

of this Contract.

4. Consultant must comply with all applicable County policies. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, Consultant represents and maintains that it is an independent Contractor and is not an employee of County or any agency thereof, and represents and warrants that it does not desire or request any fringe benefits provided to employees of County. Consultant(s) agrees to be responsible for any federal income tax, withholding or social security tax liability that might arise from payments received hereunder.

5. County and Consultant agree that either party may terminate this Contract without cause

upon thirty (30) days written notice to consultant. In the event this Contract is terminated without cause by County, but not otherwise, any unpaid fees or compensation owing to Consultant at the time of termination under this Contract will be due and payable to Consultant within thirty (30) days following the date of Contract termination.

6. Consultant may not assign the obligations or rights under this Contract to any person without the prior written consent of County.

7. Consultant agrees to comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

8. The term of this Contract shall commence **September 07, 2015** and terminate **September 06, 2017** with Hidalgo County's option to extend one (1) additional year. If within 90 days of retail electric services contract expiration the County, at County's option, elects to renew or extend this Contract with the same terms and conditions, then this Contract will extend for the same period as the retail electric services contract.

9. Notice. Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Contract, all notices, demands, requests or communications required or permitted hereunder shall

be in writing and shall be either be (i) personally against a written receipt, or (ii) sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the addressed set forth below, or at such other addressed as may have been theretofore specified by written notice delivered in accordance herewith.

If to County: County of Hidalgo, Texas
Attn: County Judge
100 East Cano St, 2nd Floor
Edinburg, Texas 78539

If to Consultant(s): Texas Energy Consultants
Attn: Robert Peña Jr.
2516 West Freddy Gonzalez Dr
Edinburg, Texas 78539

Each notice, demand, request or communication which shall be delivered or mailed in the manner described above shall be deemed sufficiently given for all purposes at such time as it is personally delivered to the addressee or, if mailed, at such time at it is deposited in the United States mail.

10. Conflict with Applicable Law. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed so as to require the commission of any contrary to law, and whenever this is any conflict between any provision of this Contract and any present or future law, ordinance or administrative, executive or judicial regulation, order or decree, or amendment hereof, contrary to which the parties have no legal right to contract, the latter shall prevail, but in such event the affected provision or provisions of this Contract shall be modified only to the extend necessary to bring them within the legal requirements and only during the time such conflict exists.

11. No Waiver. No waiver by County of any breach of any provision of this Contract shall be deemed to be a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach of the same or any other provision hereof.

12. Entire Agreement. This Contract contains the entire Agreement between the parties hereto, and each party acknowledges that neither has made (either directly or through any agent or representative) any representations or agreements in connection with this Contract not specifically set forth herein. This Contract may be modified or amended only by agreement in writing executed by County and Consultant and not otherwise.

13. Texas Law to Apply. This Agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and all obligations of the parties created hereunder are performable in Hidalgo County, Texas. The parties hereby consent to personal jurisdiction in Hidalgo County, Texas.

14. Additional Documents. The parties hereto covenant and agree that they will execute such other further instruments and documents as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out the terms of this Contract.

15. Successors. This Contract shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns where permitted by this Contract.

16. Assignment. This Contract shall not be assignable; provided, however, that Consultant may assign its right to receive payments hereunder for the purpose of obtaining financing so long as Consultant is not excused from and/or does not delegate its duties hereunder.

17. Headings. The headings and captions contained in this Contract are solely for convenient reference and shall not be deemed to affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision or paragraph hereof.

18. Gender and Number. All pronouns used in this Contract shall include the other gender, whether used in the masculine, feminine or neuter gender, and the singular shall include the plural whenever and as often as may be appropriate.

19. Authority to Execute. The execution and performance of this Contract by County and Consultant have been duly authorized by all necessary laws, resolutions or corporate action, and this Contract constitutes and valid and enforceable obligations of County and Consultant in accordance with its terms.

20. Ethical Provision. It is understood that the employees of County or individuals acting as agents for County are not authorized to receive any type of personal payment, reimbursement, compensation, commission, gift or gratuity for services provided under this Contract. Consultant warrants that no employee or agent of the County has been retained to solicit or secure this Contract and that Consultant has not paid or agreed to pay any employee of County any fee, commission, percentage brokerage fee, gift or any other consideration contingent upon the making of this Contract, or as an inducement for entering into this Contract. The unauthorized offering or receipt of such payments may result in the immediate termination of this Contract.

21. Commitment of Current Revenues Only. In the event that, during any term hereof, the Commissioners Court does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of the County under this Contract, County may terminate this Contract upon ninety (90) days written notice to Consultant(s). County, agrees however, to use reasonable efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this Contract. The parties intend this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Contract at the expiration of each budget period of County pursuant to the provision of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann §271.903 (Vernon Supp. 1995).

22. Indemnity and Hold Harmless. Consultant agrees to indemnify and hold County harmless from any loss, costs, liabilities or damages which are incurred by County which are primarily attributable to the acts or omissions of Consultant or the acts or omissions of Consultant employees, agents or other representatives, including the violation of any law or regulation related to Consultant duties under this Contract.

23. Representation and Warranties. Consultant represents and warrants to County all representations and warranties of Consultant as contained in its responses to County's Request for Proposal are true and correct as of the date hereof. In the event any representation or warranty of Consultant hereunder is or becomes incorrect or untrue, Consultant agrees to promptly notify County thereof, in which event County may, in its sole discretion, elect to terminate this Contract, for cause, in the manner herein provided. Consultant acknowledges and agrees that County has relied and continues to rely upon the representations and warranties of Consultant as herein contained as a material inducement to County to enter into the Contract.

24. Company shall indemnify and hold harmless County, its elected officials, employees and agents from any and all claims, damages, losses, and expenses including attorney's fees for the defense of any action against County arising out of, resulting from, or connected with the provision of the Service by Company under this Contract. Said indemnity shall cover any act or failure to act by the Company, its agents or employees.

EXECUTED and effective as of the day and year first written above.

APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT ON September 11, 2015.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, L.L.P

By: [Signature]
Stephen L. Crain

Date: 9-2-15

COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS

By: Ramon Garcia
Ramon Garcia, County Judge

Date: 9/3/15

APPROVED BY
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
ON: 9/11/15 on Ar

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

Date: _____

TEXAS ENERGY CONSULTANTS

By: [Signature]

Printed Name: Robert Peña Jr.

Title: Owner

Date: 9-3-15

**EXHIBIT “A”
RFP PACKET**



Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
2812 S. Business Highway 281
New Administration Building
Edinburg, Texas 78539
(956) 318-2626/ Fax: (956) 318-2629

January 26, 2015

Re: **HIDALGO COUNTY**
Request For Proposals - **"Hidalgo County-Professional Energy Consultant Services "**
RFP NO: 2015-028-02-11-YZV

Dear Respondents:

Enclosed please find a Request for Proposals (RFP) packet for you review and consideration.

