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17 Oct 06

Addendum #1

RFQ # 7002411

Title: Survey of all Quarries Within State of Rhode Island
(Blasting Survey Services)

Submission Deadline: EXTENDED TO 23 Oct 06 @ 1:40 PM (EDT)

- Note that the submission deadline has been extended to allow all interested parties ample time to review the information posted in this addendum.
- Twenty vendor questions / State responses are posted for review.
- No further questions shall be entertained.

Jerome D. Moynihan, C.P.M., CPPO
Administrator of Purchasing Systems

RFQ#7002411

Question No. 1 Please identify the seven quarries – Legal Identity, Street and Town/City, Telephone/Fax Number, Contact Name and Title.

P.J. Keating
875 Phenix Avenue
Cranston, R.I.
942-7300

Richmond Sand & Gravel
25 Stulson Road
Wyoming, RI
539-7770

Viking Stone Corp.
Fish Hill Road
Tiverton, RI
624-9900

Cherenzia Excavation
White Rock Road
Westerly, RI
596-2857

Cherenzia Excavation
Old Hopkinton Rd.
Westerly, RI
596-2857

Riverview Quarry
Manville Road
Cumberland, RI
658-4442

Lunch J.H. & Sons Quarry
50 Lynch Place
Cumberland, RI
333-4300
Blaster: Atlantic Blasting Corp.

Question No. 2 Please cite the state regulation, rule or general law that obligates the quarry operators to comply requests to access facility and / or records.

Rhode Island Fire Laws 23-28.1 through 23-28.39

Question No. 3 What are the required insurance requirements?

Please re-define this question insurance requirements for whom.

Question No. 4 What is the definition of cutting edge science (Page 4 line 1 and2)?

The most advanced and modern of technology available.

Question No. 5 Page 3 outlines the service period as …"one (1) year, renewable…" and page 4 as "(not to exceed one year). What is the service period?

It is planned that the work will be completed in one year. The option to renew takes into account unforeseeable delays

Question No. 6 Please define the term neighbor? RIGL Chapter 23-28.28-37 would suggest that neighbor is define as "..any improved real property within five hundred (500') feet, as measured from the nearest borehole to the closest improved real property, of an intended blast or detonation…"

Blacks Law Dictionary describes (neighbor) as one who lives in close proximity to another.

Question No. 7 Will the vendor require any special safety training, for example: the State of RI Safety Awareness Training, or MSHA Part 46?

No, however, experience in working with quarries on blasting related issues will be highly desirable.

Question No. 8 Page 5, item no. 7 indicates that a training session will be conducted for the State Fire Marshal. Is the vendor required to provide accommodations, food, drink, handout materials and audio visual? If so, how many people will attend?

The training session will be conducted for a maximum of six members of the Fire Marshal' Staff and will take place at the Fire Marshal's Office with no additional cost to the vendor.

Questions No. 9 This work will require the forensic review of historic documents and alleged damage. For the purposes of this RFP, should the vendor utilize RIGL Chapter 23-28.28-9 as the definition of safe blasting. In other words, can the vendor rule out damage if the resultant vibration or air overpressure levels at the neighboring (see question no. 6) real property is within the parameters established within RIGL Chapter 23-28.28-9?

The vendor will review available documents on blasting procedures and resulting vibrations, will utilize their expertise and experience, and the research by the U.S. Bureau of Mines and others, to render opinions on whether alleged damage was caused by blasting or other causes.

10. How many years of "...available blast logs and seismograph-monitoring reports..." should be reviewed?

    Generally between one and three years, depending on the nature, type, and timing of complaints and the locations in the quarry, blasting methods utilized, and other factors.

11. The word "damage" contains many emotional overtones. Industry researchers have established precise terms to describe <u>changes</u> in structural and building materials, for example:

    "Edwards and Northwood (1960) and Northwood et al. (1963) defined the following three levels of observed response for old plaster-and-lath homes subjected to experimental blast vibration:

    1. Threshold
    2. Minor
    3. Major

    Threshold cracking is that which is generally called cosmetic and appeared at 3 in/s in these older structures; minor cracking appeared at 4.5 in/s and major at 8 in/s." and "...almost all safe blasting guides are designed to prevent threshold or cosmetic cracks. These levels are at / or below those necessary to cause cracks that normally appear in a home as the result of the natural aging process." (Note: Taken from Blast Vibration Monitoring and Control – Charles H. Dowding)

    Recommendation: The word damage should be replaced with more objective less emotional terms.

RIGL Chapter 23-28.28-9 refers to USBM Report of Investigation 8507, "Structure Response and Damage Produced by Ground Vibration from Surface Mines Blasting". We believe the word damage is appropriate.

12. What criteria shall be utilized to qualify a complaint for inclusion within this study? Who will provide a listing of the qualified complainant's to the vendor? Will the complaint qualification criteria to limit qualification as a complainant to "neighbors" [RIGL Chapter 23-28.28-37]?

    The Fire Marshals Office, in conjunction with the vendor, will develop the list of complaints, and provide a listing. Complainants may be selected from outside a distance of 500 ft.

13. The vendor is to visit some of the houses where there is alleged damage from blasting – see page 4 item no. 3. What percentage of qualifying homes must be visited?

    The Fire Marshal's Office, in conjunction with the vendor, will select the homes to be visited.

14. The vendor must provide opinions as to whether the damage resulted from the blasting – see line 29 and 30 on page 4. Is it the intention of this bid for the vendor to provide testimony (legislative and / or civil)? If the vendor becomes legally obligated to testify as a result of the opinions offered within the findings – how will the vendor be reimbursed for time and expenses?

    It is not the intention of this solicitation for the vendor to provide testimony.

15. Page 5, item 4 – Can the two residences be studied concurrently? Who will select the two residences? What will the selection criteria be?

    It is the intent to study the two residences simultaneously. The selection will be made by the vendor, in conjunction with the Fire Marshal's Office, based on observations during his visits of houses, his experience and expertise.

16. Page 5, item 6 – Who will organize, advertise, and fund the cost of the neighborhood meeting?

    The Fire Marshal's Office, in conjunction with the State and Local Legislators.

17. Page 5, bullet point three (3) – Please define the term residents?

    Any person who occupies a dwelling within the State, has a present intent to remain within the state for a period of time, and manifests the genuineness of that intent by establishing an ongoing physical presence within the State together with indicia that his presence within the State is something other than merely transitory in nature. Dweller, habitant or occupant; one who resides or dwells in a place for a period or more, less, duration.

18. As the State Fire Marshal's Office is aware, the geology of rock changes from quarry to quarry, as well as within a quarry. Is it the intention of Phase I to establish best management practices that can be extended to the state's six other quarries, or to only determine the best method to fracture the rock at the state's largest quarry?

    Each quarry will be looked at independently with respect to the geology and it's practices.

19. What is the name of the largest quarry?

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    942-7300

20. Page 5, bullet point five (5) – Please define perceptible level?

    Perceptible level refers to human perceptibility, which is subjective. The intent is to reduce vibrations to a reasonable extent, but it is not the intent to make all blast vibrations imperceptible to all neighbors.

END