**Bid Delivery Instructions for State Procurement:**

Bidders are hereby advised that the Office of State Procurement (OSP) must receive bids at its physical location by the date and time specified on page 1 of the Invitation to Bid.

Bids may be mailed or delivered by hand or courier service to the Office of State Procurement’s physical location as follows:

Office of State Procurement

Claiborne Building, Suite 2-160

1201 North Third Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Bidder should be aware of security requirements for the Claiborne Building and allow time to be photographed and presented with a temporary identification badge.

Bidder is solely responsible for ensuring that its courier service provider makes inside deliveries to the Office of State Procurement’s physical location. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for any delays caused by the bidder's chosen means of bid delivery. Bidder is solely responsible for the timely delivery of its bid. Failure to meet the bid opening date & time shall result in rejection of the bid.

\*\*Attention\*\*

Receipt of a solicitation or award cannot be relied upon as an assurance of receiving future solicitations. In order to receive notifications of future solicitations from this office, you must register and enroll in the proper category in LaGov at the following website:

<https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest_user=self_reg>

Enrollment in LaGov provides LaPAC email notification of bid opportunities based upon commodities that you select.

**Calendar of Events:**

Deadline to receive written inquiries: 11/12/2024

Deadline to answer written inquiries: 11/19/2024

Bid Opening Date and Time: 11/26/2024 @ 10:00 A.M. (Central Time)

**NOTE**: **The State of Louisiana reserves the right to revise this calendar. Revisions before the bid opening date and time, if any, will be formalized by the issuance of an addendum to this ITB.**

**Bidder Inquiries:**

The State shall not and cannot permit an open-ended inquiry period, as this creates an unwarranted delay in the procurement cycle and operations of our Agency customers. The State reasonably expects and requires responsible and interested bidders to conduct their in-depth bid review and submit inquiries in a timely manner.

An inquiry period is hereby firmly set for all interested bidders to perform a detailed review of the bid documents and to submit any written inquiries relative thereto. *Without exception,* all inquiries MUST be submitted in writing by an authorized representative of the bidder, clearly cross-referenced to the relevant bid section. All inquiries must be received by the Inquiry Deadline date set forth in the Calendar of Events section of this bid. Only those inquiries received by the established deadline shall be considered by the State. Inquiries received after the established deadline shall not be entertained.

Inquiries concerning this bid may be delivered by mail, express courier, e-mail, hand, or fax to:

Office of State Procurement

Attention: Adam Cox

1201 North Third Street, Suite 2-160

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

E-Mail: Adam.cox@la.gov

Phone: (225) 219-4207

Fax (225) 342-9756

Only the person identified above or their designee has the authority to officially respond to bidder’s questions on behalf of the State. Any communications from any other individuals are not binding to the State.

An addendum will be issued and posted at the Office of State Procurement LaPAC\* website, to address all inquiries received and any other changes or clarifications to the bid. Thereafter, all bid documents, including but not limited to the specifications, terms, conditions, plans, etc., will stand as written and/or amended by any addendum. No negotiations, decisions, or actions shall be executed by any bidder as a result of any oral discussions with any State employee or State consultant. It is the bidder’s responsibility to check the LaPAC website frequently for any possible addenda that may be issued. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for a bidder’s failure to download any addenda documents required to complete the bid.

\*Note: LaPAC is the State’s online electronic bid posting and notification system resident on State Procurement’s website [<https://www.doa.la.gov/>doa/osp/]. In that LaPAC provides an immediate e-mail notification to subscribing bidders that a solicitation and any subsequent addenda have been let and posted, notice and receipt thereof is considered formally given as of their respective dates of posting.

To receive the email notification, vendors must register in the LaGov portal. Registration is intuitive at the following link:

<https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest_user=self_reg>

Help scripts are available on the Office of State Procurement website under Vendor Resources at:

<https://www.doa.la.gov/>doa/osp/vendor-resources/.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***IMPORTANT:** In accordance with La. R.S. 37:2165. A. (1), a Contractors' License Number in the appropriate classification(s) such as **Mechanical and/or Plumbing** must appear on the bid opening envelope on all projects in the amount of $10,000.00 or more (and $1.00 or more if hazardous materials are involved).

In accordance with La. R.S. 37:2165. C, anyone objecting to the above classification(s) must send a certified letter to both the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors and the Office of State Procurement. The letter must be received no later than 10 business days prior to the day on which the bid is to be opened.

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**Mandatory Jobsite Visit:**

A mandatory jobsite visit is required prior to the bid opening. Complete details regarding this requirement can be found on Attachment B - Jobsite Verification Form.

Before submitting bids, bidders must inspect the proposed site and acquaint themselves with all of the conditions under which the work will be done. No additional compensation will be granted because of unusual difficulties which may be encountered in the execution of any portion of the work.

Vendor must inspect jobsite to verify measurements and/or amount of supplies needed prior to bidding. If vendor finds conditions that disagree with the physical layout as described in this bid, or other features of the specifications that appear to be in error, the same shall be brought to the attention of the Office of State Procurement personnel prior to bid opening.

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**Terms and Conditions:**

This solicitation contains all terms and conditions with respect to the commodities herein. Any vendor contracts, forms, terms or other materials submitted with bid may cause bid to be rejected.

**Bids:**

Unless otherwise specified, a lump sum bid is requested for the work shown on the plans and/or in the specifications.

**Consideration of bids:**

The Office of State Procurement reserves the right to reject any or all bids and in particular to reject a bid not accompanied by any required bid security or data required by the bid documents or a bid in any way incomplete or irregular.

The Office of State Procurement reserves the right to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid received, deemed to be in the best interest of the State of Louisiana.

**Withdrawal of bids:**

The undersigned agrees that this bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 30 calendar days after the bid opening.

**Bid security:**

IF THE BID IS $50,000 OR ABOVE, a bid security must be attached (insurance company, bank money order, certified check or cashier's check made payable to “State of Louisiana”) in the sum of 5% of the amount bid (including base bid and additive alternates, if any) and shall become the property of the Owner in the event the contract and bond are not executed within the time set forth above. If a bid bond is used, it shall be written by a surety or insurance company currently on the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management service list of approved bonding companies which is published annually in the Federal Register, or by a Louisiana domiciled insurance company with at least an A- rating in the latest printing of the A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide to write individual bonds up to 10% of policyholders' surplus as shown in the A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide, or by an insurance company that is either domiciled in Louisiana or owned by Louisiana residents and is licensed to write surety bonds. In addition, the bond shall be written by a surety or insurance company that is currently licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana.

**Contract, performance bond, labor and materials payment bond:**

If the undersigned is notified of the acceptance of the above bid or bids, within 30 calendar days of the time set forth for the opening of bids, he agrees to execute a contract for the work accepted, in the standard contract form currently used by the Office of State Procurement within 10 calendar days after notice from the Office of State Procurement.

The undersigned further agrees, if awarded the contract, to execute and deliver to the Office of State Procurement at the time the contract documents are executed, a Performance Bond (made payable to “State of Louisiana – Department of Wildlife and Fisheries”) with Power of Attorney in an amount equal to the contract sum (100% of the amount of the contract) and agrees that this bond will be secured by a surety or insurance company currently on the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service list of approved bonding companies which is published annually in the Federal Register, or by a Louisiana domiciled insurance company with at least an A- rating in the latest printing of the A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide to write individual bonds up to 10% of policyholders' surplus as shown in the A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide, or by an insurance company that is either domiciled in Louisiana or owned by Louisiana residents and is licensed to write surety bonds.

No surety or insurance company shall write a performance bond which is in excess of the amount indicated as approved by the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service list or by a Louisiana domiciled insurance company with an A- rating by A.M. Best up to a limit of 10% of policy holders’ surplus as shown by A.M. Best; companies authorized by this Paragraph who are not on the treasury list shall not write a performance bond when the penalty exceeds 15% of its capital and surplus, such capital and surplus being the amount by which the company’s assets exceed its liabilities as reflected by the most recent financial statements filed by the company with the Department of Insurance.

In addition, the bond shall be written by a surety or insurance company that is currently licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana.

Also, to be provided at the same time is a Labor and Materials Payment Bond (made payable to “State of Louisiana – Department of Wildlife and Fisheries”) in an amount equal to 100% of the contract amount.

**Recordation certificate:**

The Contractor, upon receipt of the executed contract, bond, purchase order, and Notice to Proceed shall record the contract and bond with the Clerk of Court in the parish in which the work is to be performed, obtain a Certificate of Recordation from the Clerk of Court, and forward this Certificate immediately to the Office of State Procurement. The contracting Agency will process no invoices until receipt of the Certificate of Recordation.

