

# **REQUEST FOR BIDS**

## **HIDALGO COUNTY WATER EXTRACTION (DEWATERING) SERVICES**

### **BID OPENING DATE:**

**Contact Person:**

Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent  
Hidalgo County Purchasing Department  
Physical Address: 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281 -New Administration Building  
Mailing/Postal Address: 2812 S. Business Hwy. 281  
Edinburg, Texas 78539  
956 318-2626

Form HCPD-03



- Sealed bids will be received for **“HIDALGO COUNTY-“WATER EXTRACTION SERVICES (DEWATERING)”** in accordance with the specifications attached as Exhibit "A" hereto. Bids should address all specifications set forth. Bidders may suggest substitutions of features which they feel would be in the best interest of Hidalgo County ("County"). Strong rationale must be presented for any deviation from the specifications. Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject the deviation and its effect on the overall bid.
2. One (1) original and Three (3) copies of all bids are required with the bidders name and return address clearly typed and or/printed on upper left hand corner and the proper notation clearly typed/printed on the lower left hand corner of the envelope and/or package: **"RFB No. 2016-022-00-00-MEG MEG HIDALGO COUNTY--“WATER EXTRACTION SERVICES (DEWATERING)”** and at County's Purchasing Department with a physical address: 2802 S. Business 281 and a mailing address: 2812 S. Business Hwy 281, New Administration Building, Edinburg, Texas, **on or before 9:30 A.M, WEDNESDAY , 2015. NO FACSIMILES OR LATE ARRIVALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ANY RFB RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL NOT BE OPENED AND WILL BE RETURNED. OVERNIGHT MAIL MUST ALSO BE PROPERLY LABELED ON THE OUTSIDE OF EXPRESS ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE WITH REFERENCE TO HIDALGO COUNTY-“WATER EXTRACTION SERVICES (DEWATERING)”**.

Hidalgo County reserves the right to refuse and reject any/all RFB and to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the RFB considered the best and most advantageous to Hidalgo County.
  3. Hidalgo County reserves the right to: A. separate and accept, or eliminate any item(s) listed under this bid that it deems necessary to accommodate budgetary and/or operational requirements; B. reject any or all bids submitted and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid for approval; and C. award the bid to one bidder or to multiple bidders if the County determines it is in its best interest to do so.”
  4. The Bidder shall not substitute items named in the bid without the express written consent of Hidalgo County. Failure of the delivered item to perform as specified or failure to meet the stated delivery schedule shall release Hidalgo County from all obligations to the contracting party with regard to the item(s) in question. In such event, County may elect to award the contract to the next-lowest responsible bidder, or to reject all bids and re-advertise.
  5. For work to be performed at a County owned or operated location, each bidder shall, in its sole discretion, visit the job site before preparing the bid and thoroughly familiarize himself/herself with existing conditions. Bidder should take field dimensions and note all circumstances which affect the dollar amount of the bid.
  6. Descriptive specifications are referenced in this document to indicate the general kind and quality of equipment desired by Hidalgo County. Due to various styles and models of equipment, bidders are required to include illustrations, specifications, explanation of warranties, and service data with their bid including catalogue numbers and any necessary references.
  7. No bid may be withdrawn within thirty (30) days from the scheduled time to open bids.
  8. Proposed prices are to remain firm for a minimum of ninety (90) days after bid opening.

9. Any interpretations, amendments, corrections or changes to this bid document must be in a written addendum and signed by the County Judge or his designee. Addenda will be mailed to all who are known to have received a copy of the Request for Bids. Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda as a part of their bid.
10. County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
11. Costs are to be net F.O.B., County Prepaid.
12. County is exempt from Federal Excise Tax, State Tax and Local Tax. Do Not include tax in cost figure. If it is determined that tax was included in the cost figures it will not be included in the tabulation of any awards. Tax exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.
13. Funds for this procurement have been provided through the County budget for this fiscal year only. County, on an annual basis, has the right to reconsider a contract during the budget process for ensuing years if financial resources of County are insufficient to meet the liabilities of said contract. The award of a bid or contract hereunder will not be construed to create a debt of the County which is payable out of funds beyond the current fiscal year.
14. Upon award and prior to execution of a contract, Sole Proprietorships are required to submit a copy of their social security cards to the Hidalgo County Auditor's Office in order to establish an account with the County. All awarded vendors must submit a completed W-9 and a copy of their Federal ID Number Certificate.
15. DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:
  - . No deliveries accepted after 3:00 P.M., Monday-Friday.
  - . At least seventy two (72) hours prior notice of delivery must be given to Martha L. Salazar, Purchasing Agent before delivery will be accepted.
  - . If you need additional information call the office listed below:  
Hidalgo County Purchasing Department  
Martha L. Salazar, Purchasing Agent  
(956) 318-2626
16. BILLING AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS:
  - . Invoices must include:
    - a) Name and address of successful bidder
    - b) Name and address of receiving department or official
    - c) Purchase Order Number (if any)
    - d) Notation - **HIDALGO COUNTY--"WATER EXTRACTION SERVICES (DEWATERING)"** Descriptive information as to the items or services delivered, including product code, item number, quantity, etc.
    - e) Contract number must be indicated on all invoices
  - . Discount payments will be considered when offered.
  - . Contact person for Billing and Payment questions:

