

Mississippi Department of Transportation

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

A DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

**Bridge Replacement on US 90
Over Biloxi Bay
Biloxi to Ocean Springs Bridge
Harrison and Jackson Counties, Mississippi**

**Project No. ER/BR-0003-01(099) / 104556
Biloxi to Ocean Springs Bridge**

March 8, 2006

PURPOSE OF REQUEST

The purpose of this Request For Qualifications (RFQ) is to solicit qualifications from firms interested in providing roadway and bridge design services and construction services necessary for the construction of the US 90 bridge over Biloxi Bay and approaches in Harrison and Jackson Counties, Mississippi. Existing US 90 spans the CSX Transportation Railroad with twin bridges in Ocean Springs east of the damaged Biloxi Bay Bridge. MDOT also intends to replace these bridges under this request. The Mississippi Transportation Commission will hereinafter be referred to as the "COMMISSION". The COMMISSION and the Federal Highway Administration will be utilizing the Design-Build method of contracting for this project. The proposed US 90 bridge across Biloxi Bay and approaches and the proposed bridges over CSX Transportation Railroad and the associated roadway work will hereinafter be referred to as the "PROJECT". The term "RESPONDER" as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures and others responding to this RFQ. The term "PROPOSER" as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures and others, who upon the request of the COMMISSION, will be invited to respond to the Request for Proposals (RFP).

The COMMISSION will only accept submittals from a RESPONDER who has documented Design-Build experience. Documentation on the RESPONDER'S experience is to include a list of Design-Build projects in the past ten (10) years. This information may be included in the appendices and will not be counted against the 25-page maximum requirement described in the Submittal Format.

The COMMISSION will use a two-step process to select a PROPOSER with which to execute a contract for this PROJECT. This RFQ represents the first step in the process. After evaluation and scoring of responsive submittals to the RFQ, the COMMISSION intends to short-list a minimum of three (3) RESPONDERS and express-mail each a RFP. The COMMISSION will look for a discernable break in the scores to assist in determining who will be invited to respond to the RFP. A stipend of \$150,000.00 will be available to the short-listed responsive PROPOSERS to whom the contract is not awarded.

The selected PROPOSERS will be asked to submit a technical proposal, a cost proposal and schedule. Information about the format, contents and evaluation criteria for the responses to the RFP will be provided to the selected PROPOSERS. Upon evaluation of the technical proposal, cost proposal and schedule, the COMMISSION intends to select a PROPOSER for contract award and execution.

It is not the intention of the COMMISSION to receive project-specific design or engineering recommendations as part of this RFQ. RESPONDERS should limit their submittals to the information required by this RFQ and other information regarding qualifications and experience.

OVERVIEW

The existing 1.6-mile US 90 bridge across Biloxi Bay was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. This PROJECT consists of construction of new high-rise six-(6) lane bridge(s) across Biloxi Bay and new replacement bridge(s) over the CSX Transportation Railroad and associated roadways in Biloxi and Ocean Springs. This PROJECT also includes the complete removal of the existing bridges to two (2) feet below ground surface and all debris as detailed in the RFP. This removal includes components of the US 90 bridge across Biloxi Bay that were displaced by the hurricane as well as the twin bridges over the CSX Transportation Railroad in Ocean Springs. The COMMISSION has secured an Environmental Assessment for the construction of the PROJECT.

Construction of the PROJECT will be within Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) right-of-way.

PROJECT services shall include but are not limited to:

- Design Services – completion of construction plans
- Quality Control of design and construction
- Utility Coordination
- Construction Services – necessary to build and ensure high quality workmanship of the designed facility

The COMMISSION will utilize a separate Firm to provide MDOT with Project Management Assistance.

SCOPE

The scope of work for this PROJECT will include design, construction, construction engineering and management of the project. The design work will include, but not be limited to, roadway design, surveys, geotechnical work, hydraulic analysis, scour analysis, bridge substructure and superstructure design. The designs shall meet all appropriate AASHTO *Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets* (latest edition), AASHTO *Standard Specifications for the Design of Highway Bridges* (latest edition), *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (latest edition) (MUTCD) and MDOT design criteria.

