



RESEARCH ENVIRONMENTAL & INDUSTRIAL CONSULTANTS, INC.

Improving the environment, one client at a time...

225 Industrial Park Rd.

Post Office Box 286

Beaver, WV 25813

800.999.0105

304.255.2500 • 304.255.2572 (fax)

website: www.reiclabs.com

Member:

American Chemical
Society

Association of Official
Analytical Chemists

Petroleum Marketers
Association

Rural Water
Association

Mining & Reclamation
Association

American
Water Works
Association

The Solid Waste
Association of
North America

West Virginia
Manufacturers
Association

Association of
West Virginia
Solid Waste
Authorities

West Virginia
Oil Marketers &
Grocers Association

February 19, 2012

Mr. Frank Whittaker
Department of Administration, Purchasing Division
P.O. Box 50130
2019 Washington Street East
Charleston, WV 25305-0130

SUBJECT: RFQ DEP 16101, "Animal Tissue Sample Analysis"

Mr. Whittaker:

REI Consultants, Inc. (REIC) is pleased to submit the attached quotation for the subject RFQ. Please note that all quoted services will be provided by REIC personnel. We look forward to working with you on this program.

Should you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to call me at (800) 999-0105.

Sincerely,

Clarence L. Haile, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President/Lab Director

02/19/13 09:53:10 AM
West Virginia Purchasing Division



State of West Virginia
 Department of Administration
 Purchasing Division
 2019 Washington Street East
 Post Office Box 50130
 Charleston, WV 25305-0130

Solicitation

NUMBER
DEP16101

PAGE
1

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO ATTENTION OF:
FRANK WHITTAKER 304-558-2316

VENDOR

*709054747 304-255-2500
 REI CONSULTANTS INC
 PO BOX 286
 BEAVER WV 25813

SHIP TO

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
 DEPARTMENT OF
 DIV OF WATER AND WASTE MGT
 601 57TH STREET SE
 CHARLESTON, WV
 25304 304-926-0499

DATE PRINTED
01/23/2013

BID OPENING DATE: 02/19/2013 BID OPENING TIME 01:30PM

LINE	QUANTITY	UOP	CAT. NO.	ITEM NUMBER	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
0001	1	LS		493-09		
ANIMAL TISSUE SAMPLE ANALYSIS.						
<p>THE WEST VIRGINIA PURCHASING DIVISION, FOR THE THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES, IS SOLICITING BIDS FROM RESPONSIBLE VENDORS TO PROVIDE THE AGENCY WITH AN OPEN-END CONTRACT FOR THE HOMOGENIZATION AND ANALYSIS OF ANIMAL TISSUE SAMPLES FOR METALS AND POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS PER THE ATTACHED.</p>						
***** THIS IS THE END OF RFQ DEP16101 ***** TOTAL:						\$ 24,650.00

SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i>	TELEPHONE 304-255-2500	DATE 18 Feb 2013
TITLE Exec. Vice Pres.	FEIN 55-0668654	ADDRESS CHANGES TO BE NOTED ABOVE

WHEN RESPONDING TO SOLICITATION, INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS IN SPACE ABOVE LABELED 'VENDOR'

INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS SUBMITTING BIDS

1. **REVIEW DOCUMENTS THOROUGHLY:** The attached documents contain a solicitation for bids. Please read these instructions and all documents attached in their entirety. These instructions provide critical information about requirements that if overlooked could lead to disqualification of a Vendor's bid. All bids must be submitted in accordance with the provisions contained in these instructions and the Solicitation. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of Vendor's bid.

2. **MANDATORY TERMS:** The Solicitation may contain mandatory provisions identified by the use of the words "must," "will," and "shall." Failure to comply with a mandatory term in the Solicitation will result in bid disqualification.

3. **PREBID MEETING:** The item identified below shall apply to this Solicitation.

| A pre-bid meeting will not be held prior to bid opening.

| A **NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID** meeting will be held at the following place and time:

| A **MANDATORY PRE-BID** meeting will be held at the following place and time:

All Vendors submitting a bid must attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting. Failure to attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting shall result in disqualification of the Vendor's bid. No one person attending the pre-bid meeting may represent more than one Vendor.

An attendance sheet provided at the pre-bid meeting shall serve as the official document verifying attendance. The State will not accept any other form of proof or documentation to verify attendance. Any person attending the pre-bid meeting on behalf of a Vendor must list on the attendance sheet his or her name and the name of the Vendor he or she is representing. Additionally, the person attending the pre-bid meeting should include the Vendor's E-Mail address, phone number, and Fax number on the attendance sheet. It is the Vendor's responsibility to locate the attendance sheet and provide the required

information. Failure to complete the attendance sheet as required may result in disqualification of Vendor's bid.

All Vendors should arrive prior to the starting time for the pre-bid. Vendors who arrive after the starting time but prior to the end of the pre-bid will be permitted to sign in, but are charged with knowing all matters discussed at the pre-bid.

Questions submitted at least five business days prior to a scheduled pre-bid will be discussed at the pre-bid meeting if possible. Any discussions or answers to questions at the pre-bid meeting are preliminary in nature and are non-binding. Official and binding answers to questions will be published in a written addendum to the Solicitation prior to bid opening.

4. **VENDOR QUESTION DEADLINE:** Vendors may submit questions relating to this Solicitation to the Purchasing Division. Questions must be submitted in writing. All questions must be submitted on or before the date listed below and to the address listed below in order to be considered. A written response will be published in a Solicitation addendum if a response is possible and appropriate. Non-written discussions, conversations, or questions and answers regarding this Solicitation are preliminary in nature and are non-binding.

Question Submission Deadline:	02/05/2013
Submit Questions to:	Frank Whittaker 2019 Washington Street, East P.O. Box 50130 Charleston, WV 25305 Fax: 304-558-4115 Email: frank.m.whittaker@wv.gov

5. **VERBAL COMMUNICATION:** Any verbal communication between the Vendor and any State personnel is not binding, including that made at the mandatory pre-bid conference. Only information issued in writing and added to the Solicitation by an official written addendum by the Purchasing Division is binding.
6. **BID SUBMISSION:** All bids must be signed and delivered by the Vendor to the Purchasing Division at the address listed below on or before the date and time of the bid opening. Any bid received by the Purchasing Division staff is considered to be in the possession of the Purchasing Division and will not be returned for any reason. The bid delivery address is:

Department of Administration, Purchasing Division
2019 Washington Street East
P.O. Box 50130,
Charleston, WV 25305-0130

The bid should contain the information listed below on the face of the envelope or the bid may not be considered:

SEALED BID

BUYER: _____
SOLICITATION NO.: _____
BID OPENING DATE: _____
BID OPENING TIME: _____
FAX NUMBER: _____

In the event that Vendor is responding to a request for proposal, the Vendor shall submit one original technical and one original cost proposal plus convenience copies of each to the Purchasing Division at the address shown above. Additionally, the Vendor should identify the bid type as either a technical or cost proposal on the face of each bid envelope submitted in response to a request for proposal as follows:

BID TYPE: Technical
 Cost

7. **BID OPENING:** Bids submitted in response to this Solicitation will be opened at the location identified below on the date and time listed below. Delivery of a bid after the bid opening date and time will result in bid disqualification. For purposes of this Solicitation, a bid is considered delivered when time stamped by the official Purchasing Division time clock.

Bid Opening Date and Time:

02/19/2013 at 1:30 PM

Bid Opening Location:

Department of Administration, Purchasing Division
2019 Washington Street East
P.O. Box 50130,
Charleston, WV 25305-0130

8. **ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** Changes or revisions to this Solicitation will be made by an official written addendum issued by the Purchasing Division. Vendor should acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued with this Solicitation by completing an Addendum Acknowledgment Form, a copy of which is included herewith. Failure to acknowledge addenda may result in bid disqualification. The addendum acknowledgement should be submitted with the bid to expedite document processing.
9. **BID FORMATTING:** Vendor should type or electronically enter the information onto its bid to prevent errors in the evaluation. Failure to type or electronically enter the information may result in bid disqualification.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. **CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT:** Issuance of a Purchase Order signed by the Purchasing Division Director, or his designee, and approved as to form by the Attorney General's office constitutes acceptance of this Contract made by and between the State of West Virginia and the Vendor. Vendor's signature on its bid signifies Vendor's agreement to be bound by and accept the terms and conditions contained in this Contract.