Hidalgo County Auditor's Office  
2808 S. Business Hwy 281  
Edinburg, Tx 78539  
(956) 318-2511



- No public official shall have an interest in a contract awarded hereunder except in accordance with Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Chapter 171.

20. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

Effective January 1, 2006, Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government Code requires that any vendor, person, consultant or contractor considering doing business with Hidalgo County (“the County”) to disclose in the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (the “CIQ”) attached as Exhibit D, the vendor, person, consultant or contractor’s affiliation or business relationship that might cause a conflict of interest with the County. By law, the CIQ must be filed with the Hidalgo County Clerk’s Office no later than the seventh business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require that statement to be filed. The disclosure requirement applies to a person or business who contracts or seeks to contract with Hidalgo County for the sale or purchase of property, goods or service. Any purchase order or contract resulting from this process shall be considered null and void if the successful bidder fails to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractors and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County are encouraged to refer to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 for the details of this law. An offense under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 is a Class C Misdemeanor.

Please Submit completed CIQ forms to the Hidalgo County Clerk’s Office located at 100 N. Clossner, Edinburg, Texas 78539-Hidalgo County Courthouse

**COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDER.**

21. If, during the life of any contract or bid awarded, the successful bidder's net prices generally available to other customers for items awarded herein are reduced below the contracted price, it is understood and agreed that the benefits of such reduction shall be extended to the County.
22. Bids, and all goods and services provided hereunder, shall comply with all federal, state and local laws concerning this type(s) of goods and/or services.
23. Minimum Standards for Responsible Prospective Bidders: A prospective bidder must affirmatively demonstrate bidder's responsibility. A prospective bidder, by submitting a bid, represents to County that it meets the following requirements:
  - Possess or is able to obtain adequate financial resources as required to perform under the bid;
  - Be able to comply with the required or proposed delivery schedule;
  - Have a satisfactory record of performance;
  - Have a satisfactory record of integrity and ethics;
  - Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award.
24. Successful bidder will pay or cause to be paid, without cost or expenses to County, all FICA, FUTA/SUTA and Federal Income Withholding Taxes of all employees, and all wages and benefits as required by Federal or State law. Successful bidder's officers, agents and/or employees will not be entitled to any benefits of an employee or elected official of County, including, but not limited to, benefits associated with County's civil service system.
25. Any contract award to a successful bidder will be in effect until (a) the contract expires, (b) delivery and acceptance of products, and/or performance of services ordered, or (c) terminated

by County with thirty day's written notice prior to cancellation.

26. County reserves the right to enforce performance of any contract awarded hereunder in any manner prescribed by law or deemed to be in the best interest of the County in the event of breach or default by successful bidder; County reserves the right to terminate any contract immediately in the event a successful bidder fails to:
  - A. Meet schedules;
  - B. Pay any required fees or taxes; or
  - C. Otherwise perform in accordance with the specifications.
27. Successful bidder shall defend, indemnify and save harmless County and all its elected officials, officers, agents and employees from all suits, actions, or other claims of any character, name and description brought for or on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any person, persons, or property on account of any negligent act or fault of the successful bidder, or of any agent, employee, subcontractor or supplier of successful bidder in the execution of, or performance under, any contract which may result from bid award or which arises from any event or casualty happening on or within County premises themselves or happening upon or in any halls, elevators, entrances, stairways or approaches of or to such County facilities. Successful bidder shall pay any judgment with costs which may be obtained against County growing out of such injury or damages, and shall, upon request, provide a defense to County by counsel reasonably acceptable to County. Successful bidder's indemnity hereunder shall include, but is not limited to, claims relating to patent, copyright or trademark infringement, and the like, arising out of the goods and services provided by successful bidder.
28. Successful bidder shall warrant that all items/services shall conform with the specifications and/or all warranties provided under the Uniform Commercial Code and be free from all defects in material, workmanship and the like. Items supplied under a contract pursuant to this Request for Bids shall be subject to County's approval. Items found to be defective or not meeting specifications shall be replaced by successful bidder within two business days at no expense to County. Items not picked up within one (1) week after notification shall be deemed a donation to County and may be used or disposed of at County's discretion and without waiver of any other rights of County as to the item's nonconformity.
29. This document and any disputes arising hereunder shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the State of Texas, and will be performable exclusively in Hidalgo County, Texas.
30. The successful bidder shall not assign, sell, transfer or convey its rights under any awarded contract, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of County.