Construction will include, but not be limited to, demolition with debris removal and disposal, all necessary roadway and bridge work, drainage, utility coordination, air space coordination, environmental coordination, erosion and sediment control work items, necessary foundation work, substructure work, superstructure work, and traffic control. Construction engineering and management, including quality control, will be the responsibility of the successful PROPOSER. Construction will comply with the MDOT *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction Edition of 2004* as modified by the RFP to accommodate specific Design/Build requirements, *Manual on Uniform*

Traffic Control Devices (latest edition), MDOT Standard Drawings, Notice to Proposers, and any special provisions. The successful PROPOSER shall be responsible for obtaining and coordinating permits for this PROJECT, including, but not limited to, Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Coast Guard, CSX Transportation Railroad, US Army Corps of Engineers, and environmental agencies.

Areas of work required for this PROJECT will include, but are not limited to, the following items:

1. Preliminary and Final Roadway Plan Preparation
2. Preliminary and Final Bridge Design
3. Drainage Design
4. QC for Design
5. Construction
6. Project Management
7. Construction Management
8. QC for Construction, including inspection and testing
9. Utility Coordination

SUBMITTAL FORMAT

The RFQ response must be submitted by noon, Central Time, on March 29, 2006. The response shall contain no more than twenty-five (25) single-sided, double-spaced pages, excluding appendices. The minimum font size shall be 10 point. A single-page cover letter will not be counted as part of the 25-page maximum. Cover letters in excess of one page and any other information submitted beyond that noted in the RFQ will be counted as part of the 25-page maximum. RESPONDERS shall address each of the following six (6) categories in the same order as listed below.

I. MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE AND APPROACH

Provide the qualifications and experience of the firm or firms on the RESPONDER'S team as follows:

1. Identify the lead organization and primary members of the team. Name the entity with whom the COMMISSION will be contracting and identify if this will be a partnership, corporation, joint venture, etc. The total value of all work performed by the contracting entity shall be no less than 40 percent of the value of the PROPOSER'S submitted cost proposal.
2. Provide an organizational chart of the RESPONDER'S team describing the roles and responsibilities of each team member. Identify all team members that are Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms. The DBE goal for this project is 5 percent. Changes to team members listed in the PROPOSER'S Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) cannot be made without prior MDOT approval.

3. As a minimum, the following KEY INDIVIDUALS must be identified in order for the SOQ to be deemed technically responsive:
 - a. Project Director - The Project Director shall be the primary person in charge of and responsible for delivery of the PROJECT in accordance with the contract requirements. The Project Director or an approved designee must be present on site fulltime as the work is performed, have full authority to make the final decisions on behalf of the RESPONDER/PROPOSER and have responsibility for communicating these decisions directly to MDOT.
 - b. Lead Design Engineer – The Lead Design Engineer shall be a Professional Engineer registered by the State of Mississippi* or be able to achieve registration prior to award, and in charge of and responsible for all aspects of the design of the PROJECT (road, bridge, hydrology, coastal engineering and geotechnical, etc.)
 - c. Utility Coordinator – The Utility Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating the relocation of all utilities affected by the PROJECT.
 - d. Construction Manager – The Construction Manager shall be responsible for the overall coordination of the Project between design and construction and shall report directly to the Project Director. With approval from MDOT, the Construction Manager may be the Project Director’s designee acting in the absence of the Project Director for short periods of time.
 - e. Environmental Manager – The Environmental Manager shall be responsible for adherence to all environmental requirements and commitments, including but not limited to erosion control inspections as required by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the terms of the Environmental Assessment, and any other applicable environmental rules and regulations.
 - f. Design Quality Control Manager – The Design Quality Control Manager shall be responsible for assuring that the design is in compliance with the Contract requirements and shall be a registered Professional Engineer by the State of Mississippi* or be able to achieve registration prior to award. The Design Quality Control Manager shall report directly to the Project Director.
 - g. Construction Quality Control Manager – The Construction Quality Control Manager shall be responsible for assuring that all construction workmanship, materials, inspections and testing are in compliance with the Contract requirements and shall be a registered Professional Engineer by the State of Mississippi* or be able to achieve registration prior to award. The Construction Quality Control Manager shall report directly to the Project Director.

