

As of 25 July 2002
RESPONSES TO CONTRACTOR QUESTIONS
ON
POLA CHANNEL DEEPENING PROJECT
IFB No. DACW09-02-B-0005

Note: Reference is made to Specifications Section 00100, clause 52.214-16, EXPLANATION TO PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: "Any prospective bidder desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing soon enough to allow a reply to reach all prospective bidders before the submission of their bids. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of a contract will not be binding. Any information given a prospective bidder concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective bidders as an amendment to the solicitation, if that information is necessary in submitting bids or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective bidders."

Q1: Please clarify 1) if hydraulic dredging on the project will be required to be performed by electric dredge and 2) how much of the total dredging must be performed by electric dredge (hydraulic or otherwise).

A1: *See amended Specifications Section 01355 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.*

Q2: In Section 01200 General Requirements Clause 1.22 the method of dredging permits Hopper Dredges. Under Section 02020 Dredging Clause 3.8 the method for dredging under each element is listed as mechanical and/or hydraulic, but in no cases is it listed as hopper. Will hopper dredges be permitted to work on this contract? If so, under which dredge elements will they be permitted?

A2: *Hopper dredges are considered to be hydraulic dredges. Hopper dredges may be used on this job provided they meet the project requirements, are permitted to operate, and comply with Specification Section 01355 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION for requirements on the use of electric dredge(s).*

Q3: On Sheet 4/154 Note 13 it reads: "all known debris and obstructions are indicated on the drawings. The contractor shall remove all existing debris lying on the bottom within the dredge areas as indicated on the drawings and dispose off of Port of Los Angeles property in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations." How will the contractor know if he has removed all debris? How will the contractor be paid for this work? How does the Corps anticipate this work being done (prior to dredging, in conjunction with dredging)? How will final acceptance for this work be measured?

A3: *The removal of debris is included as part of the work for dredging, reference Specification Section 02020, paragraphs "REQUIRED WORK" and "Trash and Debris". The Contractor may select the work method for removal of debris provided it meets the contract requirements. There is no separate final acceptance for debris removal defined, the debris removal becomes part of the acceptance for dredging.*

Q4: On sheet 29/154 could you please clarify what the limits for dredging are? There appears to be a label that is misplaced.

A4: *The callout with the arrow is misplaced. However, the "LIMITS OF 210" is located correctly at the dredge limit line.*

Q5: Could Corps please provide the locations for each of the berths listed in the specifications?

A5: *See filename 02020a_3.pdf attached to the SF30, for a berth location map.*

Q6: From Volume 2 Appendices A through D of the Geotechnical Evaluation there are CPT's numbered CPT-01 through CPT-92. From the Final Geotechnical Study Map 3 titled Exploration Locations we do not see these CPT's listed.

A6: *The CPT's are listed as "C" numbers in lieu of "CPT".*

Q7: Map 3 of the Final Geotechnical Study shows locations of borings, vibracores, and CPT's of samples taken from "Non-Fugro West Explorations". Are these logs available to the contractors? We did not see them included as part of the contract documents other than their locations as shown on Map 3.

A7: *The logs are available from the Port of Los Angeles. The contract documents include the logs that are representative of the character of materials to be encountered by the Contractor.*

Q8: Plates 2 and 5 from the Geotechnical Investigation Results show many vibracore and borings plotted on these drawings. Yet only the logs of boreholes MCD1-MCD* are included. Are the logs from the "B-X", "V-X", "SW-XX", and SWH-X available to the contractors?

A8: *The logs are available from the Port of Los Angeles. The contract documents include the logs that are representative of the character of materials to be encountered by the Contractor.*

Q9: On Sheet 7/154 there is a reference to "Note 7" on the table of quantities, yet there is no Note 7 listed in the Notes. Please clarify.

A9: *Reference should refer to Note 6 in lieu of Note 7.*

Q10: On Sheet 7/154 there are surcharge volumes listed per disposal area. These volumes vary greatly from the quantities advertised on the bid form. For example, Pier 300 Expansion has a neat line capacity of 400,000 cy of surcharge on the plans, but the bid form calls for 740,000 cy of surcharge for the Pier 300 Expansion. Please Clarify.

