

Memo To: RFP Respondents

From: Tom Williams, P.E.
 HWU General Manager



Re: RFP Water Meters and AMI – Clarification/Addendum No. 1
 Bid Reference: 2020-01

Date: 21 February 2020

Questions and Answers from Bidders, so far:

- Question:** Are GPS Coordinates available for the HWU Water Tanks and the City’s Radio Tower at the Municipal Services Center?

Answer: Yes, in the following table:

HWU Water Tanks and MSC Tower Locations		
<u>Tank</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Easting</u>
Frontier	2 203 456.94	1 119 710.64
Green River	2 207 468.26	1 123 555.72
Atkinson Park	2 200 158.98	1 111 300.64
Graham Hill	2 187 634.18	1 125 780.75
Vine Street	2 189 638.64	1 108 887.88
College	2 178 560.88	1 091 802.3
City Radio Tower - MSC	2 185 557.71	1 107 847.81

NAD 1983 State Plane Kentucky South FIPS 1602 Feet

- Question:** Can you provide an Excel file with latitude/longitude or street addresses of each meter location, or a shape file?

Answer: Yes, an address file is available on request. Meter locations in our GIS are not 100% accurate, so a shape file will not be furnished. Address request to tom.williams@hkywater.org



3. *Question: We request a 2-week extension of the due date to allow time to provide a thorough response to the RFP.*

Answer: The Kentucky model procurement code requires advertisement of bids for a period not less than 7 days, and local policy specifies not more than 21 days. In this case, the RFP is open over a period of 6 weeks. With 4 weeks remaining of that time, HWU feels that adequate time has been allowed for responses.

4. *Question: Please provide existing meter box lid material types and approximate percentage of each type of material in the HWU service area.*

Answer: Nearly 100 % of residential meter box lids in the HWU service area are round, Cast Iron, 18", 20" & 21" tile size meter pits, most are manufactured by Ford Meter Box Co., Vestal MFG, Mueller, Clarksville, and Tyler. Approximately 70% of those lids have a 2" diameter hole for a touch-read sensor.

Meter vault lids for 1-1/2" and larger are typically rectangular in shape, diamond floor plate steel, on a .064" galvanized copper-steel box.

1-1/2" & 2" Meter Vault dimensions - 38" length x 18" width x 26" height

1-1/2" & 2" Lid dimensions - 40" length x 20" width x 3/16" thick w/10" x 10" observation port.

3" & up Meter Vault dimensions - 60" length x 30" width x 36" or 48" high

3" & up Meter Vault dimensions - 64" length x 34" width x 1/4" thick with 10" x 10" observation port.

Some larger meters (4" & 6") are in concrete vaults, with conventional manhole frames and lids or concrete poured aluminum access hatches.

5. *Question: There is mention of a "pilot" in the RFP. Please provide the length and scope of the pilot as well as the date the full installations are likely to commence.*

Answer: It is anticipated that a brief period of time at the initiation of the installation of meters, data collectors, and other equipment will be used for testing and confirmation of all constituent parts of the AMR/AMI system that is chosen. Vendors should include time for testing and system confirmation in their schedule. HWU anticipates that installation of meters will begin on or prior to 1 June 2020. Installation start date for other items depends on the system chosen, after contract negotiations with potential vendors.

6. *Question: RFP pg. 2, 2. c.: Approved electronic format may also be accepted. – Can the Utility please clarify if electronic proposals will be accepted? If so, can further detail be provided as how to submit electronic responses?*

Answer: The language on electronic responses is contained in HWU's standard front-end documents. In this case, due to the pricing information to be contained in the responses, HWU will not accept electronic submittals, initially. HWU may request that the submittal be submitted in electronic format for firms that are short-listed in the bid process.

7. Question: RFP pg. 12, Section 4.0, first bullet point: *Include pricing for alternate solutions... - Can the Utility please clarify its definition of an alternate solution?*

Answer: Alternate solutions would be any variance from the requirements of the RFP, or additional items added to enhance system performance. For instance, if 3 data collectors would meet the standards for Read Success Rate in Section 2.6 of Part 5, but 4 would reach a 99.9 percent read rate, vendors may propose the additional collector. Other alternate solutions will be considered at the discretion of HWU.

8. Question: RFP pg. 12, Section 4.0, second bullet point: *...pricing should include all costs of all Water Meter, System Hardware, Installation... - Can the Utility please clarify if meter installation pricing/contractors are needed for this project? Per RFP pg. 10, sixth bullet point, endpoints, meters and data collection units are to be installed by HWU personnel?*

Answer: HWU personnel will install all meters, endpoints and data collector units. It is anticipated that vendor personnel will be required to assist with training for installation of these units. In addition, if a vendor specifies installation of a data collector unit on the City of Henderson radio tower (MSC), then the vendor will be required to provide all installation services for that unit.

9. Question: RFP pg. 23, 6.10 a.: *Meter sizes greater than 2" shall be battery powered solid state magnetic flow type meters, conforming to AWWA C-715. – Can the Utility please clarify if solid-state/ultrasonic meters will be acceptable for this specification requirement?*

Answer: Yes, solid state/ultrasonic meters conforming to AWWA C-715 will be acceptable for these sizes.

10. Question: RFP pg. 22, 6.8 e.: *...provided with Nicor or equivalent connectors... - Do equivalent connectors need to be preapproved by the Utility prior to response submission, so long as they meet equivalent specifications of the Nicor connector?*

Answer: Pre-approval not required for alternate/equivalent connectors that meet or exceed the specification for Nicor connectors.

11. Question: RFP pg. 41, 20.1 a.: *...commence following the acceptance of the Pilot and continue for a minimum of five years... - Can the Utility please clarify the scope and timeline of this project? How long is the Pilot phase and when is it anticipated to commence?*

Answer: See answer 5, above.

12. Question: RFP pg. 48, fifth paragraph: Proposer shall provide pricing information in Excel files... - Can the Utility please clarify if only one response copy is required per RFP pg. 4, 8., or if one response copy in addition to an electronic file is required.

Answer: To ensure security and confidentiality of vendor responses prior to the due date of the RFP, pricing information in Excel format will be requested from vendors after submission of paper copies of the RFP responses on the due date. Submission of pricing data in the proposal shall be on paper, and per Page 11, submit one (1) paper copy of the response.

If you have further questions, feel free to call me at 270.826.2421 (Office).

Cc: Kevin Roberts, HWU Director of Operations
Kathy Manker, HWU Procurement Manager