Hidalgo County Purchasing Department welcomes and appreciates your participation in the RFP process.

If any further assistance is required, please do not hesitate to call the Purchasing Department at (956) 318-2626.

Sincerely,

Martha L. Salazar, CPPB
Hidalgo County Purchasing Agent

MLS/Yyzv

Enclosures



Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
2812 S. Business Highway 281
New Administration Building
Edinburg, Texas 78539
(956) 318-2626/ Fax: (956) 318-2629

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) CHECKLIST

“Hidalgo County-Professional Energy Consultant Services”

RFP NO: 2015-028-02-11-YZV

1. Request for Proposals Letter.
2. Request for Proposals, Legal Notice, consisting of 9 pages.
3. Exhibit A, Requirements, Scope of Services, Specifications/Requirements consisting of 9 pages.
4. Exhibit B, Evaluation/Selection Criteria, consisting of 3 page.
5. Exhibit C, Insurance Requirements, consisting of 3 pages.
6. Exhibit D, CIQ Conflict Of Interest Questionnaire, consisting of 1 page.
7. Exhibit E, Proposer’s Affidavit, consisting of 1 page.
8. Proposer/Vendor Application and IRS W-9 Form, consisting of 6 pages.
9. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters, consisting of 1 page.
10. Draft Professional Services Contract, consisting of 11 pages.

The above mentioned items shall be found in the Request for Proposals (RFP) packet that is attached herewith. Should you find that any of the items are not attached in its entirety please contact Purchasing by calling (956) 318-2626, advise of missing documentation, and Purchasing will forward information either through facsimile or by U.S. Mail.

Thank you.

Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent

January 26, 2015

Date

RFP NO: 2015-028-02-11	Buyer III: Yolanda Z. Velasquez	Tel. No: (956) 318-2626
------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Hidalgo County
Edinburg, Texas

“PROFESSIONAL ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES”

Acceptance Date: February 11, 2015

Contact Person:

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

(956) 318-2626

Form HCPD-04

LEGAL NOTICE

RFP NO: 2015-028-02-11-YZV

1. Sealed proposals will be received for **"Hidalgo County –Professional Energy Consulting Services"**, in accordance with the requirements attached hereto as Exhibit "A." Proposals should address all requirements set forth. Proposers 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 requirements. Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject the deviation and its effect on the overall proposal.
2. One (1) original and seven (7) copies of all RFPs are required, with the vendor's name and address clearly typed/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, **RFP NO: 2015-028-02-11-YZV-Hidalgo County- Professional Energy Consulting Services "** and in County's Purchasing Department, **physical address:** 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281; **mailing address:** 2812 S. Hwy. Business 281, New Administration Building, Edinburg, Texas, **on or before 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 11, 2015.**

NO FACSIMILES OR LATE ARRIVALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ANY RFP 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: RFP NO: 2015-028-02-11-YZV-HIDALGO COUNTY- PROFESSIONAL ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES".

WRITTEN QUESTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED WILL BE ACCEPTED via facsimile to (956) 292-7612 or via e-mail to: yolanda.velasquez@co.hidalgo.tx.us , BY NO LATER THAN **Wednesday, 28, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Responses will be sent to all applicants by Friday, January 30, 2015.** **TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Hidalgo County reserves the right to refuse and reject any/all proposals and to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the proposal 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 proposal that it deems necessary to accommodate budgetary and/or operational requirements; **B.** right to reject any or all proposals submitted and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best proposal for approval. Receipt of any proposal shall under no circumstances obligate County to accept the lowest dollar proposal and; **C.** award of this contract shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined to be the best evaluated offer resulting from negotiation, taking into consideration the relative importance of price and other evaluation factors as herein set forth.
4. Failure of the delivered item(s) 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 proposer, or to reject all proposals and re-advertise.

5. For work to be performed at a County owned or operated location, each proposer shall, in its sole discretion, visit the job site before preparing the proposal and thoroughly familiarize himself/herself with existing conditions. Proposer should take field dimensions and note all circumstances which affect the dollar amount of the proposal.
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, proposers are required to include illustrations, specifications, explanation of warranties, and service data with their proposal including catalogue numbers and any necessary references.
7. No proposal may be withdrawn within sixty (60) days from the scheduled time to open proposals.
8. Proposed prices are to remain firm for a minimum of ninety (90) days after priced proposal opening.
9. Any interpretations, amendments, corrections or changes to this proposal 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 Proposals. Proposers shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda as a part of their proposal.
10. County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.
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 proposal 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 card 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: (If applicable)
 - . 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, CPPB, Purchasing Agent before delivery will be accepted.
- . If you need additional information call the office listed below:

Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
 Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent
 (956) 318-2626

16. BILLING AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

- . Invoices must include:
 - a) Name and address of successful proposer
 - b) Name and address of receiving department or official
 - c) Purchase Order Number and Contract Number (if any)
 - d) Notation – “**Hidalgo County- Professional Energy Consulting Services**”
 - e) Descriptive information as to the items or services delivered, including product code, item number, quantity, etc.

. Discount payments will be considered when offered.

. Contact person for Billing and Payment questions:
Hidalgo County Auditor's Office
Ray Eufrazio, County Auditor
2802 S. Business Hwy. 281
Edinburg, TX 78539
956-318-2511

17. Schedule of Events

Projected Proposal Opening, 9:30 A.M.,	<u>February 11</u> , 2015
Project/Anticipated Award Date:	_____, 2015
Commence Work or Deliver Products	_____, 2015

18. ~~Bid or Performance Bond and~~ **Debarment Certification**; ~~Payment Under Contract:~~
 If the contract proposed is for the construction of public works or is for a contract for goods and services exceeding \$100,000, all bidders shall furnish a good and sufficient bid bond in the amount of five percent of the total contract price. A bid bond must be executed with a surety company authorized to do business in Texas.

All participants are required to furnish a certification or acknowledgment stating that the contractor or vendor is free from suspension or debarment pursuant to federal regulation 45CFR76.