4. Identify any firms on the team who have previously worked together on similar projects.
5. Indicate the team's ability to comply with the 5 percent DBE goal. DBE firms must be certified by MDOT. DBE credit will only be given for those firms certified by MDOT at the time the PROPOSER responds to the RFP.
6. Describe the approach to accomplish the various items of work required by the PROJECT as identified in the Scope.
7. Demonstrate the team's ability to commit necessary resources to successfully complete the PROJECT.
8. Identify the Project Director and the firm by which he/she is employed. Give a clear definition of the role and responsibility of the Project Director relative to the member firms.

The RESPONDER's attention is directed to 23 CFR Section 636 Subpart A and in particular to Subsection 636.116 regarding organization conflicts of interest. Subsection 636.103 defines "organizational conflict of interest" as follows:

Organizational conflict of interest means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the owner, or the person's objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or a person has an unfair competitive advantage.

The RESPONDER shall provide information concerning potential organizational conflicts of interest and disclose all relevant facts concerning any past, present or currently planned interests which may present an organizational conflict of interest. The RESPONDER shall state how its interests or those of its chief executives, directors, KEY INDIVIDUALS for this PROJECT, or any proposed consultant, contractor or subcontractor may result, or could be viewed as, an organizational conflict of interest.

The RESPONDER is prohibited from receiving any advice or discussing any aspect relating to the PROJECT or the procurement of the PROJECT with any person or entity with an organizational conflict of interest, including, but not limited to, URS Corporation (URS) or Ocean Engineering Associates, Inc (OEA). Such persons and entities are prohibited from participating in a RESPONDER/PROPOSER organization relating to the PROJECT.

The PROPOSER shall agree that, if after award, an organizational conflict of interest is discovered, the PROPOSER must make an immediate and full written disclosure to MDOT that includes a description of the action that the PROPOSER has taken or proposes to take to avoid or mitigate such conflicts. If an organizational conflict of interest is determined to exist, MDOT may, at its discretion, cancel the Design-Build contract for the PROJECT. If the PROPOSER was aware of an organizational conflict of

interest prior to the award of the contract and did not disclose the conflict to MDOT, MDOT may terminate the contract for default.

II. EXPERIENCE

Except as noted, provide information demonstrating that the following possess the required minimum qualifications listed below:

1. The RESPONDER'S design team shall meet the following minimum qualifications:
 - a. The design team shall have personnel with experience and expertise in all phases of roadway design and design of bridge structures as required for this PROJECT.
 - b. The Lead Design Engineer shall have a minimum of ten (10) years experience and expertise in the design of projects of similar scope and magnitude in addition to licensing requirements.
 - c. The design team shall have the necessary equipment and personnel to provide the designs and plans in a timely manner.
2. The RESPONDER shall provide for a Geotechnical Engineer to conduct geotechnical investigation(s) and provide specific recommendations for the design and construction of the foundations. The geotechnical staff shall contain at least one Registered Professional Engineer by the State of Mississippi* or be able to achieve registration prior to award with a minimum of ten (10) years experience in the design of bridge foundations.
3. The RESPONDER'S Project Director must have at least ten (10) years experience managing projects of similar scope and magnitude. Provide a list of the projects that the Project Director has managed in the past. For each project listed, provide:
 - a. A brief description of each project managed, including the year(s) of construction and size and type of project, including any unusual features.
 - b. Name of owner the work was performed for and the name and phone numbers of owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Project Director's participation in the project.
4. Provide information that the RESPONDER'S construction team meets the following minimum qualifications:
 - a. The Construction Manager shall have a minimum of ten (10) years experience in the management of projects of similar scope and magnitude.
 - b. Each construction superintendent shall have a minimum of ten (10) years experience in supervising projects of similar scope and magnitude.