2. **DEFINITIONS:** As used in this Solicitation / Contract, the following terms shall have the meanings attributed to them below. Additional definitions may be found in the specifications included with this Solicitation / Contract.
 - 2.1 "Agency" or "Agencies" means the agency, board, commission, or other entity of the State of West Virginia that is identified on the first page of the Solicitation or any other public entity seeking to procure goods or services under this Contract.

 - 2.2 "Contract" means the binding agreement that is entered into between the State and the Vendor to provide the goods and services requested in the Solicitation.

 - 2.3 "Director" means the Director of the West Virginia Department of Administration, Purchasing Division.

 - 2.4 "Purchasing Division" means the West Virginia Department of Administration, Purchasing Division.

 - 2.5 "Purchase Order" means the document signed by the Agency and the Purchasing Division, and approved as to form by the Attorney General, that identifies the Vendor as the successful bidder and Contract holder.

 - 2.6 "Solicitation" means the official solicitation published by the Purchasing Division and identified by number on the first page thereof.

 - 2.7 "State" means the State of West Virginia and/or any of its agencies, commissions, boards, etc. as context requires.

 - 2.8 "Vendor" or "Vendors" means any entity submitting a bid in response to the Solicitation, the entity that has been selected as the lowest responsible bidder, or the entity that has been awarded the Contract as context requires.

3. **CONTRACT TERM; RENEWAL; EXTENSION:** The term of this Contract shall be determined in accordance with the category that has been identified as applicable to this Contract below:

Term Contract

Initial Contract Term: This Contract becomes effective on

and extends for a period of year(s).

Renewal Term: This Contract may be renewed upon the mutual written consent of the Agency, and the Vendor, with approval of the Purchasing Division and the Attorney General's office (Attorney General approval is as to form only). Any request for renewal must be submitted to the Purchasing Division Director thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of the initial contract term or appropriate renewal term. A Contract renewal shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the original contract. Renewal of this Contract is limited to successive one (1) year periods. Automatic renewal of this Contract is prohibited. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Purchasing Division approval is not required on agency delegated or exempt purchases. Attorney General approval may be required for vendor terms and conditions.

Reasonable Time Extension: At the sole discretion of the Purchasing Division Director, and with approval from the Attorney General's office (Attorney General approval is as to form only), this Contract may be extended for a reasonable time after the initial Contract term or after any renewal term as may be necessary to obtain a new contract or renew this Contract. Any reasonable time extension shall not exceed twelve (12) months. Vendor may avoid a reasonable time extension by providing the Purchasing Division Director with written notice of Vendor's desire to terminate this Contract 30 days prior to the expiration of the then current term. During any reasonable time extension period, the Vendor may terminate this Contract for any reason upon giving the Purchasing Division Director 30 days written notice. Automatic extension of this Contract is prohibited. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Purchasing Division approval is not required on agency delegated or exempt purchases, but Attorney General approval may be required.

- Fixed Period Contract:** This Contract becomes effective upon Vendor's receipt of the notice to proceed and must be completed within days.
- One Time Purchase:** The term of this Contract shall run from the issuance of the Purchase Order until all of the goods contracted for have been delivered, but in no event shall this Contract extend for more than one fiscal year.
- Other:** See attached.

4. **NOTICE TO PROCEED:** Vendor shall begin performance of this Contract immediately upon receiving notice to proceed unless otherwise instructed by the Agency. Unless otherwise specified, the fully executed Purchase Order will be considered notice to proceed

5. **QUANTITIES:** The quantities required under this Contract shall be determined in accordance with the category that has been identified as applicable to this Contract below.
 - Open End Contract:** Quantities listed in this Solicitation are approximations only, based on estimates supplied by the Agency. It is understood and agreed that the Contract shall cover the quantities actually ordered for delivery during the term of the Contract, whether more or less than the quantities shown.

 - Service:** The scope of the service to be provided will be more clearly defined in the specifications included herewith.

 - Combined Service and Goods:** The scope of the service and deliverable goods to be provided will be more clearly defined in the specifications included herewith.

 - One Time Purchase:** This Contract is for the purchase of a set quantity of goods that are identified in the specifications included herewith. Once those items have been delivered, no additional goods may be procured under this Contract without an appropriate change order approved by the Vendor, Agency, Purchasing Division, and Attorney General's office.

6. **PRICING:** The pricing set forth herein is firm for the life of the Contract, unless specified elsewhere within this Solicitation/Contract by the State. A Vendor's inclusion of price adjustment provisions in its bid, without an express authorization from the State in the Solicitation to do so, may result in bid disqualification.

7. **EMERGENCY PURCHASES:** The Purchasing Division Director may authorize the Agency to purchase goods or services in the open market that Vendor would otherwise provide under this Contract if those goods or services are for immediate or expedited delivery in an emergency. Emergencies shall include, but are not limited to, delays in transportation or an unanticipated increase in the volume of work. An emergency purchase in the open market, approved by the Purchasing Division Director, shall not constitute a breach of this Contract and shall not entitle the Vendor to any form of compensation or damages. This provision does not excuse the State from fulfilling its obligations under a One Time Purchase contract.

8. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:** All of the items checked below must be provided to the Purchasing Division by the Vendor as specified below.
 - BID BOND:** All Vendors shall furnish a bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid protecting the State of West Virginia. The bid bond must be submitted with the bid.

| | **PERFORMANCE BOND:** The apparent successful Vendor shall provide a performance bond in the amount of []. The performance bond must be issued and received by the Purchasing Division prior to Contract award. On construction contracts, the performance bond must be 100% of the Contract value.

| | **LABOR/MATERIAL PAYMENT BOND:** The apparent successful Vendor shall provide a labor/material payment bond in the amount of 100% of the Contract value. The labor/material payment bond must be issued and delivered to the Purchasing Division prior to Contract award.

In lieu of the Bid Bond, Performance Bond, and Labor/Material Payment Bond, the Vendor may provide certified checks, cashier's checks, or irrevocable letters of credit. Any certified check, cashier's check, or irrevocable letter of credit provided in lieu of a bond must be of the same amount and delivered on the same schedule as the bond it replaces. A letter of credit submitted in lieu of a performance and labor/material payment bond will only be allowed for projects under \$100,000. Personal or business checks are not acceptable.

| | **MAINTENANCE BOND:** The apparent successful Vendor shall provide a two (2) year maintenance bond covering the roofing system. The maintenance bond must be issued and delivered to the Purchasing Division prior to Contract award.

| | **WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE:** The apparent successful Vendor shall have appropriate workers' compensation insurance and shall provide proof thereof upon request.

| | **INSURANCE:** The apparent successful Vendor shall furnish proof of the following insurance prior to Contract award:

[] **Commercial General Liability Insurance:**
[] or more.

[] **Builders Risk Insurance:** builders risk – all risk insurance in an amount equal to 100% of the amount of the Contract.

[]	
[]	
[]	
[]	
[]	

The apparent successful Vendor shall also furnish proof of any additional insurance requirements contained in the specifications prior to Contract award regardless of whether or not that insurance requirement is listed above.

- | | **LICENSE(S) / CERTIFICATIONS / PERMITS:** In addition to anything required under the Section entitled Licensing, of the General Terms and Conditions, the apparent successful Vendor shall furnish proof of the following licenses, certifications, and/or permits prior to Contract award, in a form acceptable to the Purchasing Division.

[]	
[]	
[]	
[]	

The apparent successful Vendor shall also furnish proof of any additional licenses or certifications contained in the specifications prior to Contract award regardless of whether or not that requirement is listed above.

9. LITIGATION BOND: The Director reserves the right to require any Vendor that files a protest of an award to submit a litigation bond in the amount equal to one percent of the lowest bid submitted or \$5,000, whichever is greater. The entire amount of the bond shall be forfeited if the hearing officer determines that the protest was filed for frivolous or improper purpose, including but not limited to, the purpose of harassing, causing unnecessary delay, or needless expense for the Agency. All litigation bonds shall be made payable to the Purchasing Division. In lieu of a bond, the protester may submit a cashier's check or certified check payable to the Purchasing Division. Cashier's or certified checks will be deposited with and held by the State Treasurer's office. If it is determined that the protest has not been filed for frivolous or improper purpose, the bond or deposit shall be returned in its entirety.

10. ALTERNATES: Any model, brand, or specification listed herein establishes the acceptable level of quality only and is not intended to reflect a preference for, or in any way favor, a particular brand or vendor. Vendors may bid alternates to a listed model or brand provided that the alternate is at least equal to the model or brand and complies with the required specifications. The equality of any alternate being bid shall be determined by the State at its sole discretion. Any Vendor bidding an alternate model or brand should clearly identify the alternate items in its bid and should include manufacturer's specifications, industry literature, and/or any other relevant documentation demonstrating the equality of the alternate items. Failure to provide information for alternate items may be grounds for rejection of a Vendor's bid.

11. EXCEPTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS: The Solicitation contains the specifications that shall form the basis of a contractual agreement. Vendor shall clearly mark any exceptions, clarifications, or

other proposed modifications in its bid. Exceptions to, clarifications of, or modifications of a requirement or term and condition of the Solicitation may result in bid disqualification.

12. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: Vendor shall pay liquidated damages in the amount

	for	

This clause shall in no way be considered exclusive and shall not limit the State or Agency's right to pursue any other available remedy.

13. ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION: The State may accept or reject any bid in whole, or in part. Vendor's signature on its bid signifies acceptance of the terms and conditions contained in the Solicitation and Vendor agrees to be bound by the terms of the Contract, as reflected in the Purchase Order, upon receipt.

14. REGISTRATION: Prior to Contract award, the apparent successful Vendor must be properly registered with the West Virginia Purchasing Division and must have paid the \$125 fee if applicable.

15. COMMUNICATION LIMITATIONS: In accordance with West Virginia Code of State Rules §148-1-6.6, communication with the State of West Virginia or any of its employees regarding this Solicitation during the solicitation, bid, evaluation or award periods, except through the Purchasing Division, is strictly prohibited without prior Purchasing Division approval. Purchasing Division approval for such communication is implied for all agency delegated and exempt purchases.

16. FUNDING: This Contract shall continue for the term stated herein, contingent upon funds being appropriated by the Legislature or otherwise being made available. In the event funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available, this Contract becomes void and of no effect beginning on July 1 of the fiscal year for which funding has not been appropriated or otherwise made available.

17. PAYMENT: Payment in advance is prohibited under this Contract. Payment may only be made after the delivery and acceptance of goods or services. The Vendor shall submit invoices, in arrears, to the Agency at the address on the face of the purchase order labeled "Invoice To."

18. UNIT PRICE: Unit prices shall prevail in cases of a discrepancy in the Vendor's bid.

19. DELIVERY: All quotations are considered freight on board destination ("F.O.B. destination") unless alternate shipping terms are clearly identified in the bid. Vendor's listing of shipping terms that contradict the shipping terms expressly required by this Solicitation may result in bid disqualification.

20. INTEREST: Interest attributable to late payment will only be permitted if authorized by the West Virginia Code. Presently, there is no provision in the law for interest on late payments.

21. PREFERENCE: Vendor Preference may only be granted upon written request and only in accordance with the West Virginia Code § 5A-3-37 and the West Virginia Code of State Rules. A Resident Vendor Certification form has been attached hereto to allow Vendor to apply for the preference. Vendor's

failure to submit the Resident Vendor Certification form with its bid will result in denial of Vendor Preference. Vendor Preference does not apply to construction projects.

- 22. SMALL, WOMEN-OWNED, OR MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES:** For any solicitations publicly advertised for bid on or after July 1, 2012, in accordance with West Virginia Code §5A-3-37(a)(7) and W. Va. CSR § 148-22-9, any non-resident vendor certified as a small, women-owned, or minority-owned business under W. Va. CSR § 148-22-9 shall be provided the same preference made available to any resident vendor. Any non-resident small, women-owned, or minority-owned business must identify itself as such in writing, must submit that writing to the Purchasing Division with its bid, and must be properly certified under W. Va. CSR § 148-22-9 prior to submission of its bid to receive the preferences made available to resident vendors. Preference for a non-resident small, women-owned, or minority owned business shall be applied in accordance with W. Va. CSR § 148-22-9.
- 23. TAXES:** The Vendor shall pay any applicable sales, use, personal property or any other taxes arising out of this Contract and the transactions contemplated thereby. The State of West Virginia is exempt from federal and state taxes and will not pay or reimburse such taxes.
- 24. CANCELLATION:** The Purchasing Division Director reserves the right to cancel this Contract immediately upon written notice to the vendor if the materials or workmanship supplied do not conform to the specifications contained in the Contract. The Purchasing Division Director may cancel any purchase or Contract upon 30 days written notice to the Vendor in accordance with West Virginia Code of State Rules § 148-1-7.16.2.
- 25. WAIVER OF MINOR IRREGULARITIES:** The Director reserves the right to waive minor irregularities in bids or specifications in accordance with West Virginia Code of State Rules § 148-1-4.6.
- 26. TIME:** Time is of the essence with regard to all matters of time and performance in this Contract.
- 27. APPLICABLE LAW:** This Contract is governed by and interpreted under West Virginia law without giving effect to its choice of law principles. Any information provided in specification manuals, or any other source, verbal or written, which contradicts or violates the West Virginia Constitution, West Virginia Code or West Virginia Code of State Rules is void and of no effect.
- 28. COMPLIANCE:** Vendor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and ordinances. By submitting a bid, Vendors acknowledge that they have reviewed, understand, and will comply with all applicable law.
- 29. PREVAILING WAGE:** On any contract for the construction of a public improvement, Vendor and any subcontractors utilized by Vendor shall pay a rate or rates of wages which shall not be less than the fair minimum rate or rates of wages (prevailing wage), as established by the West Virginia Division of Labor under West Virginia Code §§ 21-5A-1 et seq. and available at <http://www.sos.wv.gov/administrative-law/wagerates/Pages/default.aspx>. Vendor shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with prevailing wage requirements and determining when prevailing wage

requirements are applicable. The required contract provisions contained in West Virginia Code of State Rules § 42-7-3 are specifically incorporated herein by reference.

- 30. ARBITRATION:** Any references made to arbitration contained in this Contract, Vendor's bid, or in any American Institute of Architects documents pertaining to this Contract are hereby deleted, void, and of no effect.
- 31. MODIFICATIONS:** This writing is the parties' final expression of intent. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Contract to the contrary, no modification of this Contract shall be binding without mutual written consent of the Agency, and the Vendor, with approval of the Purchasing Division and the Attorney General's office (Attorney General approval is as to form only). **No Change shall be implemented by the Vendor until such time as the Vendor receives an approved written change order from the Purchasing Division.**
- 32. WAIVER:** The failure of either party to insist upon a strict performance of any of the terms or provision of this Contract, or to exercise any option, right, or remedy herein contained, shall not be construed as a waiver or a relinquishment for the future of such term, provision, option, right, or remedy, but the same shall continue in full force and effect. Any waiver must be expressly stated in writing and signed by the waiving party.
- 33. SUBSEQUENT FORMS:** The terms and conditions contained in this Contract shall supersede any and all subsequent terms and conditions which may appear on any form documents submitted by Vendor to the Agency or Purchasing Division such as price lists, order forms, invoices, sales agreements, or maintenance agreements, and includes internet websites or other electronic documents. Acceptance or use of Vendor's forms does not constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions contained thereon.
- 34. ASSIGNMENT:** Neither this Contract nor any monies due, or to become due hereunder, may be assigned by the Vendor without the express written consent of the Agency, the Purchasing Division, the Attorney General's office (as to form only), and any other government agency or office that may be required to approve such assignments. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Purchasing Division approval may or may not be required on certain agency delegated or exempt purchases.
- 35. WARRANTY:** The Vendor expressly warrants that the goods and/or services covered by this Contract will: (a) conform to the specifications, drawings, samples, or other description furnished or specified by the Agency; (b) be merchantable and fit for the purpose intended; and (c) be free from defect in material and workmanship.
- 36. STATE EMPLOYEES:** State employees are not permitted to utilize this Contract for personal use and the Vendor is prohibited from permitting or facilitating the same.
- 37. BANKRUPTCY:** In the event the Vendor files for bankruptcy protection, the State of West Virginia may deem this Contract null and void, and terminate this Contract without notice.

- 38. HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE ADDENDUM:** The West Virginia State Government HIPAA Business Associate Addendum (BAA), approved by the Attorney General, is available online at <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/vrc/hipaa.html> and is hereby made part of the agreement provided that the Agency meets the definition of a Covered entity (45 CFR §160.103) and will be disclosing Protected Health Information (45 CFR §160.103) to the Vendor.
- 39. CONFIDENTIALITY:** The Vendor agrees that it will not disclose to anyone, directly or indirectly, any such personally identifiable information or other confidential information gained from the Agency, unless the individual who is the subject of the information consents to the disclosure in writing or the disclosure is made pursuant to the Agency's policies, procedures, and rules. Vendor further agrees to comply with the Confidentiality Policies and Information Security Accountability Requirements, set forth in <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/privacy/default.html>.
- 40. DISCLOSURE:** Vendor's response to the Solicitation and the resulting Contract are considered public documents and will be disclosed to the public in accordance with the laws, rules, and policies governing the West Virginia Purchasing Division. Those laws include, but are not limited to, the Freedom of Information Act found in West Virginia Code § 29B-1-1 et seq.