**Affidavit:**

Successful Contractor shall be required to execute an affidavit attesting "That the public contract was not secured through employment or payment of solicitor".

**Literature:**

Literature and/or specifications must be submitted upon request; if requested, literature and/or specifications must be submitted within five business days of written request.

If bidding other than specified, sufficient information should be enclosed with the bid in order to determine quality, sustainability, and compliance with the specifications.

Failure to comply with this request may eliminate your bid from consideration.

**Acceptance:**

Upon written notice by the Agency/Owner to the Office of State Procurement, a Notice by Owner of Acceptance of Work will be executed and forwarded to the Contractor for recording with the Clerk of Court in the parish in which the work has been performed and the Contractor shall furnish a clear Lien Certificate from the Clerk of Court (to the Agency/Owner along with the final invoice) 45 calendar days after recordation of acceptance. Final payment of 10% will be made at this time.

Any punch list generated during or after construction shall include the cost estimates for the particular items of work the Agency has developed based on the mobilization, labor, material, and equipment costs of correcting each punch list item. The Agency shall retain its working papers used to determine the punch list items cost estimates should the matter be disputed later. Agency/Owner shall not withhold from payment more than the value of the punch list. Punch list items completed shall be paid upon the expiration of the 45 calendar day lien period.

**Progress payments:**

The following payment schedule shall apply:

For contracts with a completion date of more than 30 calendar days:

On or about the first day of each month, 90% of the value based on the Contract Price of labor and materials incorporated in the work and of materials suitably stored at the site thereof up to the first day of that month, as estimated by the Agency/Owner, less the aggregate of previous payments and upon substantial completion of the entire work, a sum sufficient to increase the total payment to 90% of the Contract Price.

For contracts with a completion date of 30 calendar days or less:

Upon satisfactory completion of the work, 90% of the Contract Price.

**Project Completion:**

The Contractor shall perform fully, entirely, and in satisfactory manner the work contracted, within the number of calendar days stipulated in the proposal and the contract. Time will be assessed against the Contractor beginning with the date of the notice to proceed.

Liquidated Damages in the amount of $100.00 per day will be assessed for each and every day the project remains incomplete beyond the established completion date.

In adjusting the contract time for the completion of the project, all strikes, lock-outs, unusual delays in transportation, or any other condition over which the Contractor has no control, shall be excluded from the computation of the contract time for completion of the work. The Contractor must apply in writing for an extension of time within 7 calendar days after delay occurs. No allowances will be made for delays or suspensions for the prosecution of the work due to the fault of the Contractor. Under presentation of evidence from the supplier that equipment specified cannot be delivered in time to complete the project within the time specified, then the Contractor can request an extension of time for the portion of the work.

**Permits, Licenses, and Laws:**

The Contractor shall furnish all necessary permits, licenses, and certificates and comply with all laws or ordinances applicable to the locality of the jobsite and the State of Louisiana.

**Guarantee:**

If, within 1 year after the date of substantial completion or within such longer period of time as may be prescribed by law or by the terms of any applicable special guarantee required by the contract documents, any of the work is found to be defective or not in accordance with the contract documents, the Contractor shall correct it promptly after receipt of a written notice from the Agency/Owner to do so unless the Agency/Owner has previously given the Contractor a written acceptance of such condition. The Agency/Owner shall give such notice promptly after discovery of the condition.

**Insurance Requirements for Contractors:**

The Contractor shall purchase and maintain without interruption for the duration of the contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors, or anyone employed directly or indirectly by any of them. The duration of the contract shall be from the inception of the contract until the date of final payment. The cost of such insurance shall be included in the bidder’s pricing.

1. **MINIMUM SCOPE AND LIMITS OF INSURANCE**
2. **Workers Compensation**

Workers Compensation insurance shall be in compliance with the Workers Compensation law of the State of the Contractor’s headquarters. Employers Liability is included with a minimum limit of $1,000,000 per accident/per disease/per employee. If work is to be performed over water and involves maritime exposure, applicable LHWCA, Jones Act, or other maritime law coverage shall be included. A.M. Best's insurance company rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.

