

Department of Retirement Systems

Work Request 13-002-104

External IT Quality Assurance

Vendor Questions and Agency Responses

June 26, 2013

1. On page 1 of the WR the experience level requested is "Senior." All our QA consultants are at the "Expert" level. Can we bid/propose Expert level QA consultants at our expert rates as long as the costs we bid are competitive and reasonable for the deliverables/services requested?

Answer: Yes, you can bid at the "Expert" level. "Senior" level is the minimum.

2. Has the 2013 Washington State Legislature approved the funding request for the EIS Project?

Answer: The Legislature is in their second special session and has not yet passed a budget.* However, we anticipate receiving funding for this project (Employer Reporting Application), once the Legislature approves the budget.

3. Has the 2013 Washington State Legislature enacted/approved Senate Bill 5851 for the PESP Project?

Answer: The Legislature is in their second special session and has not passed Senate Bill 5851 as of this date.*

4. On page 10 of 12 of the WR the maximum contract total is not to exceed \$150,000. Is \$150,000 the sum total for both projects? If yes, what is the separate total contract amount expected for each project (EIS and PESP)? Should we propose QA service costs separately for each project in case Senate Bill 5851 is NOT enacted?

Answer: Yes, \$150,000 is the total for both projects. The budget for the Employer Reporting Application (ERA) is \$85,000. The budget is anticipated to be \$65,000 for the Public Employees' Savings Plan (PESP), if enacted. Yes, vendors should propose separate costs for each project as described in Exhibit B (Questionnaire and Cost Quotation), number 4 (Cost Proposal).

5. On page 1 the work period of performance ends 12/31/2016 (40+ months). What is the expected project start dates and end dates (total duration) for the EIS Project and the PESP Project?

Answer: Although preliminary work is underway for ERA, these projects would officially begin July 1, 2013, if approved by the Legislature. Our original target date for the initial implementation of ERA was July 1, 2015. However, the end date of ERA will depend on whether or not PESP passes and DRS' capacity to implement two significant projects simultaneously. DRS made an assumption of a July 1, 2015, implementation date for PESP, with additional project activities through July 2016. The December 31, 2016, end date for this work request builds in the contingency for both projects. However, if PESP doesn't pass, we anticipate the contract period ending earlier than December 31, 2016.

* As of 10:00 AM Pacific Daylight Time, June 26, 2013.