



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

A DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

**Interstate 55 Bridge Preservation
DeSoto, Tate, and Panola Counties, Mississippi**

**Project Numbers
DB/IM-9999-02(253)/106720-301000, 302000, 303000**

September 14, 2015

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

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I. PURPOSE OF REQUEST

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to solicit Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from firms interested in providing design and construction services necessary for bridge preservation along Interstate 55 in DeSoto, Tate, and Panola Counties, Mississippi (known hereinafter as the “Project”).

The Mississippi Transportation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission,” will be utilizing the Design-Build method of contracting for this federally-funded project. The term “Responder” as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures, and others responding to this RFQ document. The term “Short-listed Responders” used herein refers to the responding firms that have been short-listed based on evaluation and scoring of their submitted SOQ and will be asked to submit a Volume 1 – Technical Proposal and a Volume 2 – Contract Price Proposal. The term “Contractor,” as used here, is defined as the selected Short-listed Responder with whom the contract is executed.

The Commission intends to use a two-step process to award a contract for this Project. This RFQ represents the first step in the process. After evaluation and scoring of responsive SOQs, the Commission intends to short-list the most qualified Responders (a minimum of three (3)). Those Short-listed Responders will be provided a Request for Proposals (RFP) and asked to submit a Volume 1 – Technical Proposal and a Volume 2 – Contract Price Proposal. These Proposals may include at a minimum: preliminary design plans, technical approach, a schedule including the number of calendar days to complete the Project, a cost to complete the Project, and any other information as outlined in the RFP. The format, contents, and evaluation criteria of the Volume 1 - Technical Proposal and the Volume 2 – Contract Price Proposal will be included in the RFP. Final execution of the contract will be based on evaluations of the aforementioned items and will be at the sole discretion of the Commission.

Provided that the Short-listed Responders have submitted a responsive Volume 1 – Technical Proposal and a responsive Volume 2 – Contract Price Proposal, a stipend of \$25,000.00 will be available to the Short-listed Responder(s) to whom the contract is not awarded.

It is not the intention of the Commission to receive project-specific design or engineering recommendations as part of the SOQ. Responders should limit their submittals to the information requested herein.

II. OVERVIEW

The Project may include bridge preservation activities on up to thirteen (13) locations northbound and southbound, which includes twenty-six (26) bridges, on Interstate 55 in DeSoto, Tate, and Panola Counties.

The specific structural repairs necessary at each location for this Project will be described in the RFP. This Project includes federal funds. The proposed bridge locations that may be part of this Project are:

- I-55 over Slocum Road NB and SB (MM 276.9) – DeSoto County
- I-55 over Coldwater River NB and SB (MM 272.9) – Tate County
- I-55 over SR 306 NB and SB (MM 271.3) – Tate County
- I-55 over Hickahala Relief NB and SB (MM 267.6) – Tate County
- I-55 over SR 4 NB and SB (MM 265.5) – Tate County
- I-55 over Canal and Shands Bottom Road NB and SB (MM 264.1) – Tate County
- I-55 over Compress Road NB and SB (MM 259.8) – Panola County
- I-55 over SR 310 NB and SB (MM 257.6) – Panola County
- I-55 over SR 315 NB and SB (MM 252.3) – Panola County
- I-55 over Belmont Road NB and SB (MM 250.9) – Panola County
- I-55 over River Road NB and SB (MM 248.0) – Panola County
- I-55 over Tallahatchie Relief NB and SB (MM 247.3) – Panola County
- I-55 over Tallahatchie River NB and SB (MM 247.1) – Panola County

Construction of the Project will be within the Commission's right of way. The Commission intends to secure the Categorical Exclusion for the construction of the Project as well as a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 404 (Wetlands/Waters) Permit, a 401 Water Quality Certification, and a Storm Water General Permit (LCNOI). Except for the documents related to the NEPA process, any additional permits and/or permit modifications required will be the responsibility of the Contractor and must be in compliance with all relevant state specifications and federal regulations.

MDOT will be responsible for the Construction Inspection and Job Acceptance Testing; however, the Contractor's Design Engineering Firm will be responsible for Design Quality Control and for providing a Quality Control Manager to monitor the overall quality of the project as well as administer the Contractor's Construction Quality Control Plan. The Contractor will be responsible for the Quality Control Testing of asphalt and concrete mixtures.

