

EXHIBIT "A"
Specifications/Requirements
HIDALGO COUNTY PRECINCT NO. 1
"Landfill Access Services"
Bid No.: 2012-012-00-00-SMA

INFORMATION TO BIDDERS:

These instructions apply to all offers made to Hidalgo County (herein referred to as "County") by all prospective vendors (herein after referred to as "Bidders") on behalf of Solicitations including, but not limited to, Invitations to Bid.

- ❖ Please review this document in its entirety. Be sure your bid is complete, and double check your bid for accuracy.
- ❖ Open records access to all information submitted. All information included will be open to the public, other bidders, media as per Open Records Act and not be confidential in nature. If you deem any information as confidential it should not be made part of your bid package.
- ❖ All applicable forms in this packet must be filled out in its entirety and submitted with bid response. Incomplete sections may be considered for probable cause of disqualification and/or non-compliance.

SPECIFICATIONS/TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. Bidder must identify the landfill sit to which solid waste materials are to be delivered. Bidder shall provide a copy of the current Type one (1) permit for the landfill site issued by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission. In addition, bidder should present evidence that it possesses all other federal, state and local permits which may be necessary and proper to the conduct of a landfill business.
2. The bidder will accept possession and entitled to all deliveries of solid waste materials tendered to it by County at the landfill site. Bidder acknowledges that County is operator of one or more landfill sites in Hidalgo County, which do not, possesses a Type one (1) permit. The purpose of this contract is to provide County with an outlet for solid waste materials which it cannot dispose of in its own landfills. County, in its sole discretion, may determine which items, if any, will be tendered to Bidder of disposal.
3. Bidder should propose prices for a per-ton-of-loose-waste-basis, and should provide separate unit pricing for each of County's two precincts. Price differentials based on the award of a single County wide contract will be considered if proposed.
4. The successful bidder shall furnish proof of insurance in at least the following limits, to be in place prior to providing any services under any contract awarded pursuant to these Specifications/Requirements and to continue at all times in force in effect during the term of any such contract.
 - A. a \$500,000 general liability policy with limits of at least \$100,000/3000,000 in accordance with the Texas Tort Claims Act;
 - B. Workers compensation insurance as required by applicable law;

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- C. Certificates of insurance shall be submitted to the County for approval prior to the award and execution of any contract pursuant hereto;
 - D. Each policy of insurance required hereunder shall extend for a period equivalent to the term of a contract entered into pursuant to these Specifications, and any insurer hereunder shall be required to give at least thirty (30) days written notice to the County Judge prior to the cancellation of any such coverage on the termination date or otherwise, and
 - E. Any contract award pursuant hereto shall provide that it shall automatically suspend upon the cancellation of other termination of any required policy of insurance hereunder.
5. The successful bidder will indemnify and hold harmless the County, and its officers, officials, employees, agent and attorneys for any and all claims and expenses arising out of or in any way related to the performance of the contract awarded pursuant hereto;
6. **Locations of landfill site and related incremental hauling costs to County may be considered in determining the lowest and best bid. In addition, the County may, in its discretion, elect in award separate contracts for landfill access service for one or more precincts.**
7. All costs and expenses associated with the preparation and submission of (bids, proposals and/or quotes) shall be the responsibility of the bidder and no reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed onto Hidalgo County.

Term of Contract:

- 1. Awarded bidder will accept solid waste from Precinct No. 1 for a term of one (1) year for services on **"As Needed Basis" only** with the County's option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year terms, under the same rates terms and conditions.
- 2. Hidalgo County reserves the right to continue this bid for an additional sixty (60) day Grace Period, under the same terms and conditions, at the end of the contract term for unforeseen delay in award of new bid for next contract term.

MARKET VOLATILITY AND UNIT PRICE ADJUSTMENTS:

Hidalgo County recognizes that during periods of national crisis and unstable economic conditions, unforeseen price increases might affect costs for goods and services contracted on an annual basis. The following procedure may be employed to mediate price volatility:

- 1. **REQUESTING PRICE ADJUSTMENT:** Upon written request of the Vendor to the County Purchasing Agent, the County may review evidence of prevailing industry-wide market conditions that warrant an adjustment in bid prices contained in the contract.
 - a. A Vendor must tie any price change clause to an industry-wide or otherwise nationally recognized index, or some other form of verifiable document. Such written request must be accompanied by a certified copy of the supplier's advisory or notification to the vendor of the

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price changes.

- b. The Vendor must put the Purchasing Agent on the mailing lists for such publications so that the Purchasing Agent can monitor said changes. Such membership shall be at no cost to the County.
 - c. The County Purchasing Agent retains the right to determine whether or not such proposed price changes are in the best interest of the County.
 - d. No price escalation will be authorized in excess of the amount of the increase referred to in the supplier's notice.
 - e. The County may only grant a price increase if the evidence presented is deemed reliable. Should the County allow a price increase, the approved price change shall be honored for all orders received by the vendor or contractor after the effective date of such price change. Approved price changes are not applicable to orders already issued and in process at time of price change.
- 2) **PRICE REDUCTION:** Vendor shall notify the County at the time when the Vendor's costs for items and/or supplies reduce due to stabilization in the market at which time prices for items on this contract shall be reduced accordingly. Failure by the Vendor to notify the County of a decrease in costs for items and/or supplies for which the Vendor was granted a price adjustment, may result in immediate termination of this contract and the County shall not be obligated to pay the Vendor the difference between the contract price and the price adjustment.
- 3) **TIME FRAME FOR ADJUSTED PRICE INCREASES:** Price increases are only valid for the quarter in which they are requested and approved. Prices shall return to the original contract price at the beginning of the following quarter unless a Vendor notifies the County in writing within ten (10) days of expiration of the quarter in which the price increase is in effect, that it desires to have the price increase continue or that the Vendor is requesting a different price increase for the following quarter. Such request must be supplemented with sufficient justification to demonstrate that the price increase remains necessary. The County Purchasing Department shall have sole discretion whether to grant the price increase extension. The County too, shall have discretion to unilaterally reduce, eliminate or extend a price adjustment to the Vendor at any time upon written notice from the County to the Vendor demonstrating justification for such reduction, elimination or extension of the price adjustment.
- 4) **ALLOWABLE REVIEW PERIODS:** Price adjustment reviews may only be requested by the Vendor on a quarterly basis. However, the County may at its own discretion, conduct temporary price adjustment reviews at any time. The County Purchasing Agent and/or the County Auditor reserve the right to audit and/or examine any pertinent books, documents, papers, records or invoices relating directly to the contract transaction in question after reasonable notice and during normal business hours.
- 5) **DOLLAR LIMIT TO PRICE CHANGES:** The total increase in contract price shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the original contract price during the contract term.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 1) All costs and expenses associated with the preparation and submission of all (bids, proposals, statements of qualifications (RFQ) and quotes) shall be the responsibility of the vendor and no reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed on to Hidalgo County.
- 2) Hidalgo County is requesting that any and all questions, inquires and clarifications regarding quotes, bids, proposals or statements of qualifications be addressed to Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent, Attn: Sandra Montalvo, 2812 South Business Hwy. 281, Edinburg, Tx 78539. TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
- 3) ALL WRITTEN INQUIRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE to (956) 292-7612 and/or e-mail to sandra.montalvo@co.hidalgo.tx.us by no later than Wednesday, **month, date, 2011 by 5:00 p.m.** Responses to said inquiries will be sent to all applicants via facsimile by no later than **Friday, month, date, 2011 by 5:00 p.m.**