

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
I-39 over the Kishwaukee River Bridge Replacement Project PDB
District 2, Winnebago County, Contract No.: 64V16
Responses to Requests for Clarifications (RFCs) – November 13, 2025

The following Requests for Clarifications (RFCs) were received from prospective proposers for the above captioned project. The responses provided by IDOT may be relied upon by proposers when submitting a Proposal for in response to the RFP issued on October 24, 2025. Where indicated, an Addendum to the RFQ has been issued to provide proposers with any changes to the RFP resulting from IDOT's responses to these RFCs.

No.	RFP Section	Addendum	Request for Clarification	IDOT Response
1	Section 4.4.6 - Minimum Qualifications of Personnel		The RFQ notes in Section 4.4.6 that the Design Manager, Structural Engineer, and Geotechnical Engineer are "to be assigned to the Project full-time whenever [design/structural/geotechnical] design activities are being performed and meet the co-location requirements, if required in the Technical Requirements." Could IDOT please clarify the intended location and duration of these co-location requirements? Specifically: 1. Will co-location be required at IDOT District 2 offices, at a field office near the project site, or another designated project location? 2. Are these co-location requirements expected to apply full-time throughout the design phase or only during specific meetings or collaborative sessions (e.g., design milestone reviews, cost and schedule workshops, risk workshops)?	Project Technical Requirements will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP).

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2	Section 4.4.6'(C) - Minimum Qualifications of Key Personnel	Addendum No. 1	Section 4.4.6'(C) states that the Design Quality Control Manager (DQCM) "shall visit the site as necessary to validate design quality, respond to any quality issues, and report on that visit to the District PM." We Would like clarification on the intent of this requirement. Our understanding is that the DQCM is primarily responsible for verifying the quality and compliance of design deliverables (plans, calculations, specifications) and ensuring adherence to the Design Quality Management Plan, rather than performing site validation during construction. Could IDOT please clarify whether: 1. The DQCM's site visits are intended only to validate design-related conditions (e.g., verifying field constraints during design development), or 2. The DQCM is expected to perform on-site construction-phase validation, which may overlap with the responsibilities of the Construction Quality Control Manager (CQCM)?	See Addendum No. 1 for revised language.

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3	Section 4.4.6(G) - Minimum qualifications of Key Personnel (Environmental Compliance Manager)		Section 4.4.6(G) describes the Environmental Compliance Manager (ECM) as a role responsible for "assuring compliance of all on-site activities with the requirements of all permits and regulatory requirements" reporting directly to the District Project Manager and the Proposer's Project Manager, and having authority to stop work for noncompliance. However, Section 3.1 (Category 6) of the Preconstruction Phase Services also identifies responsibilities for the PDB Contractor that include: Identifying and obtaining temporary/permanent easements necessary for construction and access; Developing third-party impact avoidance and reduction strategies; and Assisting in obtaining permits and approvals as part of preconstruction services. We request clarification on the intended scope and level of effort of the Environmental Compliance Manager relative to these preconstruction and permitting activities: 1. Is the ECM expected to be primarily a field-based compliance role monitoring adherence to environmental permits obtained by the Phase I/NEPA team? 2. Or does IDOT anticipate that this position will also support the continuation or completion of NEPA documentation and permit acquisition activities under the PDB contract?	All activities listed in revised Section 3.1 in Addendum No. 1 are to be conducted by the PDB Contractor. See response below for clarification on ECM responsibilities. Response to item 1 - Yes the ECM is primarily a field based compliance role. Response to item 2 - IDOT does not anticipate that this position will support the continuation or completion of NEPA documentation. The PDB Contractor will be responsible for assisting IDOT with acquisition of any additional permits required for the project.

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4	Section 3.1 - Preconstruction Phase, Category 6		Section 3.1 (Category 6) of the RFQ states that the PDB Contractor shall "identify and garner temporary/permanent easement necessary for construction and access." Could IDOT please clarify the intended responsibility for obtaining these easements? Specifically: 1. Is it the Department's intent that the PDB Contractor negotiate and acquire any required temporary or permanent easements directly with property owners, or will IDOT retain responsibility for all real estate acquisition and negotiation activities? 2. What process does IDOT anticipate for the PDB team to identify, document, and request needed temporary and permanent easements (e.g., submittal through IDOT for acquisition, inclusion in right-of-way plans, or other procedure)? 3. Will the scope of the PDB Contractor's role be limited to identifying and providing documentation for IDOT to pursue easement acquisition, rather than performing the acquisition themselves?	Project Technical Requirements will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP).