It is the intention of the Commission to provide Short-listed Responders with the results of non-destructive testing performed on the bridge decks. Additional reports will be posted to the Design-Build and Special Projects website as they are made available. Responders shall be solely responsible for checking the website for any and all updates, responses to written questions, addenda, or other information related to the Project.

III. SCOPE

This Project may include, but is not limited to, the following repairs: partial and full depth bridge deck hydrodemolition and replacement, bridge deck sealing, temporary bridge shoring during repairs, bridge deck crack sealing, concrete overlaying, temporary construction crossovers in the median, bridge rail replacement, end bent modification to accept the current MDOT bridge rails, guardrail modification to accept the current MDOT bridge rails, joint armor removal, joint repair, joint sealing, endwall repair, cleaning, painting, and lubrication of bearings or replacement of bearings, repair to damaged superstructure and substructure elements, repair and protection of roadway embankments beneath bridges, approach slab repair, seismic retrofits, bridge cleaning including the interior of reinforced concrete box girders, and bridge jacking.

The scope of work for this Project will include, but is not limited to, the following design and construction work items:

Design:

- Evaluation and analysis of existing conditions at each repair location
- Preliminary and final bridge superstructure and substructure design/repair and plan preparation
- Preliminary and final roadway design and plan preparation
- Temporary shoring design
- Hydraulic design
- Erosion control plans
- Traffic control plan
- Utility coordination
- Environmental coordination
- Quality control for design
- Surveying/staking
- Signing
- Intelligent transportation systems design

Design shall meet all appropriate AASHTO *Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets* (latest edition), AASHTO *Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges* (latest edition), FHWA *Seismic Retrofitting Manual for Highway Bridges*, *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (latest edition) (MUTCD), AASHTO *Drainage Manual*, 2001 MDOT Roadway Design Manual, subsequent design memos located on MDOT Roadway Design Division's webpage (<http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/RoadwayDesign/Pages/home.aspx>), Standard Drawings/special design sheets located on MDOT Roadway Design Division's webpage (<http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/RoadwayDesign/Pages/home.aspx>), and MDOT design criteria as modified by the RFP. CADD files prepared for MDOT's use shall be compatible to Microstation and Geopak.

Construction:

- Demolition necessary for improvements to the existing bridges with proper debris removal and disposal
- All necessary roadway and bridge work in accordance with construction plans including any necessary temporary shoring
- Surveying/staking
- Temporary removal and replacement of existing items within the limits of temporary crossovers
- Drainage
- Erosion and sediment control work items
- Quality control testing of asphalt and concrete mixtures
- Traffic control
- Utility coordination
- Environmental coordination
- Project management
- Construction management
- Construction quality control
- Safety
- Intelligent transportation systems construction

Construction shall comply with the MDOT *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction 2004 Edition* as modified by the RFP to accommodate specific Design-Build requirements, *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (latest edition), MDOT Standard Drawings/special design sheets located on MDOT Roadway Design Division's webpage (<http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/RoadwayDesign/Pages/home.aspx>), any Special Provisions, and Notice to Bidders, current MDOT, AASHTO or ASTM publications.

IV. SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

SOQs must be received by the date and time specified in the Milestone Schedule located at the end of this document. Deliver **seven (7)** copies of the SOQ sequentially numbered on the lower right hand cover sheet from 1 to 7, and one (1) CD containing the SOQ in a PDF file to:

Mr. Billy Owen, P.E.
Contract Administration Engineer
Mississippi Department of Transportation
401 North West Street
Post Office Box 1850
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1850
Phone: (601) 359-7730
Fax: (601) 359-7732

V. SUBMITTAL FORMAT

The SOQ must be submitted according to the Milestone Schedule located at the end of this document. The recommended length of the SOQ is no more than twenty-five (25) pages, double-spaced, exclusive of appendices. Pages (size 8.5 inches by 11 inches) will each be counted as one (1) page of the recommended 25-page maximum. Margins should be at least one inch on all four sides, typed on one side only, excluding appendices. All text information in the recommended 25-page limit should be shown in a readable font, size 12 points or larger. No more than five pages may be 11 inches by 17 inches, but they shall count as two sheets each against the recommended 25-page maximum. Headers, footers, charts, and other graphics may be provided in a different font type and size providing they are legible. Section dividers are not counted as part of the recommended 25-page maximum. A single-page cover letter and table of contents will not be counted as part of the recommended 25-page maximum. Resumes, licenses, certifications, and the SF 330 Part II may be provided in the appendices and will not count against the recommended 25-page maximum. It is preferred that all resumes be limited to one (1) page.

