is to assist in the development of a federally-owned interim storage facility and is not intended to implicate or impede any interim storage licensing activities currently being pursued by commercial industry. To assist DOE in balancing these objectives, DOE asks that all interested parties review this Request for Proposal (RFP) and submit any comments or questions to DOE by March 31, 2016. Furthermore, a pre-proposal conference (details are provided below) will take place on March 18, 2016 for interested parties to learn more about this solicitation and to provide an opportunity for interested parties to voice their questions or comments to DOE. Upon receipt of these comments and questions, DOE will develop responses to the questions but will also make a final determination on whether changes to the RFP are required or if a delay in the timing of this procurement is appropriate.

A description of the work to be performed is set forth in Section C of this Request for Proposal (RFP). The purpose of this Executive Summary Letter is to provide some of the salient elements of the RFP and is not an integral part of the RFP. In the event of any conflict between this letter and the RFP, the RFP shall take precedence.

### **Anticipated Contract Type and Set Aside Information**

As a result of this solicitation, DOE-ID contemplates awarding a firm-fixed-price contract with time-and-material option periods.

This acquisition is a full and open competitive solicitation. The applicable North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code is 541330, "Engineering Services". The size standard (not to exceed) is \$15.0M.

### **Period of Performance**

The period of performance is anticipated to be approximately 1 year for the base contract with 3 – 1 year options periods.

### **Award of Initial Proposals/Competitive Range**

**The Government intends to select and award one contract without discussions, based upon an acceptable offer and initial proposals. *Therefore, it is particularly important that each offeror provide its best proposal.*** In the event that awards are not made on an initial offer and proposal, the Government shall establish a competitive range, and conduct discussions.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

DOE-ID will evaluate proposals submitted in accordance with FAR Part 15, as supplemented by DOE acquisition policies and procedures, and the factors identified in this solicitation (Section M, Evaluation Factors for Award).

### **Intention to Propose**

To enable DOE-ID to anticipate the number of submissions to be evaluated, offerors are encouraged to advise DOE-ID about their intent to propose within **15 days** of the official release date of the solicitation. Please follow the notification instructions of the Section L provision titled "Offeror Intention to Propose". Failure to provide notification by this date will not disallow submittal of a proposal.

### **Proposal Information/Due Date**

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the instructions contained in Section L. Offerors will allow 240 calendar days from the date of their proposal for acceptance thereof by the Government.

Proposals are due no later than **April 15, 2016**, 4:00 p.m., Mountain Time, in accordance with the "Time, Date and Place Proposals Are Due" provision in Section L.

Offerors are cautioned that late proposals, modifications, and withdrawals will be treated in accordance with provision FAR 52.215-1 "Instructions To Offerors--Competitive Acquisition (JAN 2004)" in Section L of the RFP.

**Please ensure you understand how to post a proposal via FedConnect well before the due date (refer Section L provisions regarding proposal submittal via FedConnect).** No paper copies of the solicitation or solicitation attachments will be provided.

### **Project Description**

For a complete and detailed description of the Statement of Work (SOW), refer to RFP Section C.

Offerors are alerted to the inclusion of FAR clause 52.204-10 in Section I which requires public reporting of subcontract information and executive compensation levels at certain thresholds.

### **Organizational Conflict of Interest**

Prior to an award, the Contracting Officer (CO) shall make a finding whether any possible Conflict(s) of Interest (COI), or Organizational Conflict(s) of Interest (OCI) exists with respect to the apparent successful offeror or whether there is little or no likelihood that such conflict(s) exists. Pursuant to FAR 5.904, the CO may take further steps to identify, discover, and/or evaluate whether any COI and/or OCI

disclosed can be avoided, neutralized, or mitigated with any one or more offeror, prior to award, as deemed appropriate by the CO. An award will only be made where there is a finding by the CO of no COI and OCI, or where any COI or OCI is found by the CO to exist, each such COI and/or OCI can be appropriately avoided, neutralized, and/or mitigated to the complete satisfaction of the CO, as provided in FAR 9.5, as well as any other pertinent portions of the FAR.

### **Pre-proposal Conference**

A pre-proposal conference will be held on Friday, March 18, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. eastern time. The conference will be conducted at the following location:

955 L'enfant Plaza SW, Suite 6000  
Conference room B15  
Washington DC, 20024

Only two representatives per potential offeror will be allowed to attend the conference. To facilitate the government's planning; please provide the name, organizational affiliation, phone number, e-mail address and citizenship of each proposed attendee via FedConnect or the point of contact listed in L.14 no later than **March 16, 2016**.

### **Questions and Answers**

Prospective offerors are encouraged to submit written questions concerning the solicitation via FedConnect (refer Section L provision titled "Solicitation Questions".) **Questions are due no later than March 31, 2016**. Answers will be posted within a few days after submittal via FedConnect. Telephonic questions will not be answered. Questions must clearly specify the RFP areas (section, page, etc.) to which they refer.

Prospective offerors may also submit questions to be addressed at the pre-proposal conference. Any questions offerors would like DOE to specifically address during the pre-proposal conference must be submitted **no later than March 11, 2016**, otherwise, questions raised at the pre-proposal conference will be addressed as time is allowed. Answers to all questions raised during the pre-proposal conference will be posted within a few days after the pre-proposal conference via FedConnect.

The Government will furnish responses to all questions to all potential offerors (via posting of answers to FedConnect). Any changes resulting from the questions will be incorporated into the RFP via written addendum. No changes to the RFP are to be assumed; they must be incorporated by written amendment to the RFP to be applicable.

### **Economical Proposals**

Offerors are cautioned to examine the entire RFP carefully. Proposals should be prepared with maximum economy, consistent with the particulars of the RFP, as specified in Section L, Instructions, Conditions, and Notices to Offeror, to ensure that the resources of both offerors and evaluators are efficiently utilized. Any costs associated with preparation of the proposal will be borne by the offeror and will not be reimbursed by the Government.

### **Important Dates**

Notice of Intent to Propose      **March 16, 2016**

Pre-proposal Conference  
Questions Due **March 11, 2016**

Pre-proposal Conference **March 18, 2016, 8:00 AM Eastern Time**

Questions due **March 31, 2016**

Proposals due **April 15, 2016, 4:00 PM Mountain Time**

The Department of Energy appreciates offerors' efforts in preparing proposals to fill the Government's need in this area.

Sincerely,

Heather Merrill  
Contracting Officer