- . ~~Together with the signing of a contract or issuance of a purchase order following the acceptance of a proposal, and prior to commencement of the actual work, the proposer shall furnish a performance bond to the County for the full amount of the contract, if that contract exceeds \$50,000.~~
- . ~~If the contract is for \$50,000 or less, no money will be paid to the contractor until completion and acceptance of the work or the fulfillment of the purchase obligation to the County, and, if applicable, the receipt by County of satisfactory evidence that all subcontractors and material men have been paid.~~
- . ~~If a contract is for the construction, alteration or repair of public buildings or public works, the contractor shall provide a payment bond for a contract in excess of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), as required by Tex. Govt. Code Ch. 2253.~~
- . ~~For requirements contracts, bond requirements are determined by applying the proposed unit price to the estimated quantities included in the specifications.~~

19. Ethical Standards:

- . It shall be a breach of ethics to offer, give or agree to give any elected official, department head or employee, or former elected official, department head or employee, of the County, or for any elected official, department head or employee or former elected official, department head or employee of the County, to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, entity or organization, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation or any part of a program requirement or purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefor pending before any department or agency of the County.
- . It shall be a breach of ethics for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor for any contract for the County, or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.
- . 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 contract 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 Proposer 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 complete CIQ forms to the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office located at 100 No. Closner, Edinburg, Texas 78539-Hidalgo County Courthouse **COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROSPECTIVE PROPOSER.**

21. If, during the life of any contract or proposal awarded, the successful proposer'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 County.
22. Proposals, and all goods and services provided thereunder, shall comply with all federal, state and local laws concerning this type(s) of goods and/or services.
23. Minimum Standards For Responsible Prospective Proposers: A prospective proposer must affirmatively demonstrate proposer's responsibility. A prospective proposer, by submitting a proposal, represents to County that it meets the following requirements:
 - . Possess or is able to obtain adequate financial resources as required to perform under the proposal;
 - . 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 proposer 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 and benefits as required by Federal or State law. Successful proposers' 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 proposer 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 (30) 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 proposer; County reserves the right to terminate any contract immediately in the event a successful proposer fails to:
 - A. Meet schedules;
 - B. Pay any required fees or taxes; or
 - C. Otherwise perform in accordance with the requirements.
27. Successful proposer 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 proposer, or of any agent, employee, subcontractor or supplier in the execution of, or performance under, any contract which may result from proposal award. Successful proposer indemnifies and will indemnify and save harmless County from liability, claim or demand on their part, agents, servants, customers, and/or employees whether such liability, claim or demand arise from event or casualty happening or within the occupied premises themselves or happening upon or in any of the halls, elevators, entrances, stairways or approaches of or to the facilities within which the occupied premises are located. Successful proposer 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 proposer'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 or services provided by successful proposer.
28. Successful proposer 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 Proposals shall be subject to County's approval. Items found to be defective or not meeting specifications shall be replaced by successful proposer 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 proposer 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.

31. Proposers shall provide with the proposal response, a list of at least three (3) references where like services have been supplied by their firm. Include the name of the business or government, address, telephone number and name of representative or contact person.
32. Proposers must provide **all** documentation requested with this Proposal in their response. Failure to provide this information may result in rejection of the proposal as non conforming.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
“Hidalgo County- Professional Energy Consulting Services ”
RFP NO: 2015-028-02-11-YZV

To: Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent
Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
Physical Address: 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281
Mailing/US Postal Address: 2812 S. Business Hwy. 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539

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

Proposer acknowledges receipt of all of the pages of the documents referenced in the Request for Proposal Checklist presented in connection with this procurement. Proposer understands that Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best proposal.

Proposer agrees that this proposal shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receiving proposals, as contained in the Requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Proposer: _____

Address: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

EXHIBIT “A”

SCOPE OF SERVICES/REQUIREMENTS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Hidalgo County
“PROFESSIONAL ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES”**

(NIGP CODE: 910-16)

RFP: 2015-028-02-11

OVERVIEW:

Hidalgo County is requesting sealed qualifications from interested and qualified consultants/firms to provide professional consulting services related to the procurement and delivery of electricity of its facilities, along with auditing of the electricity bills. **“Professional Energy Consulting Services”** will assist with the details of the RFP (if authorized by Hidalgo County Commissioners’ Court) to evaluate the proposals and to assist Commissioner’s Court during the decision making process and/or to seek proposals from all cooperative purchasing programs utilized and approved by Hidalgo County. The County’s current Retail Energy contract expires on, November 30, 2015.

The term of this agreement will commence upon final acceptance of negotiated contract by Commissioner’s Court and will continue for a period of two (2) years with Hidalgo County’s option to extend one (1) additional year. The final agreement may be terminated by Hidalgo County upon providing consultant a thirty (30) day written notice.

The Hidalgo County Purchasing Department will receive sealed envelopes containing proposals for the provision of **“RFP No: 2015-028-02-11-YZV- Professional Energy Consulting Services”** as specified herein. Sealed Proposals will be accepted until **9:30 A.M., February 11, 2015. ANY PROPOSALS RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE AND TIME WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE RETURNED UNOPENED.**

SECTION I

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Deliver Submittal to: Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent, at:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Hidalgo County is requesting that sealed proposals must be routed to

<p><u>US Postal Mail address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2812 S. Business Hwy. 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539</p>	<p><u>Physical Address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539</p>
--	--

ALL WRITTEN QUESTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE (956)292-7612 OR VIA E-MAIL TO: yolanda.velasquez@co.hidalgo.tx.us BY NO LATER THAN, Wednesday, January 28, 2015 by 5:00 P.M. Responses will be sent to all applicants via e-mail by no later than, Friday, January 30, 2015 by 5:00 P.M. TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Any/All costs and expenses associated with the preparation and submission of (bids, proposals and/or quotes) shall be the responsibility of the proposer and not reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed onto Hidalgo County.

Hidalgo County has the authority to utilize State Contracts from its membership with their existing or new cooperatives whenever it is in the County’s best interest to do so.

PROPOSER'S AFFIDAVIT: Prior Contract award, respondents to this RFP must submit a signed Proposer's Affidavit (attached herein in **Exhibit "E"**) certifying that the submission is: (1) not the result of Collusion as described in the Proposer's Affidavit; (2) that the Respondent does not have a Conflict of Interest as described in Proposer's Affidavit; or that the Respondent has not and will not attempt to lobby directly or indirectly as described in the Proposer's Affidavit.

NON-COLLUSION: Submitters, by submitting the signed Participant's Affidavit (Exhibit E), certify that the accompanying submission is not the result of , or affected by, any unlawful act of collusion with any other person or company engaged in the same line of business or commerce, or any other fraudulent act punishable under Texas or United States law.

NON-DISCRIMINATION: Submitters, during the performance of this contract, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin or disability except where religion, sex, national origin or disability is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the consultant.

ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF BIDS: Hidalgo County's Purchasing Department **WILL NOT** accept telegraphic or electronically transmitted submissions.

PROOF OF FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS CAPABILITY: Submitters must, upon request, furnish satisfactory evidence of their ability to furnish products or services in accordance with the terms and conditions of these requirements. Hidalgo County will make the final determination as to the submitter's ability.

SUBMITTER DEFAULT: Hidalgo County reserves the right, in case of submitter default, to procure the articles or services from other sources and hold the defaulting submitter responsible for any excess costs occasioned thereby.

RESTRICTIVE OR AMBIGUOUS REQUIREMENTS: It is the responsibility of the submitter to review the Request for Proposal (RFP) packet and to notify the Purchasing Department if the requirements are formulated in a manner that would unnecessarily restrict competition. Any such protest or question regarding the requirements or bidding procedures must be received in the Purchasing Department not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the time set for the opening. These criteria also apply to requirements that are ambiguous.

PROPOSAL DELIVERY: Hidalgo County requires submitters, when hand delivering RFP to make sure that it is stamped with time and date by the County Purchasing Staff.

