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**LDEQ ANSWERS TO PROPOSERS QUESTIONS**  
**RFP No. 7225-08-01**  
**“Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Site Investigations R&T Auto**  
**Care (formerly Randazzo’s Amoco)”**

LDEQ’s answers to the following questions are intended to provide information to potential proposers questions to RFP No. 7225-08-01.

**Question 1:** Section 3.3 UST Removal, 2.a. – The RFP states concrete removal shall not exceed 1,000 square feet (sq. ft.). Measurements taken during the site inspection indicate the area of the USTs is approximately 40 feet by 45 feet (1,800 sq. ft.) The square footage allowed by the LDEQ does no appear to be sufficient. Will the LDEQ provide additional sq. footage to safely and properly remove the USTs?

**LDEQ’s answer:** The LDEQ’s estimation was based on a normal 30ft by 30ft UST tank hold. On-site measurements indicate the need for additional square footage. Based on these measurements, the maximum square footage for concrete removal has been increased to 2,000 sq ft.

**Question 2:** Section 3.3 UST Removal, 3 – The RFP does not mention collection of samples from beneath the former dispenser islands. Is it the intent of the RFP to only collect necessary samples beneath the USTs?

**LDEQ’s answer:** UST closure confirmatory samples shall be collected from the UST area only. Potential contamination in the area of the former dispensers should be addressed during the overall site investigation.

**Question 3:** Section 3.3 UST Removal, 4.a. – The RFP states that excavating contaminated backfill and surrounding contaminated soil will be performed at the direction of the LDEQ Project Manager (PM). Will the LDEQ PM base the decision to excavate soil on analytical data obtained the following day or visual observations and field instrument (PID, OVM) measurements obtained during the UST removals (excavate same day as the UST removals)?

**LDEQ’s answer:** Excavation of contaminated backfill and surrounding contaminated soil will be determined by results of the UST closure samples (analytical data) collected as part of the UST removal. Field screening equipment should be used to assist with determining the limits of the excavation; however analytical data must be used for confirmation. Over-excavation is limited to 400 tons.

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**Question 4:** Section 3.3 UST Removal, 4.a. – If the excavation is directed by the LDEQ PM, sufficient time will not be available to obtain approval from a landfill to accept the contaminated soil. Will the LDEQ allow the excavated material to be staged on site (on plastic) pending proper analysis for acceptance by a landfill? Should laboratory analysis costs required by the landfill be accounted for in Line Item 4?

**LDEQ's answer:** Section 3.3 UST Removal, 4.a. - "Once the decision has been made by the LDEQ Project Manager that existing backfill and existing soil is contaminated, the contractor shall within one day commence excavation activities."

Commencement of excavation activities may include soil profiling for landfill requirements. The LDEQ does not anticipate excavation of soils prior to landfill approval; therefore staging of soils should not be required.

Yes, laboratory analysis costs required by the landfill should be accounted for in line item 4.

**Question 5:** Section 3.3 UST Removal, 4.b. – The RFP states the volume of clean backfill material shall not exceed 400 cubic yards; however, the Schedule of Prices for backfill material is based on 400 tons. Backfill material is not usually weighed but based on visual observation in cubic yards. Please clarify.

**LDEQ's answer:** The payment unit for Line Item No. 5, Clean Backfill [SOW, Section 3.3 (4)(b)] should be cubic yard, not ton, and shall be limited to 400 (no. of units).

**Question 6:** Section 3.3 UST Removal, 4.c. – The RFP states concrete replacement shall not exceed 1,300 square feet (sq. ft.). Measurements taken during the site inspection indicate the area of the USTs is approximately 40 feet by 45 feet (1,800 sq. ft.) The square footage allowed by the LDEQ does not appear to be sufficient. Will the LDEQ provide additional sq. footage to properly replace the concrete?

**LDEQ's answer:** See response to question 1. Based on these measurements, the maximum square footage for concrete replacement has been increased to 2,000 sq ft.

**Question 7:** Section 3.4 UST Removal – Contingency – The line item includes costs for emptying, cleaning, vapor freeing, and disposal of any additional USTs that may be discovered. Where should costs for additional concrete removal and replacement, soil excavation, clean backfill, transportation and disposal of any additional contaminated soil, etc. be included? Will the LDEQ consider a separate line item for these issues?