The overall quality of the SOQ submittal will be evaluated. This will include, but will not be limited to overall layout and readability of the submittal, organization and comprehensiveness of the required content, conformance with formatting guidelines, and any other characteristics of the SOQ that increase the quality of the document. Responders are encouraged to thoroughly address the requirements of the RFQ for the highest quality response. Failure to provide any of the information in the appropriate location indicated below may adversely affect the Responder's score.

Responders should address each of the following categories in their SOQ in the same order as listed below. The SOQ categories should be numbered in a manner consistent with this RFQ.

A. TEAM APPROACH TO MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACT

Identify the firms that are part of the team and describe how and why the team has been so structured. At a minimum, this description shall include those firms identified in the organizational chart as defined in section B. Explain the roles and responsibilities of each firm as part of the Responder's team and how these responsibilities will facilitate the successful completion of the Project.

In addition, each engineering firm should provide a completed Part II of Form SF 330 in accordance with the form's instructions. These forms should be included in the appendix. The form can be obtained at the following web address:

<http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/Consulting%20Services/Pages/Forms.aspx>

B. EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL

1. Provide an organizational chart of the Responder's team members including, at a minimum, all Key Individuals and other members of the team indicated in this section of the RFQ. The team organizational chart should include each individual's name, job description (for this Project), and company of employment. The organizational chart should be tabbed and clearly defined. Changes to Key Individuals shall not be made after initial submittal of this SOQ without MDOT approval.

Provide the complete contact information for the Project Director for correspondence during procurement. At a minimum, include a physical (mailing) address, a direct phone number, and e-mail address for this individual.

Key Individuals are defined as the following members of the team: Project Director, Lead Design Engineer, Construction Manager, Construction Superintendent(s), Project Surveyor, Environmental Manager, Safety Officer, Traffic Control Manager, and Quality Control Manager.

2. Provide the following information necessary to demonstrate that the following Responder's **Key Individuals and Staff** possess the preferred minimum qualifications listed below and any additional relevant qualifications, including previous Design-Build experience that may be advantageous to the Project:
 - a. The **Project Director** should have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience managing projects of similar scope and magnitude. Provide a maximum of five (5) projects that demonstrate the Project Director's ability to successfully complete a project of similar scope and magnitude. For each project listed, provide:
 - i. A brief description of each relevant project managed, including at a minimum, the year(s) of construction, the contract amount of the project, the Project Director's employer at the time, the location of the project, and any unique features.
 - ii. The name of the owner for whom the work was performed and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Project Director's participation in the project.
 - b. The **Construction Manager** should have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the management of projects of similar scope and magnitude. Provide a maximum of five (5) projects that demonstrate the Construction Manager's ability to successfully complete a project of similar scope and magnitude. For each project listed, provide:
 - i. A brief description of each relevant project managed, including at a minimum, the year(s) of construction, the contract amount of the project,

the Construction Manager's employer at the time, the location of the project, and any unique features.

