

**AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/ MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT**

1. CONTRACT ID CODE  
PAGE OF PAGES  
1 1

2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 00001	3. EFFECTIVE DATE	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.	5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)
6. ISSUED BY Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Acquisition and Assistance Field Branch PO Box 18070, 626 Cochrans Mill Rd Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0070	CODE 436	7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Acquisition and Assistance Field Branch PO Box 18070, 626 Cochrans Mill Rd Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0070	CODE 436

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. 2003-N-00768
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9B. DATED (See Item 11) 04/23/2003
		10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.
		10B. DATED (See Item 13)
CODE	FACILITY CODE	

**11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS**

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers X is extended,     is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:  
 (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 1 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)  
N/A

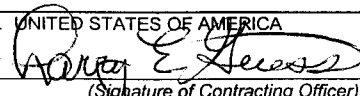
**13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor  is not,  is required to sign this document and return        copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)  
 This amendment is being issued to provide answers to written questions received on the solicitation identified in Block 9A above. A transcript of the pre-proposal conference, held on April 30, 2003, is available on the NIOSH website at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas/pdfs/abrwh/tr043003.pdf> and on the FEDBIZOPPS website. Questions that have been adequately addressed in the transcript will not be repeated in this amendment. The due date for receipt of proposals is hereby extended until June 2, 2003.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)	16A. NAME OF CONTRACTING OFFICER Larry E. Guess
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR  (Signature of person authorized to sign)	15C. DATE SIGNED
16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY  (Signature of Contracting Officer)	16C. DATE SIGNED

- Q. There appears to be an inconsistency between Paragraph B.2, "Maximum Amount", and Paragraph G.4, "Maximum Amount and Payment," in solicitation. Paragraph B.2 specifies \$3,000,000 as a "not-to-exceed amount" and Paragraph G.4 specifies \$3,000,000 as the estimated cost of the work to be performed. Which is it?
- A. The maximum amount of all task orders issued under the resultant contract(s) will not exceed \$3,000,000. The government estimates the total may approach this limitation. If multiple contracts are awarded each will contain the limitation.
- Q. There are several confusing items given under "Format" in Section L.11.
- a. What are "Special Topics"?
  - b. One of the entries is "Sample task order technical and cost proposals." Cost proposals would seem to belong in the Business Proposal and not in the technical proposal.
  - c. There is an entry for "Organization and Personnel (including any field staff)," which is listed after "Key Personnel" and "Project Organization." How do these sections differ?
  - d. There is an entry for schedule. If this applies to the schedule for the entire contract, how can schedule be addressed for a task-order contract?
  - e. There is no entry for conflict of interest. Should the discussion of conflict of interest go in the technical proposal or the cost proposal?
  - f. There is no entry for either past performance or corporate experience.
- A. The format provided in Section L is provided for general guidance. The government is requesting separate technical and business proposals for the overall effort. Separate technical and cost proposals should be prepared for the sample tasks. The cost proposals for the sample tasks are the only requirement for specific cost data. The only location for schedule information would be in the technical proposals for the sample tasks. The conflict of interest plan should be included as part of the technical proposal. Past performance information identified in Section L.13 should be included in the business proposal. General background and experience of the offeror's organization as well as personnel available should be included in the technical proposal.
- Q. What is the estimated number of SEC petitions that the contractor will be requested to review and what is the estimated number of field visits that will be required? This is important information if proposers are asked to estimate the costs for the entire contract.
- A. The number of SEC petitions and field visits cannot be predicted at this time. As indicated in the pre-bid conference held on April 30, the bidder is not required to estimate the cost of the entire contract at this time. Detailed cost proposals are only required for the two example tasks provided in the solicitation.

- Q. It is unclear how the evaluators will distinguish between Evaluation Criteria C ("Technical Approach") and E ("Practical Assessment"), since the language appearing in the Example Tasks (Attachments E and F) is the same as the language appearing in the Contract Tasks (Section C).
- A. Criterion C is expected to be a generalized approach to the overall effort. Criterion E is expected to provide more specific information for the work identified in the sample tasks.
- Q. Will the audits include critiques of the guidelines provided in 42 CFR 81, 82, and 83, or will the audits be limited to the application and applicability of the guidance to particular claims?
- A. The task order contractor will not be required to critique NIOSH's published regulations. All audits will be limited to the application of the guidance to claims selected for review by the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH).
- Q. Is the scope of work limited to the dose reconstruction or both the dose reconstruction and the derivation of the probability of the causation?
- A. The scope of work does not include an evaluation of the derivation of probability of causation.
- Q. 42 CFR 81, 82, and 83, in addition to describing the methods for performing dose reconstructions, describe the forms, applications, review cycles, approval cycles, notifications, etc. Will compliance with these types of procedural requirements be included as part of the audits?
- A. Task orders may include a review of compliance with the procedural requirements contained in published regulations. If such a review is required, the task order will include specific instructions in this regard.
- Q. In H.2(a), the second sentence states that "(b)y accepting this contract, the Contractor providing automated information system (AIS) resources to CDC agrees to comply with the applicable AIS security policy outlined in this Statement of Work." (emphasis added). However, there is no reference in Section C - Description/Specification/Work Statement to any AIS security policy. The only other reference to AIS Security is contained in the format for the Technical Proposal in L.11 on page 55 of 65. Please clarify.
- A. Does not apply. Will be removed from resultant contract.
- Q. H.3 states that "(b)y accepting this contract, the Contractor providing ADP application systems or ADP resources to any component of the Department of Health and Human Services agrees to comply with the ADP systems security policy, as outlined in Part 6 of the Department's ADP Systems Manual." (emphasis added). There does not appear to