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**LDEQ's answer:** Costs for additional concrete removal and replacement, soil excavation, clean backfill, transportation and disposal of any additional contaminated soil, etc., should be included in line item 8, UST Removal – Contingency. The LDEQ will not consider a separate line item for these issues.

**Question 8:** Section 3.5 Project Planning for Site Investigation, 1. – Would the LDEQ provide a set number of soil borings/temporary monitoring wells to install at the site? That would allow all bidders to provide a price for an identical scope of work. Otherwise, prices will vary based on assumptions that LDEQ will approve their workplan.

**LDEQ's answer:** All historical analytical data for soil and groundwater samples can be found in EDMS. Product was removed from the tanks prior to filling with water. It can be assumed that the source of the release has been removed. Historical contamination at the Randazzo's site should be used to plan future site investigation activities. Site investigation shall be conducted for the delineation of the vertical and horizontal extent of impact resulting from the LUSTs. It is the Contractor's responsibility to determine the number of borings required to fully delineate the hydrocarbon plume. The LDEQ will not dictate a specific number of borings to include in the proposal.

Note: If the LDEQ Project Manager determines that the work plan does not include enough borings to adequately delineate the contamination, the LDEQ will request additional borings. Costs associated with the additional borings shall be included in the lump sum pricing of line items 9 and 10.

**Question 9:** Section 3.5 Project Planning for Site Investigation, 1. – There is no requirement for geotechnical samples to define hydraulic conductivity, organic content, etc., which will provide data to classify the first encountered groundwater-bearing zone. Should this be included in this line item or will the LDEQ issue a contract addendum for this work?

**LDEQ's answer:** The LDEQ will not issue a contract addendum for this work.

The RFP indicates that a RECAP Management Option 2 Evaluation Report in accordance with Appendix I, "A Site-Specific RECAP Evaluation for Typical UST Sites" must be completed for the Randazzo's site. Groundwater classification is required for the completion of this RECAP evaluation. Costs associated with geotechnical analysis and/or slug testing should be included in line items 9 and 10, project planning and site investigation implementation. All costs associated with the completion of the site investigation including collection of site-specific parameters for the completion of the RECAP evaluation should be included in line items 9 and 10.

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**Question 10:** Section 3.5 Project Planning for Site Investigation, 1. – The RFP states additional sampling may be requested by the LDEQ based on the initial site investigation. Can the LDEQ provide a potential scenario to base prices? It is unclear what the LDEQ may requests in this situation (1, 5, 8 more borings and analytical data, etc). Would a contract addendum be provided for this additional work? This could vary significantly in scope and price.

**LDEQ's answer:** The Schedule of Prices has been amended for 3 additional line items to address project planning implementation, and reporting associated with additional sampling required for delineation of the hydrocarbon plume. **Additional sampling shall be based on the results of the initial investigation and RECAP Evaluation and shall be completed at the discretion of the LDEQ project manager.** The additional sampling shall be limited to no more than 3 soil borings. Results of additional sampling shall be submitted in a site investigation report that includes any necessary amendments to the approved RECAP evaluation.

**Question 11:** Section 3.6 Implementation of Site Investigation..., 2. and 3. – Subsection 2. states to complete a RECAP MO-II following the requirements of RECAP Appendix I. Subsection 3. states to submit for review and approval a combined Site Investigation/RECAP Evaluation Report in accordance with RECAP Appendix B Section 3.0. This requires 2 RECAPs. Is this the intent of LDEQ? Please clarify.

**LDEQ's answer:** One MO-II RECAP Evaluation shall be completed and submitted for review and approval following the approval of the RECAP Input Parameter Form. The results of the site investigation and RECAP Evaluation must be submitted in a combined Site Investigation/RECAP Evaluation Report. The Site Investigation Report shall be in accordance with RECAP Appendix B, Section 3.0. The RECAP Evaluation shall be completed in accordance with RECAP Appendix I and RECAP Appendix H for enclosed structure as applicable.

**Question 12:** Section 3.8 Emergency/Interim Corrective Action - Would LDEQ provide a maximum volume of PSH/fluid recovered during the 8 hour vacuum event? The volume produced during a vacuum event on two or more wells will be higher than one well. Additionally, groundwater-bearing zones produce various volumes. A 5,000 gallon vac truck may fill to capacity in 4 hrs or the groundwater zone may only produce 200 gallons in an 8 hour period. Please clarify.