A10: *The surcharge from Area 1 that is placed at Pier 300 will be used for fill and surcharge elements. Reference Dredge and Disposal Plan on Sheet 7 and Specifications Section 02315N, paragraph "SOUTHWEST SLIP AREAS 1 AND 2 TRANSFER AND REMOVAL AND PIER 300". Quantities for surcharge shown on the Dredge and Disposal Plan are neat line template volumes. Quantities for surcharge shown on the pricing schedule are bid quantities which include factors for shrinkage, short term settlement, contingencies, etc.*

Q11: On Sheet 148/154 Cross-Section A shows the location for the disposal of the Pier 400 Fine Grained Material. Could you please provide the dimensions for this disposal?

A11: *The dimensions are approximate and the area delineated shows the location where the Pier 400 unsuitable materials are to be placed. The dimensions will be proportional to the volume of 300,000 to 500,000 cubic yards. Additionally, reference amended Specifications Section 02315N EXCAVATION AND FILL and amended plans for material description changes.*

Q12: Could you please clarify to what elevation the quarry run is to be placed at Pier 300 Expansion. On Sheet 74/154 Dike Section B (South Face) quarry run is shown being placed to elevation +9.5'. On Sheet 81/154 Section C (South Face) the quarry run is shown being placed to +15.0'. Please clarify.

A12: *The section shown on sheet 81 is for reference only. See sheets 74 through 79 for Pier 300 Expansion Dike sections.*

Q13: Three related DFARS provisions and clauses - 252.247-7022 [Aug 1992]; 252.247-7023 [Mar 2000]; and 252.247-7024 [Mar 2000], all relating to "transportation of supplies by sea"-are included in the IFB. They appear by their definitions (e.g., "supplies", "public works", "material", "construction materials" and "components") to apply to the transport of the rock, gravel and stone to the locations of the containment dikes to be constructed in this project. Moreover, these materials have specific contract line item numbers associated with them. Accordingly, does the Contracting Officer concur that if transportation of the dike materials is accomplished by sea transportation the vessels must by U.S.-flag-vessels?

A13: *Yes, if the transportation of such materials takes place through international waters, unless an exception is made under Specifications Section 00800, clause 252.247-7023(c) and (d).*

Q14: If your answer to the foregoing question is in the negative - that is, if you believe that U.S. Flag vessels are not required for sea transportation of the rock, gravel and stone to the dike sites - please explain why use of U.S.-flag vessels is not required, with citation to all pertinent authority.

A14: *Reference Specifications Section 00800, clause 252.247-7023(c) and (d).*

Q15: We are informed that one of the three DFARS clauses, No. 252.247-7023, has recently been revised, "effective May 31, 2002". Since this is a mandatory clause that expresses a strong public policy (and since it also corrects a typographical error in the 2000 version of the clause), we would expect it to be substituted into the IFB, and we further understand that it might even be automatically deemed to constitute part of the IFB under applicable legal doctrines. Our question is: Will the Contracting Officer formally amend the IFB to substitute the new May 2002 version of the 252.247-7023 clause?

A15: *Yes, the IFB is amended to substitute the May 2002 version of the Specifications Section 00800 252.247-7023 clause.*

Q16: If the IFB will not be so amended, please provide an explanation.

A16: *The IFB is amended to substitute the May 2002 version of the Specifications Section 00800 252.247-7023 clause.*

Q17: Section 02220A, pages 10-12, makes numerous references to a permit. Please clarify the permit referenced and provide a copy to the planholders.

A17: *See amended Specification Section 02220A DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL.*

Q18: Please clarify the Southwest Slip Area 1 & Area 2 fill elevations, gravel drainage blanket elevations, and final surcharge elevations. Sheets 106, 107, 123, and 124 of the plans show a final fill elevation (including surface cover layer) of +15'. Sheets 117 and

133 show a gravel drainage blanket from elevation +13' to +15' and a final elevation after surcharge removal of +14'.

A18: *The fill level of +15' MLLW, shown on sheet 106, 107, 123, and 124, includes the 2 feet of drainage blanket from +13' MLLW to +15' MLLW. The material placed above +15' MLLW is surcharge. Final rough grade after surcharge removal will be +14' MLLW.*

Q19: Section 02220A 3.2B states that the contractor "may stockpile broken concrete within the project limits for processing to produce...CMB for reuse on the project. If the material is not reused on site, contractor shall remove and transport the materials from the site to the Governments crusher site. Please identify the crusher location. Where will the reuse of CMB be allowed on the project?