Bid  
for  
**HIDALGO COUNTY**  
**“WATER EXTRACTION SERVICES (DEWATERING)”**  
**BID NO.: 2016-022-00-00-MEG**

To: Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent  
Physical Address: 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281 -New Administration Building  
Mailing/Postal Address: 2812 S. Business Hwy. 281  
Edinburg, Texas 78539

In accordance with the Specifications, and subject to all laws and regulations of the United States and state and local laws, the undersigned bidder proposes and commits to furnish all labor, equipment, material, software and services as set forth in the documents hereinbefore mentioned. The undersigned bidder further agrees, upon acceptance of its bid, to execute a contract and/or Purchase Order issued by Hidalgo County for performing and completing the work described in the Specifications within the time stated and for the prices proposed in the documents attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Bidder acknowledges receipt of all of the pages of the documents referenced in the Invitation to Bid Checklist presented in connection with this procurement. Bidder understands that Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid.

Bidder agrees that this bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids, as contained in the Specifications.

Respectfully submitted,

Bidder: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROJECT OVERVIEW:**

Hidalgo County has recently experienced major flooding conditions due to torrential rain events including but not limited to 100 Year Event, Tropical Depression or Storm and/or Hurricanes. As a direct result of these flooding events, it becomes necessary to relieve areas of standing water [types of which are further defined and detailed herein] which cause damage to public property and can lead to conditions that create the need to preserve and/or protect the public health and safety of its residents. Turnkey Dewatering Services can be costly inasmuch as Hidalgo County has a very large rural population area. It is Hidalgo County's intent to secure these turnkey dewatering services at fair and reasonable costs in order to ensure that such expenses do not result in adverse affect by depleting fund balances.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Hidalgo County is soliciting sealed bids from qualified vendors in the county to provide Rental of Vacuum Trucks with Drivers and/or pumps with necessary hose's and operators for the Extraction of Water and Related Services from areas needing dewatering due to flooding. Local vendors are sought as an attempt to reduce costs for these services to the county. Vendor shall be responsible of collecting and disposing of water, liquids, sludge, black water, brown water, brackish water, etc. (on an as needed basis) as quickly and as safely as possible when ordered by Hidalgo County.

**SPECIFICATIONS AND SCOPE OF WORK/SERVICES:**

In a flood emergency the vendor shall have adequate amounts/sizes of trucks and/or pumps to accommodate the needs of Hidalgo County as indicated below. Vendor shall maintain records of compliance with health, safety, and environmental regulations and shall ensure that the handling, transport, recycle, reuse and disposal of all products meet state and federal statutes, codes and/or regulations.

- Water Trucks and/or pumps shall be capable of handling water removal work. The equipment shall have the capability of reaching a minimum of 70 feet or greater and a minimum depth of 20 feet from the side embankment.
- The bid rental rates shall include prices for mobilization and demobilization of equipment, and shall include labor to and from the job site including, all labor for deployment of hoses and pump setup but not limited, to the following:
- Flood rain water or brackish water shall be disposed to drainage ditches as directed by Hidalgo County. In the event Hidalgo County requests, the vendor shall dispose of water at other sites [authorized and approved by the County].
- If the black or brown water are in question then, it will be up to the vendor to dispose of the water and shall follow all states and federal statutes, codes and/or regulations.
- Vacuum truck aluminum tanks [minimum of 130 barrels] shall have capacities ranging from 5000 - 6000 gallons.
- Vendor must have the ability to furnish a minimum of 6 trucks and/or pumps and maximum 24 trucks and/or pumps depending on the situation to be running simultaneously (if necessary) at County's request.
- In a flooding emergency, Hidalgo County has the option to request services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week/ 365 days a year, if needed.
- Vendor must possess all state and/or federal licenses, inspections, certifications and permits required for the types of water trucks and pumps to be used. All drivers must possess current, valid Texas Commercial Drivers License. Vehicle insurances related to this bid are further detailed on Exhibit "C"-Insurance Requirements contained herein. Upon engagement for services, Hidalgo County will request 24 hour periodic updates stating operational assessments and documentation supporting dates, times, volume, extraction and discharge locations.

