

**NOTICE  
INVITATION TO BID  
TO  
METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO  
FOR**

HVAC IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS (RE-BID)

CONTRACT 24-638-22

PROPOSALS ARE DUE FEBRUARY 25, 2025

Sealed proposals, endorsed as above, will be submitted back to the District via an electronic upload to the Bonfire Portal only, from the date of the Invitation to Bid, up to 11:00 A.M. Central Time (CT), on the bid opening date, and will be opened publicly by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management or designee at 11:00 AM on **February 25, 2025**. The public cannot attend but can view the bid opening at <https://mwrld.org/bid-opening>.

**No bids will be accepted after 11:00 AM on the above scheduled bid opening date. All bids faxed, mailed, emailed or hand delivered will not be considered and will be returned to the Bidder. There is no bid depository safe available for mailing or hand delivering bids. The District will only accept bids electronically uploaded to the Bonfire Portal (<https://mwrld.bonfirehub.com/>). Please see specific instructions on how to upload your bid to the Bonfire Portal in the bid document entitled “Submission via the Bonfire Portal. Bids will be deemed non-responsive if not submitted using the Bonfire project-specific URL link, provided by the District with the bidding documents.”**

Specifications, proposal forms and/or plans may be obtained from the Department of Procurement and Materials Management by downloading online from the District's website at [www.mwrld.org](http://www.mwrld.org) (Doing Business→Procurement & Materials Management→Contract Announcements). No fee is required for the Contract Documents. Any questions regarding the downloading of the Contract Document should be directed to the following email: [contractdesk@mwrld.org](mailto:contractdesk@mwrld.org) or call 312-751-6643.

Tenders are invited for the work consisting of furnishing all materials, labor, and equipment required to:

Group A

Remove and replace air handling units, cooling towers, steam heat exchangers, pumps, electrical equipment, supply and exhaust ductwork, mechanical and plumbing piping, electrical conduits, pneumatic controls, grilles, registers, diffusers, VAV boxes, reheat coils, etc., and all associated hangers and supports at the Engineering Center, M&R Building, and OSS Building.

Furnish and install new chiller at the OSS Building.

Install new plus modify existing building control system at Engineering Center, M&R Building, and OSS Building.

Group B

Install new gas meter and startup existing hot water boiler and radiant floor heating system in the Heavy Equipment Building plus install new underground gas line and new HVAC heating system in the Building 25 at the Calumet WRP. In addition, upgrade controls at existing steam boilers and modify steam piping at the 95<sup>th</sup> Pump Station.

**The Contract is divided, for purposes of bidding, into two Groups. Bidders may submit bids for both Group or either of Groups as set forth in the proposal.** The District intends to award each Group to the lowest responsible Bidder for that Group. For any Group not bid, the Bidder shall insert "NO BID" in the appropriate place. The District reserves the right to issue a Contract or Contracts to any Bidder or Bidders for both Group or either of Groups as it may deem to be in the best interest of the District to do so. **When bidding on any Group, Bidders must submit bids for all Items in that Group, or the bid will be rejected as non-responsive.**

The estimated cost of the work under this Contract is following:

Group A – Stickney Service Area	\$18,443,000.00
<u>Group B – Calumet Service Area</u>	<u>\$701,325.00</u>
T O T A L	\$19,144,325.00

Funding for all Contract items is subject to the Board of Commissioners' approval of the District's budget for all years of this Contract.

**Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a bid bond in the amount required for each Group bid.** Each bid bond must be underwritten by a surety licensed to do business in the State of Illinois, listed in the latest copy of the Federal Register and approved by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management. The bid bond must contain signatures from the Bidder and Surety Company. Failure to provide signatures on the bid bond will result in the rejection of the bid. Photographic and/or stamped signatures are acceptable. Any proposal submitted without being accompanied by the required bid deposit, in the aforesaid form, will not be considered and will not be read after it is publicly opened.

THE BID DEPOSIT FOR THIS CONTRACT IS:

Group A – Stickney Service Area	\$737,000.00
<u>Group B – Calumet Service Area</u>	<u>\$28,000.00</u>
T O T A L	\$765,000.00

The District assumes no liability or responsibility for the failure or inability of any Bidder 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 Bidder, whether caused by the District or other parties, directly or indirectly.

If any potential Bidder 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'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.

Failure on the part of the prospective Bidder to receive a written interpretation prior to the time of the opening of bids will not be grounds for withdrawal of proposal.

Prior to award of the contract, the lowest responsible Bidder must demonstrate compliance with the District's Multi-Project Labor Agreement (MPLA) by submitting to the Director of Procurement and Materials Management a signed Certificate of Compliance with the Multi-Project Labor Agreement. The Agreement and Certificate of Compliance are contained in the Contract Documents.

Bidders on Contracts in excess of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246 as amended to date, regarding NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT. The requirements for Bidders and Contractors under this order are explained in Appendix C of the Contract Documents. The provisions of Appendix C also apply to each Subcontractor on the Contract in excess of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

Each Bidder must submit with their proposals a signed and completed **MBE/WBE Utilization Plan** which lists each business intended to be used as an 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, 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 an 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 and 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 Appendix D goals. If the Bidder offers itself to satisfy any of the Appendix D goals, then its name shall be shown in the appropriate space(s) on the MBE and 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 UP-5. If a waiver from Appendix D requirements is sought, the Bidder will be required to provide documentation of "Good Faith Efforts" to meet the Appendix D utilization goals, as defined in Section 15€ 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.