If a Vendor considers any part of its bid to be exempt from public disclosure, Vendor must so indicate by specifically identifying the exempt information, identifying the exemption that applies, providing a detailed justification for the exemption, segregating the exempt information from the general bid information, and submitting the exempt information as part of its bid but in a segregated and clearly identifiable format. Failure to comply with the foregoing requirements will result in public disclosure of the Vendor's bid without further notice. A Vendor's act of marking all or nearly all of its bid as exempt is not sufficient to avoid disclosure and WILL NOT BE HONORED. Vendor's act of marking a bid or any part thereof as "confidential" or "proprietary" is not sufficient to avoid disclosure and WILL NOT BE HONORED. In addition, a legend or other statement indicating that all or substantially all of the bid is exempt from disclosure is not sufficient to avoid disclosure and WILL NOT BE HONORED. Vendor will be required to defend any claimed exemption for nondisclosure in the event of an administrative or judicial challenge to the State's nondisclosure. Vendor must indemnify the State for any costs incurred related to any exemptions claimed by Vendor. Any questions regarding the applicability of the various public records laws should be addressed to your own legal counsel prior to bid submission.

- 41. LICENSING:** In accordance with West Virginia Code of State Rules §148-1-6.1.7, Vendor must be licensed and in good standing in accordance with any and all state and local laws and requirements by any state or local agency of West Virginia, including, but not limited to, the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office, the West Virginia Tax Department, West Virginia Insurance Commission, or any other state agency or political subdivision. Upon request, the Vendor must provide all necessary releases to obtain information to enable the Purchasing Division Director or the Agency to verify that the Vendor is licensed and in good standing with the above entities.

42. **ANTITRUST:** In submitting a bid to, signing a contract with, or accepting a Purchase Order from any agency of the State of West Virginia, the Vendor agrees to convey, sell, assign, or transfer to the State of West Virginia all rights, title, and interest in and to all causes of action it may now or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the State of West Virginia for price fixing and/or unreasonable restraints of trade relating to the particular commodities or services purchased or acquired by the State of West Virginia. Such assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the purchasing agency tenders the initial payment to Vendor.

43. **VENDOR CERTIFICATIONS:** By signing its bid or entering into this Contract, Vendor certifies (1) that its bid was made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, limited liability company, partnership, person or entity submitting a bid for the same material, supplies, equipment or services; (2) that its bid is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud; (3) that this Contract is accepted or entered into without any prior understanding, agreement, or connection to any other entity that could be considered a violation of law; and (4) that it has reviewed this RFQ in its entirety; understands the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein. Vendor's signature on its bid also affirms that neither it nor its representatives have any interest, nor shall acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would compromise the performance of its services hereunder. Any such interests shall be promptly presented in detail to the Agency.

The individual signing this bid on behalf of Vendor certifies that he or she is authorized by the Vendor to execute this bid or any documents related thereto on Vendor's behalf; that he or she is authorized to bind the Vendor in a contractual relationship; and that, to the best of his or her knowledge, the Vendor has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

44. **PURCHASING CARD ACCEPTANCE:** The State of West Virginia currently utilizes a Purchasing Card program, administered under contract by a banking institution, to process payment for goods and services. The Vendor must accept the State of West Virginia's Purchasing Card for payment of all orders under this Contract unless the box below is checked.

Vendor is not required to accept the State of West Virginia's Purchasing Card as payment for all goods and services.

45. **VENDOR RELATIONSHIP:** The relationship of the Vendor to the State shall be that of an independent contractor and no principal-agent relationship or employer-employee relationship is contemplated or created by this Contract. The Vendor as an independent contractor is solely liable for the acts and omissions of its employees and agents. Vendor shall be responsible for selecting, supervising, and compensating any and all individuals employed pursuant to the terms of this Solicitation and resulting contract. Neither the Vendor, nor any employees or subcontractors of the Vendor, shall be deemed to be employees of the State for any purpose whatsoever. Vendor shall be exclusively responsible for payment of employees and contractors for all wages and salaries, taxes, withholding payments, penalties, fees, fringe benefits, professional liability insurance premiums, contributions to insurance and pension, or other deferred compensation plans, including but not limited to, Workers' Compensation and Social Security obligations, licensing fees, *etc.* and the filing of all necessary documents, forms and returns pertinent to all of the foregoing. Vendor shall hold harmless the

State, and shall provide the State and Agency with a defense against any and all claims including, but not limited to, the foregoing payments, withholdings, contributions, taxes, Social Security taxes, and employer income tax returns.

- 46. INDEMNIFICATION:** The Vendor agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State and the Agency, their officers, and employees from and against: (1) Any claims or losses for services rendered by any subcontractor, person, or firm performing or supplying services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of the Contract; (2) Any claims or losses resulting to any person or entity injured or damaged by the Vendor, its officers, employees, or subcontractors by the publication, translation, reproduction, delivery, performance, use, or disposition of any data used under the Contract in a manner not authorized by the Contract, or by Federal or State statutes or regulations; and (3) Any failure of the Vendor, its officers, employees, or subcontractors to observe State and Federal laws including, but not limited to, labor and wage and hour laws.
- 47. PURCHASING AFFIDAVIT:** In accordance with West Virginia Code § 5A-3-10a, all Vendors are required to sign, notarize, and submit the Purchasing Affidavit stating that neither the Vendor nor a related party owe a debt to the State in excess of \$1,000. The affidavit must be submitted prior to award, but should be submitted with the Vendor's bid. A copy of the Purchasing Affidavit is included herewith.
- 48. ADDITIONAL AGENCY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT USE:** This Contract may be utilized by and extends to other agencies, spending units, and political subdivisions of the State of West Virginia; county, municipal, and other local government bodies; and school districts ("Other Government Entities"). This Contract shall be extended to the aforementioned Other Government Entities on the same prices, terms, and conditions as those offered and agreed to in this Contract. If the Vendor does not wish to extend the prices, terms, and conditions of its bid and subsequent contract to the Other Government Entities, the Vendor must clearly indicate such refusal in its bid. A refusal to extend this Contract to the Other Government Entities shall not impact or influence the award of this Contract in any manner.
- 49. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Vendor, its officers or members or employees, shall not presently have or acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict with or compromise the performance of its obligations hereunder. Vendor shall periodically inquire of its officers, members and employees to ensure that a conflict of interest does not arise. Any conflict of interest discovered shall be promptly presented in detail to the Agency.
- 50. REPORTS:** Vendor shall provide the Agency and/or the Purchasing Division with the following reports identified by a checked box below:
- Such reports as the Agency and/or the Purchasing Division may request. Requested reports may include, but are not limited to, quantities purchased, agencies utilizing the contract, total contract expenditures by agency, etc.

- [] Quarterly reports detailing the total quantity of purchases in units and dollars, along with a listing of purchases by agency. Quarterly reports should be delivered to the Purchasing Division via email at purchasing.requisitions@wv.gov.

51. BACKGROUND CHECK: In accordance with W. Va. Code § 15-2D-3, the Director of the Division of Protective Services shall require any service provider whose employees are regularly employed on the grounds or in the buildings of the Capitol complex or who have access to sensitive or critical information to submit to a fingerprint-based state and federal background inquiry through the state repository. The service provider is responsible for any costs associated with the fingerprint-based state and federal background inquiry.

After the contract for such services has been approved, but before any such employees are permitted to be on the grounds or in the buildings of the Capitol complex or have access to sensitive or critical information, the service provider shall submit a list of all persons who will be physically present and working at the Capitol complex to the Director of the Division of Protective Services for purposes of verifying compliance with this provision.

The State reserves the right to prohibit a service provider's employees from accessing sensitive or critical information or to be present at the Capitol complex based upon results addressed from a criminal background check.

Service providers should contact the West Virginia Division of Protective Services by phone at (304) 558-9911 for more information.

