

# MEETING MEMORANDUM

**PRE-BID MEETING  
DOS RIOS WRC SLUDGE THICKENING AND AERATION SYSTEM  
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
SAWS JOB NO. 08-6504  
SAWS SOLICITATION NO. B-09-050-DD**

Date: September 22, 2009

Location: Dos Rios WRC Training Room

## 1. INTRODUCTIONS

Marisa Martinez, SAWS Treatment and Recycling Engineering Manager, opened the meeting and stated that the pre-bid meeting was mandatory and only those attending the meeting may bid on the project. Ms. Martinez indicated that everyone must sign the attendance list provided for the meeting and that the attendance list will be posted on the SAWS web site. Ms. Martinez introduced Mike Boles, the project manager for the design consultant, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.

## 2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Mr. Boles provided an overview of the project using an enlargement of the site plan on Sheet G-006 that shows the locations of the facilities to be constructed for the Dos Rios WRC Sludge Thickening and Aeration System Improvements Project as follows:

- Truck Scale Improvements – The truck scale is located near the entrance to the Dos Rios WRC. Improvements include replacement of the load cells, replacement of the panels, the addition of card readers for driver access, and modifications to allow information to be transmitted to the Belt Filter Press Building. The truck scale deck will remain in place.
- Dewatering Facilities – The roofs will be replaced for the Belt Filter Press and Sludge Loading Buildings. In addition, a retaining wall will be constructed for the Sludge Loading Building, and pipe braces will be installed on the sludge feed lines to the belt filter presses.

- Underground Storage Tank Monitoring System – Fiber optic cable will be installed from the two underground storage tank locations, one at the boiler area and one at the chlorine building, to the O&M Building for remote monitoring of the leak detection system.
- Sludge Thickening Area – Improvements include modifications to the two existing gravity belt thickeners, the addition of two new gravity belt thickeners, the demolition of seven existing dissolved air flotation thickeners, and the addition of a subnatant pump station. The staging area is located in an open area south of the Sludge Thickening Area and east of the primary clarifiers at the location of the subnatant pump station. Salvageable items from the demolition are to be placed on the parking area on the east side of the Polymer Building.
- Aeration System – Underground air piping for the aeration system is to be replaced with aboveground air piping with concrete supports. Header piping is located on the south side of the Compressor Building with distribution piping connections at the aeration basins. In addition, there are two locations on the west side of the aeration basins with short sections of air piping. There are valves in the basement of the Compressor Building where pneumatic operators are to be replaced with electric actuators.
- The drawings indicate underground line locations based on as-built drawings. However, the contractor must verify locations prior to construction. There is a bid item for locating underground facilities at up to thirty (30) locations.
- The time for completion indicated in the bid documents is 360 calendar days.

### 3. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Mr. Boles stated that bidders should review the Special Conditions with particular attention to the following:

- Testing, inspections, and certifications are to be provided by the Contractor. This provision will take precedence over any technical specifications that indicate otherwise.
- City of San Antonio Permit fees are to be paid by the Contractor. An allowance is included in the bid proposal with the Contractor to be reimbursed the actual cost. The permit application has been submitted to the COSA with initial estimates of the permit fees indicating that the allowance in the bid proposal is adequate.

- Bidders should be aware that other contractors are working at various locations at the Dos Rios WRC and that there must be coordination in performance of the work.

#### 4. SEQUENCE OF CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Boles stated that bidders should review Section 01105 in the bid documents. There are locations where temporary shut-down of plant operations are necessary for connection of new facilities to existing facilities. This will require coordination with plant operations so that the treatment process will remain in compliance with permitted discharge requirements. Section 01105 includes specific sequence items which are intended to minimize the length of time for shut-downs. The Contractor may submit alternative sequences for consideration by SAWS. However, any sequence plan would be subject to change due to changes in treatment operations.

#### 5. CONTRACTOR'S SUBMITTALS

Mr. Boles called attention to Section 01300 in the bid documents, specifically regarding the SAWS Prolog electronic submittal process. Submittals, including shop drawings and the miscellaneous items listed in Section 01300, are to be submitted using Prolog.

#### 6. TEMPORARY FACILITIES AND CONTROLS

Mr. Boles stated that bidders should review Section 01500 with particular attention to the following:

- The staging area as indicated on the drawings is near the Sludge Thickening Area. However, additional materials storage locations will be discussed with SAWS operations staff because the indicated staging area is probably not sufficient for all materials storage. In particular, there are areas to the east and west of the dewatering facilities that could possibly be used for storage of the roof replacement materials. Also, there is an area to the south of the Compressor Building on the other side of a concrete channel that could possibly be used for storage of the air piping materials.
- The provisions for a project sign should reference SAWS Standard Specification No. 869. This will be included in an addendum.
- Temporary utilities are the responsibility of the Contractor.

