

Request for Information (RFI) for Planning Purposes ONLY:

DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION REQUESTED

The purpose of this RFI is to gather industry input on the proposed pricing structure of the Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification Systems (PHILIS) contract. EPA is in the early stages of developing the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the contract.

The Government requests that industry review the proposed contract pricing structure, the attached PWS and provides comments. The Government intends to review the comments and consider them when developing the final RFP.

PROPOSED PRICING STRUCTURE

The proposed pricing structure will include a Fixed-Price portion, an Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) portion and Option Periods or Award Terms.

- **Fixed Price:** The proposed fixed price portion will include presentation and routine updating of all core-training courses that will be provided in the final solicitation. The duration of each course is generally five days and will be conducted at locations throughout the country. The frequency of when each course will be provided in the final solicitation. Travel costs will be reimbursable as an Other Direct Cost in accordance with FAR Part 31.205-46. A fixed price shall be provided for each course per contract year.
- **IDIQ:** It is anticipated that the IDIQ portion will be used for ongoing PHILIS services, or in any other situation deemed necessary by the Contracting Officer or EPA authorized representative. The Contracting Officer will authorize the use of the IDIQ portion. It is anticipated that the IDIQ portion will be used frequently.
- **Optional Period/Award Term:** It is anticipated that the base period of the contract will be two (2) years and the Government will have the option to extend that period of performance either through option periods, or through award terms. First Option Period will be a 2-year period, the Second, Third, and Fourth Option Periods will be non-consecutive at 1-year each. The maximum period of performance of this contract will be seven (7) years. Whether the Government chooses option periods or award terms, the decision to extend the period of performance will be made by the Government and will be based on contractor performance, availability of funding, and the Government's continued need for the requirement.

WHAT SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO THIS RFI

Responders to this RFI are asked to provide comments on the pricing structure as set forth above and/or the PWS. You should also provide any other substantive comments you feel are relevant.

Capability statements, white paper or other brochure materials should not be provided. The Government is interested in substantive comments on the proposed pricing structure and/or PWS. Information should be as succinct as possible. Elaborate responses describing a responder's capabilities are neither wanted nor desired.

DISCLAIMER

This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes and does not constitute a Request for Proposal (RFP). In accordance with FAR 15.209(c), responses to this RFI are not offers and will not be accepted by the Government to form a binding contract. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will not award a contract based on this RFI. Although "proposal" and "offeror" are used in this Request for Information, responses will be treated as information only. Responses to this RFI will not be returned. All information regarding this RFI will be posted at: <http://www.epa.gov/oamsrpod/ersc/PHILIS/PHILISRFI.pdf>.

ATTACHMENTS

The attachments and other items for this RFI will be posted on the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/oam/srpod/index.htm#solam>. Once at the website, select the "Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification Systems (PHILIS) RFI." link.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please submit your response to this RFI via email to Sherman Farves, Contract Specialist at farves.sherman@epa.gov and Sandra Rivera, Contract Specialist at rivera.sandra@epa.gov by 4:00 P.M. EST on **August 20, 2008**. Electronic submission is highly encouraged. All questions regarding this RFI shall be submitted by **August 14, 2008**. Answers to all questions regarding this RFI have been posted on our website.

Or by US Mail or overnight commercial carrier to:

Sherman E. Farves
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Mail Code: 3805R
Washington, DC 20460

Note: All mail sent to EPA via US Postal Service is irradiated prior to delivery; anticipate 1-2 weeks for delivery and damage similar to exposure to high heat.

NO PHONE CALLS WILL BE ACCEPTED