



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

July 21, 2021

Research, Applied Technology, Education & Service, Inc. Via email: jelees@ratesresearch.org
(RATES) d/b/a RATES/RGV Term: 09/01/2021 – 10/31/2022
Lower Rio Grande Valley TPDES Stormwater Regional Task Force
P O Box 697
Edinburg, TX 78539

Re: HB Form 1295 Required/Renewal/Extension Notice
Original Contract - C-19-293-09-10 – “Research, Applied Technology, Education & Service, Inc. (RATES) d/b/a RATES/RGV - Lower Rio Grande Valley TPDES Stormwater Regional Task Force”

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that Hidalgo County intends to exercise its option to extend/renew the second of three *one-year terms under the same rates, terms, and conditions* with *Research, Applied Technology, Education & Service, Inc. d/b/a RATES/RGV Lower Rio Grande Valley TPDES Stormwater Regional Task Force* for the above-referenced project. As of **January 1, 2016**, to comply with the **Texas Government Code, §2252.908**, and the rules issued by the **Texas Ethics Commission** found in Title 1, Section 46.1, 46.3, and 46.5 of the Texas Administrative Code, a business must submit a completed **Certificate of Interested Parties Form 1295**, to the County before the County may enter into a contract (*extension*) with the business entity.

Thus, in order for County staff to process the above-referenced extension/renewal, you must complete and file Form 1295 with the Texas Ethics Commission. Form 1295 can be found at the following website:

https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf_info_form1295.htm

In box 3 of Form 1295, provide reference No. **E-21-131**. Once completed and filed with the Texas Ethics Commission, Form 1295 must be printed, signed, and submitted to our office by the deadline stated below.

To proceed with approval of **Renewal/Extension** for the above-referenced project by Commissioners Court, the signed “**HB Form 1295**” and “**Extension Notice**” must be received in our office completed via email to heidi.ortiz@co.hidalgo.tx.us by **no later than Friday, July 23, 2021**. Hidalgo County cannot enter into a contract/renewal until Form 1295 is submitted, therefore, failure to timely submit Form 1295 may result in a delay of the award.

In, addition, please include your “**Updated Certificate of Insurance**” with acknowledgment of receipt to this notice by signing below and returning to the Hidalgo County Purchasing Department, via email to heidi.ortiz@co.hidalgo.tx.us by no later than the date reflected above.

By: _____

Joeli E. Leer

Date: _____

7/22/2021

Hidalgo County Purchasing Department welcomes and appreciates your participation in the contract process. If any further assistance is required, please do not hesitate to call the Purchasing Department at 956/318-2626.

Sincerely,

Martha L. Salazar
Martha L. Salazar, CPPB
Hidalgo County Purchasing Agent

MLS/hgo