- Erosion and sedimentation controls including Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans if needed to comply with the TCEQ rules are the responsibility of the Contractor.
- Comply with SAWS security procedures as indicated in the specifications regarding access to the Dos Rios WRC.

## 7. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Mr. Boles stated that the bidders should be aware of the warranty provisions, which is two years from acceptance by SAWS. Although equipment manufacturers typically have warranties based on date of delivery or start-up, the Contractor will be required to provide the specified warranty. A Manufacturer's Certificate of Installation will be required when specified in a Division 2 through 17 specification section.

## 8. SOIL/GEOTECHNICAL AND BURIED UTILITIES

Mr. Boles stated that a geotechnical report is included in the bid documents for informational purposes. This report was used for the structural design. Buried utilities are indicated on the Drawings based on available information. However, the Contractor is required to determine precise locations prior to excavation. Ms. Martinez stated that utility locations are included as an item in the bid proposal.

## 9. DCS Programming

Mr. Boles stated that bidders should review Section 17600 regarding DCS Programming. The Contractor will be required to use Emerson for the Ovation programming.

## 10. QUESTIONS

Prior to receipt of questions, Michael Mader with SAWS Safety stated that bidders should be aware of hazardous material in the area around the chlorine building. Specifically, containers of chlorine are stored in the area and workers will be required to be made aware of the alarms in that area and safety precautions in the event of a chlorine leak.

Questions from those in attendance included the following:

- What is the existing roof material for the Belt Filter Press and Sludge Loading Buildings?

Mr. Boles stated that this information would be provided by the structural subconsultant and included in an addendum.

- How accurate is the information on the underground lines?

Mr. Boles stated that it is based on as-built drawings, but the Contractor will be required to excavate and verify locations prior to construction.

- What are the salvageable items from the demolition because it makes a difference in the cost for demolition?

Ms. Martinez indicated that a response will be provided in an addendum.

- Should the aeration piping work be done at a particular time of year?

Mr. Boles referred to Section 01105, Sequence or Construction, which details the sequencing of the aeration piping work.

- How much down time will be allowed considering that there is an equalization basin that could be used?

Mr. Boles stated that the sequence of construction indicates a maximum of four hours of down time. Any allowance for additional time must be coordinated with plant operations. All shut-downs must be coordinated closely with plant operations. The plant must comply with permitted discharge limits at all times during construction.

- When do low flows typically occur at the plant?

Siavosh Chabokrow with SAWS Maintenance indicated that low flows are typically in the mornings from 9 AM to 12 PM.

- Would there be any reason that the roof removal at the Belt Filter Press and Sludge Loading Buildings could not be done all at once?

Mr. Chabokrow indicated that there is an air conditioning unit on top of the Belt Filter Press Building and that roof demolition for that building needs to be coordinated with plant operations.

- Can the bid date be postponed?

Mr. Boles indicated that he had received other requests to postpone the bid date. Ms. Martinez stated that SAWS will consider postponement, but will not move the November award date. Therefore, the bid date would probably not be moved more than a week.

Ms. Martinez stated that all questions must be submitted in writing and that all responses will be in an addendum.

## 11. CLOSING COMMENTS

Ms. Martinez made the following comments:

Nothing discussed during this pre-bid conference changes anything in the Bidding/Contract documents. Bidder is to strictly bid the written documents. Any changes to these Contract documents will be issued by written addendum. The meeting minutes will be for information purposes only.

- Technical questions regarding this project will be accepted by Diana W. Dwyer, in writing via email to [ddwyer@saws.org](mailto:ddwyer@saws.org) or fax to (210) 233-5218 until 4:00 PM (CST) on September 23, 2009. Answers to the questions will be included as part of an addendum.
- Bids are due prior to 10:00 AM, September 30, 2009 @ the Contract Administration Division, 2800 U.S. Hwy 281 North, Customer Center Building, Suite 171, San Antonio, Texas 78212.
- Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud by the SAWS Contract Administration Division in Conference Room 169, SAWS Customer Center Building.

## 12. SITE VISIT TO PROJECT LOCATIONS (Optional)

The optional site visit was made to the following locations.

- Sludge Thickening Area, including the staging area.
- Sludge Dewatering Area.
- Air piping header location adjacent to the Compressor Building.