be any requirement in Section C to provide ADP application systems or ADP resources. Please clarify.

A. Same as prior question.

Q. How will information required to perform reviews be provided to the Review of NIOSH Dose Reconstruction Program contractor (Review Contractor)?

A. It is envisioned that all information will be provided on electronic media such as a compact disc.

Q. Could you provide details of information held/to be held on the SQL database mentioned in section C of the RFP, for example, a Specification Document or User Guide?

A. The SQL database will house all relevant personnel and site monitoring records accumulated by NIOSH in the conduct of their dose reconstruction research. More generic documents, such as user's guides, site profiles and technical basis documents will be available on the OCAS website.

Q. Will the SQL database also hold or maintain links to 'raw' data required for advanced reviews?

A. Yes.

Q. Does the SQL database provide reference and audit-trail information?

A. An electronic database of reference information that is not readily available in the public domain will be made available to the contractor. Although the history of a claim in the dose reconstruction process can be tracked using the database, there is not a specific audit-trail capability in the database at this time.

Q. Will all the information and full functionality of the SQL database be available to the contractor (for example through a secure internet portal, or CDs containing updates). If not, what mechanism is envisaged for transfer of information?

A. All information used to complete the final dose reconstruction will be available to the contractor on electronic media, such as a compact disc. It is not envisioned that the contractor will have live access to the database at this time.

Q. Will there be a master list or index of information resources and repositories (together with descriptions of data) maintained by the Dose Reconstruction Contractor? If so, will (and how will) this be made available to the Review Contractor.

A. A master list of information resources and repositories will be made available to the contractor.

- Q. Will (and how will) paper records be made available to the contractor, if it is deemed necessary to double-check them against electronic records compiled for the dose reconstructions.
- A. Paper records will be available for review at NIOSH and ORAU facilities located in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Q. Will access be provided to any information that is not available to the public? What types of information will this be and what security procedures will apply to the handling of this information? Please indicate security status required for staff (in U.S. classification).
- A. All information must be handled in accordance with requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974. No. special security clearances are envisioned for this contract.
- Q. Have the telephone interviews been recorded? If so, would transcripts of these recordings be made available to the Review Contractor?
- A. Telephone interviews are not recorded.
- Q. Does OCAS have an approved set of software programs and/or approved methodologies that cover all or part of the dose reconstruction process, that must be used by the Review Contractor? Is the Review Contractor at liberty to use alternative software or approaches for specific components of the review process? What restrictions or concerns may the Review Board have on application by the Review Contractor of alternative means of reconstructing dose (e.g. use of different software or methodologies) to those employed by the Dose Reconstruction Contractor for specific cases.
- A. NIOSH has developed specific programs and methodologies for use in the dose reconstruction process. Although the contractor may use alternative software and/or approaches in their review, these must be consistent with the requirements contained in 42 CFR 81 and 42 CFR 82.
- Q. Are there any completed Technical Basis Documents available that are relevant to the sites mentioned in the examples?
- A. The Technical Basis Documents for the sites listed in the examples are currently under development.
- Q. Have you a list of internal emitters of relevance at sites mentioned in the specification of the example tasks?
- A. It is expected that the bidder will develop a list of potential internal emitters relevant to the specified sites. This list does not have to encompass all nuclides present at a facility, but should provide a general indication of the major categories of radionuclides that might be considered in the review of a dose reconstruction. For example it is sufficient to indicate whether a site would be reviewed for internal contamination to uranium ore, natural uranium, fission and activation products, actinides, etc.

Q. Have you any more specific information on the sites, incident history, and particular worker roles that you wish to know before completing the work plan and cost estimate.

A. There is a fair amount of information available in the open literature on the sites listed in the examples.

-- Multiple questions were received relative to potential conflicts of interest. The government will not make determinations as to the acceptability of individual personnel or organizational relationships prior to receipt of proposals. Any conflicts or potential conflicts should be addressed in the offeror's conflict of interest plan, which will be considered during the evaluation process. Also, concern has been expressed over the possibility of multiple awards resulting from this solicitation. It will be at the government's discretion, based on a review of the proposals submitted, to either make a single award or multiple awards.