52. PREFERENCE FOR USE OF DOMESTIC STEEL PRODUCTS: Except when authorized by the Director of the Purchasing Division pursuant to W. Va. Code § 5A-3-56, no contractor may use or supply steel products for a State Contract Project other than those steel products made in the United States. A contractor who uses steel products in violation of this section may be subject to civil penalties pursuant to W. Va. Code § 5A-3-56. As used in this section:

- a. "State Contract Project" means any erection or construction of, or any addition to, alteration of or other improvement to any building or structure, including, but not limited to, roads or highways, or the installation of any heating or cooling or ventilating plants or other equipment, or the supply of and materials for such projects, pursuant to a contract with the State of West Virginia for which bids were solicited on or after June 6, 2001.
- b. "Steel Products" means products rolled, formed, shaped, drawn, extruded, forged, cast, fabricated or otherwise similarly processed, or processed by a combination of two or more or such operations, from steel made by the open hearth, basic oxygen, electric furnace, Bessemer or other steel making process.

The Purchasing Division Director may, in writing, authorize the use of foreign steel products if:

- a. The cost for each contract item used does not exceed one tenth of one percent (.1%) of the total

contract cost or two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00), whichever is greater. For the purposes of this section, the cost is the value of the steel product as delivered to the project; or

- b. The Director of the Purchasing Division determines that specified steel materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient quantity or otherwise are not reasonably available to meet contract requirements.

53. PREFERENCE FOR USE OF DOMESTIC ALUMINUM, GLASS, AND STEEL: In Accordance with W. Va. Code § 5-19-1 et seq., and W. Va. CSR § 148-10-1 et seq., for every contract or subcontract, subject to the limitations contained herein, for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, improvement or maintenance of public works or for the purchase of any item of machinery or equipment to be used at sites of public works, only domestic aluminum, glass or steel products shall be supplied unless the spending officer determines, in writing, after the receipt of offers or bids, (1) that the cost of domestic aluminum, glass or steel products is unreasonable or inconsistent with the public interest of the State of West Virginia, (2) that domestic aluminum, glass or steel products are not produced in sufficient quantities to meet the contract requirements, or (3) the available domestic aluminum, glass, or steel do not meet the contract specifications. This provision only applies to public works contracts awarded in an amount more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or public works contracts that require more than ten thousand pounds of steel products.

The cost of domestic aluminum, glass, or steel products may be unreasonable if the cost is more than twenty percent (20%) of the bid or offered price for foreign made aluminum, glass, or steel products. If the domestic aluminum, glass or steel products to be supplied or produced in a "substantial labor surplus area", as defined by the United States Department of Labor, the cost of domestic aluminum, glass, or steel products may be unreasonable if the cost is more than thirty percent (30%) of the bid or offered price for foreign made aluminum, glass, or steel products.

This preference shall be applied to an item of machinery or equipment, as indicated above, when the item is a single unit of equipment or machinery manufactured primarily of aluminum, glass or steel, is part of a public works contract and has the sole purpose or of being a permanent part of a single public works project. This provision does not apply to equipment or machinery purchased by a spending unit for use by that spending unit and not as part of a single public works project.

All bids and offers including domestic aluminum, glass or steel products that exceed bid or offer prices including foreign aluminum, glass or steel products after application of the preferences provided in this provision may be reduced to a price equal to or lower than the lowest bid or offer price for foreign aluminum, glass or steel products plus the applicable preference. If the reduced bid or offer prices are made in writing and supersede the prior bid or offer prices, all bids or offers, including the reduced bid or offer prices, will be reevaluated in accordance with this rule.

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SPECIFICATIONS

1. **PURPOSE AND SCOPE:** The West Virginia Purchasing Division is soliciting bids on behalf of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to establish an open-end contract to process and analyze fish tissue samples for total mercury, total PCBs, and/or total selenium to support the development of consumption advisories and for body burden and bioaccumulation studies.

2. **DEFINITIONS:** The terms listed below shall have the meanings assigned to them below. Additional definitions can be found in Section 2 of the General Terms and Conditions.
 - 2.1 **“Desired Service” or “Desired Services”** means the list of items identified in Section III, Subsection 1 below.
 - 2.2 **“Pricing Pages”** means the schedule of prices, estimated quantity, and totals attached hereto as Exhibit A and used to evaluate the RFQ.
 - 2.3 **“RFQ”** means the official RFQ published by the Purchasing Division and identified as DEP16101.

3. **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**
 - 3.1 **Desired Services and Mandatory Requirements:** Vendor shall provide Agency with the Desired Services listed below on an open-end and continuing basis. Desired Services must meet or exceed the mandatory requirements as shown below.
 - 3.1.1 The Vendor has sole responsibility for carrying out the terms of this contract.
 - 3.1.1.1 The Department of Environmental Protection shall not be responsible for any terms of any subcontract the primary Vendor may enter into to perform the duties of this contract.
 - 3.1.2 The vendor and all subcontractors must be a WV DEP Certified laboratory.

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3.1.3 The vendor must have a minimum of three (3) years of experience preparing and testing fish tissue samples.

3.1.4 The Vendor shall process and analyze fish tissue samples for total mercury, total PCBs, and/or total selenium to support the development of consumption advisories and for body burden and bioaccumulation studies.

3.1.4.1 The vendor must be prepared to receive and process frozen fillets and/or frozen whole fish. Typically, samples consist of whole fish or fillets (edible portions). A subset of the whole fish samples will be returned to DEP as homogenate: these samples will be shipped to a different facility for methylmercury analysis. Rarely, fresh-fish samples will be submitted for the laboratory to process into fillets.

3.1.5 Process steps and requirements:

3.1.5.1 Step 1 – Pick-up of Samples from specified location.

Sample collection for DEP shall be conducted by DEP and Division of Natural Resources (DNR) scientists. The vendor will be required to pick up fish samples from the following location:

DEP Headquarters
601 57th Street SE
Charleston WV 25304

Primary Contact: Janice Smithson, (304) 926-0499 ext. 1051

DEP will initiate chain-of-custody (COC) report for the sample(s). The COC will indicate the date(s) of sample collection, species, tissue type, number of containers and desired analysis, if any. The COC will also indicate the project objectives (i.e., consumption advisory vs. whole-fish studies) to assure that samples are processed to meet the needs of DEP

Monthly pick-up of samples may be required between the months of May and December, inclusive.

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The vendor shall document the date/time the samples were obtained from the DEP, condition of the sample, and date/time the samples were received at the vendor's facility. The vendor shall be responsible for holding times, preservation of the samples and maintaining an internal COC from the time the vendor obtained the sample until the time the analysis is accepted by the DEP. The vendor shall also maintain records of the results of analyses for a minimum of five (5) years

3.1.5.2 Step 2 – Sample Homogenization

Contaminates are not distributed evenly throughout biological tissue. Therefore, it is crucial to obtain a homogenous sample by grinding or processing the tissue to an even, thoroughly-mixed consistency.

A. Consumption Advisory Samples

Typically, these samples will be processed into fillets by the DEP/DNR sample collectors. However, there may be occasion for the vendor to perform this activity. Fillets shall be obtained in accordance with procedures presented in *Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data for Use in Fish Advisories, Volume 1: Fish Sampling and Analysis*, Third Edition¹, Sections 7.2.2.6 and 7.2.2.7.

¹ Environmental Protection Agency Document EPA 823-B-00-007, November 2000. Available on-line at <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/fishshellfish/techguidance/risk/index.cfm>

Catfish fillets shall be “skin-off”; that is, the skin shall be removed from all fillets. Scaled fish fillets shall be “skin-on, scales-off”.

Most fish consumption samples will consist of composites of three to five fish. DEP will clearly identify which fish

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comprise each composite sample. These sets of fish will be processed as a unit, as though they are a single sample.

Homogenates shall be prepared in accordance with procedures presented in *Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data for Use in Fish Advisories, Volume 1: Fish Sampling and Analysis*, Third Edition¹. Section 7.2.2.8 presents guidance for homogenization of individual fish samples. Section 7.2.2.9 presents homogenization procedures for multi-fish composites.

¹ Environmental Protection Agency Document EPA 823-B-00-007, November 2000. Available on-line at <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/fishshellfish/techguidance/risk/index.cfm>

B. Sample Preparation – Whole Fish Samples

Whole-fish samples may be processed as individual fish or as multi-fish composites. Multi-fish composites will generally be necessary due to small fish size. Whole fish homogenization shall be conducted in accordance with procedures presented in *Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data for Use in Fish Advisories, Volume 1: Fish Sampling and Analysis*, Third Edition¹, Appendix J.

¹ Environmental Protection Agency Document EPA 823-B-00-007, November 2000. Available on-line at <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/fishshellfish/techguidance/risk/index.cfm>

Please note the following exception: All catfish samples designated as whole-fish samples are to be processed with skin on. This conflicts with the illustration in Figure J-1.

Vendor will not be required to document abnormalities or determine age or sex of these fish.