- ii. The name of the owner for whom the work was performed and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Construction Manager's participation in the project.
- c. Each **Construction Superintendent** should have a minimum of five (5) years of experience in supervising projects of similar scope and magnitude.
- d. The **Project Surveyor** should have a minimum of five (5) years of experience and demonstrate experience in roadway and bridge survey, layout, and construction staking work. The Project Surveyor is required to be a Professional Surveyor licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
- e. The **Environmental Manager** should have experience in the environmental oversight of environmentally sensitive projects. Explain how the outcomes of these projects demonstrate concern for the natural environment. Provide current environmental certifications (if any). The Environmental Manager shall complete the MDOT Storm Water Training. Completion of the MDOT Storm Water Training is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
- f. The **Safety Officer** should demonstrate knowledge of current OSHA requirements and at a minimum have completed the OSHA 10-Hour Construction Training.
- g. The **Traffic Control Manager** should have knowledge of the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD), and have a minimum of five (5) years of experience with projects of a similar scope and magnitude. This Key Individual shall be available on a twenty-four (24) hour per day basis throughout construction and be prepared to coordinate response to the Project upon notification of an emergency situation.
- h. Provide the experience, qualifications, and any additional relevant information about the Responder's **Lead Design Engineer** that may be advantageous to the Project, including specialized experience in the seismic retrofitting of highway bridges. It is preferred that the Lead Design Engineer have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience and expertise in the design of projects of similar scope and magnitude. The Lead Design Engineer is required to be a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
- i. Provide the experience, qualifications, and any additional relevant information about any **Supporting Engineering Staff** that will be responsible for additional technical design elements necessary to the scope of the Project. These engineers

are required to be Professional Engineers licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work. The design team should have personnel with experience and expertise in design of projects of similar scope and magnitude including:

- i. Bridge design engineer,
 - ii. Traffic engineer, and
 - iii. Roadway design engineer.
- j. The **Quality Control Manager** shall have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience and demonstrate experience in inspection, testing, and certification of materials on projects of similar scope and magnitude. The Quality Control Manager is required to be a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work. The Quality Control Manager shall not be an employee of the construction firm.
3. Discuss the role and responsibility of each of the following select **Key Individuals** for the Project and how these roles and responsibilities will support the Responder's team:
- a. **Project Director** – The Project Director shall be the primary person in charge of and responsible for delivery of the Project in accordance with the contract requirements. The Project Director shall have full authority to make the final decisions on behalf of the Responder. During the procurement and pre-construction phases, the Project Director shall have responsibility for communicating these decisions directly to MDOT as the Responder's main point of contact during these phases.
 - b. **Lead Design Engineer** – The Lead Design Engineer shall be in charge of and responsible for all aspects of the design of the Project including design quality control.
 - c. **Construction Manager** – The Construction Manager reports directly to the Project Director and shall be responsible for the overall coordination of the Project including design and construction. The Construction Manager must be present at the site full-time. During the construction phase of the Project, the Construction Manager shall be the Contractor's main point of contact with MDOT.
 - d. **Quality Control Manager** – The Quality Control Manager shall be responsible for assuring that there is coordination between construction and design while assuring that all workmanship and materials are in compliance with the contract requirements. The Quality Control Manager shall be responsible for

administering the Construction Quality Control Plan (CQCP) including the resolution of any quality issues that might occur on the Project and for fully documenting the resolution of these issues through the designated Nonconforming Work Report (NCR) process. The Quality Control Manager shall be responsible for gathering all the necessary documentation for materials clearance throughout the life of the Project and upon completion of construction. The Quality Control Manager shall have the authority to halt construction and shall report directly to the Project Director.

As an appendix to the SOQ document, provide resumes of Key Individuals and other personnel considered critical to the success of this Project, including team members discussed above. It is preferred that all resumes be limited to one (1) page. Any licenses or certifications may be provided in the appendices. It shall be a requirement of the contract for the Project that any design reports, plans, and specifications shall be signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work. Key Individuals are to remain for the duration of the Project, and changes cannot be made without MDOT approval.

MDOT reserves the right to obtain references from any source listed in the SOQ and any other source deemed appropriate for any of the requirements/criteria listed in this RFQ.

Modifications to the Responder's, Short-listed Responder's, or Contractor's Key Individuals are discouraged and require prior approval by MDOT. MDOT will not approve requests for modification without proper justification. In order to secure MDOT's approval prior to the award of the contract, a written request shall be sent to the following e-mail address: 155DeSotoBridgePreservation@mdot.ms.gov. The request shall include:

- a) The nature of the desired change,
- b) The reason for the desired change, and
- c) A statement of how the team will meet the required qualifications for the position/responsibility.

No such modifications will be made without prior MDOT approval. Modifications to Responder's Key Individuals after short-listing could negatively affect evaluation of the Volume 1 – Technical Proposals.