The work under this Contract is classified as "Mechanical" for the Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE) Utilization goals contained in the Affirmative Action Ordinance – Revised Appendix D.

**For Group A:** The associated goals are 20% Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE), 9% Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE), 3% Veteran Business Enterprises (VBE). The MBE, WBE and VBE Utilization goals do not apply to any portion of work identified in the contract as Allowance Items, Contingency Items and Unit Price Items.

**For Group B:** The associated goals are 20% Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE), 9% Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE), 3% Veteran Business Enterprises (VBE). The MBE, WBE and VBE Utilization goals do not apply to any portion of work identified in the contract as Allowance Items, Contingency Items and Unit Price Items.

For Group A, the Director of Procurement and Materials Management has granted an exception to Section 14(j) of the Affirmative Action Ordinance, Revised Appendix D. This exception will allow the Bidder to utilize MBE, WBE, or VBE Suppliers for 100% goal attainment in their respective categories.

Additionally for Group A, The MBE, WBE, and VBE utilization goals do not apply to the work assigned to the portions of the Building Control System work and Chiller Overhaul work included as part of the Estimated Price Item with the manufacturer(s) Siemens (\$2,300,000.00) and absorption chillers overhauls to be provided by Carrier Technical Services (\$1,969,770.00), respectfully.

The Bidder to whom the Contract(s) is (are) awarded must be prepared to comply with the requirements, goals, terms, and conditions of the Appendix C, the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D, the Appendix V and the Appendix K throughout the life of the Contract, as they pertain to Group A and/or Group B as applicable. Should you have questions, please contact the Diversity Office at 312-751-4035.

It is required that the prospective Bidder indicates participation by signing each applicable MBE and WBE Utilization Plan contained with the Contract Document.

In addition, the Bidder agrees to fulfill the Special Training for Apprentices as specified in Appendix K and to provide training opportunities throughout the life of the Contract. The requirements of the Special Training for Apprentices for the purpose of this Contract are as follows:

Group A: 870 Minority and 310 Female Hours

The Bidder to whom the Contract is awarded must be prepared to comply with the requirements of the Affirmative Action Ordinance during the life of the Contract.

**The Voluntary Technical Pre-Bid meeting will be held online via a Zoom meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 10:30 A.M. (Central Time).** The link to the Zoom meeting is attached in a separate Word document under the “Additional Documents” column on the District’s website at [mwrdd.org](http://mwrdd.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.

**Bidders are STRONGLY URGED to inspect all areas of the work site prior to bidding to familiarize themselves with the nature of the work and the method of accomplishing the same.** The optional attendance for the Pre-Bid Walk-Throughs will be held on two separate

calendar dates where the work shall be performed. **The first Pre-Bid Walk-Through will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** Central Time Zone at the at the Calumet Water Reclamation Plant, 400 East 130th St, Chicago, Illinois 60628. **The second Pre-Bid Walk-Through will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** Central Time Zone at the Stickney Water Reclamation Plant, 6001 West Pershing Rd, Cicero, Illinois 60804. Attendees are advised to bring a hard hat and appropriate footwear for an industrial type of facility and a current business card. Attendees will also require to furnish the “Site Visit Release and Indemnity Agreement”, properly executed, which is included in Volume 1 of the bid documents package. 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.mwrld.org](http://www.mwrld.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 and Materials Management→ Contract Announcements→(Find correct project)→Ask a Question.

Additional site inspections for Groups A and B may be arranged by contacting Mr. Thomas Gasienica at [GasienicaT@mwrld.org](mailto:GasienicaT@mwrld.org). There will be no questions answered during the site inspection. Potential bidders may submit any questions they may have online as specified in the Invitation to Bid section of this Contract.

The contact person for this Contract is Mr. Dariusz Ciucias. This contact person will provide online responses to online inquiries.

The District will only respond to questions received online UP TO ONE WEEK prior to the bid opening date of the bidding documents. 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.

Bidding documents are only available online, and all addenda issued for this Contract will be available online at the District’s website, [www.mwrld.org](http://www.mwrld.org). The path is as follows: Doing Business→Procurement and Materials Management→Contract Announcements. A copy of such addenda will also be emailed/faxed to each person which downloads a set of such Contract documents.

Failure on the part of the prospective Bidder to receive a written interpretation prior to the time of the opening of bids will not be grounds for withdrawal of proposal.

Bidders should read page R-2, paragraph 6, in regards to questions on this Contract.

All Contracts for the Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1 et.seq.). Contractor shall not pay less than the prevailing rates of wages

to all laborers, workmen, and mechanics performing work under this Contract, and shall comply with the requirements of the Illinois Wages of Employees on Public Works Act (820 ILCS 130/1-12).

**The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals.**

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District  
of Greater Chicago

By \_\_\_\_\_ Darlene A. LoCascio  
Director of Procurement  
and Materials Management

Chicago, Illinois  
January 15, 2025