- c. The PROJECT surveyor shall be a Registered Professional Surveyor (PS) by the State of Mississippi* or be able to achieve registration prior to award, shall have a minimum of ten (10) years experience and demonstrate experience in roadway and bridge construction work.
5. The RESPONDER'S Quality Control team (QC) shall meet the following minimum qualifications.
 - a. Each of the QC Managers shall have a minimum of ten (10) years experience on projects of similar scope and magnitude in addition to licensing requirements.
 - b. The QC team shall utilize a lab for testing purposes that is currently accredited by AASHTO for testing to be performed, including but not limited to, concrete, soils, and aggregate.
 - c. Prior to performing work on the PROJECT, the inspection and materials technicians must hold or obtain appropriate certification as required by MDOT for each specific test to be performed.
 6. Provide resumes of additional individuals that you consider critical to the success of this PROJECT, including members discussed above. This information may be included in the appendices and will not be counted against the 25-page maximum requirement.

Individuals named in Sections I and II are to remain for the duration of the PROJECT and changes cannot be made without prior MDOT approval.

III. PAST PERFORMANCE

1. For each firm included in the RESPONDER'S SOQ, provide information demonstrating the firm's qualifications for performing work included in this RFQ. The information is to include a list of project experience in the past five (5) years, including year(s) of design and/or construction. This information may be included in the appendices and will not be counted against the 25-page maximum requirement.
2. For each project listed in Section III.1, provide:
 - a. A brief description of the project.
 - b. Name of owner for whom the work was performed.
 - c. Name, title and phone numbers of owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the firm's participation in these projects.

This information may be included in the appendices and will not be counted against the 25-page maximum requirement.

3. RESPONDER shall complete form SF 330. Part I of Form SF 330 shall be completed by the contracting entity. Section B shall list the contracting entity and the Project Director. Sections C & D shall list all firms identified in the SOQ. Section E shall be completed for each individual identified in the SOQ. Sections F & G shall identify projects completed by the contracting entity. Part II of form SF 330 shall be completed by each Architect-Engineering firm. Contractors are only required to provide similar profiles in a form of their choosing.

This information may be included in the appendices and will not be counted against the 25-page maximum requirement.

4. Provide brief answers and explanations to the following questions.
 - a. Has any member of the RESPONDER'S team been declared in default and/or terminated on any project within the last five (5) years?
 - b. In the past five (5) years, has any member of the RESPONDER'S team been suspended, debarred, disqualified from bidding, or declared ineligible for work by any entity or are any such actions pending against them?
 - c. Provide the number of claims submitted in the past five (5) years by each of the RESPONDER'S team members and how were they resolved. This does not include the exercise or assertion of a personal right.
 - d. Within the last 5 years, how many projects have been assessed liquidated damages? Provide a listing for all firms identified in the RESPONDER'S SOQ.
 - e. Does any member of the RESPONDER'S team have active projects that are behind schedule? If so, why are the projects behind schedule?
 - f. Has any member of the RESPONDER'S team been assessed erosion and sediment control violations and/or fines within the last five (5) years?
 - g. Within the last five (5) years, has any member of the RESPONDER'S team received incentives for early project completion?

IV. QUALITY CONTROL (QC) PLAN APPROACH

Provide information on how the QC responsibilities, including design, inspection and testing will be performed on this PROJECT. Describe the the key elements of the Design and Construction Quality Control Programs.

V. SAFETY

Provide the OSHA Recordable Incident Rate for each team member listed in the SOQ for the last five years. Provide the RESPONDER'S safety approach and goals for this PROJECT.

VI. FINANCIAL CONDITION

Provide a current audited financial statement for those entities identified in response to Section I.1 above. Provide information on RESPONDER’S insurance and bonding capacity. This information may be included in the appendices and will not be counted against the 25-page maximum requirement.