1. **Commercial General Liability**
2. Commercial General Liability insurance, including Personal and Advertising Injury Liability and Products and Completed Operations Liability, shall have a minimum limit per occurrence based on the project value. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) Commercial General Liability occurrence coverage form CG 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. Claims-made form is unacceptable.
3. The aggregate loss limit must apply to each project. ISO form CG 25 03 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, shall also be submitted. The State project number, including part number, and project name shall be included on this endorsement.
4. COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (CSL) PER OCCURRENCE

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of****Construction** | **Projects** **up to $1,000,000** | **Projects over****$1,000,000 up to $10,000,000** | **Projects over****$10,000,000** |
| **New Buildings:** |  |  |  |
| Each Occurrence Minimum Limit | $1,000,000 | $2,000,000 | $4,000,000 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Per Project Aggregate  | $2,000,000 | $4,000,000 | $8,000,000 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Renovations:** | **The building(s) value for the Project is $252,665.00. \*\*** |
| Each Occurrence Minimum Limit | $1,000,000 **\*\*** | $2,000,000 **\*\*** | $4,000,000 **\*\*** |
|  |  |  |  |
| Per Project Aggregate  | Two times per occur limit **\*\*** | Two times per occur limit **\*\*** | Two times per occur limit **\*\*** |

**\*\*** While the minimum Combined Single Limit of $1,000,000 is required for any renovation, the limit is calculated by taking 10% of the building value and rounding it to the nearest $1,000,000 to get the insurance limit. Example: Renovation on a $33,000,000 building would have a calculated $3,000,000 combined single limit of coverage (33,000,000 times .10 = 3,300,000 and then rounding down to $3,000,000). If the calculated limit is less than the minimum limit listed in the above chart, then the amount needed is the minimum listed in the chart. Maximum per occurrence limit required is $10,000,000 regardless of building value. The per project aggregate limit is then calculated as twice the per occurrence limit.

1. **Automobile Liability**

Automobile Liability Insurance shall have a minimum combined single limit per accident of $1,000,000. ISO form number CA 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. This insurance shall include third-party bodily injury and property damage liability for owned, hired and non‑owned automobiles.

1. **Excess Umbrella**

Excess Umbrella insurance may be used to meet the minimum requirements for Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability only.

1. **Builder’s Risk**
2. Builder’s Risk Insurance shall be in an amount equal to the amount of the construction contract including any amendments and shall be upon the entire work included in the contract. The policy shall provide coverage equivalent to the ISO form number CP 10 20, Broad Form Causes of Loss (extended, if necessary, to include the perils of wind, earthquake, collapse, vandalism/malicious mischief, and theft, including theft of materials whether or not attached to any structure). The policy must include architects’ and engineers’ fees necessary to provide plans, specifications and supervision of work for the repair and/or replacement of property damage caused by a covered peril, not to exceed 10% of the cost of the repair and/or replacement.
3. Flood coverage shall be provided by the Contractor on the first floor and below for all projects, except as otherwise noted. The builder’s risk insurance policy, sub-limit for flood coverage shall not be less than 10% of the total contract cost per occurrence. If flood is purchased as a separate policy, the limit shall be 10% of the total contract cost per occurrence (with a max of $500,000 if NFIP). Coverage for roofing projects shall **not** require flood coverage.
4. A Specialty Contractor may provide an installation floater in lieu of a Builders Risk policy, with the similar coverage as the Builder’s Risk policy, upon the system to be installed in an amount equal to the amount of the contract including any amendments. Flood coverage is not required.
5. The policy must include coverage for the Owner, Contractor and any subcontractors as their interests may appear.
6. **Pollution Liability *(required when asbestos or other hazardous material abatement is included in the contract)***

Pollution Liability insurance, including gradual release as well as sudden and accidental, shall have a minimum limit of not less than $1,000,000 per claim. A claims-made form will be acceptable. A policy period inception date of no later than the first day of anticipated work under this contract and an expiration date of no earlier than 30 days after anticipated completion of all work under the contract shall be provided. There shall be an extended reporting period of at least 24 months, with full reinstatement of limits, from the expiration date of the policy if policy is not renewed. The policy shall not be cancelled for any reason, except non-payment of premium.

**B. DEDUCTIBLES AND SELF‑INSURED RETENTIONS**

Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and accepted by the Agency. The Contractor shall be responsible for all deductibles and self-insured retentions.

**C. OTHER INSURANCE PROVISIONS**

The policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

* 1. Workers Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage

To the fullest extent allowed by law, the insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for losses arising from work performed by the Contractor for the Agency.

