## Questions and Answers for Request for Applications #2022-2213-WPD

Kingman and Heritage Islands Conservation Area Restoration 2022-24

- **Q1.** Regarding the Applicant's indirect costs (Section 3.2.c.4.iv), can you please describe the process (including an estimated timeline) for obtaining "a new negotiated rate with DOEE" (option #2b)?
- A1. There is no process for negotiating an indirect cost rate for a for-profit entity. The RFA language for indirect cost applies only to non-profit entities. See the citation in Section 3.2.c.4.iv.

DOEE scores the application based on overall cost-effectiveness. See the scoring grid item 7. An applicant should submit a proposal with budget line items that show what the project will cost to implement, and a narrative explaining the budget.

Q2. Can you please explain the payment/reimbursement mechanism for for-profit applicants?

How would a for-profit applicant make a profit if the indirect cost rates do not apply to for-profit entities, and it appears that DOEE will only reimburse for direct costs? In the application budget, would the applicant simply propose a price (as opposed to cost) for each allowable expense, and then DOEE would "reimburse" the applicant based on those prices on a time and materials basis?

A2. Payment/reimbursement works the same for all Grantees regardless of their business classification. Please see RFA Section 6.2 Reimbursement of Project Expenditures, Advances, and Disbursement of Funds for details. The question's assumption is incorrect.

A for-profit entity's "indirect" cost rate, if it calculates one, is irrelevant to scoring an application and payment for a grantee.

The indicated language in the RFA pertaining to indirect cost only applies to nonprofits, and sources to a District statute that addresses the Council's concerns regarding NGOs' ability to cover their costs of delivering a service AND paying for the expenses of running their organizations. A for-profit entity may elect to report indirect costs in a budget. But the details of how it builds up its rates are not relevant to the evaluation of the application. These details are not relevant to the reimbursement process.

DOEE evaluates the application based on overall cost-effectiveness. See the scoring grid item 7. An applicant should submit a proposal with budget line items that show what the project will cost to implement, and a narrative explaining the budget.

**Q3.** Do the large debris piles on site contain hazardous waste, and therefore require special off-site disposal? Please provide any details about known contaminants, square footage of pile footprints, cubic yards of material, etc.

Also, is DOEE primarily interested in removing just the three large spoil piles, or interested in site-wide removal of debris? Debris removal will have a significant impact on the overall project budget, about what percent of the implementation budget should be focused on debris removal?

**A3.** While there are contaminated soil piles on Kingman Island, DOEE does not expect this grant to include the removal of contaminated soils. DOEE does not expect the application to include tasks or amounts to remove soils.

While there is other debris on Kingman Island, DOEE does not expect this grant to include the removal of debris. DOEE does not expect the application to include tasks or amounts to remove debris. DOEE has identified piles of concrete and creosoted poles.

This grant primarily looks for guidance. An application could address how the grantee will characterize debris, how to remove it, and the likely cost of removal. DOEE will want to know which of these debris materials should be removed, with ecological restoration as the primary filter for making these decisions. For example, for the described debris: An applicant may indicate how it would assess and advise that these creosote poles should be removed because they cannot support the biodiversity desired, but that the concrete is inert and may even enhance habitat value by allowing critters to live underneath of it. So, the grantee may advise that this concrete could stay, with no planned expenditure for it. In any event, DOEE does not expect an applicant to bid for the removal.

Removal of all debris from the islands would cost significantly more than this grant's budget. Having said that, DOEE would accept, and evaluate, an application that provided for characterization, evaluation, and removal of some debris. DOEE would accept a modest figure, around 5-10% of the implementation budget, that could address removal of some debris.

Thus, applicants may differ on how they approach the issue of debris. DOEE will look to the grantee to provide logical recommendations. We expect the selected applicant to provide us with the necessary information that can help us make such decisions.

- **Q4.** Are there prevailing wages and/or employment sourcing requirements associated with labor for this grant?
- A4. No. Not per se. But a grantee will operate within the District, and follow all District law, including the law regarding payment of wages.

- **Q5.** As far as documentation for labor/hours worked on the project, are basic timesheets acceptable, or does documentation need to be certified payroll?
- A5. Basic timesheets with standard categories (e.g., personnel, hourly rate, hours worked, billed amount, description of activities, etc.) are acceptable.
- **Q6.** Will DOEE extend the deadline for application submissions?
- **A6.** No.

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