

Questions/Answers Regarding Iron Range Assessment Area Coalition RFQ-RFP

1. How many firms received the RFP/RFQ?

Answer: Barr, NTS, SEH, and Stantec requested information, however the request was posted on the CIRI website so an actual count is not known.

2. Do you anticipate utilizing a consultant for any public outreach activities either within the existing coalition or externally to garner additional support and/or members?

Answer: The Coalition currently is not anticipating the use of consultants for these activities.

3. The RFP/RFQ states that the proposals will be reviewed by the CIRI Board of Directors and Program administrator. Can you provide a list of the current Board Members?

Answer: The CIRI Board will make the final determination, however a committee from the coalition members will be established to review the proposals and clarify information in the proposals, which will be presented to the Board. Board Members are: Scott Allison, Lori Fedo, Barry Collins, Mark Casey and Andy Borland.

4. Cost – The RFP requests a fee schedule and to identify hourly or other unit- based price structures for each of the four main tasks. The Work Plan clearly identifies the individual cost associated with the four main tasks. Will responding by providing a fee schedule with a statement that the work will be performed on an hourly basis within the cost ranges specified in the Work Plan be sufficient for Cost section or is the Coalition looking for a more specific breakdown and if yes how so?

Answer: The information, and associated cost estimates presented in the Work Plan are preliminary budget estimates and are not fixed. We will be utilizing the estimates submitted to calculate a revised budget to be submitted to the EPA. The proposer should be as clear as possible with respect to their unit costs and how they would control final cost for each task.

5. Based on the RFP, US EPA awarded a \$726,00 Community-wide Brownfield Assessment Grant for Hazardous Substances to the Coalition. However, the Work Plan budget provided indicates \$673,00 for hazardous substances and \$34,000 for Petroleum for a total of \$710,00 (Tables 1 and 2) Can you confirm or clarify the available funding and the amounts to hazardous substances and petroleum sites.

Answer: \$674,500 for hazardous substances
 \$52,000 for petroleum
 for a total of \$726,500.

6. Do you anticipate more than one qualified firm will be selected as part of the process? If yes, will each firm be responsible for preparing a separate QAPP, or conversely will one firm be tasked with an overarching QAPP preparation to cover multiple firms/ or labs that may be working on these projects.

Answer: The coalition may pick between one and three consultants. Each firm would prepare their own QAPP.

7. Are funds specifically allotted for preparation of QAPP(s)?

Answer: The Board will determine during negotiation with selected firms.

8. The RFP states that funding is available for a number of GIS activities related to identification and inventorying of Brownfield sites. We understand that much of this work is being completed by the Coalition and that the selected consultant(s) are to assist on an as-needed basis. The current Work Plan budget does not include costs for this activity. Can you clarify whether funds are currently allotted for this activity or if a Work Plan amendment will be required, if needed.

Answer: Funds are available under the site selection task.

9. Will there be formal opening of the proposals?

Answer: No formal opening. The proposals will be time stamped by the Chisholm office Staff and opened on a date the Selection committee chooses.