* 1. Commercial General Liability Coverage
1. The Owner, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers are to be added as additional insureds as respects liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the Contractor; products and completed operations of the Contractor, premises owned, occupied or used by the Contractor. ISO Forms CG 20 10 (for ongoing work) AND CG 20 37 (for completed work) (current forms approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, are to be used.
2. The Contractor’s insurance shall be primary as respects the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for any and all losses that occur under the contract. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the Agency, its officers, officials, employees or volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Agency shall be excess and non-contributory of the Contractor’s insurance.
	1. Builder’s Risk

The policy must include an endorsement providing the following:

In the event of a disagreement regarding a loss covered by this policy which may also be covered by a State of Louisiana self-insurance or commercial property policy through the Office of Risk Management (ORM), Contractor and its insurer agree to follow the following procedure to establish coverage and/or the amount of loss:

Any party to a loss may make written demand for an appraisal of the matter in disagreement. Within 20 days of receipt of written demand, the Contractor’s insurer and either ORM or its commercial insurance company shall each select a competent and impartial appraiser and notify the other of the appraiser selected. The two appraisers will select a competent and impartial umpire. The appraisers will then identify the policy or policies under which the loss is insured and, if necessary, state separately the value of the property and the amount of the loss that must be borne by each policy. If the two appraisers fail to agree, they shall submit their differences to the umpire. A written decision by any two appraisers shall determine the policy or policies and the amount of the loss. Each insurance company agree that the decision of the appraisers and the umpire if involved will be binding and final and that neither party will resort to litigation. Each of the two parties shall pay its chosen appraiser and bear the cost of the umpire equally.

1. All Coverages
2. All policies must be endorsed to require 30 days written notice of cancellation to the Agency. 10 day written notice of cancellation is acceptable for non-payment of premium. Notifications shall comply with the standard cancellation provisions in the Contractor’s policy. In addition, the Contractor is required to notify the Agency of policy cancellations or reductions in limits.
3. Neither the acceptance of the completed work nor the payment thereof shall release the Contractor from the obligations of the insurance requirements or indemnification agreement.
4. The insurance companies issuing the policies shall have no recourse against the Agency for payment of premiums or for assessments under any form of the policies.
5. Any failure of the Contractor to comply with reporting provisions of the policy shall not affect coverage provided to the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers.

**D. ACCEPTABILITY OF INSURERS**

1. All required insurance shall be provided by a company or companies lawfully authorized to do business in the jurisdiction in which the Project is located. Insurance shall be placed with insurers with an A.M. Best's rating of **A-:VI or higher**. This rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.
2. If at any time an insurer issuing any such policy does not meet the minimum A.M. Best rating, the Contractor shall obtain a policy with an insurer that meets the A.M. Best rating and shall submit another Certificate of Insurance within 30 days.

**E. VERIFICATION OF COVERAGE**

1. The Contractor shall furnish the Agency with Certificates of Insurance reflecting proof of required coverage. The Certificates for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The Certificates are to be received and approved by the Agency before work commences and upon any contract renewal or insurance policy renewal thereafter.
2. The Certificate Holder Shall be listed as follows:

State of Louisiana

Department of Wildlife And Fisheries

2000 Quail Drive Annex

Baton Rouge, La 70808

1. In addition to the Certificates, the Contractor shall submit the declarations page and the cancellation provision for each insurance policy. The Agency reserves the right to request complete certified copies of all required insurance policies at any time.
2. If the Contractor does not meet the insurance requirements at policy renewal, at the option of the Agency, payment to the Contractor may be withheld until the requirements have been met, OR the Agency may pay the renewal premium and withhold such payment from any monies due the Contractor, OR the contract may be suspended or terminated for cause. Failure of the Contractor to purchase and/or maintain any required insurance shall not relieve the Contractor from any liability or indemnification under the contract.

**F. SUBCONTRACTORS**

1. The Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies OR shall be responsible for verifying and maintaining the Certificates provided by each subcontractor. Subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein. The Agency reserves the right to request copies of subcontractor’s Certificates at any time.
2. If the Contractor does not verify subcontractors’ insurance as described above, the Agency has the right to withhold payments to the Contractor until the requirements have been met.