A19: *See amended Specifications Section 02220A DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL.*

Q20: Please provide clarification on the capping of the pipelines to be removed. Specifically, are cast iron pipes to be capped and what methods and materials are to be employed?

A20: *Reference amended Specifications Section 02225 PIPELINE AND CABLE REMOVAL.*

Q21: Is there any information relating to the expected, existing or historical locations of eelgrass in the proximity of this project?

A21: *There is a historical map showing locations of eelgrass included in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Port of Los Angeles Channel Deepening Project Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Supplemental Environmental Impact Report, September 2000, State Clearinghouse No. 99091029, ADP No. 990809-102.*

Q22: Please provide clarification of the milestones in Section 00800, page 2. In particular, "the completion of the whole Southwest Slip by March, 2004." If the word "whole" includes removal of the surcharges on both areas, we believe this to be an unrealistic deadline.

A22: *The word "whole" includes removal of the surcharges on both areas. See amended Specifications Section 00800.*

Q23: Note 4 on plan sheet 84 states that "all demolition debris shall be removed from the site by barge..." Will there be any access or egress for trucks to the jobsite through the backlands?

A23: *No.*

Q24: Section 01270A, page 6 states "The method of reducing the survey sounding data, including the cell size and the cell representative depth, is subject to change by the Contracting Officer." Manson is uncomfortable with having a potentially changing method for calculating quantities. Under what circumstances does the government anticipate the possible deviation from the method described earlier in the same paragraph?

A24: *No circumstances are anticipated at this time.*

Q25: Will the government consider a hydrographic surveyor that does not possess a California license if the surveyor can exhibit satisfactory qualifications, such as an ACSM Hydrographer Certification?

A25: *Yes, it will be considered.*

Q26: Section 02020, page 17, near the end of paragraph 3.4.4 mentions providing the depth of water in which the dump is made in meters. Should this be feet?

A26: *Yes, feet.*

Q27: Section 02020, page 29, the end of paragraph 3.11.1 mentions feet and inches. Should this be feet and tenths?

A27: *Yes, feet and tenths.*

Q28: Will the bid date be delayed?

A28: *Yes, see SF30 amendments.*

Q29: With respect to section 02145 "Wick Drains" page 8 Part 3 paragraph 3.1.C if a vibratory method is required to penetrate the subsoil and reach the design tip elevation would that be considered as a change of conditions and would the additional cost be paid by the government?

A29: *The use of vibratory method is not considered a change of conditions.*

Q30: Request your consideration for the use of the 12 inch minus quarry run material for this project.

A30: *The specification for the quarry run gradation is not changed.*

Q31: What is meant by "It is expected that Congress will make appropriations for future fiscal years"?

A31: *It is anticipated that Congress will appropriate funds for the Port of Los Angeles Channel Deepening Project in each fiscal year in order to complete the project.*

Q32: Has Congress funded additional amounts to the \$1 million stated in paragraph 52.232-4001? What additional amounts have been funded by Congress?

A32: *Yes, the appropriations include funds for management, environmental, engineering, design and construction. In fiscal year 2002, Congress appropriated \$2,825,000 Construction General Funds for this project. Additionally, the Chief of Engineers designated \$2,800,000 of the total Operation and Maintenance appropriations for this project.*

Q33: Are "funds provided by one or more non-federal project sponsors" currently in project trust?

A33: *Non-Federal sponsor funds will be provided to the Corps after execution of the Project Cooperation Agreement.*

Q34: In Section 00800 Milestone #5 lists that the contractor is to complete the portion of Pier 400 Surcharge Material that is 300 feet landside of existing rock dike Face A, Face B and Face C by 1 November 2002. On Sheet 153/154 of the plans this work is listed as work that is not in this contract. Please clarify.

A34: *See amended Sheets 153 and 154.*

Q35: We request that the Corps please revise Section 00800 Milestone #4 to a more attainable date.

A35: *See amended Specifications Section 00800 SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS, clause 52.211-10 COMMENCEMENT, PROSECUTION, AND COMPLETION OF WORK.*

Q36: Sheet 153/154 Note 2 states that the contractor shall remove and dispose of any interfering existing wick drains during the removal of the surcharge at Pier 400. Please define "interfering". Will any wick material be allowed to be disposed of along with surcharge material at Pier 400 Submerged site? Where is the contractor to dispose of these wick drains?

