

ON LETTERHEAD

NOTICE INVITING CONTRACTORS TO PREQUALIFY FOR
FIBER OPTIC NETWORK – HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILL
SPECIFICATION NO. 2737

Prospective Applicants:

The City of Los Angeles' Harbor Department ("City" or "Department") is inviting contractors (Applicants) to apply for prequalification for construction of the FIBER OPTIC NETWORK – HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILL project. The project will consist of three horizontal directional drilling alignments each to install conduit bundles across, the Main Channel from Berth 82 to Berth 235, the Cerritos Channel from Berth 206 to Berth 204, and the Consolidated Channel from Berth 201 to Berth 199, to provide a connection to the Fiber Optic Network. The Fiber Optic Network will transmit data Port-wide, including security and communication data.

Prequalifying bidders for this project is in the best interest of the City and is justified because of the specialized skill level and experience needed to complete the project on time and within budget. Prior experience in construction methods, construction practices, and the construction procedures for the installation of conduit bundles, steel casings and pipelines that the horizontal drilling method requires to complete the project will be evaluated. The Department will prequalify Applicants wishing to bid on the work to perform horizontal directional drilling specialty work. Applicants will be prequalified as described in the Prequalification Instructions and Information package. Additional prequalification packages can be downloaded from the Department's website www.portofla.org, by calling (310) 732-3522, or by fax at (310) 831-5389.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. The project consists of installing a steel casing and new conduit bundles by the horizontal directional drilling (HDD) method in order to create fiber optic links for a redundant system configuration for the Department of Homeland Security, and to circumvent the condition of a single point of failure.
2. The Fiber Optic Network – Horizontal Directional Drill project will consist of three directional drills:
 - a. The first across the Main Channel consisting of a 24-inch inner diameter (I.D.) steel casing with a 18-inch outer diameter (O.D.) high density polyethylene (HDPE) conduit bundle, made up of seven – 6-inch conduits, from Ports O’Call (Berth 82) to the intersection of Seaside Avenue and Cannery Street (Berth 235 backland area). The directional drill is approximately 2,400 linear feet.
 - b. Across the Cerritos Channel, consisting of a 24-inch O.D. HDPE bundle, made up of six – 8-inch conduits, from Pasha Terminal (Berth 206) to the intersection of Shore Drive and Anchorage Road (Berth 204). The directional drill is approximately 1,450 linear feet and
 - c. Across the Consolidated Channel, consisting of a 24-inch O.D. HDPE bundle, made up of six – 8-inch conduits, at the north end of Shore Drive (Berth 201) to the WWL Terminal (Berth 199). The directional drill is approximately 1,200 linear feet.

The estimated construction cost is approximately \$6 million. Construction is estimated to begin in October 2011 and be completed in 240 calendar days.

The work described in this prequalification will be awarded under a single general contract.

PREQUALIFICATION JUSTIFICATION

1. Prequalifying bidders for this project is in the best interest of the City and is justified because of the specialized skill level and experience needed to complete the project on time and within budget. Prior experience in construction methods, construction practices, and the construction procedures for the installation of conduit bundles, steel casings and pipelines that the horizontal drilling method requires to complete the project will be evaluated. The installation of the conduit bundle and steel casing requires specialized expertise and equipment, and requires experienced personnel to accurately perform and complete work on time with minimal impact to the environment. Control of drill alignment and the exit location must be accurate to avoid damage to existing facilities and substructures in the area. Prequalifying bidders and key project personnel will increase the likelihood that the work will be completed within budget and within the limited time availability. It is extremely important to hire an experienced contractor to complete the work, to prevent extensive delay and risk to Federal Funding.
 - a. The directional drill string must exit thousands of feet from the drill site in an area less than 2 feet by 2 feet to avoid damaging existing utilities, pipelines, and structures where the exit is to occur. The new conduit bundle is then pulled through the drilled hole thousands of feet from the exit point to the entrance point.
 - b. Layout of welding of the new casing alignment and bundle forming will be along streets used by our tenants and the public. An experienced directional drill contractor will help minimize traffic congestion based on past project experience and knowledge to be efficient and reduce impact to high traffic streets.
 - c. The horizontal directional drilling requires expertise in a marine environment in and around operating terminals.
 - d. Excess pressure on the drilling fluids can cause a blowout of drilling fluid into the harbor. Pollution of the harbor can result in the Department being assessed fines and penalties by the governing agencies. Experienced horizontal directional drilling contractors must employ necessary measures to avoid a blowout.

2. The scheduled performance time established for this project is sufficient for completion of the work by a qualified contractor with the necessary experience, but timely completion may be jeopardized if the work is undertaken by a contractor lacking the required experience in the specialized construction work.

A company experienced in this type of project with qualified personnel is required to meet the ambitious schedule.

CRITERIA FOR "PREQUALIFIED" DESIGNATION

1. To qualify, bidders must have acquired satisfactory experience within the past ten years in the construction of projects involving horizontal directional drilling. Only those entities successfully meeting all the prequalification criteria will be invited to submit bids for the work. Pre-qualification criteria is:
 - a. Successful completion of two or more projects, each involving the installation a minimum of 2,000 linear feet of steel pipeline of at least 16-inch diameter, using horizontal directional drilling method, under a minimum of 40 feet of water, within the last ten years.
 - b. Bidder's project manager shall have worked at a level of project manager or project engineer on two or more successfully completed projects, each involving the installation a minimum of 2,000 linear feet of steel pipeline of at least 16-inch diameter, using horizontal directional drilling method, under a minimum of 40 feet of water, within the last ten years.
 - c. Bidder's site superintendent shall have worked at a level of site superintendent on two or more successfully completed projects, each involving the installation a minimum of 2,000 linear feet of steel pipeline of at least 16-inch diameter, using horizontal directional drilling method, under a minimum of 40 feet of water, within the last ten years.
 - d. Bidder shall be able to provide tunnel safety representative and gas tester as required by the California Occupational Health and Safety Administration.

- e. Bidder shall be able to assign sufficient equipment and personnel to complete the project in the allocated time.
- f. Bidder's Workmen's Compensation "Experience Modification rate" shall be less than 1.00 for each of the past three years.
- g. Bidder shall not have been disbarred from contracting or procurement work with any federal, state or local government agencies.
- h. Drilling Fluids Engineer is shall be present for all drilling activities and shall have a minimum of 5 years experience, and shall have worked on two or more successfully completed projects, each involving the installation a minimum of 2,000 linear feet of steel pipeline of at least 16-inch diameter, using horizontal directional drilling method, under a minimum of 40 feet of water, within the last ten years.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

A meeting has been scheduled to provide additional information on the project, the prequalification process, and to respond to any questions the Applicants may have:

Date: TBD
Time: TBD
Place: Port of Los Angeles Administrative Offices
425 S. Palos Verdes Street, Board Room
San Pedro, CA 90731

Potential Applicants are cautioned that security measures may delay building entry and early arrival is recommended.

PROJECT DOCUMENT REVIEW

The Department will make available in-progress contract documents for review during the prequalification period. Applicants wishing to view the documents may contact Christopher Trinidad at (310) 732-3617.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PREQUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Prequalification submittals will be accepted until the date specified on the attached Prequalification Instructions and Information package. Prequalification submittals will be available for public review only after the prequalification process has been completed.

PREQUALIFICATION CANCELLATION

The Department reserves the right to withdraw the prequalification at any time and for any reason.

We thank you for your interest in working for the Department and look forward to receiving your prequalification information.

Very truly yours,

SHAUN SHAHRESTANI
Chief Harbor Engineer
Construction Division

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Attachment

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