

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 21-060

Beneficial Use Program for Class B Biosolids from Greater Nanaimo Pollution Control Centre Issued: Thursday, July 29, 2021

Addendum #1 – Questions and Answers

This addendum shall be read in conjunction with and considered as an integral part of the Request for Proposals. Revisions supersede the information contained in the original Request for Proposals. No consideration will be allowed for any extras due to any Proponent not being familiar with the contents of this Addendum. All other terms and conditions remain the same.

Questions and Answers

This following is a compilation of questions received from possible proponents up to 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 29, 2021, and the answers to these questions

(1) Question

The RFP requests an odour plan, a communications plan, and a contingency plan. We would like to confirm that these plans may be added as an Appendix that does not count towards the page total.

Response

Yes, these plans requested in the RFP could be added each as an Appendix and not count towards the page total.

(2) Question

I understand that the RDN is currently satisfied with the current dewatering and biosolids capture/scaling system, however it is recognized as a long-term potential bottleneck. Some follow up questions to this:

One alternative was suggested to punch through the wall of the dewatering facility to put an auger through to a new space:

- i. How long would design, engineering, and construction take for such a project?
- ii. We assume that the scaling would have to be relocated in such a situation – is this also your understanding (as the scale would need to be replaced by the auger or belt system)
- iii. Has the RDN undertaken (or been presented with) a cost analysis of such an option, contrasting it with current transportation costs, versus the reduction in transportation costs and frequency through the use of a larger truck type?

Response

In the RFP, it is noted that Proponents can make modifications to the dewatering facility subject to approval by the RDN operations and engineering groups. All costs for making these modifications are identified as the responsibility of the Contractor and would need to be included in per tonne rate.

If Proponents wish to make modifications to the dewatering building and incorporate this into their proposal, it would be important to investigate all the requirements including the engineering and construction timeline, the weigh scale, and investigate the cost and benefits associated with transportation with a larger truck type.

(3) Question

We discussed the 5,000-tonne minimum:

- a. Can you confirm that the intention is that the successful proponent will be responsible for managing 100% of the material originating from GNPCC?
- b. Can you confirm that the ranges are subject to “standard factors” such as dewatering efficiency, plant operation management, and population growth, and that there aren’t other external factors that may influence the volumes known to RDN at this time?
- c. In order to ensure an “apples to apples comparison, can the RDN please confirm or specify that the 5,000-tonne minimum is the tonnage to be bid for the project (or specify another tonnage)? The value to be provided is in \$/tonne, however economies of scale may influence the \$/Tonne value, to some extent.

Response

- a. Yes, the successful Proponent will be responsible for managing 100% of material originating from GNPCC. The range is anticipated to be between 5,000 to 7,000 wet tonnes per year.
- b. Yes, the range is subject to “standard factors”. There are no external factors known at this time that could influence production volumes.
- c. Yes, Proponents should base the bid on a 5,000-minimum tonnage. However, it is likely (but not guaranteed) that production will average around 6,500 tonnes per year.

(4) Question

The RFP states that the proponent will be able to accept the material no later than Jan 31, 2022. Follow up questions to this:

- a. Does the RDN have a contracted certain Beneficial Use option up to Jan 31, 2022?
- b. Will it be considered a significant benefit to be able to start earlier than that date?
- c. If so, what is the earliest desirable date for project commencement?

Response

- a. The RDN has Beneficial Use options for GNPCC biosolids contracted until December 31, 2021. The January 31, 2022 date was set recognizing that it may take a while for options to start up and due to internal administrative approval timelines.
- b. Yes, it would be a benefit to be able to start earlier than January 31, 2022.
- c. The earliest desirable date for project commencement is December 1, 2021.

(5) Question

The cost breakdown is 50% at receipt and 50% at confirmation of beneficial use. Proponents may choose to use composting as a component of the project. This adds some complexity.

As composting is a process, and not an end use, we have questions about the information requirements RDN requires to confirm beneficial use through composting prior to payment. Can RDN please specify what is required?

- i. Do you need evidence of all of the components of and compliance with Part 5 Divisions 1, 2, 3, and 4?
- ii. All of the record keeping information specified in OMRR – Under Division 5 (Class A Compost) – Subsections 2, 3, 4, and 5?
- iii. The time temperature and maturation information on a batch-by-batch basis?
- iv. Signed off by the QP? (as per other beneficial uses under LAP?)
- v. Demonstration that the material has been moved off site and is no longer at threat of being in non-compliance? There are stockpiling restrictions and total volume on site restrictions through OMRR.
- vi. If Class B compost is produced – then an LAP and QP sign off is also required (as per OMRR) – Correct?
- vii. Please confirm what might be required in this space, in order to determine the viability of using composting as a potential beneficial use.

Response

The RDN's would require sign off by a Qualified Professional confirming Beneficial Use in composting. Beneficial Use would be as defined by the Province of BC in the *Organic Matter Recycling Regulation*

The Qualified Professional would sign off when requirements listed in the *Organic Matter Recycling Regulation* pertaining to Beneficial Use via composting are met. The RDN would not require further evidence of compliance as identified above. The Qualified Professional would sign off to confirm compliance with all the requirements of the *Organic Matter Recycling Regulation* pertaining to composting as a Beneficial Use option.

All regulatory document submitted to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy such Land Application Plans would also need to be provided for the RDN's records.