A36: *See amended Specification Section 02315N EXCAVATION AND FILL.*

Q37: Is it possible for the access road to Pier 400 surcharge site once you reach the site, to travel along the south end of Areas 6, 4, and 3 and then proceed north through the east side of Areas 3 and 1? This would allow for access to the loading site to be unimpeded by a traffic crossing.

A37: *No.*

Q38: What is the difference between bid items 0037A and 0037B? Why has the Corps broken this into two separate bid items?

A38: *See Specifications Section 00800, clause 52.211-5001 VARIATION IN ESTIMATED QUANTITIES, SUBDIVIDED ITEMS.*

Q39: Will electricity be available at the Pier 400 surcharge site? Will fresh water be available?

A39: *No electricity or fresh water will be available.*

Q40: This is a formal request for a bid date postponement of approximately three weeks to the schedule bid date of July 16, 2002.

A40: *See SF30 amendments.*

Q41: Specification section 02220A, subsection 3.14, paragraph B states: "Soil contaminated with hydrocarbons shall be removed and disposed of per regulations for disposal of such materials and in conformance with REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS Section and shall be paid for in conformance with the corresponding contingency item of the Proposal Schedule." There is no such "contingency item in the Proposal Schedule. Will a contingency item be added to the Proposal Schedule in order to accommodate payment for any contaminated soil that is encountered during the demolition phase or; can the government identify all contaminated material that will be encountered during demolition so that bidders can include the appropriate costs for handling such material in our proposal?

A41: *See amended Specification Section 02220A DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL and amended Specification Section 01355 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.*

Q42: Sheet 85 of 154, Note #1, under "SITE DEMOLITION NOTES" states: "Remove all concrete, sheet piles, tie rods, deadman, piers, wharf structures, armor rock, asphalt, concrete, utilities and other items per plans." This appears to mean that all of the armor stone that is within all of the demolition limits needs to be removed. This conceivably would include removal of all of the existing armor stone on the North side of the LACFCD prior to installing the new armor stone. Is it necessary to remove the existing armor stone on the North side of the channel? Also, is it necessary to remove the armor stone on the South side of the channel, which exists under the existing "Workbay Platform" and "Side Transfer Platform"? It seems logical that if removal of the armor stone in this area would be required if wicks are to be pushed through that area, but is consolidation of the existing

rock dike required? If you require the existing armor stone to be removed where shall it be disposed of?

A42: *On the north side of the channel, it is only necessary to remove some of the areas of the existing armor stone to construct the proposed channel geometry and construct a minimum thickness of new rock revetment, see Southwest Slip Area 1 Dike and Fill Sections Sheet 111 through 113. See amended Specifications Section 02220A DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL, regarding both north and south sides of the channel.*

Q43: My questions revolve around the specification for the wick drain material, section 02145 Page 5 & 6, Minimum Physical Requirements for Prefabricated Wick Drains. The specifications listed in the documents do not appear to be for a composite wick drain (fabric and core) that is available but appear to be a selection of values that may not be attainable in the market. Could you please advise us if either of the products we are submitting would be acceptable or if not which products would be considered acceptable by the Corps?

A43: *See amended Specifications Section 02145 WICK DRAINS.*

Q44: Listed below are duplicate drawing numbers and/or duplicate drawings with revisions. Please clarify which drawings are to be used for this contract.

Sheet 72 of 154	Sheets LAHW 172	Pier 300 Expansion Dike Dredge Plan
Sheet 74 of 154	Sheets LAHW 374	Pier 300 Exp., Typical Dredge, Dike & Fill Sections & Details
Sheet 75 of 154	Sheets LAHW 375	Pier 300 Exp., Typical Dredge, Dike & Fill Sections & Details
Sheet 76 of 154	Sheets LAHW 276	Pier 300 Expansion Dike Profile
Sheet 77 of 154	Sheets LAHW 377	Pier 300 Expansion, Dredge, Dike & Fill Sections
Sheet 74 of 154	Sheets LAHW 174	Pier 300 Expansion Dike Dredge Plan
Sheet 75 of 154	Sheets LAHW 275	Pier 300 Expansion Dike Profile
Sheet 76 of 154	Sheets LAHW 376	Pier 300 Expansion Dike & Fill Sections
Sheet 77 of 154	Sheets LAHW 373	Pier 300 Expansion Dike & Fill Sections