SIGNING OF PROPOSAL: In order to be considered all submittals **must** be signed. **Please sign the original in [blue ink](#).**

WAIVING OF INFORMALITIES: Hidalgo County reserves the right to waive minor informalities or technicalities when it is in the best interest of Hidalgo County.

SUBCONTRACTING: The successful submitter may not subcontract the award without the written consent of the Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo County.

TERM OF CONTRACT: The term of this agreement will commence upon final acceptance of negotiated contract by Commissioner's Court and will continue for a period of two (2) years with

the county's option to renew for an additional one (1) years term, at the same rates, terms and conditions. The final agreement may be terminated by Hidalgo County upon providing consultant a 30 day written notice.

Hidalgo County reserves the right to continue this proposal for an additional sixty (60) day Grace Period at the end of the contract under the same rates, terms and conditions.

DAVIS BACON ACT: (If applicable) All selected and awarded firms are required to include the Davis-Bacon Act when advertising and developing specifications.

SECTION II- SCOPE OF SERVICES/REQUIREMENTS

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

- A. The consultant to assist Hidalgo County including, but not limited to the following:
1. Assist in development of the requirements for an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the procurement of electricity services provider to the facilities operated by Hidalgo County.
 2. Create RFP to obtain price quotes from RFP's prior to the current electricity contract expiration.
 3. Review current electrical billings, meters and identify current contract requirements and/or terms that are of concern to Hidalgo County.
 4. Inputting the electrical bill on a customized excel spreadsheet for energy quote comparison.
 5. Assist the evaluation of the RFP's for delivery of electric services to Hidalgo County facilities.
 6. Assist Hidalgo County's evaluation committee in reviewing the RFP's submitted to the County.
 7. Assist in negotiating and reviewing energy contracts and quotes from Retail electric services providers.
 8. Meet with County officials to review electrical RFP details such as, company references, financial stability, pricing; pass thru fees, gross receipts tax and other terms of the proposed contract.
 9. Assist in providing a recommendation of the proposals received to Commissioner's Court and/or provide answers to any questions posed by Commissioner's Court during the decision making process. Provide a presentation of findings to County staff and Commissioner's Court.
 10. Provide an analysis/comparison/assessment of prices, products and contract business terms of the County's electric provider and work the County's legal counsel to negotiate terms of final agreement with County and awarded electric provider.
 11. Be available for presentation to Commissioner's Court during the procurement process of the energy contract and during the term of the contract with the energy provider.
 12. Be available to provide presentation to commissioner's Court as required by Hidalgo County to Commissioner's Court.
- B. The consultant will be required to provide the following services during the term of the contract (after selection of the electric services provider and during the term of the electric services provider contract).
1. Evaluate the electrical consumption of the County and provide recommendations to reduce energy consumption.
 2. Analyze peak hours of electric usage.
 3. Monitor and audit utility bills on a monthly basis. Providing month electricity bill audit analysis and yearly budget reports starting upon award of contract by Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court and execution of final agreement.
 4. Provide support of energy cost reductions, meter consolidation and comply with HB 3693. Provide information needed to conform with SB 12 and HB 3693.
 5. Assist with the addition and/or deletion of accounts for county buildings.

6. Resolve billing issues with REP or TDSP and dispute and provide support for bill error credits and corrections and meter additions and/or deletions.
7. Provide recommendations on how to reduce or consolidate the number of meters and meter cost at County facilities.
8. Provide recommendations on energy reduction projects for county facilities.
9. Provide recommendations during new & renovation construction projects on possible energy reduction measures.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The required contents and limitations for the preparation of the RFP are described in this section. Failure to provide the requested information or adhere to any County limitations will result in disqualification of the submitted RFP.

RFP SUBMISSION:

A total of one (1) original and seven (7) copies response shall be submitted to: Martha L. Salazar, Purchasing Agent, Hidalgo County Purchasing Department, 2812 So. Business Hwy 281, New Administration Building, Edinburg, Texas 78539.

CONTENTS:

The required contents for the RFP are presented below in the order they should be incorporated into the submitted document.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT:

This section should demonstrate the submitter's understanding of the project needs, the work required, and any local issues or concerns. This description should be concise, candid, and limited to 3 pages in length.

FIRM QUALIFICATIONS:

The County of Hidalgo is seeking to contract with a competent firm(s), registered and licensed (if applicable) for the services being requested in the RFP and/or do business in the State of Texas, who has experience in, but not limited to:

- A. Before a consultant is considered for selection for energy consultant the following qualifications must be demonstrated:
 1. The consultant or his/her firm shall not engage in the sale of energy.
 2. The consultant must disclose any potential conflict of interest with participating in the recommendation of an energy provider.
 3. Consultant shall have experience of at least 3 years working in deregulated working energy markets.
 4. Consultant shall be certified by the State of Texas Public Utilities Commission.
 5. Consultant shall have 3 years experience in negotiating electricity contracts for counties, cities, school districts with the capacity of at least 20,000,000 kwh load
 6. Consultant shall have 3 years experience in providing competitive assessment and procurement advisory
 7. Provide a list of three (3) references with contact information where the proposed consultant has assisted in obtaining a retail electricity contract.

PERSONNEL AND STAFFING:

The firm should provide an organizational chart for the project and a summary paragraph of the

project work to be performed by each proposed staff member. Biographic summaries that highlight the experience relevant to the specific project responsibilities should be provided for all proposed personnel. There is a one (1) page limitation for each biographic summary provided.

Additionally, this section should include a description of the firm's project personnel and their most recent similar projects. For each project, a client contract name and phone number should be included for reference purposes. Additionally, the names of the personnel proposed for this project who participated in the listed projects should be provided. This project list is limited to 5 pages.

REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS AND SUBMITTAL:

This section will contain any licenses and certifications as required by HIDALGO COUNTY, the STATE OF TEXAS, etc. **The Proposer(s) should add copies of their Professional Liability Insurance in the response.**

PROPOSERS ARE TO PROVIDE A FEE SCHEDULE WITH THIS SUBMITTAL:

Hidalgo County is hereby requesting a lump sum flat rate proposal fee based on the scope of services/requirements.

SECTION III- SELECTION/EVALUATION/RANKING

SELECTION PROCEDURES/EVALUATION SYSTEM:

The evaluation consists of a 100-point scoring system. However, after the 100-point evaluation, Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court may elect to narrow the participating firms and request a presentation from a representative from firms.

- A. Evaluation Committee selected by Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court, Elected Official or User Department will review, score and evaluate the Request for Proposals (RFP's) responses received.
- B. After the RFP responses have been reviewed, scored and evaluated, a grid will be presented to Commissioner's Court for the purposes of ranking.
- C. Categories are further detailed in the Selection Criteria (Exhibit B) section of this RFP.

