

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT			1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. Amendment No. Two (2)	3. EFFECTIVE DATE 02/11/2010	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO. N/A	5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)	
6. ISSUED BY NASA Ames Research Center Acquisition Division, M/S 241-1 Moffett Field, CA 94035-0001	CODE JAC	7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) SAME AS BLOCK 6		CODE
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No. Street, county, State and ZIP Code) TO ALL PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS			(4) X	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. NNA10323994Q
				9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) 02/03/2010
				10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.
				10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)
CODE	FACILITY CODE			

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

X The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers **is not** extended.

Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:

(a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning one (1) copy of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATA SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and data specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

N/A

13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

(4)	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 IS MADE IN THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
	D. OTHER: Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor X is not, is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

Please see amendment two (02) on the following pages. This amendment is issued to answer the questions submitted to NASA about the Request for Quotations.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print)	
		Marianne Shelley, Contracting Officer	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR	15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	16C. DATE SIGNED
(Signature of person authorized to sign)		BY  (Signature of Contracting Officer)	2/11/2010

Questions and Answers (in response to RFQ # NNA10323994Q)

1) Delivery Date. The March 1, 2010 delivery date identified in Section 1.3 of the Statement of Work (SOW) is very aggressive, given the proposal submission date of February 17, 2010. We would like to know whether a delivery date of Authorization to Proceed + 30 days would be acceptable?

Answer: The offeror is to propose the earliest delivery date that the proposed materials can be delivered. The offeror may split the shipment into 2 or more deliveries if some materials are ready to be shipped before the full order is complete. Firm testing schedules at NASA have been booked, thus it is important to receive the materials as soon as possible.

2) Pricing Sheet for Offerors. The included pricing sheet only allows for submission of a unit cost per coupon. How does the NASA ARC expect to see the associated costs of Section 3.1.1, Management, Cost and Controls, 3.3.1, Materials Delivery Documentation, and 3.4.1, Packaging, Handling, Storage and Transportation?

Answer: The offeror is expected to propose a firm fixed price for each coupon that includes all associated costs for performance of the SOW requirements, including the costs for manufacture, shipment, including a MSDS and test specimen inspection documentation for each coupon.

3) Post-Shipment Support. Section 3.4.2 of the SOW indicates the vendor may be requested by the COTR to provide post-ship support. What is the anticipated magnitude of this support and how does the NASA ARC intend to fund it? We would prefer to keep the government's coupon costs low by minimizing these hours.

Answer: After delivery of the materials to NASA, except in an unusual situation, it is not expected that the contractor will be required to provide post-ship support.

4) Acceptance of Deliverables. How does the NASA ARC intend to accept the deliverables outlined in Section 1.3 of the SOW?

Answer: For Phase 1 only, the vendor's material coupons will be deemed acceptable if (1) the total quantity ordered are delivered to the NASA Center in accordance with the purchase order delivery schedule, (2) they are manufactured in accordance with SOW specifications, and (3) they are in a condition that is ready for the instrumentation and testing indicated in the SOW.

5) We have a concern with the email only submission requirement on the subject solicitation. Our Electronic Security policy & procedure prevents us from emailing proprietary information outside of our company firewall.

Because our proposal will have proprietary information, we are requesting an alternate proposal submission method. Fax or FedEx delivery is preferred. Please let us know if either will be acceptable, or if there is an alternate method which you prefer.

Answer: If the offeror prefers, three (3) hard copy proposals plus one CD with the complete proposal saved on it, may be submitted instead of the electronic emailed format. Proposals must be addressed as follows:

NASA Ames Research Center
Acquisition Division, M/S 241-1
Building 241, room 210
Attn: Marianne Shelley
Moffett Field, CA 94035-0001

Both hard copy and electronic submittals must be received in the ARC Acquisition Office by 1:00 PM Pacific time, February 17, 2010.

6) The NASA RFQ contains very little detail – inadequate detail – regarding the TPS/ATP project’s contents and requirements during Phase 2, Phase 3, and Phase 4. Despite this fact, the RFQ asks the proposers to state that their “company is willing and capable of performing the anticipated work for all future phases of this acquisition.” From this end, it seems that it is unrealistic to expect proposers to make such a commitment against undefined future work tasks and efforts. To cite an example (from a prior, similar solicitation), proposers might be asked to produce a full-scale MDU of large size (and within tight time constraints) in a follow-on phase that raises risks pertaining to inadequate equipment on-hand to do so, penalties for late delivery, personnel safety from rushed work, etc. Making such a statement seems unreasonable. Can this requirement be removed from the NASA RFQ?

Answer: The statement in Section A, Instructions to Offerors, item 1.(d) is not required as a part of the offeror’s cover letter or proposal. Please delete the requirement at item A.1.(d). However, the NASA FAR Supplement requires the following:

1817.7301-2 Evaluation factors.

A separate set of evaluation factors must be developed for each phase in a down-selection competition. Since these competitive down-selection strategies anticipate that a preceding phase contractor will be the subsequent phase contractor, the evaluation factors for initial phase award must specifically include evaluation of the offerors' abilities to perform all phases.