Mississippi Code Annotated Sections 73-13-1 through 73-13-45 (1972) (as amended) govern the practice of engineering in Mississippi. Mississippi Code Annotated Sections 73-13-71 through 73-13-105 (1972) (as amended) govern the practice of land surveying in Mississippi. Firms are required to be qualified to offer and provide services in the State of Mississippi. For more information, contact the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors at (601) 359-6160. More information can be found at the Board's web address: <http://www.pepls.state.ms.us/pepls/web.nsf>.

C. PAST PERFORMANCE

The Responder should provide the following information demonstrating the team's past experience:

1. Provide a maximum of five (5) construction projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully complete the Project. Any of the listed construction projects may include projects utilizing the Design-Build method of delivery. Example construction projects and/or Design-Build projects should have been completed within the last ten (10) years or currently be under contract and should be of similar scope and magnitude to the Project herein. The Responder should also indicate whether they served as a subcontractor or a prime for each project, their role on the project, the construction contract amount of each project, the location of each project, the years of construction for each project, the name of the owner for whom the work was performed, and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the project. Indicate any innovative practices used on these projects and any client or industry recognition received.
2. Provide a maximum of five (5) design projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully design a project for construction. Any of the listed design projects may include projects utilizing the Design-Build method of delivery. Example design projects and/or Design-Build projects should have been completed within the last ten (10) years or currently be under contract and should be of similar scope and magnitude to the Project herein. The Responder should also indicate whether they served as a subconsultant or a prime for each project, their role on the project, the design contract amount of each project, the location of each project, the design contract execution date and completion date for each project, the name of the owner for whom the work was performed, and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the project. Indicate any innovative practices used on these projects and any client or industry recognition received.
3. Provide brief answers (Yes or No) and explanations as required to the following questions:
 - a. Has any member of the Responder's team been declared delinquent, defaulted, or been terminated on any project within the last **five (5)** years? If so, identify the team member(s) and project(s) and explain.
 - b. In the past **five (5)** years, has any member of the Responder's team been suspended, debarred, disqualified from bidding, or declared ineligible for work by any entity, or are any such actions pending against them? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.
 - c. Is any member of the Responder's team under indictment, been convicted, or had any construction-related civil judgments issued against them in the past **five (5)** years? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.

- d. Has any member of the Responder's team been assessed liquidated damages on any projects within the past **five (5)** years? If so, identify the team member(s), identify the project(s), and explain.
- e. Does any member of the Responder's team have active projects that are behind schedule? If so, identify the team member(s) and the project(s), and describe why the project(s) are behind schedule and how far the project(s) are behind schedule.
- f. Has any member of the Responder's team been assessed erosion and sediment control fines within the last **five (5)** years? If so, identify the team member(s) and the project(s) and explain.
- g. Has any member of the Responder's team incurred disciplinary action by a state board of licensure for professional engineers and surveyors or similar body within the past **five (5)** years? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.

D. SAFETY

1. Provide the OSHA Recordable Incident Rate for each construction firm for the last five years.
2. Identify any construction firm team member(s) that have been cited for OSHA violations within the last five (5) years. If a team member has been cited for a violation, provide a detailed explanation of the violation and identify the team member.
3. Provide a description of each construction firm's safety program and any other safety-related details that may be relevant to this Project.

E. BONDING AND INSURANCE CAPACITY

Provide information on the Responder's insurance and bonding capacity.

VI. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Responder's attention is directed to 23 CFR Section 636 Subpart A and in particular to Subsection 636.116 regarding organizational conflicts of interest. Section 636.103 defines "organizational conflict of interest" as follows:

"Organizational conflict of interest means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the owner, or the person's objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or a person has an unfair competitive advantage."

Responders shall provide information concerning potential organizational conflicts of interest and disclose all relevant facts concerning any past, present, or currently planned interests which may present an organizational conflict of interest. The Responder shall state how its interests or those of its chief executives, directors, Key Individuals for this Project, or any proposed consultant, contractor, or subcontractor may result, or could be viewed as, an organizational conflict of interest.

