

**NOTICE REQUESTING PREQUALIFICATION PACKAGES
FOR BIDDERS LIST FOR
INSTALLATION OF ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE HARDWARE FOR
PHASE 2 OF THE ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT**

ELSINORE VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (“EVMWD”) has determined that all contractors must be prequalified prior to submitting bids on the construction of the following project (“Project”):

**INSTALLATION OF ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE HARDWARE FOR
PHASE 2 OF THE ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT**

It is mandatory that all contractors who intend to submit bids for the Project, fully complete a single prequalification application package (“Prequalification Package”), including but not limited to the Prequalification Questionnaire (“Questionnaire”), provide all materials requested herein, and be deemed prequalified by EVMWD to be on the approved list of bidders (“Approved Bidders List – AMI Project, Phase 2”). Unless expressly stated in the EVMWD Notice Inviting Bids, no bid will be accepted from any contractor that is not on EVMWD’s Approved Bidders List – AMI Project, Phase 2. If two or more business entities expect to submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, each entity within the Joint Venture must submit a fully complete Prequalification Package and be separately qualified to bid.

The completed Prequalification Package must be delivered to and received by EVMWD no later than **5:00 p.m. on August 11, 2016**. Prequalification Packages must include four (4) hard copies (one original and three copies), an electronic version on a CD in .pdf format, and be submitted in sealed envelopes marked “Confidential. Approved Bidders List – AMI Project, Phase 2,” as further described in the Instructions for Preparation and Submission.

Prospective bidders may obtain a copy of the Prequalification Package by contacting the Engineering Department at: asantos@evmwd.net or (951) 674-3146 ext. 8312.

EVMWD reserves the right to cancel this Notice or to reject any and all responses and Prequalification Packages, if it determines, in its sole discretion, that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of EVMWD. EVMWD reserves the right to bid construction of the Project without use of the approved list of bidders.

Answers to questions contained in the Prequalification Package, information about current bonding capacity, a notarized statement from surety, and the most recent reviewed or audited financial statements, with accompanying notes and supplemental information, will be used by EVMWD in order to rate contractors with respect to their qualifications to bid on the Project. EVMWD reserves the right to check any other sources available to verify contractor’s statements, prior performance and veracity. EVMWD’s decision will be based on objective evaluation criteria.

EVMWD reserves the right to adjust, increase, limit, suspend or rescind the prequalification rating based on subsequently learned information. Contractors whose rating changes sufficiently to disqualify them will be notified and given an opportunity for a hearing consistent with the hearing procedures contained herein.

While the prequalification process is intended to assist EVMWD in determining bidder responsibility prior to bid and aid EVMWD in selecting the lowest responsible bidder for work related to the Project, neither the fact of prequalification, nor any prequalification rating, will preclude EVMWD from a post-bid consideration and determination of whether a bidder has the quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the proposed work, and has demonstrated the requisite trustworthiness.

The Prequalification Packages submitted by contractors are not public records and are not open to public inspection. All information provided will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law. However, the contents may be disclosed to third parties for purpose of verification or investigation, or in any appeal hearing. State law requires that the names of contractors applying for prequalification status shall be public records subject to disclosure, and the first page of the Questionnaire will be used for that purpose.

The contractor shall provide only complete and accurate information. The contractor acknowledges that EVMWD is relying on the truth and accuracy of the responses contained herein. Each Prequalification Package must include a signed affidavit, which shall be signed under penalty of perjury in the manner designated and by an individual who has the legal authority to bind the contractor. If any information provided by a contractor becomes inaccurate, the contractor must immediately notify EVMWD and provide updated accurate information in writing, under penalty of perjury. Should a contractor omit requested information or falsify information, EVMWD may determine that contractor not prequalified.

EVMWD reserves the right to waive minor irregularities and omissions in the information contained in a Prequalification Package submittal and to make all final determinations. EVMWD may refuse to grant prequalification where the requested information and materials are not provided. There is no appeal from EVMWD's decision not to prequalify a contractor due to an incomplete or late application.

Where a timely and completed prequalification application results in a rating below that necessary to prequalify, an appeal can be made. To appeal, the contractor must deliver notice to EVMWD of its appeal of the decision with respect to its prequalification rating, no later than five (5) calendar days after EVMWD staff issues its recommendation of the qualified bidders list of contractors for the Project. Without a timely appeal, the contractor waives any and all rights to challenge the decision of EVMWD, whether by administrative process, judicial process, or any other legal process or proceeding.

If a contractor provides the required notice of appeal and requests a hearing, the hearing shall be conducted so that it is concluded no later than twelve (12) calendar days after EVMWD's receipt of the notice of appeal. The hearing shall be an informal process conducted by EVMWD's General Manager or designee, who is delegated responsibility to hear such appeals (the "Appeals Panel"). At or prior to the hearing, the contractor will be advised of the basis for EVMWD's prequalification determination. The contractor will be given the opportunity to present information and reasons opposing the rating. Within two (2) business days after the conclusion of the hearing, the Appeals Panel shall render its decision, which will be final and binding. It is the intention of EVMWD that the date for the submission and opening of any bids will not be delayed or postponed to allow for completion of an appeal process.

The Prequalification Package, its completion and submission by the contractor, and its use by EVMWD, shall not give rise to any liability on the part of EVMWD to the contractor or any third party or person. This is **not** a solicitation for bid. No guarantees are made or implied that any

projects will be constructed, either in part or whole. The contractor accepts all risk and cost associated with the completion of the Prequalification Package without financial guarantee.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

EVMWD anticipates, subject to change at EVMWD's sole discretion, procuring a prequalified contractor or contractors to complete Phase 2 of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project for the following work:

EVMWD currently maintains a water meter reading system including water service meters and meter transmission units ("MTUs") and data collection units ("DCUs"). EVMWD seeks to expand the existing water meter reading program with the installation of approximately 5,300 MTUs as Phase 2 of the Project, in addition to replacing DCUs and other work as determined necessary on this projects.

Generally, the work that is the subject of this prequalification for Phase 2 of the Project is the installation of the necessary MTUs and DCUs in accordance with the final scope of work and contract documents for the Project and installation of AMI hardware associated with EVMWD's Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project. The installed hardware shall be successfully integrated with the existing software installed to operate the AMI system.

The District's AMI system uses the Aclara STAR Network and all MTUs and DCUs shall be compatible with and approved for use with the Aclara STAR Network System.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

The anticipated prequalification schedule is summarized as follows:

| Date | Milestone |
|--------------------|--|
| July 12, 2016 | EVMWD issues request for prequalification from contractors. |
| July 28, 2016 | Deadline for submitting questions. |
| August 11, 2016 | EVMWD receives Prequalification Packages. |
| August 22, 2016 | EVMWD issues recommendation of qualified bidders list for contractors. |
| August 29, 2016 | Last day for contractors to appeal EVMWD's decision with respect to prequalification ratings and to deliver notice of appeal to EVMWD. |
| September 8, 2016 | Last day for appeals to be heard by the EVMWD. |
| September 12, 2016 | EVMWD adopts Approved Bidders List |

Questions and Appeals: Specific questions regarding the prequalification process or any requests for appeals shall be made in writing and addressed to:

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