**G. WORKERS COMPENSATION INDEMNITY**

In the event the Contractor is not required to provide or elects not to provide workers compensation coverage, the parties hereby agree that the Contractor, its Owners, agents and employees will have no cause of action against, and will not assert a claim against, the State of Louisiana, its Departments, Agencies, agents and employees as an employer, whether pursuant to the Louisiana Workers Compensation Act or otherwise, under any circumstance.  The parties also hereby agree that the State of Louisiana, its Departments, Agencies, agents and employees shall in no circumstance be, or considered as, the employer or statutory employer of the Contractor, its Owners, agents and employees. The parties further agree that the Contractor is a wholly independent contractor and is exclusively responsible for its employees, Owners, and agents. The Contractor hereby agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold the State of Louisiana, its Departments, Agencies, agents and employees harmless from any such assertion or claim that may arise from the performance of this contract.

**H. INDEMNIFICATION/HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

1. The Contractor agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, save, and hold harmless, the State of Louisiana, all State Departments, Agencies, Boards and Commissions, its officers, agents, servants, employees, and volunteers, from and against any and all claims, damages, expenses, and liability arising out of injury or death to any person or the damage, loss or destruction of any property which may occur, or in any way grow out of, any act or omission of the Contractor, its agents, servants, and employees, or any and all costs, expenses and/or attorney fees incurred by the Contractor as a result of any claims, demands, suits or causes of action, except those claims, demands, suits, or causes of action arising out of the negligence of the State of Louisiana, all State Departments, Agencies, Boards, Commissions, its officers, agents, servants, employees and volunteers.
2. The Contractor agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for and defend any such claims, demands, suits, or causes of action at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto, even if the claims, demands, suits, or causes of action are groundless, false or fraudulent. The State of Louisiana may, but is not required to, consult with the Contractor in the defense of claims, but this shall not affect the Contractor’s responsibility for the handling of and expenses for all claims.

**Electronic Vendor Payment Solution**

In an effort to increase efficiencies and effectiveness as well as be strategic in utilizing technology and resources for the State and Contractors, the State intends to make all payments to Contractors electronically. The LaCarte procurement card will be used for purchases of $5,000 and under, and where feasible, over $5,000. Contractors will have a choice of receiving electronic payment for all other payments by selecting the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). If you receive an award and do not currently accept the LaCarte card or have not already enrolled in EFT, you will be asked to comply with this request by choosing either the LaCarte Procurement Card and/or EFT. You may indicate your acceptance below.

The **LaCarte** Procurement Card uses a Visa card platform. Contractors receive payment from State agencies using the card in the same manner as other Visa card purchases. Contractors cannot process payment transactions through the credit card clearinghouse until the purchased products have been shipped or received or the services performed.

For all Statewide and Agency Term Contracts:

* Under the LaCarte program, purchase orders are not necessary. Orders must be placed against the net discounted products of the contract. All contract terms and conditions apply to purchases made with LaCarte.
* If a purchase order is not used, the Contractor must keep on file a record of all LaCarte purchases issued against this contract during the contract period. The file must contain the particular item number, quantity, line total and order total. Records of these purchases must be provided to the Office of State Procurement on request.

**EFT** payments are sent from the State’s bank directly to the payee’s bank each weekday. The only requirement is that you have an active checking or savings account at a financial institution that can accept Automated Clearing House (ACH) credit files and remittance information electronically. Additional information and an enrollment form is available by contacting the Office of Statewide Reporting & Accounting Policy at DOA-OSRAP-EFT@la.gov .

To facilitate this payment process, you will need to complete and return the EFT enrollment form.

If an award is made to your company, please check which option you will accept or indicate if you are already enrolled.

**Payment Type Will Accept Already Enrolled**

LaCarte \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

EFT \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Individual Authorized

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Authorized Signature for payment type chosen Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address and phone number of authorized individual

**Upon submitting a bid, each bidder represents that**:

The undersigned, in compliance with terms and conditions set forth in this solicitation, having examined the specifications and related documents, inspected the jobsite and being familiar with all of the conditions surrounding the fulfillment of the contract, hereby proposes to furnish all labor, materials, tools and equipment necessary to complete the referenced project within the time set forth herein and for the price stated in the bid submission.

The lump sum total price stated shall include all permits and governmental fees, licenses, and inspections, and all sales, consumer use and taxes of any other nature or kind whatever arising from or pertaining to the work or portions thereof provided by the Contractor which are legally enacted at the time bids are received, whether or not yet effective.