

**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO**

**DEPARTMENT:** General Administration  
Diversity Section

**DATE:** October 17, 2024

**TO:** Edward W. Podczerwinski  
Director of Monitoring and Research

**FROM:** Richard L. Martinez, Jr., Acting Diversity Administrator

*Richard L. Martinez, Jr.*

**SUBJECT:** Review of Request for Proposal 24-RFP-16, “Professional Services to Furnish, Deliver, and Deploy a Technology Platform Using Real-Time Advanced Analytics for Aeration Optimization at the Terrance J. O’Brien Water Reclamation Plant” (Requisition 1622683)

The Diversity Section has completed its review of the subject Request for Proposal (“the RFP” or this Project”). We have determined that the RFP should not contain goals for Affirmative Action participation.

In accordance with the RFP, the District’s M&R Department will assist its M&O Department (“M&O”) in retaining professional services to furnish, deliver, and deploy a technology platform using real-time advanced analytics for aeration treatment optimization at the O’Brien WRP. This Project encompasses a new technology platform that will assist M&O in optimizing the activated sludge process, largely by enhancing current biological phosphorus reduction. The estimated cost of this Project is \$150,000.00, with an estimated completion date of December 31, 2026.

In determining that the RFP should not contain goals for Affirmative Action participation, the Diversity Section noted that the services being solicited would typically need to be performed by a single firm. This conclusion acknowledges that although the Project data that the District will share with the selected technology provider is publicly available, that provider’s software codes, artificial intelligence and machine learning modules associated with its software used on the Project, will constitute proprietary information that will not be divulged to the District or other entities. As such, the Project does not provide practical opportunities for subcontracting. Therefore, based upon the factors noted above, Appendices A and V should not be included in the RFP.

If you would like further information concerning this review, please contact Diversity Officer Fred Fortier at extension 1-4032.

RLM/FF

Attachments

C: D. LoCascio, S. Morakalis, D. Brose, L. Cornier, N. Lopez, M.Valdez