

10-05-23 Posting Date
Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation
Strategic (NPS-IS) Plan Development
PID No. N/A
Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
Response Due Date: 11-17-23

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

I. Introduction

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments (Eastgate) is seeking to retain the services of an Engineering Firm to develop two (2), Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic (NPS-IS) plans: Fish Creek-Mahoning River (HUC-12: 050301030103) and Sugar Creek-Pymatuning Creek (HUC- 12: 050301020302). The completion of this project will result in two (2), state endorsed NPS-IS Plans.

II. General Scope of Services

1. Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plan.
 - a. Work with Eastgate staff to gather data and background information for development of Nine-Element NPS-IS plans for each identified HUC-12;
 - b. Organize information according to the Ohio EPA's *Guide to Developing Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plans in Ohio*;
 - c. Write a NPS-IS plan for each identified HUC-12; and
 - d. Seek Ohio EPA and US EPA endorsement for each plan.
2. See the attached scope of work.
3. The project completion date, including endorsement, is anticipated to be **May 31, 2024**.

III. Project Objectives

Eastgate's objective is to enter a contract with an Engineering Firm to provide the above-referenced Scope of Services thru Quality Based Selection identified in ORC 153.

IV. Request for Proposal (RFP)

Each Firm is required to submit the following specified information, in the order outlined below, to be considered for this project. Proposals submitted should include those for the entire proposed team, including the prime and subcontractors.

1. Competence to perform the required Services:
 - Training of assigned personnel
 - Education of assigned personnel.
 - Experience of assigned personnel on projects.
 - Identify the Engineer of records.

2. Experience of the firm's Services relating to development of Nine-Element NPS-IS plans based on the guidelines set forth by the US EPA and adopted by the Ohio EPA. (<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/nps/index#120845160-9-element-nps-is>)
3. Ability of the Identified Firm Members to complete the Work:
 - A. Current Workload (contracts in progress)
 - B. Availability of key personnel during the anticipated schedule.
 - C. Availability of equipment required to perform the work.
 - D. Experience of the Firm:
 1. Representative Project Experience completed for at least 3 years but no longer than 5 years.
 2. Describe the scope of services provided for each project.
 3. Describe the role of personnel and subcontractors that are being proposed for the Project.

V. Request for Proposal shall also include:

Each Firm shall include in their proposal:

- A. Description of the Project;
- B. Preliminary Schedule; and
- C. Description of Services to be Provided.

Each Firm shall submit an **electronic copy** of each Proposal clearly identified as "Proposal for the Fish Creek- Mahoning River NPS-IS Plan" and "Proposal for the Sugar Creek-Pymatuning Creek NPS-IS Plan" in the subject field.

Eastgate will **accept electronic Proposals until 12:00 noon on Friday November 17th, 2023.** Proposals shall be emailed to Eastgate's Environmental Program Manager at sdyer@eastgatecog.org. Eastgate retains the option of rejecting or accepting any Proposal.

All questions shall be emailed to Eastgate's Environmental Program Manager, Stephanie Dyer (sdyer@eastgatecog.org), by 3:00 pm **October 20th, 2023**. Eastgate will address and distribute responses via email prior to **October 30th, 2023**.

VI. Evaluation Criteria

Each RFP will be reviewed based on the below criteria and their respective weighted score.

1. Competence to perform the required Services. (25%)
2. Ability of the Identified Team Members to complete the Work. (30%)
3. Past Performance of the Team in delivering projects. (15%)
4. Understanding of the project (15%)
5. Additional Qualifications to perform the project. (15%)

VII. SCOPE OF WORK

Fish Creek-Mahoning River and Sugar Creek-Pymatuning Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic (NPS-IS) Plans Project Background

Section 319 (h) grants can be used as supplemental funding for stream restoration projects that among other things, "restores natural flow and habitat conditions and improve natural assimilation of nutrient and nonpoint source pollutant". According to the Ohio EPA, section 319(h) funding was established for Ohio waters where NPS pollution is a significant cause of aquatic life use impairments. However, to receive funding, projects must be in a watershed with a Nine-Element watershed plan that is either in progress or endorsed by the State of Ohio. A Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plan (NPS-IS Plan) is a watershed plan focusing on a the HUC-12 watershed level, allowing local communities to effectively propose and implement nonpoint source pollution projects utilizing funding made available through the Clean Water Act Section 319 (319). Eligibility for these grant programs in Ohio is restricted to projects identified within a critical area of an approved NPS-IS Plan. To emphasize the importance of the plans, Ohio EPA stated in their January 2, 2018 Request for Proposal letter, "proposed projects must be identified within a Nine-Element HUC-12 nonpoint source implementation strategy (NPS-IS) that has been approved by both Ohio EPA and US EPA".

Utilizing the Ohio EPA's *Guide to Developing Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plans in Ohio* Eastgate proposes developing plans for the following identified HUC-12's:

- Fish Creek- Mahoning River (HUC 12: 050301030103)
- Sugar Creek-Pymatuning Creek (HUC 12: 050301020302)

Objectives:

- Develop Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic (NPS-IS) plans for identified HUC 12's; and
- Seek Ohio EPA and US EPA endorsement of each plan.

The work will be completed in accordance with Ohio's Nonpoint Source Management Plan update.

The maximum prime compensation for this project will be \$20,000.00.