Additional information may be requested from RESPONDERS to this RFQ.

QUALIFICATIONS EVALUATION

The criteria shown below will be considered in determining the RESPONDER’S qualification score. The maximum points for each evaluation category will be as follows:

I.	Management Experience and Approach	30
II.	Experience	20
III.	Past Performance	20
IV.	Quality Control Plan and Approach	10
V.	Safety	10
VI.	Financial Condition	10
	Maximum Score	100

SELECTION

Based upon the scoring of responsive submittals, the COMMISSION intends to select a minimum of three (3) RESPONDERS to be invited to submit proposals for this PROJECT.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The COMMISSION intends for the contract type to be Fixed Price with provisions for incentive/disincentive.

The COMMISSION reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to either proceed no further with the PROJECT RFQ process, or to re-advertise in another public solicitation.

The COMMISSION reserves the right to accept or reject any and all RESPONDERS and PROPOSERS and/or discontinue the selection process at any time prior to contract execution. If the COMMISSION discontinues the selection process for any reason prior to receiving the RFP proposals, the stipend will not be paid.

The COMMISSION assumes no liability and will not reimburse costs incurred by RESPONDER'S firms (whether selected or not) in developing responses to this RFQ.

The COMMISSION reserves the right to request or obtain additional information about any and all responses to the RFQ. The COMMISSION may also issue addenda to the RFQ which will be posted to the MDOT website (www.gomdot.com).

All individuals and firms shall hold or obtain licenses and certifications required for performing work on the PROJECT under state and local laws.

Any design reports or plans and specifications shall be signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer registered by the State of Mississippi*.

All RESPONDERS/PROPOSERS must visibly mark as "CONFIDENTIAL" each part of their submission that they consider to contain proprietary information, the release of which would constitute an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy. All unmarked pages will be subject to release in accordance with law. RESPONDERS should be prepared, upon request, to provide justification of why such materials should not be disclosed under the Mississippi Public Records Act, Miss. Code Ann. § 25-61-1, *et seq.*

All questions related to this RFQ shall be submitted in writing and directed to:

Mr. Harry Lee James, P.E./P.S.
Mississippi Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1850
hjames@mdot.state.ms.us

Written questions will be accepted until 5:00 PM, Central Time, March 21, 2006. Only written requests to the above addressee will be considered. No requests for additional information or clarification to any other MDOT office, consultant, or employee will be considered. All responses will be in writing and will be posted to the MDOT website (www.gomdot.com).

The MDOT will not be responsible for any oral exchange or any other exchange of information that occurs outside the official process specified herein.

*Miss. Code Ann. Sections 73-13-1 through 73-13-45 (1972) (as amended) govern the practice of engineering and surveying in Mississippi. Firms are encouraged to contact the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors at (601) 359-6160 to insure that individuals and firms are qualified to offer and provide services in the State of Mississippi. The Board's web address is www.pepls.state.ms.us.

MILESTONES

Advertise RFQ	March 8, 2006
Deadline for Submittal of RFQ Questions	March 21, 2006 5:00 PM Central
Deadline for Submittal of ten (10) copies of Qualifications	March 29, 2006 Noon Central
Submit to:	
<p>Mr. B.B. House, P.E. Contract Administration Engineer Mississippi Department of Transportation 401 North West Street Post Office Box 1850 Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1850 Phone (601) 359-7730 Fax (601) 359-7732</p>	
Evaluation of Qualifications	March 29 to April 5, 2006
Letter to Selected and Non-selected RESPONDERS	April 5, 2006 (Approximate Date)
Provide RFP to Selected PROPOSERS	April 5, 2006 (Approximate Date)
Pre-Proposal Meeting	April 14, 2006 (Approximate Date)
Submittal of Response to RFP	May 26, 2006 (Approximate Date)
Award	June 6, 2006 (Approximate Date)
Target PROJECT Completion	March 17, 2008 (Approximate Date)