**LDEQ's answer:** No more than 5,000 gallons shall be recovered during any one 8-hour vacuum event.

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**Question 13:** General Question – Will LDEQ sign all profiles and manifest for soil, liquid, and decommissioned USTs transportation and disposal? Or will the contractor be allowed to sign on behalf of LDEQ?

**LDEQ's answer:** The LDEQ will provide an "Appointment of Agent for Waste Disposal" form, to be signed by the LDEQ and the Contractor. The Contractor will be authorized to perform the following acts on behalf of the LDEQ:

- Complete and sign Generator Waste Profile Sheets
- Complete and sign Generator Waste Profile Sheet-Recertifications
- Authorize amendments to Generator Waste Profile Sheets
- Sign certifications necessary to comply with landfill requirements, and
- Sign manifests to initiate shipment to disposal facilities.

**Question 14:** Is geotechnical information regarding site soils available?

**LDEQ's answer:** No.

**Question 15:** It appears as though shoring of the excavation is optional. It also appears that an adequate sidewall slope angle cannot be achieved due to site space constraints, in particular due to close proximity to the roadway and utilities. If density testing is required at the bottom of the excavation, a person cannot enter a pit with a depth greater than 5.0 ft. if it is not shored and without adequate sidewall slope. Is compaction density testing required of the backfill? If so, what depth does the testing need to begin? Shoring should be mandatory if density testing of the backfill is required, should it not?

**LDEQ's answer:** There is no regulatory requirement for density testing. The excavation area should be backfilled in twelve inch lifts using standard industry compaction measures. Shoring is not an LDEQ requirement; it is an OSHA requirement (Standard – 29CFR) for excavations of 5 feet or more. The Contractor must meet all federal, state, and local regulations and guidelines.

**Question 16:** It is desired to confirm that the initial project qualification requirements were met so as to avoid disqualification after submittal of a bid package. Will the LDEQ provide copies of the sign-in-sheet from the mandatory site visit to identify those who provided the Hold Harmless Agreement and proof of current HAZWOPER training that was a requirement to perform the site visit and continue with the bid process?

**LDEQ's answer:** A copy of the sign-in sheet can be obtained through the public records process. For assistance concerning public records, phone (225) 219-3172, e-mail [publicrecords@la.gov](mailto:publicrecords@la.gov) or go to <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2234/Default.aspx>.

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**Question 17:** It is our understanding that for this project the waste hauler that carries the contaminated soil from the site to the landfill must have Public Service Commission authority to transport solid waste of this type. Is this a requirement and if so, why is it not specified like the OSHA requirement since this affects transportation costs? Do bidders need to provide the transporter's PSC certificate/permit number with the proposal?

**LDEQ's answer:** Transporters of solid waste are responsible for acquiring and/or maintaining the required certifications and permits. The requirement for a PSC certificate/permit number is a PSC requirement, not an LDEQ requirement.

**Question 18:** Do the five copies of Volume I - Technical Proposal need to be bound individually in 3 ring binders?

**LDEQ's answer:** As stated in Part III. Proposal Preparation Instructions, Section 3.4 Proposal Format, "Each volume of the proposal should be typed and securely bound in a three ring binder."

**Question 19:** Will Volume II – Financial Disclosure documentation be made public?

**LDEQ's answer:** As stated in Part III. Proposal Preparation Instructions, Section 3.5 Use and Disclosure of Confidential Information, "Pursuant to LSA-R.S. 30:2030 and R.S. 44:1, et seq., LDEQ records obtained in response to this RFP shall be available to the public unless LDEQ determines that the information requires confidentiality. In order to secure nondisclosure of information contained in its proposal, the proposer must submit a written request to the Secretary of LDEQ in accordance with LAC 33:I. Chapter 5 and applicable laws."

**Question 20:** Are bidders required to provide proof that their solid waste transporters have a LDEQ solid waste transporter ID number?

**LDEQ's answer:** Transporters of solid waste are responsible for acquiring and/or maintaining the required certifications and permits. The proposers are not required to provide proof that their solid waste transporters have a LDEQ Solid Waste Transporter ID Number.

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**Question 21:** Backfill is specified not to exceed 400 cubic yards. Payment for backfill is per ton and not per cubic yard. Since it is rare for one cubic yard of fill to weigh one ton, can the bid unit be changed to cost per cubic yard or can the LDEQ provide an explanation of how this is going to be rectified such as use of a given conversion factor?

**LDEQ's answer:** See LDEQ response to question 5.