



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
16 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0016

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

DAVID A. COLE
COMMISSIONER

January 11, 2010
Subject: **Thomaston**
Federal Project No's: STP-1297(100)X,
STP-1297(200)X
State Project No's: 012971.00,
012972.00
Amendment No. 1

Dear Sir/Ms:

Make the following change to the Bid Document:

In the Bid Book (page 1), NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS, in the first paragraph, **CHANGE** the sentence that begins; "The lowest responsive bidder ..." to read as follows, "The lowest responsive bidder must **demonstrate successful completion of a similar type project** to be considered for the award of this contract." Make this change in pen and ink.

The following questions have been received:

Question: In Section 648.15 – Crossing Control Case of both specifications, it is stated that a Safetran House must be used and all materials used within will be Safetran or "approved" by Safetran. This tends to lend ambiguity to the fact of the other "approved equal" contents and seems to eliminate all other vendors in supplying a "approved equal" house and their contents Will other "approved equal" type houses and materials with the exception of the Safetran Crossing Controller be accepted?

Response: Yes, other type of signal cases will be acceptable as long as it meets all other applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.

Question: Gate mechanisms shall be new S 40 type as manufactured by Safetran or approved equal. Would the Western Cullen 3597 Gate Mechanism be considered an approved equal?

Response: Yes, as long as it meets all other applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.



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Question: The bells shall be new electronic mounted for a 5 inch mast pole as manufactured by Safetran or approved equal. Would the General Signal EB-3-360-5 Electronic Bell be considered an approved equal?

Response: Yes, as long as it meets all other applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.

Question: Relays shall be applicable plug-in type Safetran component or approved equal. Would the Alstom Plug-in style vital relays be considered an approved equal?

Response: Yes, as long as it meets all other applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.

Question: Battery Bank Chargers shall be fully adjustable rectifiers as manufactured by Safetran SJ20/SJ40, or approved equal. Would the NRS-12/20 7 12/40 with temp compensation be considered an approved equal?

Response: Yes, as long as it meets all other applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.

Question: The Contractor shall furnish new AC/DC track circuit rectifiers avalanche type silicon diode and a protective equalizer model TCR6 as manufactured by Safetran or an approved equal. Would the GETSGS TD-1A and Ring-10 Track Diode be considered an approved equal?

Response: Yes, as long as it meets all other applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.

Question: The crossing control unit shall be the Safetran SSCC-III Plus unit. Would the GETSGS ElectroLogIXS XP4 with Integrated Crossing Controller be considered an approved equal?

Response: No, the Safetran SSCC-III Plus unit shall be used.

Question: We are proposing an alternate flashing light/gate configuration for Elliot Street.

1. Remove the gate across driveway (NW Quadrant).
2. Install gate parallel to tracks in line with fence.
3. Install additional flasher mast (NE Quadrant).
4. Install second gate mast (SE Quadrant).
5. Install fourth flasher mast in SW Quadrant as shown in attached sheet.

Response: No to items # 1-5, bid the job as designed.

Question: Must the 6' x 6' aluminum house be a Safetran Model or can it be a 6' x 6' aluminum house from another manufacturer?

Response: Yes, other type of signal cases will be acceptable as long as it meets all other applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.

Question: The plans show an existing conduit under the streets. Are there existing conduits under the track that can be used?

Response: All known conduit locations have been identified on the plans with the exception of Mechanic St. The following represents approximate location of conduit through the roadway:

(4) runs of 4" diameter (30' length x 4' depth) is located parallel to the railroad tracks on the left (North side) approximately 8 feet from the centerline of the railroad tracks and each end extends approximately 7' from the edge of pavement (Please see attachment "A" in Section 648 or Plan sheet 2 of 3 for further reference).

Question: In reference to the above projects, the specification 648.03 General Requirements indicates that Safetran System factory-wired cases shall be provided for all new AHCW system equipment.

RSS respectfully requests the Department of Transportation to consider other organizations that are regularly engaged in performing this work. Will the DOT consider an approved equal for organizations that routinely perform this work? Standard contracts require the organization providing factory wired houses at least have wired (25) houses a year for each of the last (3) years. Is this considered acceptable?

