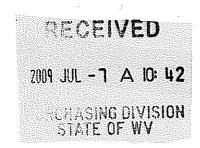


July 6, 2009

Ms. Shelly Murray, Senior Buyer
WV Dept. of Administration/Purchasing Division
Acquisitions Unit
State Capitol complex
2019 Washington Street, East
P. O. Box 50130
Charleston, WV 25305



Dear Ms. Murray,

This is to provide notification that LunchBox/Data Futures will not submit a bid in response to RFQ EDD314520 for a point of service solution for the West Virginia Office of Child Nutrition's National School Lunch Program.

Data Futures has been producing administrative software for K-12 school districts for over 26 years. LunchBox has been used by school nutrition operations for over 14 years. With more than 4,500 installed sites in 41 states, we consider LunchBox to be state-of-the-art software that is highly competitive and that meets our customers' needs with the most up-to-date technology. In spite of that, we are unable to respond affirmatively to all the requirements listed in this RFP, in particular those that refer to providing a solution that eliminates servers on the local level and the associated implications of this ASP-type model. Therefore, given the guidelines for responding to the RFP, we are not submitting a proposal because of your statement that any negative responses will result in disqualification.

We would also like to take this opportunity to question the approach the State took to issuing addenda to this RFP. At the bidders meeting we were reminded that all technical questions were to be submitted by May 22^{nd} and that an addendum with the answers to those questions and listing the authorized bidders would be sent to us in about a week's time. It wasn't until nearly 4 weeks later and just days away from the original bid opening date that we received the first version of Addendum 1. It didn't contain the questions and answers or the list of bidders but did extend the technical bid opening to July 15^{th} . Then, on June 23^{rd} , we received a second version of Addendum 1 (*not* Addendum 2) with the questions, answers and list of bidders but with a revised bid opening date of July 7^{th} , which was of course more than a week earlier than what was stated in the original Addendum 1. In all our years of working with school districts and departments of education, we have never experienced anything like this before. Given the volume of information contained in this addendum, the fact that most key school nutrition vendor personnel were attending the annual national school nutrition conference the following week and that the week of June 29^{th} ended with the federal Independence Day Holiday, we don't consider the timeframe for response to be fair or reasonable.

It is our strong belief that the factors cited above will keep most if not all of the other vendors that attended the bidders meeting on May 20th from responding affirmatively or at all to the RFP. Should that be the case, we assume that you will reissue the RFP with a different set of requirements and a fair and reasonable timeframe in which to respond. That would certainly provide a more even playing field and we would want the opportunity to respond and to win this business.

Respectfully yours,

Ronnie Doyle

Sales Manager

Data Futures LunchBox Division