SCORING AND EVALUATION PROPOSALS

Proposals will be evaluated and scored for innovation and completeness, in response to each of the elements outlined in the Scope of Services including but not be limited to, the items listed below:

- 1. Qualifications/Experience: 40pts
 - a. Experience in negotiating electricity contract for counties, cities, school districts with at least 20,000,00 kwh load, which must be identifies in this RFP
 - b. Certified by the State of Texas Public Utilities commission
- 2. Capacity to perform services: 30pts.
 - a. Consultant shall have a proven record in providing competitive assessment and procurement advisory services for the procurement & audit of electricity.
 - b. Provide resumes on key personnel that have more than three (3) years experience working in deregulated energy markets.
 - c. Identify team members to be assigned to Hidalgo County's accounts, including qualifications.
 - d. List of three (3) references with contact information where the proposed consultant or firm has assisted in obtaining a retail energy contract.
- 3. Knowledge of Rules, Regulation, Codes and Other Information: 20pts
 - a. Knowledge of utility rate schedules TDSP Tariff's.
 - b. Provide written documentation communicating your knowledge of rules, regulations, codes and other information.
- 4. Understanding & Capacity to provide suggestions and ideas for Energy Savings to Hidalgo County. 10pts
 - a. Provided traditional savings efforts for energy savings for future for Hidalgo County.

Total 100 points

EVALUATION PROCESS

All proposals will be examined by Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Staff and/or designated committee.

The evaluators will consider the most cost productive, efficient and effective plan. Emphasis will be placed on experience, as well as meeting the needs of the using department(s). While Hidalgo County appreciates a brief straight forward and concise reply, the participants must fully understand that the evaluation is based on the information provided herein Accuracy and completeness are essential. Omissions, ambiguous or equivocal statements may be construed against the participant. The proposal response may be incorporated into any contract, which results from this RFP, and participants are cautioned not to make claims or statements, which they are not prepared to commit to contractually. Failure of the participant to meet such claims will result in a requirement that the vendor provide the resources necessary to meet submitted claims.

Hidalgo County, reserves the right to accept such a proposal if it is determined to be in the best interest of Hidalgo County.

Hidalgo County may initiate discussions with selected participants(s); however, discussions **may not** be initiated by participants. Hidalgo County expects to conduct discussions with participant's representatives authorized to contractually obligate the vendor with an offer. Consultant(s) shall not contact any personnel of Hidalgo County during the RFP process without the express permission from the Office of the Hidalgo County Purchasing Agent. Hidalgo County Purchasing may disqualify any participant who has made site visits, contacted any personnel of Hidalgo County, or distributed any literature without authorization from the Purchasing Department.

All documents will be held by Hidalgo County and are NOT subject to public view until an award is made. Under the Request for Proposal process, sealed offers will be received and opened in the Office of the Hidalgo County Purchasing Agent. At and after opening, proposals will NOT be part of the public record and subject to disclosure, but will be kept confidential until time of award. When an award is made, proposals are subject to review under the "Public Information Act". To the extent permitted by law, participants may request in writing non-disclosure of confidential data. Such data shall accompany the proposal, be readily separable from the proposal, and shall be CLEARLY MARKED "CONFIDENTIAL".

NEGOTIATION PROCESS:

The number one ranked firm will be contacted to submit a letter of engagement/contract for negotiations. If negotiations prove unsuccessful, Commissioner's Court will terminate negotiations with the firm and will contact the next highest ranked firm to open negotiations. The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs.

TERMINATION OF SERVICES:

Any contract awarded to a qualified firm will be in effect until (a) the contract expires or (b) performance of all services are completed, or (c) terminated by County with or without cause, with thirty (30) days written notice prior to cancellation.

SELECTION/EVALUATION/RANKING CRITERIA

The respondent's RFP will be evaluated based on the criteria presented below. These criteria will be scored on the scales shown on the enclosed "RFP Evaluation Form."

1. QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE: (40) POINTS

- Experience in negotiating electricity contracts for other jurisdiction such as: counties, cities, school district of Similar size as Hidalgo County and with at least 20,000,000 kwh load, which must be identified in this RFP.
- Consultant shall be certified by the State of Texas Public Utilities Commission.

2. CAPACITY TO PERFORM SERVICES: (30) POINTS

- Consultant shall have a proven record in providing competitive assessment and procurement advisory services for the procurement & audit of electricity.
- Provided resumes on key personnel that have more than three (3) years experience working in deregulated energy markets.
- Identify team members to be assigned to Hidalgo County's accounts, including qualifications.
- List of Three (3) references with contact information where proposed consultant or firm has assisted in obtaining retail energy contracts.

3. COST/NEGOTIATION RECOVERIES: (20) POINTS

- The Energy Management Consultant must provide price rate structure;
- The Energy Management Consultant must provide references supporting contractor's effectiveness for negotiating recoveries.

4. UNDERSTANDING, SUGGESTIONS AND FUTURE IDEAS FOR ENERGY SAVING TO HIDALGO COUNTY. (10) POINTS

- Provided Traditional savings efforts for energy savings for future for Hidalgo County.

TOTAL: 100 POINTS

EVALUATION PROCESS

All proposals will be examined by Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Staff and designated committee.

The evaluators will consider the most efficient and effective plan. Emphasis will be placed on experience, as well as meeting the needs of the using departments (s). While Hidalgo County appreciates a brief straight forward and concise reply, the participants must fully understand that the evaluation

EXHIBIT "B"
HIDALGO COUNTY
"PROFESSIONAL ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES"
RFP Nº 2015-028-02-11-YZV
RFP EVALUATION FORM

Selection Criteria	Minimum Points	Score
1. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE 40 PTS		
➤ Experience in negotiating electricity contracts for other jurisdiction such as: counties, cities, school district of Similar size as Hidalgo County and with at least 20,000,000 kwh load, which must be identified in this RFP.	0-30	
➤ Consultant shall be certified by the State of Texas Public Utilities Commission.	0-10	
Comments/Rationale for points:	TOTAL:	_____
2. CAPACITY TO PERFORM SERVICES 30 PTS		
➤ Consultant shall have a proven record in providing competitive assessment and procurement advisory services for the procurement & audit of electricity	0-15	
➤ Provide resumes on key personnel that have more than three (3) years experience working in deregulated energy markets	0-5	
➤ Identify team members to be assigned to H.C. accounts, including qualifications	0-5	
List of three (3) references with contact information where proposed consultant or firm has assisted in obtaining retail energy contracts	0-5	
Comments/Rationale for points:	TOTAL:	_____
3. COST/NEGOTIATION RECOVERIES 20 PTS		
➤ The Energy management Consultant must provide price rate structure	0-10	
➤ The Energy Management Consultant must provide references supporting contractor's effectiveness for negotiating recoveries.	0-10	
Comments/Rationale for points:	TOTAL:	_____
4. UNDERSTANDING, SUGGESTIONS & FUTURE IDEAS FOR ENERGY SAVINGS TO H.C. 10 PTS		
➤ Provide traditional savings efforts for energy savings for future to Hidalgo County	0-10	
Comments/Rationale for points:	TOTAL:	_____
TOTAL SCORE:		_____