NOTE: Whole-fish homogenates may be returned to DEP to be analyzed for methylmercury by a different facility. Vendor

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should consider this possibility when bidding on whole-fish homogenization costs.

3.1.5.3 Step 3 – Conduct specified analysis on samples.

In order for the laboratory to demonstrate the ability to produce acceptable results an external Quality Control Sample (QCS) must be analyzed. **This QCS must be a standard reference material consisting of biological tissue similar to fish and provide specified acceptance limits for the analytes of interest in this study.** This QCS must be analyzed with each batch of samples. A batch is any group of twenty (20) or fewer samples processed at the same time. In addition to the QCS, a method blank (reagent blank), a matrix spike (MS), and a matrix spike duplicate (MSD) must be digested with each batch. In any case where there is not sufficient tissue to analyze a MS/MSD pair, then a QCS duplicate must be analyzed with that batch in order demonstrate acceptable precision.

Sample preparation will follow EPA Method 200.3 for digestate analysis by EPA Method 200.7 or EPA Method 200.8. If graphite furnace AA is to be used (SM3113B or EPA 200.9) hydrochloric acid (HCl) must be omitted from the digestion. Regardless of the digestion technique used, the pH of the digestate must be verified as <2 SU and the digestate must be properly identified and stored until the laboratory is instructed as to the disposition of the digestate or for a period of one (1) year. Tissue (sample) in excess of that necessary for analysis must be stored frozen at or less than -20.0° C until the laboratory is instructed as to the disposition of the sample or for a period of one (1) year.

Selenium (Se) may be analyzed by EPA 200.9 (Rev. 2.2 1994), EPA 200.8, EPA 270.2, SM 6020 or SM 3113 B. The laboratory must submit documentation to demonstrate the

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ability to achieve a wet weight Method Detection Limit of 1.0 ppm (mg/kg).

Mercury (Hg) must be analyzed by EPA 245.5, EPA 245.7, SW-846 Method 7471A, or EPA 200.8 (Rev. 5.4 1998). Appropriate digestion for the method of choice must be employed. The laboratory must submit documentation to demonstrate the ability to achieve a wet weight Method Detection Limit of 0.03 ppm (mg/kg). Mercury samples shall be analyzed within 28 days of receipt. All other metals shall be analyzed within 180 days. DEP will not pay for results generated beyond these holding time specifications.

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) may be analyzed by SW-846 Method 8082 with an appropriate extraction method (3550C, 3540C or 3541). The laboratory must achieve a wet weight Method Detection Limit of 0.036 ppm (mg/kg).

Lipid analysis shall be performed using a gravimetric method. Dichloromethane shall be used as the extraction solvent in all lipid analyses. Details for lipid analysis are presented in *Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data for Use in Fish Advisories, Volume 1: Fish Sampling and Analysis*, Third Edition¹, Section 8.2.1.

¹ Environmental Protection Agency Document EPA 823-B-00-007, November 2000. Available on-line at <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/fishshellfish/techguidance/risk/index.cfm>

Analysis of samples is not deemed complete until the data has been submitted to and accepted by DEP. Should the DEP not provide notice of acceptance within four weeks of the date results were mailed, the vendor may consider the data to be acceptable by the DEP. The vendor shall be responsible for the proper disposal of all samples submitted to them by the DEP unless otherwise notified. The results of the analysis shall be submitted to the DEP no more than four (4) weeks after receipt

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of samples, unless DEP has granted written consent to extend this deadline.

Results shall be submitted as a written (printed) report. An electronic version of the data in spreadsheet format will also be required.

3.1.5.4 Step 4 – Quality assurance/Quality control

Three programs are to be utilized to assure reliable laboratory data: (1) the use and documentation of standard analytical methods, (2) analysis of duplicate and spiked samples at regular intervals each day to check analytical precision and accuracy, and (3) **analysis of an external Quality Control Sample (QCS) of comparable matrix having “known” concentrations of the analytes specified in this contract.** The National Institute of Standards and Technology has a Standard Reference Material – 1947, Lake Michigan Fish Tissue – is certified for Hg, Se, and selected PCB congeners. Regardless of which analytical methods are used in a laboratory, the methodology must be carefully documented. Standard methods that have been modified or entirely replaced because of recent advances in technologies may only be used when it has been given approval in the Federal Register. Documentation of procedures must be clear, honest, and adequately referenced; and the procedures shall be applied exactly as documented. The responsibility for results obtained from these procedures rests with the analyst and supervisor, both as representatives of the vendor.

To check the laboratory analytical **accuracy**, matrix spike and matrix spike duplicate analysis of samples shall be performed once per analytical batch consisting of 1 to 20 samples. The laboratory must calculate the Relative Percent Difference (RPD) between the matrix spike and the matrix spike duplicate. The acceptance limit for RPD shall be <20%.

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To check the laboratory analytical **precision**, matrix spike and matrix spike duplicate analysis of samples shall be performed once per analytical batch consisting of 1 to 20 samples. The laboratory must calculate the percent recovery (%Rec) for each matrix spike and matrix spike duplicate. The acceptable range for recovery under this contract shall be 70-130 %Rec.

The percent recovery must be plotted out on accuracy quality control charts. "Out of Control" samples (samples which exceed $\pm 3\sigma$) are to be repeated and appropriate steps taken to locate and remedy the source of error. If an obvious error cannot be determined, the Method of Standard Additions must be used to verify element concentration in the sample. The DEP reserves the right to conduct unannounced examination of the laboratory's records to assure compliance.

Detailed guidance for maintaining quality assurance/quality control for fish tissue analysis is provided in *Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data for Use in Fish Advisories, Volume 1: Fish Sampling and Analysis*, Third Edition, Section 8.3.

DEP will not pay for results lacking the aforementioned QA/QC requirements.

3.1.5.5 Step 5 – Legal Testimony

The selected vendor may be requested by the DEP to testify concerning the validity of the laboratory analysis. The vendor will only be required to testify to the following areas:

1. Time of notification by the DEP of sampling and by whom.
2. When and where samples were received by the vendor from DEP/DNR personnel.
3. Condition of sample.
4. How sample was preserved by the vendor.

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5. Date and time(s) of analysis and by whom.
6. Chain of Custody procedures within the laboratory.
7. Methods used.
8. Results of analysis.

At no time will the vendor respond to questions concerning interpretation of results. The DEP shall reimburse the vendor for the costs of any such testimony.

- 3.1.6 The vendor and any subcontractors must be certified by DEP's laboratory Quality Assurance Program at the time of bid submission for the analytes listed within this RFQ.
- 3.1.7 The vendor must attend and provide expert testimony in legal proceedings, upon request by the DEP.

4. CONTRACT AWARD:

4.1 **Contract Award:** The contract will be awarded to the lowest qualified bidder.

4.2 **Pricing Pages:** Vendor should complete the Pricing Pages by bidding on Items 1-9, and must complete the Minimum Detection Limit page (Attachment A). Vendor should complete the Pricing Pages in their entirety as failure to do so may result in Vendor's bids being disqualified.

4.2.1 The bidder shall also include the following information prior to award of the contract, but preferably at the time of the bid:

- Summary of experience with preparing and testing fish tissue samples. Bid submission must include names and contact information of previous clients requiring services of this type.
- Identification and West Virginia Laboratory Certification Number for any subcontractors that are used.
- Specific description of the methods used to prepare tissue samples for analysis (i.e., filleting and homogenization of samples).
- Description of the vendor's internal QA/QC procedures.

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- 4.3 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Purchasing Division may correct errors at its discretion.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS:

5.1 Subcontractors

- 5.1.1 The prime vendor shall not be allowed to subcontract any work or services under this contract to any other person, company, corporation, vendor, organization or agency without prior written approval of the DEP.

5.2 Confidentiality

- 5.2.1 The vendor agrees that any and all data, analyses, materials, reports or other information, oral or written, prepared by the vendor with respect to this requisition shall, except for information which has been publicly available, be treated as confidential and shall not be utilized, released, published, or disclosed, by the vendor at any time for any purpose whatsoever other than to provide consultation or other service to the DEP.

5.3 Miscellaneous Provisions

- 5.3.1 The DEP personnel may, at their discretion, choose to deliver samples to the vendor's establishment rather than having them picked up by the vendor.
- 5.3.2 Any updates to the MDLs during the life of this contract shall be provided to the DEP, in writing, within one week of the update(s) completion.
- 5.3.3 The vendor shall provide at no additional cost, any requested quality control / calibration information associated with a particular sample. Quality control / calibration information includes but is not limited to: values of standards used in calibration, date of last calibration, correlation coefficients of calibrations curves, instrument blank values,

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check standard values, spike/recovery values, duplicate values, dilution volumes, bench sheets, calculations and quality control charts.