Responders are prohibited from receiving any advice or discussing any aspect relating to the Project or procurement of the Project with any person or entity with an organizational conflict of interest, including, but not limited to GS Infrastructure, Inc., and any of their affiliates. Such persons and entities are prohibited from participating on a Responder team relating to this Project.

The Responder agrees that, if an organizational conflict of interest is discovered, the Responder must make an immediate and full disclosure to MDOT that includes a description of the action that the Responder has taken or proposes to take to avoid or mitigate such conflict. If after award of the contract, an organizational conflict of interest is determined to exist, MDOT may, at its discretion, cancel the Design-Build contract for the Project at no additional cost. If the Responder was aware of an organizational conflict of interest prior to the award of the contract and did not disclose the conflict to MDOT, then MDOT may terminate the contract for default.

If no potential conflict of interest exists, the Responder should indicate so in the SOQ.

VII. SOQ EVALUATION

The criteria shown below will be considered in determining the firm's qualification score. The maximum points for each evaluation category will be as follows:

Quality of SOQ	10
Team Approach to Management of the Contract	20
Experience and Qualifications of Personnel	30
Past Performance	25
Safety	10
Bonding and Insurance Capacity	5
Maximum Score	100

VIII. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Commission intends for the contract to be awarded based on Best Value selection as defined in the RFP. The Commission intends for the contract type to be firm Fixed Price.

All Responders are advised that a DBE goal will be established in the RFP.

The Commission reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel this procurement and proceed no further or to re-advertise in another public solicitation.

The Commission assumes no liability and will not reimburse costs incurred by Responders (whether selected or not) in developing responses to this RFQ.

MDOT reserves the right to request or obtain additional information about any and all responses to the RFQ.

MDOT may issue addenda to this RFQ, which will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects). Responders shall be solely responsible for checking the website for any and all updates, responses to written questions, addenda, or other information related to the Project. Short-list results will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website.

All questions related to this RFQ shall be submitted by e-mail and directed to the following e-mail address:

I55DeSotoBridgePreservation@mdot.ms.gov

Questions e-mailed in accordance with the above method will be accepted according to the dates established in the Milestone Schedule. Only written requests e-mailed to the above e-mail address in accordance with this RFQ will be considered. No requests for additional information or clarification to any other MDOT office, firm, or employee will be considered. All responses will be in writing and will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

Neither the COMMISSION nor MDOT will be responsible for any oral exchange nor any other exchange of information that occurs outside the official process specified herein.

MDOT may disqualify a Responder if any of its major participants belong to more than one Responder's organization. The term "major participants" includes the Prime Contractor's construction company in its entirety and the firm from which the Lead Design Engineer is employed.

The Responder should mark any and all pages of their SOQ considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972, as amended). Each page of the SOQ that the Responder considers trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information should be on a different color paper than non-confidential pages and be marked in the upper right hand corner with the word "CONFIDENTIAL." Failure to clearly identify trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information will result in that information being released subject to a public records request.

All debriefing requests from Responders who are not short-listed shall be submitted by e-mail to the attention of the following individuals within one (1) week of the date that the list of Short-listed Responders is posted to the Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

Gina Lombard
glombard@mdot.ms.gov
and copy (Cc)
Scot Ehr Gott, P.E.
sehr gott@mdot.ms.gov

The debriefing shall be limited to teams not short-listed and to the merits of the individual Responder's SOQ.

IX. MILESTONE SCHEDULE

Advertise RFQ	September 14, 2015
Deadline for Submittal of RFQ Questions	September 29, 2015 5:00 p.m. Central Time
Target Date for MDOT to Post Final Answers and Issue Addenda	October 7, 2015
Deadline for Submittal of Seven (7) Copies and One (1) PDF File of SOQ	October 22, 2015 10:00 a.m. Central Time
Letter to Responders	December 3, 2015 (Approximate Date)
Provide RFP to Short-listed Responders	December 3, 2015 (Approximate Date)
Submittal of Volume 1 – Technical Proposals	February 2, 2016 (Approximate Date)
Submittal of Volume 2 – Contract Price Proposals	March 22, 2016 (Approximate Date)
Notification of Award	April 12, 2016 (Approximate Date)