Provider: _____

Evaluator: _____ Date: _____

EXHIBIT "C"
Insurance Requirements
Applicable to the Acquisition of Goods and /or Services
(other than Professional Services)

The Bidder awarded the contract shall furnish proof of insurance, which will also include any subcontractor that is subcontracted by the bidder in at least the following limits, to be in place prior to providing any services under this Contract and to continue at all times in force in effect during the term of this Contract:

1. A Five Hundred Thousand Dollar (\$500,000.00) Comprehensive General Liability insurance policy providing additional coverage to all underlying liabilities of County.
2. Automobile liability insurance policy with limits of at least Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) per person and Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) per occurrence. Coverage should include injury to or death of persons and property damage claims with limits up to Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000.00) arising out of the services provided to County hereunder.
3. Uninsured/Underinsured motorist coverage in an amount equal to the bodily injury limits set forth immediately above;
4. Workers compensation insurance in amounts established by Texas law, unless the Bidder is specifically exempted from the Texas Workers Compensation Act, Texas Labor Code Chapter 401, et. seq.

Hidalgo County will only accept certificates of insurance on an Acord form (as attached hereto). Certificates of insurance shall name Hidalgo County as additional insured and must be submitted to County for approval prior to any services being performed by Contractor. Each policy of insurance required hereunder shall extend for a period equivalent to, or longer than the term of the Contract, and any insurer hereunder shall be required to give at least thirty (30) days written notice to the County prior to the cancellation of any such coverage on the termination date, or otherwise. This Contract shall be automatically suspended upon the cancellation, or other termination, of any required policy of insurance hereunder, and such suspension shall continue until evidence adequate replacement coverage is provided to County. If replacement coverage is not provided within thirty (30) days following suspension of the Contract, this Contract shall automatically terminate.

Revised 10/01/08

ACORD		CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE	DATE (MM/DD/YY)
PRODUCER	THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW.		
INSURERS AFFORDING COVERAGE			
INSURED	INSURER A:		
	INSURER B:		
	INSURER C:		
	INSURER D:		
	INSURER E:		

COVERAGES

THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THEIR TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. AGGREGATE LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE (MM/DD/YY)	POLICY EXPIRATION DATE (MM/DD/YY)	LIMITS
A	GENERAL LIABILITY				EACH OCCURRENCE \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY				FIRE DAMAGE (Any one fire) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE OCCUR				MEDICAL (Any one person) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> OWNER'S & CONT. PROT				PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> OWNER'S PROTECTIVE LIABILITY				ANNUAL AGGREGATE \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> GEN L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC				PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$
B	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY				COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO				BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS				BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS				PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS				
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS					
	GARAGE LIABILITY				AUTO ONLY-EA ACCIDENT \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO				OTHER THAN AUTO ONLY EA ACC AGG \$
C	EXCESS LIABILITY				EACH OCCURRENCE \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE				AGGREGATE \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> DEDUCTIBLE				\$
	<input type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$				\$
D	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY				WC STATU. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER TORY LIMITS
					E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$
					E.L. DISEASE-EA EMPLOYEE \$
					E.L. DISEASE-POLICY LIMIT \$
	OTHER				

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATION / VEHICLES / EXCLUSIONS ADDED BY ENDORSEMENT / SPECIAL PROVISIONS
County of Hidalgo shall be named as additional insured on all Commercial General Liability policies.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER	ADDITIONAL INSURED; INSURER LETTER:	CANCELLATION
Hidalgo County Attn: Purchasing Department 2812 S Highway Bus. 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539		SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BY CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, THE ISSUING INSURER WILL ENDEAVOR TO MAIL 30 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER NAMED TO THE LEFT, BUT FAILURE TO DO SO SHALL IMPOSE NO OBLIGATION OR LIABILITY OF ANY KIND UPON THE INSURER, ITS AGENTS OR REPRESENTATIVES. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Insurance Requirement Acknowledgment

I, _____, authorized representative for _____,
Company/Vendor

hereby acknowledge receipt of the County's required insurance limits. Said requirements:

_____ will be acquired within 10 working days after notification from Purchasing Department of bid awarded by the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court;

_____ will acquire additional amounts required to meet the County's requirements within 10 working days after notification from Purchasing Department of bid award by the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court; currently carry the following:

Automobile Liability: \$ _____ General Liability: \$ _____

_____ have already been met, see attached copy of insurance certificate.

Authorized Representative

Date

Notice to Bidder:

A certificate of insurance for the required insurance limits shall be provided to the Purchasing Department's Contract Managers in order to qualify for award of bid and to execute a contract between your Company and the County.

Failure to provide Certificates of Insurance to the Purchasing Department's Contract Managers will cause the bid award to be rescinded and re-awarded to next lowest bidder. Certificates of Insurance will be monitored and verified on a **quarterly basis** to ensure coverage policy is in place. It is the Company's obligation to maintain the appropriate insurance coverage throughout the term of the contract.

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY BID PACKET

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This is to certify that I, _____, possess all of the APPLICABLE:

1. Licenses: _____.
2. Bonds: _____.
3. Certificates: _____.
4. Permits: _____.
5. Other: _____.

necessary to carry out the required project. Furthermore, I am providing copies of the required documentation so that, if my company is awarded this bid, I may be eligible to enter into a contract with Hidalgo County and proceed to complete the project in a timely manner.

* Any licenses, bonds, certificates, permits, etc. which are required must be presented as part of the bid packet in order to expedite the bid evaluation process. Failure to provide said documentation will result in the disqualification of your bid.

Authorized Signature

Date

Company

Address

City, State, Zip

EXHIBIT "D"

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

FORM CIQ

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 1491, 80th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code by a person who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the person meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006, Local Government Code.

A person commits an offense if the person knowingly violates Section 176.006. Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of person who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.

(The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date the originally filed questionnaire becomes incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer with whom filer has employment or business relationship.

Name of Officer

This section (item 3 including subparts A, B, C & D) must be completed for each officer with whom the filer has an employment or other business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a), Local Government Code. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer named in this section receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the filer of the questionnaire?

Yes No

B. Is the filer of the questionnaire receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer named in this section AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

Yes No

C. Is the filer of this questionnaire employed by a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership of 10 percent or more?

Yes No

D. Describe each employment or business relationship with the local government officer named in this section.

4

Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

Date

**PROPOSER'S AFFIDAVIT
Exhibit "E"**

**PROPOSER'S AFFIDAVIT OF NON-COLLUSION
NON-CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND ANTI-LOBBYING**

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO

Affiant, _____, being first duly sworn, deposes that:

(1) Affiant does hereby state neither the Proposer nor any of the Proposer's officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees, or parties in interest, has in any way colluded, conspired, agreed, directly or indirectly with any person, firm, corporation, or other proposer, or potential proposer, to provide any money or other valuable consideration for assistance in procuring or attempting to procure a contract or fix the prices in the attached proposed or the proposal of any other proposer, and further states that no such money or other reward will be hereinafter paid.