- 5.3.4 Notice of any changes to the vendor's certification status with regard to any of the parameters that the vendor is certified to analyze, must be submitted to DEP, in writing, within ten (10) days of the time of status change.

5.4 Ordering Procedure:

- 5.4.1 Spending Unit shall issue a written State Contract Order (From WV-39) to the Vendor for commodities covered by this Contract.

The original copy of the WV-39 shall be mailed to the Vendor as authorization for shipment. A second copy retained by the spending unit for its records.

5.5 Billing and Payment:

- 5.5.1 Vendor shall be paid for services as per the prices established in the contract.
- 5.5.2 Vendor shall invoice the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection upon completion of work.

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BID SCHEDULE

Vendor Name: REI Consultants Inc.

The DEP reserves the right to request additional information and supporting documentation regarding unit prices when the unit price appears to be unreasonable.

Item No.	Estimated Quantities*	Description	Unit	Unit Price	Amount
1	250	Cost per fish to prepare fillets from whole fish samples	EA	\$ 15.00	\$ 3,750.00
2	100	Cost per sample (up to 10 fillets) to prepare homogenate of fillet specimens	EA	\$ 20.00	\$ 2,000.00
3	50	Cost per fish to prepare homogenate for whole-fish samples (Small fish may be grouped and considered one sample)	EA	\$ 45.00	\$ 2,250.00
4	100	Cost per sample to perform % lipids analysis	EA	\$ 29.00	\$ 2,900.00
5	100	Cost per sample to perform Hg analysis	EA	\$ 37.00	\$ 3,700.00
6	100	Cost per sample to perform PCBs analysis	EA	\$ 90.00	\$ 9,000.00
7	25	Cost per sample to perform Se analysis	EA	\$ 37.00	\$ 925.00
8	1	Fee per trip to DEP HQ to pick up samples.	EA	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
9	1	Cost per hour for professional staff representation of data in legal/administrative meetings	HR	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
		TOTAL COST			\$ 24,650.00

*Quantities are estimated for bidding purposes only.

Signature: 

Date: 18 Feb 2013

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Attachment A

Vendor must provide the following information:

Approximate Minimum Detection Limit lab is able to attain for each analyte (bidders must use format below):

- a. Total Mercury: 0.01 mg/kg
- b. Total Selenium: 0.10 mg/kg
- c. Total PCBs: 0.025 mg/kg

Name of Laboratory Contact: Clarence Haile

Contact's Signature: 

Contact's Phone Number: 304-255-2500

Contact's Address: PO Box 286

Beaver, WV 25813

State of West Virginia VENDOR PREFERENCE CERTIFICATE

Certification and application* is hereby made for Preference in accordance with *West Virginia Code*, §5A-3-37. (Does not apply to construction contracts). *West Virginia Code*, §5A-3-37, provides an opportunity for qualifying vendors to request (at the time of bid) preference for their residency status. Such preference is an evaluation method only and will be applied only to the cost bid in accordance with the *West Virginia Code*. This certificate for application is to be used to request such preference. The Purchasing Division will make the determination of the Resident Vendor Preference, if applicable.

1. **Application is made for 2.5% resident vendor preference for the reason checked:**
 Bidder is an individual resident vendor and has resided continuously in West Virginia for four (4) years immediately preceding the date of this certification; or,
 Bidder is a partnership, association or corporation resident vendor and has maintained its headquarters or principal place of business continuously in West Virginia for four (4) years immediately preceding the date of this certification; or 80% of the ownership interest of Bidder is held by another individual, partnership, association or corporation resident vendor who has maintained its headquarters or principal place of business continuously in West Virginia for four (4) years immediately preceding the date of this certification; or,
 Bidder is a nonresident vendor which has an affiliate or subsidiary which employs a minimum of one hundred state residents and which has maintained its headquarters or principal place of business within West Virginia continuously for the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of this certification; or,
2. **Application is made for 2.5% resident vendor preference for the reason checked:**
 Bidder is a resident vendor who certifies that, during the life of the contract, on average at least 75% of the employees working on the project being bid are residents of West Virginia who have resided in the state continuously for the two years immediately preceding submission of this bid; or,
3. **Application is made for 2.5% resident vendor preference for the reason checked:**
 Bidder is a nonresident vendor employing a minimum of one hundred state residents or is a nonresident vendor with an affiliate or subsidiary which maintains its headquarters or principal place of business within West Virginia employing a minimum of one hundred state residents who certifies that, during the life of the contract, on average at least 75% of the employees or Bidder's affiliate's or subsidiary's employees are residents of West Virginia who have resided in the state continuously for the two years immediately preceding submission of this bid; or,
4. **Application is made for 5% resident vendor preference for the reason checked:**
 Bidder meets either the requirement of both subdivisions (1) and (2) or subdivision (1) and (3) as stated above; or,
5. **Application is made for 3.5% resident vendor preference who is a veteran for the reason checked:**
 Bidder is an individual resident vendor who is a veteran of the United States armed forces, the reserves or the National Guard and has resided in West Virginia continuously for the four years immediately preceding the date on which the bid is submitted; or,
6. **Application is made for 3.5% resident vendor preference who is a veteran for the reason checked:**
 Bidder is a resident vendor who is a veteran of the United States armed forces, the reserves or the National Guard, if, for purposes of producing or distributing the commodities or completing the project which is the subject of the vendor's bid and continuously over the entire term of the project, on average at least seventy-five percent of the vendor's employees are residents of West Virginia who have resided in the state continuously for the two immediately preceding years.
7. **Application is made for preference as a non-resident small, women- and minority-owned business, in accordance with *West Virginia Code* §5A-3-59 and *West Virginia Code of State Rules*.**
 Bidder has been or expects to be approved prior to contract award by the Purchasing Division as a certified small, women- and minority-owned business.

Bidder understands if the Secretary of Revenue determines that a Bidder receiving preference has failed to continue to meet the requirements for such preference, the Secretary may order the Director of Purchasing to: (a) reject the bid; or (b) assess a penalty against such Bidder in an amount not to exceed 5% of the bid amount and that such penalty will be paid to the contracting agency or deducted from any unpaid balance on the contract or purchase order.

By submission of this certificate, Bidder agrees to disclose any reasonably requested information to the Purchasing Division and authorizes the Department of Revenue to disclose to the Director of Purchasing appropriate information verifying that Bidder has paid the required business taxes, provided that such information does not contain the amounts of taxes paid nor any other information deemed by the Tax Commissioner to be confidential.

Under penalty of law for false swearing (*West Virginia Code*, §61-5-3), Bidder hereby certifies that this certificate is true and accurate in all respects; and that if a contract is issued to Bidder and if anything contained within this certificate changes during the term of the contract, Bidder will notify the Purchasing Division in writing immediately.

Bidder: REI Consultants, Inc

Signed: 

Date: 13 Feb 2013

Title: Executive Vice President

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
Purchasing Division

PURCHASING AFFIDAVIT

MANDATE: Under W. Va. Code §5A-3-10a, no contract or renewal of any contract may be awarded by the state or any of its political subdivisions to any vendor or prospective vendor when the vendor or prospective vendor or a related party to the vendor or prospective vendor is a debtor and: (1) the debt owed is an amount greater than one thousand dollars in the aggregate; or (2) the debtor is in employer default.

EXCEPTION: The prohibition listed above does not apply where a vendor has contested any tax administered pursuant to chapter eleven of the W. Va. Code, workers' compensation premium, permit fee or environmental fee or assessment and the matter has not become final or where the vendor has entered into a payment plan or agreement and the vendor is not in default of any of the provisions of such plan or agreement.

DEFINITIONS:

"Debt" means any assessment, premium, penalty, fine, tax or other amount of money owed to the state or any of its political subdivisions because of a judgment, fine, permit violation, license assessment, defaulted workers' compensation premium, penalty or other assessment presently delinquent or due and required to be paid to the state or any of its political subdivisions, including any interest or additional penalties accrued thereon.

"Employer default" means having an outstanding balance or liability to the old fund or to the uninsured employers' fund or being in policy default, as defined in W. Va. Code § 23-2c-2, failure to maintain mandatory workers' compensation coverage, or failure to fully meet its obligations as a workers' compensation self-insured employer. An employer is not in employer default if it has entered into a repayment agreement with the Insurance Commissioner and remains in compliance with the obligations under the repayment agreement.