Response: Yes, other organizations will be allowed to wire the signal case as long as they meet all other applicable aspects of Section 648, the AREMA communications and signals manual and all other manufacturer's specifications.

Question: 648.03 General Requirements: "Internal circuit logic shall be so designed that a momentary shunt applied to the island circuit while the approach is occupied shall not allow the crossing warning system to cease operations." Is the intent of this specification that a loss of shunt timer be utilized on the island circuit?

Response: Yes, the crossing control unit should have this as part of its programming.

Question: The Schedule of Items has a number of Crossing Surface items included. Does the project involve installation of the crossing surface or just the AHCW system?

Response: If the existing roadway surface is disturbed during the course of construction then surface treatment shall be consistent with applicable Project items.

Question: Is the sample bid guaranty form acceptable to use for the bid or is a blank form available?

Response: Please see the attached Bid Guaranty-Bid Bond Form.

Question: The plans show existing 4” conduit under the road. Are there any conduits under the tracks and if not is installation using the directional bore method acceptable?

Response: All known conduit locations have been identified on the plans with the exception of Mechanic St. The following represents approximate location of conduit through the roadway:

(4) runs of 4” diameter (30’ length x 4’ depth) is located parallel to the railroad tracks on the left (North side) approximately 8 feet from the centerline of the railroad tracks and each end extends approximately 7’ from the edge of pavement (Please see attachment “A” in Section 648 or Plan sheet 2 of 3 for further reference).

Question: Line item on the Schedule of Items includes flagging yet the spec. states that the Department to furnish flagmen and bear all costs for three days. Who is responsible for cost of the flagmen?

Response: Railroad flagging protection shall be consistent with the Special Provision 104 Utilities – Protection of Railroad Traffic and Structures. Roadway flagging protection shall be consistent with Special Provision 652 – Maintenance of Traffic.

Question: Flashing lights shall be new 12 inch LED, front or front/back mounted for a 5” mast pole as manufactured by Safetran or an approved equal. Would 12” Crossing Signal Lights as manufactured by Lindsay Corporation, 505 Crown Point, Omaha, NE 68110 TEL: (402) 932-4191 be considered an approved equal?

Response: No, Safetran or Western Cullen Hayes will be acceptable.

Question: All material contained within shall be either Safetran manufactured parts or approved for use by Safetran. GETSGS requests this line to be removed from the specification to allow for more competition in the material portion of the bids.

Response: Materials and manufacturers' shall be approved by the Maine DOT and shall meet all applicable aspects of Section 648 and the AREMA communications and signals manual.

Question: In lieu of the requirement of a performance and payment bond, will the department of transportation accept an irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of the project value or will the DOT accept a cashier's check in the amount of the project, payable to the agency with the understanding the check will be released back to the contractor on the day the project is placed in-service?

Response: Performance and Payment Bonds are required. No substitutions.

Consider these changes and information prior to submitting your bid on **January 13, 2010.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Bickford" followed by "FOR" in a slightly larger, bolder script.

Scott Bickford
Contracts & Specifications Engineer

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Bid Guaranty-Bid Bond Form

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS THAT _____

_____, of the City/Town of _____ and State of _____

as Principal, and _____ as Surety, a

Corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of _____ and having a usual place of

Business in _____ and hereby held and firmly bound unto the Treasurer of

the State of Maine in the sum of _____, for payment which Principal and Surety bind

themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally.

The condition of this obligation is that the Principal has submitted to the Maine Department of

Transportation, hereafter Department, a certain bid, attached hereto and incorporated as a

part herein, to enter into a written contract for the construction of _____

_____ and if the Department shall accept said bid

and the Principal shall execute and deliver a contract in the form attached hereto (properly

completed in accordance with said bid) and shall furnish bonds for this faithful performance of

said contract, and for the payment of all persons performing labor or furnishing material in

connection therewith, and shall in all other respects perform the agreement created by the

acceptance of said bid, then this obligation shall be null and void; otherwise it shall remain in full

force, and effect.

Signed and sealed this _____ day of _____ 20 _____

WITNESS:

WITNESS

PRINCIPAL:

By _____

By: _____

By: _____

SURETY:

By _____

By: _____

Name of Local Agency: _____