(2) Affiant further states they have neither recommended or suggested to Hidalgo County or any of its officials or employees, any of the terms or provisions set forth in their Request for Proposal and subsequent agreement, except at a meeting open to all interested proposers, of which proper notice was given.

(3) Affiant, further states their officers, employees, or agents have not, and will not attempt to lobby, directly or indirectly, the Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court between proposal submission date and award by the Hidalgo County County Commissioner's Court.

(4) Affiant further states no officer, or stockholder of the Proposer is a member of the staff, or related to any employee of the Hidalgo County except as noted herein below:

Signature/Title: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____, 20____.

HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) DECLARATION

The primary objective of the Hidalgo County HUB Program is to ensure Historically Underutilized Businesses receive a fair and equal opportunity for participation in the County's procurement process. This fact holds true for Services (Professional & Non-Professional), Commodities, and Construction contracts and any subcontracts thereto. The program strongly encourages Prime Contractors to provide subcontracting opportunities to Certified Hub Contractors/Vendors. Our goal for HUB contractor/vendor participation, as well as HUB subcontractor participation is 30%. To be considered as a "Certified HUB Contractor/Vendor" the contractor/vendor must have been certified by, and hold a current and valid certification with any of the three agencies listed below.

Have you been Certified as a HUB or an MBE/WBE source?: Yes No

If yes, by whom?: Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other _____

Indicate Certification No(s): _____ or Are Certificate(s) Attached?: Yes No

LIST OF CERTIFIED HUB SUBCONTRACTORS

(Attach additional pages if necessary)

What percentage of the Bid, RFP, or RFQ is to be subcontracted with Certified HUB sources?: _____ %
(List HUB Subcontractor information below).

HUB Subcontractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____

Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No.: () _____

Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed: _____

HUB Subcontractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____

Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No.: () _____

Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed: _____

HUB Subcontractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____

Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No.: () _____

Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed: _____

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give Form to the
 requester. Do not
 send to the IRS.**

Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	Name (as shown on your income tax return)	
	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____	Exemptions (see instructions): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____
	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional)
	City, state, and ZIP code	
List account number(s) here (optional)		

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name" line to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number										
			-				-			
Employer identification number										
			-							

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below), and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 3.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶	Date ▶
------------------	----------------------------	--------

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. The IRS has created a page on IRS.gov for information about Form W-9, at www.irs.gov/w9. Information about any future developments affecting Form W-9 (such as legislation enacted after we release it) will be posted on that page.

Purpose of Form

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, payments made to you in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the

withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and

4. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct.

Note. If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States,
- An estate (other than a foreign estate), or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

Exempt payee code. Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding. Corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, such as interest and dividends. Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions.

Note. If you are exempt from backup withholding, you should still complete this form to avoid possible erroneous backup withholding.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding:

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2)
- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a possession of the United States, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities
- 5—A corporation
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a possession of the United States
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 8—A real estate investment trust
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a)
- 11—A financial institution
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7
Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4
Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 ¹	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5 ²
Payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4

¹ See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

² However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney, and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

Exemption from FATCA reporting code. The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements.

- A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37)
- B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- C—A state, the District of Columbia, a possession of the United States, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Reg. section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)
- E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Reg. section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)
- F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state

- G—A real estate investment trust
- H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a)
- J—A bank as defined in section 581
- K—A broker
- L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1)
- M—A tax exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan

Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN. However, the IRS prefers that you use your SSN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (see *Limited Liability Company (LLC)* on page 2), enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

Note. See the chart on page 4 for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

How to get a TIN. If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local Social Security Administration office or get this form online at www.ssa.gov. You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at www.irs.gov/businesses and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. You can get Forms W-7 and SS-4 from the IRS by visiting IRS.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

Note. Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

Caution: A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if items 1, 4, or 5 below indicate otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on the "Name" line must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code* earlier.

Signature requirements. Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

1. **Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.
2. **Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983.** You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.
3. **Real estate transactions.** You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.
4. **Other payments.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).
5. **Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

**Certification
Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Ineligibility**

As is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 45 CFR Part 76, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, the applicant certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that both it and its principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid proposal and/or application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with commission of any of the offenses enumerated herein; and
- d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid proposal and/or application had one or more public transactions terminated for cause or default.

Signature: _____
Print Name: _____
Title: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Date: _____

If the bidder is unable to certify to all of the statements in this Certification, such bidder should attach an explanation to this proposal.

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF HIDALGO §

CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES
C-15-028-00-00

THIS AGREEMENT is made on the ___ day of _____, 2015 by and between **HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS**, a political subdivision of the State of Texas (hereinafter “County”) and _____ a resident of (Hidalgo County, Texas) _____ (hereinafter “Consultant”) to serve at the pleasure of the Hidalgo County Commissioner’s Court.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, County desires to contract with a person to provide the services necessary to the County of Hidalgo that are more specifically set forth hereinafter; and

WHEREAS, Consultant(s) has agreed to provide the services enumerated hereinafter to Hidalgo County Commissioner’s Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, for the mutual consideration expressed hereinafter, County and Consultant(s) agree as follows:

1. Consultant(s) agrees to provide the County the consulting services required by Hidalgo County in connection with “**Professional Energy Consultant Services**” (the Project”) pursuant to Article 262.024 “The Professional Service Procurement Act”, Texas Local Government Code. The County requested proposals from professional consultants to assist the County to providing consulting services for the Project. The services include, but are not limited to, the items listed on Appendix A, which is attached and made a part of this Contract.
2. Consultant(s) will report any problems or recommended changes in the Implementation of “**Professional Energy Consultant Services**” to Hidalgo County.
3. As consideration for services of Consultant(s) described herein, County agrees to

pay Consultant(s) the fees as outlined in Appendix B, which is attached to and made a part of this Contract.

4. Consultant(s) must comply with all applicable County policies. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, Consultant(s) represents and maintains that he is an independent Consultant(s) and is not an employee of County or any agency thereof, and represents and warrants that he does not desire or request any fringe benefits provided to employees of County. Consultant(s) agrees to be responsible for any federal income tax, withholding or social security tax liability that might arise from payments received hereunder.

5. County and Consultant(s) agree that either party may terminate this contract upon thirty (30) days written notice at any time for any reason or no reason at all. In the event this Contract is terminated without cause by County, but not otherwise, any unpaid fees or compensation owing to Consultant(s) at the time of termination under this Contract will be due and payable to Consultant(s) within thirty (30) days following the time of contract termination.

6. Consultant(s) may not assign the obligations or rights under this Contract to any person without the prior written consent of County.

7. Consultant(s) agrees to comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

8. The term of this Contract shall commence _____ and terminate upon _____.

9. Notice. Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Contract, all notices, demands, requests or communications required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall be either be (i) personally against a written receipt, or (ii) sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the address set forth below, or at such other address as may have been theretofore specified by written notice delivered in accordance herewith.