- Hidalgo County has the option to utilize the Monitoring Contractor if necessary.
- "Depending on the emergency event, the awarded vendor shall work with Hidalgo County contracted Debris Monitors so as to ensure compliance with state and federal guidelines concerning vacuum truck and/or pumping operations."

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Blackwater** is used to describe [wastewater](#) containing [feces](#), [urine](#) and flushwater from [flush toilets](#) along with [anal cleansing](#) water (if water is used for cleansing) or toilet paper.<sup>[1]</sup> It is distinct from [greywater](#) or sullage, the wastewater generated from washing food, clothes and dishware, as well as from bathing, but not from toilets.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Brown water:** an inland or coastal waterway especially when murky or colored brown by silt, tannins, or pollutants.

**Brackish water:** (less commonly brack water) is [salt water](#) and fresh water mixed together. It is [saltier](#) than [fresh water](#), but not as salty as [seawater](#). It may result from mixing of seawater with fresh water, as in [estuaries](#), or it may occur in brackish [fossil aquifers](#).

### **Sludge:**

1. Semisolid material such as the type precipitated by sewage treatment.
2. Mud, mire, or ooze covering the ground or forming a deposit, as on a riverbed.

## **STANDARD TERMS & CONDITION:**

1. Term of contract is for **one (1) year period** with County's option to renew contract for an **additional one (1) year** under the same rates, terms and conditions.
2. County reserves the right to continue this bid for an additional sixty (60) day grace period at the end of the contract term for unforeseen delay in award of new bid for next contract term.
3. County will seek purchases from state awarded vendors whenever it is, its best interest to do so.
4. After bid is awarded and successful awarded contractor defaults in meeting the general instructions to bidders(s) and/or in complying with the contract agreement, Hidalgo County reserves the right to seek the services of the next lowest bidder(s). In such event, Hidalgo County shall charge the successful bidder the difference for any additional cost to the County.
5. Hidalgo County reserves the right to add or delete during the term of the contract under the same rates and conditions.
6. Any contract awarded to a successful bidder will be in effect until;
  - a) The contract expires
  - b) Delivery acceptance of products and/or performance of services ordered, or
  - c) Terminated by County with thirty (30) days written notice prior to be cancellation.
7. Hidalgo County reserves the right to award the bid to MULTIPLE bidders if the County determines it is in its best interest to do so.
8. The Contract will be awarded to the qualified responsible Bidder or Bidders submitting the lowest

and best bid on the scope of work.

- 9 Insurance requirements for this project to be maintained throughout the contract term (Refer to limits on the Exhibit "C" for limits).
10. Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any/all bids, to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the bid considered the best and most advantage to the County.
- 11 Hidalgo County reserves the right to hold bids for a period of ninety (90) days without taking any action. In cases of discrepancy between unit price and extension, the unit price shall govern.
12. After bid is awarded and low bidder s default s in meeting the general instructions to bidders and/or comply with contract agreement, Hidalgo County reserves the right to seek services from the next low bidder. In such event, County shall charge the successful bidder the difference for any additional cost of such item.

#### **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 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 price changes.
  - 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.
  - The County Purchasing Agent retains the right to determine whether or not such proposed price changes are in the best interest of the County.
  - No price escalation will be authorized in excess of the amount of the increase referred to in the supplier's notice.
  - 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) **Timeframe 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.

**Additional Information:**

All costs and expenses associated with the preparation and submission of bids shall be the responsibility of the bidder and no reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed on to Hidalgo County.

Information regarding this project can be addressed in writing, to the Hidalgo County Purchasing Department. Hidalgo County is also requesting that any and all questions, inquiries and clarifications regarding quotes, bids, proposal or statement of qualifications be addressed to Martha L. Salazar, Cppb, Purchasing Agent, **AT 2802 SOUTH BUSINESS HWY 281, EDINBURG, TEXAS 78539.**

**TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

**ALL WRITTEN INQUIRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE NO LATER THAN, Tuesday AT 5:00 P.M., AT (956) 318-2629. RESPONSES TO SAID INQUIRIES WILL BE SENT TO ALL APPLICANTS VIA FACSIMILE BY NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. Friday , 2015.**