

Q1: Does CRC have an estimated timeline for duration of the project from award of contract to completion of final report? This will be helpful to us in estimating our manpower allocations.

**A1: The contractor should propose the timeline to complete the research.**

Q2: Regarding the actual proposals (technical and cost), can they be in PDF?

**A2: Yes.**

Q3: Does the cost proposal also have a page count limit?

**A3: No.**

Q4: Do we delineate travel costs separately or absorb them into the cost of each task? Further, should it be the preference of the committee or CRC project manager to travel to CA for some of the meetings, do we account for those in our cost estimate?

**A4: How you allocate proposed costs is your preference, but please provide sufficient detail. I do not understand the second part of the question; meetings are not described in the Statement of Work.**

Q5: The CRC cover letter states "CRC expects to negotiate a fixed price contract for the research program." (I have underlined the word "negotiate.") Does this mean it may be amenable to a not to exceed and/or time and material costing approach or is it strictly lump sum?

**A5: A fixed price contract structure is preferred.**

Q6: How formal should the monthly reports be? Can they be in the form of a Word file with bulleted topics? Also, is the reporting period up to 10 days past the end of each calendar month or monthly cycles from when the project begins? For example if the official project start is June 15, is the first report due by July (or August) 10th, and each 10th of the month thereafter, or on July 25th (July 15th plus 10 days grace), August 25th, etc.?

**A6: Monthly reports can be in MS Word format; specific dates are flexible provided they arrive monthly; they should describe the work done during the reporting period.**

Q7: Would we be able to consult and interview some of the CRC member organizations regarding their design, data base, etc.? Would they charge a fee for their consultation?

**A7: The technical panel overseeing the project will be available to provide guidance, within their area of expertise, without charges to the contractor.**

Q8: If, in the course of the study, we need to obtain fee-based reports or studies that we learn about only after the study begins, can we charge for these separately or will their costs have to be absorbed?

**A8: Any proposed increase in costs for the project after the initiation of the project would be subject to negotiation.**

Q9: We are unclear as to whether CRC requires a quantitative risk assessment (QRA) or if what is wanted is a Hazard Analysis, followed by detailed consequence modeling and frequency analysis, with results assembled into a risk matrix.

**A9: Bidders are invited to propose an approach based on the statement of work in the request for proposals and their experience.**