If to County:

County of Hidalgo, Texas
Attn: County Judge
302 West University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78539

If to Consultant(s):

Attn: _____

Each notice, demand, request or communication which shall be delivered or mailed in the manner described above shall be deemed sufficiently given for all purposes at such time as it is personally delivered to the addressee or, if mailed, at such time as it is deposited in the United States mail.

10. Conflict with Applicable Law. Nothing in this Consultant(s) shall be construed so as to require the commission of any contrary to law, and whenever this is any conflict between any provision of this Contract and any present or future law, ordinance or administrative, executive or judicial regulation, order or decree, or amendment hereof, contrary to which the parties have no legal right to contract, the latter shall prevail, but in such event the affected provision or provisions of this Contract shall be modified only to the extent necessary to bring them within the legal requirements and only during the time such conflict exists.

11. No Waiver. No waiver by County of any breach of any provision of this Contract shall be deemed to be a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach of the same or any other provision hereof.

12. Entire Agreement. This Contract contains the entire Contract between the parties hereto, and each party acknowledges that neither has made (either directly or through any agent or representative) any representations or agreements in connection with this Contract not specifically set forth herein. This Contract may be modified or amended only by agreement in writing executed by County and Consultant(s) and not otherwise.

13. Texas Law to Apply. This Agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and all obligations of the parties created hereunder are performable in Hidalgo County, Texas. The parties hereby consent to personal jurisdiction in Hidalgo County, Texas.

14. Additional Documents. The parties hereto covenant and agree that they will execute such other further instruments and documents as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out the terms of this Contract.

15. Successors. This Contract shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrator, legal representatives, successors, and assigns where permitted by this Contract.

16. Assignment. This Agreement shall not be assignable; provided, however, that Consultant(s) may assign its right to receive payments hereunder for the purpose of obtaining financing so long as Consultant(s) is not excused from and/or does not delegate its duties hereunder.

17. Headings. The headings and captions contained in this Contract are solely for convenient reference and shall not be deemed to affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision or paragraph hereof.

18. Gender and Number. All pronouns used in this Contract shall include the other gender, whether used in the masculine, feminine or neuter gender, and the singular shall include the plural whenever and as often as may be appropriate.

19. Authority to Execute. The execution and performance of this Contract by County and Consultant(s) have been duly authorized by all necessary laws, resolutions or corporate action, and this Contract constitutes and valid and enforceable obligations of County and Consultant(s) in accordance with its terms.

20. Ethical Provision. It is understood that the employee of County or individuals acting as agents for County are not authorized to receive any type of personal payment, reimbursement, compensation, commission, gift or gratuity for services provided under this Contract. Consultant(s) warrants that no employee or agent of the County has been retained to solicit or secure this Contract and that Consultant(s) has not paid or agreed to pay and employee of County any fee, commission, percentage brokerage fee, gift or any other consideration contingent upon the making of this Contract, or as an inducement for entering into this Contract. The unauthorized offering or receipt of such payments may result in the immediate termination of this Contract.

21. Commitment of Current Revenues Only. In the event that, during any term hereof, the Commissioners Court does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of the County under this Agreement, County may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to Consultant(s). County, agrees however, to use reasonable efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this Agreement. The parties intend this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Agreement at the expiration of each budget period of County pursuant to the provision of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann §71.903 (Vernon Supp. 1995).

22. Indemnity and Hold Harmless. Consultant(s) agrees to indemnify and hold County harmless from any loss, costs, liabilities or damages which are incurred by County which are primarily attributable to the acts or omissions of Consultant(s) or the acts or omissions of Consultant(s) employees, agents or other representatives, including the violation of any law or regulation related to Consultant(s)'s duties under this Agreement.

To the extent permitted by applicable law, County agrees to indemnify and hold Consultant(s) harmless from any loss, costs, liabilities or damages which are incurred by

Consultant(s) which are primarily attributable to the acts or omissions of County of the acts or omissions of County employees, agents or other representatives, including the violation of any law or regulation related to County's duties under this Agreement.

23. Representation and Warranties. Consultant(s) represents and warrants to County all representations and warranties of Contract as contained in its responses to County's Request for Proposal are true and correct as of the date hereof. In the event any representation or warranty of Consultant(s) hereunder is or becomes incorrect or untrue, Consultant(s) agrees to promptly notify County thereof, in which event County may, in its sole discretion, elect to terminate this Contract, for cause, in the manner herein provided. Consultant(s) acknowledges and agrees that County has relied and continues to rely upon the representations and warranties of Consultant(s) as herein contained as a material inducement to County to enter into the Contract.

DRAFT

EXECUTED and effective as of the day and year first written above.

APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT ON _____, 2015.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, L.L.P

By: _____
Stephen L. Crain

Date: _____

COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS

By: _____
Ramon Garcia , County Judge

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

Date: _____

Consultant:

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT

EXHIBIT "A"

SCOPE OF SERVICES

EXHIBIT "B"
PAYMENT SCHEDULE

**EXHIBIT “C”
INSURANCE
REQUIREMENTS**

DRAFT

EXHIBIT "C"
INSURANCE
REQUIREMENTS

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT “B”
PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

TEXAS ENERGY CONSULTANTS

Edinburg Office
2516 West Freddy Gonzalez Dr.
Edinburg, TX 78539
956-207-3644

PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE

- B. **Option 2:** Flat rate fee schedule of \$40,000 per year with monthly billings of \$3,333 per month for the duration of the term of the retail energy contract approved by Commissioners Court.*

Scope of Work for this schedule includes the objective of competitively securing the lowest possible energy market price by:

1. Drafting the bid parameters for equality & completion of pricing offers.
2. Promote offers from state energy companies that are aggregators, cooperatives, State GLO program, independents such as STAP, etc.
3. Conduct an objective & quantitative analysis of bids.
4. Receive, tabulate & analyze submittals. Such as pricing parameters, contract parameters such as hidden fees or costs, "blend & extend", market fluctuations & pricing adjustments, etc.
5. Prep bid tab grid for presentation to Comm Court, i.e. top 3 or 4
6. Make presentation & recommendation to Court.
7. Ensure contract implementation with all meters included.
8. Assist with meter additions or deletions throughout term of the agreement.
9. Review of monthly billings & audits on a quarterly basis to ensure contract parameters & pricing are being met.
10. Review & audit of previous year's monthly billing for inaccuracies, energy demand load adjustments, etc.
11. Review & audit of pricing adjustments, fees & TDSP charges.
12. Secure reimbursements for incorrect data, market adjustments or pricing inaccuracies that resulted from the billing audit & review of data.
13. Review & determine alternative energy solutions for the County. i.e. energy conservation & savings, alternative energy solutions such as solar, L.E.D., & renewable.

*Payment for term of the energy contract is a common industry practice recognized by all retail energy providers.

**EXHIBIT “C”
INSURANCE
REQUIREMENTS**