Accordingly, for Phase 1 proposals, NASA is required to evaluate each offeror’s ability to perform all phases. Evaluation factors for Phase 1 award will include the contractor’s responsibility, past performance, and from the technical data submitted in the quotation, the apparent ability of the offered material(s) to achieve the ultimate TRL level goals of the project. For this Phase of the procurement, NASA is very interested in all applicable innovative material systems and realizes that offerors may not be in a position today to assess their

ability to support all phases of the project. However if they indicate willingness to explore avenues that could support larger scale test sample manufacturing, we would still consider their materials.

7) Will contractors who supply test samples for Phase 1 (and subsequent phases) be allowed to witness testing on-site at the various test facilities? In a prior similar project run by NASA/ARC, all ablator testing was done “behind closed doors” and contractors were not permitted to witness testing. And yet, there is considerable technical value to be gained from allowing contractors (the actual material and system developers) to witness testing of their own samples and provide performance assessments, etc.

Answer: All TPS materials from all contractors may be tested in the same test run. Testing schedules and resources do not allow for single material testing sessions. Because it is expected that other contractors’ materials will be tested at about the same time, thus visible to all in attendance, NASA can not allow vendors to witness the testing. NASA will provide all data collected on an offeror’s materials to the offeror.

8) This defined TPS/ATP effort will test relatively low-TRL ablative materials. Developers of such low-TRL materials typically have important needs to evaluate “excursions” both on formulation and processing. A few key excursions done early on can prevent non-fully-beneficial testing, modeling, and analysis efforts in the long run. Within some NASA-provided guidelines, can proposers for Phase 1 include and price “excursion samples” that will receive the same stature and priority as the baseline samples during the Phase 1 testing effort?

Answer: Yes, NASA would be willing to add a limited number of excursion samples to this year’s test series. In addition, the out-year plans do include another set of Phase 1 screening tests on additional materials which could include re-formulations of this year’s Phase 1 materials.

9) In Section 3.(f) of Amendment One (01) issued on 2-8-2010 there is the following statement:

“To be considered for a Phase 2 award, offerors must demonstrate a design maturity equivalent to that of the Phase 1 contractors. This demonstration shall include the following Phase 1 deliverables upon which Phase 2 award will be based: (1) Rigid ablator TPS material coupons for thermal/structural screening (Type A – quantity 4, Type B – quantity 5, and Type C – quantity 3).”

The meaning of this statement is unclear. For Phase 2 proposers (who did not receive a Phase 1 award), does this statement mean that either: 1) the Phase 2 proposers (at their own expense) would have to have tested the same coupons (as defined above) and have results/data available to provide to NASA at the time of their Phase 2 proposal; or 2) the Phase 2 proposers (at their own expense) would have to submit to NASA the same exact

test coupons (as defined above), but in an untested state, along with or prior to their Phase 2 proposal?

Answer: Phase 2 will include another onramp for new materials that will go through the same screening tests as performed in Phase 1 which NASA will pay for. However, the materials tested during Phase 1 will be evaluated and a subset will be down-selected for more focused developmental testing in Phase 2. It is unlikely that materials not tested by NASA in Phase 1 would be inserted into the focused developmental test program in that NASA would not have had the opportunity to consider them during the down-selection process. However, if the offeror chooses not to participate in the Phase 1 screening on their material but has identical data on their material and can provide it prior to NASA's down-selection process during FY10, NASA would consider including the material in the down-selection process.

10) Representations and Certifications. Paragraph (c)(1) of the RFQ. It does not appear any representations or certifications in ORCA are indicated as being applicable to this solicitation. Please confirm.

Answer: Of the provisions in paragraph (c)(1), seven provisions apply to this Phase 1 solicitation, as listed below. If the offeror has completed its Representations and Certifications on ORCA (<http://orca.bpn.gov>), all these provisions should already be completed and included in their online certifications.

Offerors shall complete paragraph (d) on page 15, if there have been any changes to your certifications since entering them online at ORCA. Otherwise, if ORCA has been completed, no other information regarding Representations and Certifications is needed.

The following provisions in paragraph (c)(1) apply:

(viii) FAR 52.219-1, Small Business Program Representations (MAY 2004)
(ALT 1) (APR 2002)

(x) FAR 52.222-22 Previous Contracts and Compliance Reports (Feb 1999)

(xi) FAR 52.222-25 Affirmative Action Compliance (APR 1984) - applies since 52.222-26 is incorporated into 52.213-4 Terms & Conditions – Simplified Acquisitions (Other Than Commercial Items)

(xv) 52.225-2, Buy American Act Certificate (FEB 2009) - applies since 52.225-1 is incorporated into 52.213-4 Terms & Conditions – Simplified Acquisitions (Other Than Commercial Items)

(xviii) 52.225-20, Prohibition on Conducting Restricted Business Operations in Sudan – Certification (AUG 2009)