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5	Section 4.4.6(F) – Minimum Qualifications of Key Personnel (Quality Assurance Manager) – pages 19-20		Section 4.46(F) states that the Quality Assurance Manager (QAM) shall be "from an independent firm that is not involved in construction operations of the project" and is responsible for verifying design conformance through the Design Quality Manager and for QA inspection and testing of all materials and work performed on the project. We request clarification on the following points: 1. Given that the QAM's duties appear to include oversight of both design-phase quality assurance and construction-phase QA, does IDOT intend this to be one combined role covering both phases, or may proposers assign separate QA Managers for design and construction? 2. Regarding the requirement for the QAM to be from an independent firm not involved in construction operations, could IDOT clarify whether: "Independent" means only independence from construction activities, or It requires independence from any participation in the project (eg Design, survey or other preconstruction tasks)	Response to 1 - The QA manager for design may be a different person from QA manager for construction. The qualifications for the QAM must comply with the RFQ requirements. Response to 2 - The QAM must to be from an independent separate firm that is not involved in construction operations for the project.
6	RFQ Section 2.13 Federal Requirements		The noted section above refers to the requirements for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and references (49 CFR Part 26). With the recent issuance of the October 3, 2025 Interim Final Rule (IFR) from the USDOT regarding DBE program, can IDOT please clarify the intent for DBE requirements on this project?	IDOT is currently reviewing the Interim Final Rule issued on October 3, 2025. Project DBE requirements will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP).
7	RFQ Section 5.2 Format and Content, Item C	Addendum No. 1	Can the organizational chart narrative be included on the 11x17 organizational chart page, since it is directly relevant and provides narrative context for the visual?	No additional information or narrative can be included on the organizational chart. See Addendum No. 1 for revised language.

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8	1.2 Procurement Schedule, page 2		We request a time extension for the due date of the Statement of Qualifications to December 10, 2025. Due to the complexity of the RFQ and our commitment to providing a thorough and high-quality response that accurately reflects our qualifications and relevant experience, we are requesting an extension of two weeks to allow our team adequate time to submit a fully responsive and competitive SOQ. If granted, could the RFC deadline date please be extended a similar amount of time and therefore be amended to November 19, 2025?	The SOQ submission date is November 26, 2025 at 4:00pm and will not be extended.
9	Page 4, Section 2.2 Project Description and Scope		Will the PDB team be provided access to all existing models, calculations, test analyses and results, repair plans, and inspection reports to support understanding of the bridge's current condition, historical performance, and previous repair work?	Any existing Project data available will be shared with Shortlisted Proposers in the RFP, to the extent allowable by Department policies.
10	Page 4, Section 2.2 Project Description and Scope		Please clarify whether IDOT will retain responsibility for ongoing monitoring, testing, and inspection of the existing structure, or if these activities will be transferred to the PDB team.	The intention is for IDOT to continue monitoring, testing and inspecting the existing structure up until NTP2. This will be clarified in the RFP.
11	RFQ Section 2.8 Prequalification for Engineering Firms, pages 6-7		Section 2.8.2 Prequalification for Engineering Firms states "IDOT Anticipated the following prequalification categories will be required for engineering firms to receive authorization to execute the PDB Contract..." Please confirm that the prequalification categories are only required to be met by the Lead Engineering/Design Firm(s) and each engineering/design sub-consultant that will perform 30% or more of the design work, i.e. Design Firms completing less than 30% of the design work are not required to be prequalified with IDOT or are expected to be prequalified in their respective discipline only.	The prequalification categories are only required to be met by the Lead Engineering/Design Firm(s) and each engineering/design sub-consultant that will perform 30% or more of the design work. Design Firms completing less than 30% of the design work are required to be prequalified with IDOT in their respective discipline only.
12	RFQ Section 4.6.2 Financial Viability, page 22		Please confirm that a Proposer is not required to submit a completed Affidavit of Availability (BC 57) if the Proposer holds an IDOT rating of Super Unlimited.	If the Proposer holds an IDOT rating of Super Unlimited, such letter and status certificate must be provided instead of providing Affidavit of Availability (BC 57).

