



ADDENDUM #2

July 20, 2021

RFP 7645809

TITLE: IT Disaster Recovery Solution and Services - DOA

Submission Deadline: August 2, 2021 10:30 AM (Eastern Time)

**ATTACHED ARE THE VENDOR QUESTIONS WITH STATE RESPONSES,
NO FURTHER QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED.**

Interested Parties should monitor this website on a regular basis, for any additional information that may be posted.

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Senior Buyer

The following are the questions received from vendors with State responses regarding RFP 7645809 IT Disaster Recovery Solution and Services:

Vendor A

1. What is the estimated funding source, or budget for this project?

Answer: That is the purpose of an RFP

2. Has funding been secured, or is that expected to take place at a later date?

Answer: Yes

3. Is there a timeline for when this project must be awarded?

Answer: December 2021

Vendor B

1. Do you expect respondents to procure hardware on behalf of the State and have it on-site at the colocation facility?

Answer: Rackspace and full network connectivity is needed for the COLO site that will contain State owned hardware. For the server and network HW listed in the physical recovery schedules, the gear needs to be provided by the winning bidder to be available at time of test or disaster.

2. We see the P2P connectivity requirement. Does the state want diversity (two paths) to each location in RI? Is there also a DIA (Dedicated Internet Access) requirement? If so, what speed is required?

Answer: We would need internet access from the recover site as systems recovered on the replicated HCI stack would necessarily require internet access. DR scope should include up to loss of site (DOA & EOC). Minimum 1Gbps internet connection. If EOC and DOA are offline, 1Gb internet will not be enough. This is the "let's backup a 10G with a 1G" mentality.

3. Does the State prefer open colocation for the racks, or is a dedicated cage space preferred?

Answer: Dedicated

Vendor C

1. Our company has a policy that precludes us from providing our employees' personally identifiable information (PII) as part of this RFP response. With respect to the requirement in the Technical Proposal to "provide staff resumes/CV and describe qualifications and experience of key staff," would it be acceptable to either provide individual resumes with PII removed, or to create a summary that outlines the qualifications of all of our key staff in aggregate?"

Answer: Provide individual resumes with PII removed

2. You speak of network requirements to include Managed Internet Services with VPN support. Can you share how much internet capacity needed as well as burst capacity?
Answer: 1GB minimum for internet / VPN should be OK, connectivity to EOC and DOA should be at 10GB
3. Can you please validate list of applications for Managed Recovery Services?
Answer: List of application will not be provided but applications include internal and externally facing applications.
4. For Managed Recovery, are there any on-shore or US-citizen personnel requirements?
Answer: Physical access to the State's Hardware requires US-Citizenship. Where remote, hands-on activities (not just physical) are performed on the State's equipment, application or supporting services, this requirement is most notable.
5. Are there any projected recovery SLA's for recovery?
Answer: Recovery SLAs were included in the RFP where applicable.

Vendor D

1. Note (pg 11): We'll need to engage relocation to cost out the move of the existing gear from the incumbent provider.
(pg 12): What is the expected scope of the 12 "Base" test periods vs. the 3 up-to 120-hr schedule tests?
Answer: Most likely will entail agency or group of agency applications but can include the entire set of applications and services as replicated; given the new HCI replication/recovery services on-platform.
2. Note (pg 12 and elsewhere): We'll need RPE here, as there's extensive language throughout the RFP about the state providing recovery procedures to the vendor for execution.
(pg 13): Optional managed firewalls are mentioned, but there are no firewall requirements listed.
Answer: This included for future possible scenarios and would be specified when implementation is needed.
3. (pg 14): We will need the NPA-NXX for the two production data centers. (The area code and exchange)
Answer: Updated exchanges will be provided to Awarded vendor; we are currently upgrading system. (401) - 462 & 574
4. (pg 14): Is in-flight encryption necessary for the dedicated WAN links?
Answer: No
5. (pg 14): Does the HCI replication traffic refer to Internet bandwidth needed for the backups?
Answer: No. Replication traffic refers to any/all traffic on a dedicated circuit between production HCI stack and our recovery HCI stack; A to B

6. (pg 14): If the HCI traffic will be transiting a VPN, will the state be providing a device to terminate the VPN tunnels?
Answer: We will be leveraging dedicated point to point circuits
7. (pg 33): Do the tape auto-loaders need to be available simultaneously with the MIPS and storage?
Answer: No
8. (pg 35-39): Can VM's be substituted for the physical servers?
Answer: No
9. If the COLO data center is not located in RI does the MBE still need to be certified in RI?
Answer: Yes
10. Please tell us what exactly the ISBE is and what do we need to do for that?
Answer: "ISBE" means a small business enterprise that is owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are women or minorities as defined by R.I. Gen. Laws § 37-14.1-3 or a small business enterprise that is owned and controlled by one or more individuals with disabilities as defined by R.I. Gen. Laws § 37-2.2-2. For this you would need to complete the ISBE form contained in the RFP.

Vendor E

1. Will the state consider proposals that include the cloud?
Answer: No. Asking for DR Colo Site
2. Will the state consider proposals in the future that include planning for cloud migration?
Answer: We are not asking for cloud services in this RFP for Disaster Recovery of our locally hosted systems
3. Will the state allow a second round of questions?
Answer: No
4. Will the state provide an extension to the current due date?
Answer: Yes, already extended.
5. Why is the state looking to sign this colocation contract for 3 years?
Answer: This is the standard length of contract usually allowed.