Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Request for Statements of Interest and Qualifications
For Engineering and Technical Consulting Services
RFQ No. 080917-001

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (District) requests statements of interest and qualifications (SOQs) from qualified firms to provide hydrogeologic technical support services. The selected firm shall employ a Texas licensed professional engineer or hydrogeologist with experience in analytical and numerical models of groundwater flow in karst aquifers such as the Trinity and Edwards Aquifers of central Texas.

BACKGROUND

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District ("District") is a Groundwater Conservation District with a mandate to conserve, preserve, protect, and enhance all groundwater resources within the District. The District has the authority to undertake various studies and implement structural facilities and non-structural programs to achieve its statutory mandate. The District has rule-making authority to implement its policies and procedures consistent with the statutory mandates, established mission, and the TWDB-approved management plan. The District carries out its mission and goals through aquifer studies, establishing rules and policies, education programs, District provided services, and through the cooperation of local, state, and federal agencies. The District issues water well permits, collaborates on aquifer tests and evaluations, and maintains a regulatory framework based on science and collected data.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project involves the evaluation of the potential hydrogeologic impacts to the Upper and Middle Trinity Aquifers in central Hays County in response to groundwater production.

SCOPE OF CONSULTING SERVICES

The selected firm will provide hydrogeologic technical consulting services required to perform the following tasks:

1. Describe a conceptual model of the Trinity Aquifers in central Hays County;
2. Calibrate a layered analytic element model (TTIM) to available aquifer test data in central Hays County;
3. Run several predictive pumping simulations;
4. Provide critical review of the available hydrogeologic data and reports in the context of the conceptual model, predictive simulations, and other available data.
5. Report documenting these tasks.

EXPERIENCE AND APPROACH

The statement of interest should include a summary of experience and qualifications. The summary should include:

1. a general description of the firm and experience over the past five years,
2. a resume of the engineer(s) and/or individual(s) who will be performing the work,
3. a summary for each individual performing the work that describes their qualifications, experience, and availability,
4. a brief description of three comparable projects over the past five years for each individual that include the developing and running analytical and numerical models of groundwater flow in karst aquifers,
5. a statement certifying that the applicant and/or his/her firm is not aware of any existing conflicts of interest with the District or its Board of Directors; and
6. any other information relevant to scope of consulting services.

SELECTION AND NEGOTIATION

The District's management team will evaluate each SOQ response and may select finalists to meet for interviews in order to expand on the information provided in the SOQ response. Following the evaluation, the District's management team will determine a ranking for each short-list firm based on the written SOQ and any oral presentations or interviews. The highest ranked firm will be recommended to the Board of Directors for contract award. The District will enter into negotiations with the selected firm and execute a contract upon completion of negotiations for Board of Directors approval. If the District is unsuccessful in negotiating a contract with the highest ranked firm the District may then negotiate with the second or third highest ranked team until a contract is executed or may decide to terminate the selection process.

SOQ SUBMITTAL

Interested parties are asked to submit brief SOQs, not to exceed ten pages, to the District by **5:00 pm on Monday, August 21, 2015**. SOQs may be submitted to Brian A. Smith P.G. at the following address:

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Attn: Brian A. Smith, P.G.
1124 Regal Row
Austin, Texas 78748
(512) 282-8441

Or electronically to: brians@bseacd.org (Subject: Modeling and Hydrogeological Report Review).

Upon receipt by the District, each statement will be stamped with the date and time received. All statements become the property of the District, which will hold the contents of all statements confidential until an award is made. SOQs received after the time set for the opening will be declared late and not eligible for opening and consideration. The District is not responsible for mail, courier or other delivery methods, in-transit time or non-delivery.