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13	RFQ Section 4.5 Evaluation Criteria - Proposer Experience (Pages 21-22, 24, Checklist and Contents attachment)	Addendum No. 1	In Section 4.5 Evaluation Criteria - Proposer Experience, the RFQ states "Using Form 8 - Work History ..." and does not specifically mention "provide a narrative" as is stated in other evaluated sections. If the Form 8 is to be submitted in the "Other SOQ Forms" section per the Checklist, please confirm we are expected to submit a narrative in the Proposer Experience as well and that the narrative would be included in the 15-page limit.	The Proposer Experience has been deleted from the list as shown in Section 5.2 in Addendum No. 1. The experience narrative is to be provided in the required space in Form 8 - Work History Form." Also, as per Section 5.2 - Form 8 - Work History Form should not exceed one (1) page per project, which shall not be included in the 15-page limit.
14	RFQ Section 4.4.6. Minimum Qualifications of Key Personnel (Section 4.4.6(C) - Design Quality Control Manager), page 18	Addendum No. 1	In Section 4.4.6(C) the text states the Design Quality Control Manager will "manage the Proposer's construction Quality Control functions." Please confirm this is a typo and should read "design Quality Control functions."	See Addendum No. 1 for revised language.
15	Form 1 – Statement of Qualifications Checklist and Contents		The Checklist indicates that the Letter of Submittal (Section 4.2.1 (A-D)) is included within the 15-page limit. Since this information is not scored in the 6.2 Technical Evaluation allocation of points on page 25, please consider excluding this letter from the overall 15-page limit.	The legal and financial information included in the Letter of Submittal related to Sections 4.2.1 (A-D) undergo the responsiveness review as mentioned in Section 6.1. Therefore, this important information is included in the 15 page limit.
16	General Question		If no federal funds are available for expenditure for this project, please confirm that the 4% bid preference required by 30 ILCS 500/45-105 will not be applicable to the procurement of this PDB project under 30 ILCS 538/1-1 et. seq. as the 4% bid preference only applies to "construction services" (30 ILCS 500/45-105(c)) while a PDB procurement includes "construction-related professional services." The difference between "construction services" and "construction-related services" is specifically noted within the 4% bid preference statute at 30 ILCS 500/45-105(g) and is separately defined at 30 ILCS 500/1-15.20 where "construction-related services" includes "construction design." Since this PDB project seeks to procure "construction design," which is a "construction-related service," the 4% bid preference required by 30 ILCS 500/45-105 is not applicable.	The 4% does not apply.

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17	RFQ Section 5.2 D, Page No. 27		RFQ Section 5.2 D states that 12-point font is required for the SOQ except for 10-point font on Forms 7 and 8. Please allow smaller than 12-point font (legible font size) for graphics or photos.	12-point font is required for the SOQ with the exception of Form 7, Form 8, and the organizational chart.
18	RFQ Section 4.5, Page No. 26		Section 4.5 - Please confirm that projects that are currently in progress can be submitted as Proposer Experience (Form 8).	Projects that are in progress may be submitted on Form 8.
19	RFQ Section 4.4.6 F, Page No. 23	Addendum No. 1	Section 4.4.6 F Quality Assurance Manager (QAM) description indicates oversight and acceptance of design quality assurance as well as construction quality assurance testing and inspection. (i.e. materials, testing and sampling) These two scopes of QA (Design vs. Construction) are generally performed by different personnel. The licensed engineer in the State of Illinois generally performs design QA. On IDOT bid-build projects, the construction QA inspection and testing of materials is generally performed by IDOT or its consultants. Is it IDOT's intention that the design-builder will do both design and construction Quality Assurance Management for this Project? If so, they will likely need to be different personnel and/or firms.	The PDB Contractor will perform both design and construction Quality Assurance Management. See Addendum No. 1 for revised language. The QA manager for design may be a different person from QA manager for construction. The qualifications for the QAM must comply with the RFQ requirements. The QAM must to be from an independent separate firm that is not involved in construction operations for the project.
20	RFQ Section 5.2, Page No. 27-28	Addendum No. 1	Progressive Design Build Projects frequently have separate Preconstruction and Construction Organizational Charts with overlapping personnel. Please allow for more than one 11x17 inch organizational chart and allow for additional page count or eliminate the Org Charts from the overall page count.	See Addendum No. 1 for revised language.
21	RFQ Section 4.4.6 Minimum Qualification of Key Personnel, (Design Manager, Structural Engineer, Geotechnical Engineer), Colocation Requirements		Will the RFP specify mandatory co-location for key personnel (Design Manager, Structural Engineer, Geotechnical Engineer)? What is the expectation for the duration and location and facilities. Will remote work be permitted for these key personnel?	Project Technical Requirements will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP).

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22	RFQ Section 4.4.6 Minimum Qualification of Key Personnel, Quality Assurance Manager (QAM), Licensing Requirement		The Project specifies that the QAM must be a licensed professional engineer or structural engineer in Illinois. Would IDOT consider accepting a candidate with over 20 years of relevant experience in lieu of the Illinois PE/SE requirement?	As stated in Section 4.4.6, the QAM must be a licensed professional engineer or a licensed structural engineer licensed in the State of Illinois.
23	RFQ Article 5.2 Format and Content, Form 8 (Work History Forms)	Addendum No. 1	Form 8 (Work History Forms) is required at both Section 6 (Proposer Experience) and Section 8 (Other SOQ Forms). Where does IDOT want the forms to be placed?	See Addendum No. 1 for revised language.
24	General Question		Is this project expected that there will be multiple NTP2 with different work packages?	Project Technical Requirements will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP).
25	RFQ Section 4.4.6, K, Geotechnical Engineer Experience, Page No. 20		What type of Geotech is required by the PDB? If extra borings are required, will PDB or Phase-1 be responsible for it?	Project Technical Requirements will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP).