

**I-1  
NOTICE  
INVITATION TO BID  
TO  
METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO  
  
REBUILD OF DEWATERING FACILITY, CWRP  
  
CONTRACT 25-RFP-21**

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (“District”) requests proposals from any prospective Proposer for the above captioned subject which is described in document 25-RFP-21.

**PROPOSALS ARE DUE FEBRUARY 20, 2026**

Sealed proposals, endorsed as above, will be submitted to the District via an electronic upload to the Euna Portal only. See “Submission Via the Euna Portal” for instructions. Proposals will be accepted from the date of the Invitation to Bid, up to 11:00 A.M. (Central Time), on the (Month, Date, Year) stated above. Bids will be deemed non-responsive if not submitted using the Euna-project specific URL link, provided by the District with the bidding documents.

**No bids will be accepted after 11:00 A.M. (Central Time) on the above scheduled due date. Faxed, mailed, emailed, or hand delivered proposals will not be accepted. There is no Bid Depository safe for this purpose.**

The District is seeking proposals for the rebuilding of the Dewatering Facility at the Calumet Water Reclamation Plant (WRP) located at 400 East 130th Street, Chicago, IL 60628. Proposals are sought from qualified Proposers to design, install and rebuild the centrifuge Dewatering Facility on a Progressive Design-Build (PDB) basis.

The Project is to be designed and constructed in two phases using the PDB delivery method as follows:

- **Phase 1 Design and Preconstruction Services:** The District will select and enter into an agreement with a Proposer for the design, permitting and construction of the Facilities using Progressive Design-Build, initially giving Notice to Proceed for Phase 1 services only. Phase 1 includes preparation of all plans, specifications, and other supporting documents required to construct the project. Phase 1 also includes preconstruction services such as constructability review, permit setup, cost estimating, procurement, Phase 2 price and schedule development, and other tasks as needed. Plans and specifications shall be prepared with sufficient detail such that, at the completion of the 60% design stage, the Proposer can develop a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) or Lump Sum Price, and a Construction Schedule for Phase 2. After the completion of the 60% design stage, the District will review, evaluate and negotiate the proposed Price and Schedule for Phase 2. Upon agreement of Phase 2 terms, the Proposer shall complete the design under Phase 1. Should such negotiations fail, the District may elect to have the Proposer complete the Phase 1 design and then have open solicitations for the construction phase.
- **Phase 2 Post Award and Construction Services:** It is the District’s intent to enter into a new agreement with the Proposer that is completing the Phase 1 design services to handle permitting, equipment and materials procurement, physical construction of the Facilities, engineering design support during construction, construction management, start-up, commissioning, and acceptance testing. Should negotiations for Phase 2 services fail, the District may elect to hold open

solicitations for the completion of Phase 2 work.

The total estimated cost budgeted for the Progressive Design-Build Services (Phase 1 and Phase 2) in this RFP is \$71,500,000.00. The contract duration is estimated to be one hundred and eighty days (180) days, or approximately six (6) months, for Phase 1; and six hundred and seventy-five (675) days, or one year and ten (10) months, for Phase 2.

Copies of the Request for Proposal are only available online from the District's website at [www.mwrdd.org](http://www.mwrdd.org) (DOING BUSINESS → PROCUREMENT & MATERIALS MANAGEMENT → CONTRACT ANNOUNCEMENTS). No fee is required for the Request for Proposal documents. Any questions regarding the downloading of Request for Proposal documents should be directed to [contractdesk@mwrdd.org](mailto:contractdesk@mwrdd.org) or call (312) 751-6643.

The work under this Contract is classified as "General Construction" for the Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE), Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE) and Veteran-owned Business Enterprises (VBE) utilization goals contained in the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D, Appendix A, and Appendix V. The Affirmative Action Goals for this Request for Proposal are 20% MBE, 10% WBE, and 3% VBE.

Affirmative Actions Goals are not applicable to any services procured from Alfa Laval Inc. that are in addition to the services procured by the District under a separate contract, as this is specialized work specific to the centrifuge equipment supplied.

Proposers are advised that the District operates under a 2017 Multi-Project Labor Agreement (MPLA) with trade unions, a copy of which is provided in Appendix M. Any work done on the Calumet WRP site which falls under the terms of the 2017 MPLA must be performed by appropriate union personnel.

Minority and Women's Business Requirements are given in Appendices A, and D. Veteran-owned Business Requirements are given in Appendix V.

Plans which call for the District to be responsible for the financing of either engineering design work or construction work to be performed on District property will be required to comply with the District's Affirmative Action Ordinance with regard to utilization of MBE / WBE firms for a portion of that work. A copy of the District's Affirmative Action Policy is provided in Appendix D.

Each Bidder must submit with their proposals a signed and completed **MBE/WBE Utilization Plan** which lists each business intended to be used as a MBE and WBE on pages UP-2 and UP-3 and supplemental pages as necessary. **The Bidder must sign the Signature Section page on UP-4.** Failure to submit a signed MBE/WBE Utilization Plan will result in a bid being deemed non-responsive and the bid will be rejected. Also, if a Waiver is sought, the Bidder is required to sign pages UP-4 and UP-5, which is the Waiver Request Form; failure to do so will be viewed as non-responsive and the bid will be rejected.

Each Bidder must submit **with their bid package** an original or facsimile copy of the **MBE/WBE Subcontractor's Letter of Intent, page UP-6** for each subcontractor listed on their MBE/WBE Utilization Plan. The submitted MBE/WBE Subcontractor's Letter of Intent must be completed and signed by the subcontractor and accompanied with a copy of the subcontractor's current Letter of Certification from a state, local government or agency or documentation demonstrating that the subcontractor is a MBE or WBE within the meaning of the **Affirmative Action Ordinance, Revised Appendix D**. Failure to submit the MBE/WBE Utilization Plan signed by the Bidder at the time of the bid opening and the MBE/WBE Subcontractor's Letter of Intent signed by each MBE and WBE will be viewed as non-responsive and the bid will be rejected.

If the Bidder exceeds the allowable **Supplier Utilization** amount which is stated in the bid documents, the bid will be viewed as non-responsive. Therefore, the Bidder may not exceed the use of a MBE or WBE supplier for more than 50% of each respective MBE or WBE, goal, unless the Administrator has authorized a Supplier's Exception notated on page AU-1.

Each Bidder must submit with their proposals a completed **VBE Commitment Form** which lists each business intended to be used as a VBE. The Bidder must make a "**Good Faith Effort**" to identify eligible Veteran Owned-Businesses by completing the VBE Commitment Form. If the Bidder is unable to identify qualified VBE subcontractors capable of providing goods or services required by the contract, the Bidder must write "**no participation**" on the VBE Commitment Form. Where a Bidder has failed to meet the VBE participation goal, the Administrator shall require the Contractor to submit a Veteran's Business Enterprise Good Faith Efforts Documentation Request Form and provide additional documentation of its good faith efforts in attempting to fulfill the VBE goal.

**The Contractor must use the District's online compliance monitoring system administered by the Diversity Section for payment and reporting purposes, in order to fulfill the Affirmative Action Program requirements.**

The MBE/WBE Utilization Plan **MUST** be signed by the bidder, even if the bidder requests a waiver and/or offers itself to meet any of the Affirmative Action Ordinance, Revised Appendix D goals. If the bidder offers itself to satisfy any of the Affirmative Action Ordinance, Revised Appendix D goals, then its name shall be shown in the appropriate space(s) on the MBE/WBE Utilization Plan.

Where a Bidder is a business owned and controlled by a minority woman (M/WBE), or where the Bidder utilizes an M/WBE in a joint venture or as a subcontractor, the Bidder may count the M/WBE participation toward the achievement of either its MBE or WBE goal, but not both. Each Bidder's Utilization Plan must commit to MBE and/or WBE participation equal to or greater than the associated goals unless the Bidder indicates a partial or total waiver request on page UP5.

If a waiver from Appendix D requirements is sought, the Bidder will be required to provide documentation of "Good Faith Efforts" to meet the Affirmative Action Ordinance, Revised Appendix D utilization goals, as defined in Section 15(e) of the Affirmative Action Ordinance, Revised Appendix D. Subsequent to the bid opening, and if it is determined by the Diversity Administrator that a Contractor's Information Form is required from the apparent low Bidder, the Bidder must complete and submit the form with (3) calendar days of receiving the written request.

Some or all of the funding for Phase 1 and Phase 2 services may come from the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the MWRD and CTA. CTA may obtain funding from federal, state and local sources. The successful proposer will be expected to comply with all requirements applicable to such funding, and any required provisions will be included in the agreements between the successful proposer and the MWRD. For example, among other requirements, the successful proposer must certify that it does not operate any programs promoting DEI that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws; comply with the Ethics Ordinances of the State of Illinois, CTA and MWRD; and comply with federal administrative and audit requirements.

Further, the District assumes no liability or responsibility for the failure or inability of any Proposer to successfully download any and all contract documents, including but not limited to specifications, proposal forms and/or plans, as a result of any type of technological computer and/or software system failure or breakdown that restricts, prohibits or prevents successful downloading of any and all District contract documents by the Proposer, whether caused by the District or other parties, directly or indirectly.

Proposers are to include with their proposal signed copies of any addenda, or acknowledge receipt of any addenda, if the District issued any addenda to this contract. Failure to do so may be cause for the rejection of any bid. Bidding documents are available only online, and any addenda issued for this contract will be available online at the District's website, [www.mwrd.org](http://www.mwrd.org) (Doing Business→Procurement and Materials Management→Contract Announcements). Addenda will also be emailed/faxed to each person receiving a set of such contract documents and to such other prospective Proposers as shall have requested that they be furnished with a copy of the addenda.

If any potential Proposer contemplating to submit a proposal is in doubt as to the true meaning of any part of the specifications or other contract documents, such inquiry should be submitted online at the District's website, [www.mwrd.org](http://www.mwrd.org). The path is as follows: Doing Business→Procurement and Materials Management→Contract Announcements. The District will provide an online response to such inquiries, as the District deems appropriate. Strings of appropriate questions and answers regarding the bidding documents will be available online on the District's website until the bid opening date of the bidding documents. No questions will be accepted by telephone, fax, email, mail, or any other such form of delivery.

The District will only respond to questions received online up to ONE WEEK prior to the date set to receive proposals. The District will not respond to questions received after this date. The District does not guarantee the timeliness of responses provided online, nor does the District guarantee that such responses will be provided in adequate time to affect the submission of bids. The District shall provide responses online ONLY if the responses do not interpret or otherwise change the bidding documents.

The District's responses online are NOT official responses and, therefore, are not binding to the bidding documents. Any official interpretation or change to the bidding documents will be made only by addenda duly issued to all plan holders on record by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management.

Bidders are STRONGLY URGED to inspect all areas of the work sites, prior to bidding, to familiarize themselves with the nature of the work and the method of accomplishing the same. An optional Pre-Bid Walk-Through will be held on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m. CST at the Calumet WRP located at 400 East 130th Street, Chicago, IL 60628. The Form SV-1 (Site Visit Release and Indemnity Agreement), which is included in APPENDIX P of this RFP, will be required to be completed for each individual choosing to participate in the optional site walkthrough. The completed Form SV-1 will need to be provided via e-mail to Tushar Talavia at [TALAVIAT@MWRD.ORG](mailto:TALAVIAT@MWRD.ORG) at least one business day prior to the scheduled site walkthrough. Attendees are advised to bring a hard hat and appropriate footwear for an industrial type of facility and a current business card. Bidders are encouraged to give themselves enough time to clear security. Bidders are reminded that no questions will be taken during any site inspections. The District's website ([www.mwrd.org](http://www.mwrd.org)) will be used for addressing any questions, as indicated in the Invitation to Bid documents for this Contract. The path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement & Materials Management → Contract Announcements→(Find correct project)→Ask a Question.

The Voluntary Technical Pre-Bid meeting will be held online via a Zoom meeting on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m. CST. The link to the Zoom meeting is attached in a separate Word document under the "Additional Documents" column on the District's website at [mwrd.org](http://mwrd.org) (Doing Business→Procurement & Materials Management→Contract Announcements→(Find correct project)→Bidding Documents). The purpose of the Voluntary Technical Pre-Bid meeting is to review the scope of work, to provide for identification and discussion of potential problems that might arise during the administration of this Contract and seek clarification of technical or procedural aspects of this Contract. There will be a Q&A session at the end of the meeting. Also, suppliers must give their contact information to register prior to entering the Zoom Pre-Bid meeting.

The contact person for the request for proposal is Tushar Talavia, Senior Civil Engineer. This contact person will provide online responses to online inquiries.

The District reserves the right to accept any Request for Proposal or any part thereof or to reject any and all Request for Proposals.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District  
of Greater Chicago

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By Darlene A. LoCascio  
Director of Procurement & Materials Management

DATE OF ADVERTISEMENT: Wednesday, December 17, 2025

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