"Related party" means a party, whether an individual, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company or any other form or business association or other entity whatsoever, related to any vendor by blood, marriage, ownership or contract through which the party has a relationship of ownership or other interest with the vendor so that the party will actually or by effect receive or control a portion of the benefit, profit or other consideration from performance of a vendor contract with the party receiving an amount that meets or exceeds five percent of the total contract amount.

AFFIRMATION: By signing this form, the vendor's authorized signer affirms and acknowledges under penalty of law for false swearing (W. Va. Code §61-5-3) that neither vendor nor any related party owe a debt as defined above and that neither vendor nor any related party are in employer default as defined above, unless the debt or employer default is permitted under the exception above.

WITNESS THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURE:

Vendor's Name: REI Consultants Inc.

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: 13 Feb 2013

State of West Virginia

County of Raleigh, to-wit:

Taken, subscribed, and sworn to before me this 13th day of February, 2013.

My Commission expires Nov. 20, 2016

NOTARY PUBLIC Kimberly Ragland

Purchasing Affidavit (Revised 07/01/2012)

APPLY SEAL HERE

OFFICIAL SEAL
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
NOTARY PUBLIC
Kimberly Ragland
135 Creekview Drive
Beckley, WV 25801
My Commission Expires Nov. 20, 2016

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE PAGE

By signing below, I certify that I have reviewed this Solicitation in its entirety; understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that I am submitting this bid or proposal for review and consideration; that I am authorized by the bidder to execute this bid or any documents related thereto on bidder's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the bidder in a contractual relationship; and that to the best of my knowledge, the bidder has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

REI Consultants Inc.

(Company)

Handwritten signature

(Authorized Signature)

Clarence L. Haile, Exec. Vice President

(Representative Name, Title)

304-255-2500

(Phone Number)

304-255-2572

(Fax Number)

13 Feb 2013

(Date)

ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

SOLICITATION NO.: DEP16101

Instructions: Please acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued with this solicitation by completing this addendum acknowledgment form. Check the box next to each addendum received and sign below. Failure to acknowledge addenda may result in bid disqualification.

Acknowledgment: I hereby acknowledge receipt of the following addenda and have made the necessary revisions to my proposal, plans and/or specification, etc.

Addendum Numbers Received:


(Check the box next to each addendum received)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum No. 10 |

I understand that failure to confirm the receipt of addenda may be cause for rejection of this bid. I further understand that any verbal representation made or assumed to be made during any oral discussion held between Vendor's representatives and any state personnel is not binding. Only the information issued in writing and added to the specifications by an official addendum is binding.

REI Consultants Inc.

Company



Authorized Signature

13 Feb 2013

Date

NOTE: This addendum acknowledgement should be submitted with the bid to expedite document processing.

ANIMAL TISSUE SAMPLE ANALYSIS DEP16101

Experience Summary

REI Consultants, Inc. (REIC) first performed chemical analyses on fish tissue samples in the Spring of 1992. Samples were larger-sized, gamefish species such as Largemouth bass *Micropterus salmoides*, Smallmouth bass *Micropterus dolomieu*, Yellow perch *Perca flavescens*, and Common carp *Cyprinus carpio*, and were collected within the Kanawha River, near Charleston. Edible, fillet-only portions were analyzed for mercury, PCB's, and lead.

Since that time, literally hundreds of fish samples have been collected by REIC via nighttime boat electro-fishing surveys, gill-net surveys, backpack electrofishing surveys, or seining, and have had various tissues and organs analyzed for a variety of contaminants. Primarily, selenium has been analyzed on nearly three hundred fish samples from the fillet-only portions (both skin-on and skin-off), to individual organs such as gonads, heart, liver, kidneys, and eggs. Samples had been collected both from mining-related stream sites as well as "control" sites. Some of the results of these studies have been presented in the past several years at the West Virginia Mining Symposium in Charleston, as well as at the Acid Mine Drainage Task Force meeting in Morgantown.

Further selenium-related studies have been conducted at REIC pertaining to hatching and fecundity success of larval fish from waters of varying selenium concentrations. Most recently, REIC has been re-designing drainage control ponds and sediment cells at mine sites to convert these structures into wetlands to allow for various aquatic plants to be grown which are known to be able to assist with removal of selenium from the water.

REIC currently has, on staff, individuals who have been directly involved with the fieldwork for these studies, as well as experienced laboratory technicians who have personally processed hundreds of fish samples for analyses of various contaminants. Tissue samples from salamanders, crayfish, and benthic macro invertebrates have also been processed in-house for a wide variety of contaminants from metals to PCBs and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs).

Most recently, REIC processed fish samples and analyzed them for mercury, selenium, and PCBs under DEP14746.

Previous Client Contacts

1. Janice Smithson, WV DEP Division of Water and Waste Management. 304-926-0499.
2. Dr. Patricia M. Mazik, WVU, 304-293-4943.
3. Larry Emerson, Foundation Coal, 724-852-5789

Subcontracting Plan

No subcontracting will be employed by REIC to complete all work required by this program.

Tissue Sample Preparation Methods

Upon receipt of samples, Chain of Custody (COC) forms from DEP will be signed, and an in-house COC form will be filled out listing all samples received, received date & time, how delivered, tissue (sample) type, number of containers, condition of the samples, analysis desired, and any other pertinent information.

Sample processing will follow "Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data For Use in Fish Advisories, Volume 1: Fish Sampling and Analysis" (US EPA Report EPA 823-B-00-007). Before processing, knives, tools, and processing equipment will be washed with a detergent solution, rinsed thoroughly with tap water, soaked in 50% HNO₃ for 24 hours at room temperature, and rinsed with distilled, and then de-ionized water. All knives and tools will be high-quality, corrosion-resistant, stainless steel. All knives, tools, and processing equipment will be wrapped in heavy plastic wrap during storage. NO metal (aluminum) foil will be utilized during sample processing.

Cleaning of stainless steel bowls used during homogenization, spatulas and spoons used to transfer from processor to bowls and from bowls to glass sample jars will be washed in the same manner as the knives and processing equipment described above.

As requested by DEP, fish consumption samples will be processed as a unit, or as they are a single sample. Therefore, compositing of three to five fish may be necessary. Procedures for homogenizing a single sample as well as homogenizing multi-fish composite samples will follow "Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data For Use in Fish Advisories, Volume 1: Fish Sampling and Analysis" (US EPA Report EPA 823-B-00-007).

Also as requested by DEP, catfish fillets will be processed as "skin-off" for fillets, and will be processed as "skin-on" for whole fish samples. Catfish samples designated as whole-fish samples will be processed with skin on. Scaled fish fillets will be processed as "skin-on, scales-off" for fillet analysis.

Tissues designated as metal samples will be dissected on a washable plastic surface covered with a plastic sheet which is changed after each dissection. If organs are also being taken for contaminant analysis, special care will be taken to isolate the organ to be used from other organs as well as from fillet portions.

If available, approximately 50 grams of homogenized sample will be transferred into an acid-washed glass jar and provided to the metals prep-lab for further processing. Sample jars will be labeled with an indelible glass marker with ink that is resistant to freezing.

Information such as the sample ID number, sample type (fillet, whole-body, or organ), collection date, processing date, etc., will be on the label.

Unused sample portions will be frozen, and retained for at least one (1) year.

REIC Quality Program

REIC's comprehensive Quality Program demonstrates our commitment to consistently providing our clients with results they can rely on. REIC's Quality Program is conducted under the oversight of our full-time, professional Quality Manager and encompasses all aspects of our laboratory and field operations. Specific components include the following:

- **Comprehensive Quality Manual** with annual training for all staff
- **Comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures**, including general operating procedures in addition to analytical testing procedures
- **Ethics and Integrity Program** with annual training for all staff,
- **Documented competency for all tests**, including method training, method detection limit (MDL) studies, performance evaluation studies, and initial demonstrations of competency
- **Sample Custody Procedures**, including chain-of-custody documentation.
- **All Required Quality Control Procedures**, including analyses of method blanks, laboratory control samples, matrix spiked samples, and duplicate samples as required by each analytical method.
- **Documentation of required temperatures** for all sample cold storage, ovens, incubators, refrigerators, etc.
- **Document Control Procedures** for all SOPs and analytical records
- **Compliance with External Audits** from accrediting agencies
- **Regular Reports to Management**

An important requirement of the proposed program is analysis of an appropriate Quality Control Sample with each preparation batch of 20 samples or fewer. REIC will employ NIST SRM 1947, Lake Michigan Fish Tissue at the QCS for this program. The reference material is certified for mercury, selenium, and selected PCB congeners.