A44: *Per Specifications Section 00800, 252.236-7001 CONTRACT DRAWINGS, MAPS, AND SPECIFICATIONS, paragraph (e), the work shall conform to the specifications and the contract drawings identified on the index of drawings. Sheets not listed on the index to drawings are not included in the contract. The index to drawings includes the following sheets from the list questioned:*

Sheet 72 of 154	Sheets LAHW 172	Pier 300 Expansion Dike Dredge Plan
Sheet 74 of 154	Sheets LAHW 374	Pier 300 Exp., Typical Dredge, Dike & Fill Sections & Details
Sheet 75 of 154	Sheets LAHW 375	Pier 300 Exp., Typical Dredge, Dike & Fill Sections & Details
Sheet 76 of 154	Sheets LAHW 276	Pier 300 Expansion Dike Profile
Sheet 77 of 154	Sheets LAHW 377	Pier 300 Expansion, Dredge, Dike & Fill Sections

Q45: Please clarify if we are allowed to operate hopper dredges under this contract.

A45: *Hopper dredges are considered to be hydraulic dredges. Hopper dredges may be used on this job provided they meet the project requirements, are permitted to operate, and comply with amended Specification Section 01355 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION for requirements on the use of electric dredge(s).*

Q46: Will the Port take occupancy of the site at the milestone completion date?

A46: *The portion of the Southwest Slip areas that require occupancy will be accepted from the Contractor upon Contractor's completion and acceptance by the Contracting Officer.*

Q47: Section 02220A, Page 10 and throughout the section, there is mention of a permit, but no detail is given about the permit. What is this permit?

A47: *See amended Specifications Section 02220A DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL.*

Q48: What is an acceptable size for disposal of material at the Port's crusher?

A48: *See amended Specifications Section 02220A DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL.*

Q49: Can the 01 March 02 milestone be removed?

A49: *See amended Specifications Section 00800 SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.*

Q50: Could the 9 month surcharge time requirement on area 1 (as required in Note 2 of sheet 115) be limited to just the dredged portion of the surcharge? (The area 2 surcharge portion of this material will be forced onto the area 1 by the 01 Mar 04 milestone on area 2.)

A50: *No.*

Q51: Can the P400 surcharge materials be placed in lower and wider berms than shown on the drawings, therefore demanding less rock retention to facilitate placement of the P400 surcharge materials?

A51: *No.*

Q52: A potential supplier has made a request for authorization to ship construction materials in foreign-flag vessel(s).

A52: *DFARS 252.247-7023(c) permits the contractor or its subcontractors to request that the Contracting Officer authorize shipment in a foreign-flag vessel if the contractor or subcontractor believes that U.S.-flag vessels are not available for timely shipment. Subsection (d) of this clause requires the contractor to specify and submit at a minimum, among other things, its documented description of efforts made to secure U.S.-flag vessels including points of contact with names and phone numbers with at least two U.S.-flag carriers contacted, as well as the prime contract number, actual required shipping date, and name of the foreign shipper. The potential supplier did not specify some of the minimally required information. The DFARS clause contemplates a request after award of the contract. A potential supplier is not a contractor or subcontractor, and no contract has been awarded yet. Therefore, this request is premature.*

Q53: Can the sequencing for removal of surcharge material that is specified on Pier 400 be altered? (Example - area 6 & 5 first followed by say 4,3,2,and 1.)

A53: *No.*

Q54: The 300 foot wide area at C face, will we be able to reroute traffic to perhaps the east side of surcharge to better facilitate exporting of material without the danger of machinery working overhead?

A54: *No.*

Q55: With respect to section 02145 WICK DRAINS page 5 and 6 paragraph 2.1.1 we don't know of any manufacturer that would sell Prefabricated Wick Drains with these specifications. We are requesting a variance to the specifications to allow us the use of at least one of these vendors (namely Amerdrain 407&407F, Mebradrain MD88, Solpac C400).

A55: *See amended Specifications Section 02145 WICK DRAINS.*