

## **The A. PURPOSE AND INTRODUCTION**

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), on behalf of the Mid America Local Emergency Planning Committee representing Clay, Cass, Jackson, Platte, and Ray Counties in MO is seeking proposals from qualified hazardous materials/ emergency management/planning firms to execute a short term planning project to identify facilities in Kansas City and in Independence MO that house hazardous materials above a certain threshold that should be reporting under the Mo Tier two program but are not reporting and to develop a strategy and conduct outreach to those facilities in order to expand the number of facilities that report to the LEPD.

## **B. BACKGROUND**

The Mid America Local Emergency Planning Committee is comprised of public safety agencies, health care providers, private industry, facilities that house and transport hazardous materials, and other community agencies. The MO LEPD maintains a hazardous materials preparedness plan that includes a listing of facilities that house hazardous materials. The plan is reviewed and exercised annually.

Facilities that have more than 10,000 pounds of “hazardous chemicals” for which an MSDS Materials safety data sheet is required under the OSHA hazard communication standard; or facilities that have more than 500 pounds of the threshold planning quantity of the EPCRA “extremely hazardous substances.” Also, more than 100 pounds of explosives or blasting agents are required to submit a MERC tier two reporting form to the MERC, the local planning committee/district, and their local fire department. [Missouri Emergency Response Commission \(MERC\) | SEMA](https://sema.dps.mo.gov/docs/programs/executive/MERC/LEPC_Manual/LEPC_Responibilities.pdf) These reports provide essential data on the types and quantities of hazardous chemicals present, enabling local emergency planners and responders to effectively assess and prepare for potential risks.

[https://sema.dps.mo.gov/docs/programs/executive/MERC/LEPC\\_Manual/LEPC\\_Responibilities.pdf](https://sema.dps.mo.gov/docs/programs/executive/MERC/LEPC_Manual/LEPC_Responibilities.pdf)

MARC desires to retain a consultant to conduct research and develop and execute a strategy to identify and reach facilities that house hazardous materials that are not reported under the tier two program.

## **C. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The successful contractor will

- Review the current Tier II reports for the designated planning area and conduct an initial analysis to understand who has reported.
- Conduct a brief environmental scan of other LEPC/LEPDs across the country to determine successful strategies for identification.
- Identify other sources that could be used to identify facilities in a community that should be reporting.
- Meeting with fire departments, Fire Marshals, and Emergency Managers. Two area fire departments have agreed to participate in this planning effort.
- Review of the pilot counties/fire departments issued business licenses.

## MO Local Emergency Planning Committee – Hazardous Materials Facility Identification Outreach project

- Develop a written report from the review.
- Develop outreach communications and in-person targeted outreach in cooperation with area departments.
- Final report to document findings and progress made.

The goal is to hire a qualified contractor to assist with developing the methodology and pilot it with two area fire departments and be able to replicate the strategy in other counties in the future to identify and reach facilities that are not reporting to educate them and ask them to report to expand the number of reporting facilities.

### **D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

1. Written Summary Report of research and identified best practices to identify the facilities that should be but are not reporting.
2. A listing of facilities that should be reporting but are not.
3. A written methodology of how to reach those facilities including an excel document organized by jurisdiction and including facility name, email, and phone and address contact information.
4. Report on outreach efforts and outcomes and how the methodology could be applied in other jurisdictions.

### **E. TIME OF PERFORMANCE**

Term - Consultant shall begin performing the Services on EXECUTION OF CONTRACT and shall work diligently to complete the project to the satisfaction of MARC, in accordance with the terms provided herein NO LATER THAN by May 15, 2025.

### **F. COMPENSATION AND BUDGET**

The level of funding for this project will be based on the scope of work. MARC has committed up to \$30,000 to support this project depending on the approach and response.

### **G. PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Open Records Act and Proprietary Information**

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is a public organization and is subject to the Missouri Open Records Act (Chapter 610, RSMo). All records obtained or retained by MARC are considered public records and are open to the public or media upon request unless those records are specifically protected from disclosure by law or exempted under the Missouri Sunshine Law. All contents of a response to a Request for Bids, Qualifications, Proposals, or information issued by MARC are considered public records and subject to public release following decisions by MARC regarding the bid request. If a proposer has information that it considers proprietary, a bidder shall identify documents or portions of documents it considers containing descriptions of scientific and technological innovations in which it has a proprietary interest or other information that

MO Local Emergency Planning Committee – Hazardous Materials Facility Identification Outreach project

is protected from public disclosure by law, which is contained in a Proposal. After either a contract is executed pursuant to the Request for Bids, RFQ or RFP, or all submittals are rejected, if a request is made to inspect information submitted and if documents are identified as “Proprietary Information” as provided above under Missouri Sunshine Law, MARC will notify the proposer of the request for access, and it shall be the burden of the proposer to establish that those documents are exempt from disclosure under the law.

To be eligible for consideration, one electronic copy (PDF) of the proposal must be received by MARC no later than **5 PM CDT on April 3, 2025**. Late submittals will not be considered. Please submit proposals to Erin Lynch ([elynch@marc.org](mailto:elynch@marc.org)) and John Davis [@jdavis@marc.org](mailto:jdavis@marc.org)

It is the responsibility of the person submitting a proposal by email to ensure that the proposal has been received by the appropriate MARC staff and not blocked by a spam filter or rejected because of large attachments. To confirm receipt, you may contact John Davis [jdavis@marc.org](mailto:jdavis@marc.org) or Erin Lynch [elynch@marc.org](mailto:elynch@marc.org)  
The following items must be addressed in all proposals:

1. **SCOPE OF WORK:** MARC staff has developed a general outline of work tasks associated with the Scope of Work and objectives. Respondents must provide a detailed scope of work including specific methodologies and/or approaches that will be used to complete this project.
  - A. The name and address of the contracting firm, together with the name, telephone, and e-mail address of the primary contact person for purposes of this proposal
  - B. A listing of any proposed subcontractors
  - C. See Attachments A&B
2. **CONTRACT PRICE:** Proposals should indicate the cost of services to be provided broken down by milestone and cost.
3. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Proposals should indicate general and specific qualifications of the proposer in planning and execution appropriate to this project. A brief narrative (two pages maximum) regarding the contractor’s capabilities to carry out this project, including areas of expertise, analytical tools, and data sources, etc. to which the contractor may have access. Proposals should also include:
  - A. A listing and written samples of similar projects undertaken within the last five (5) years, by proposing contractor, showing contract amounts and description of work performed,
  - B. Resumes of key professionals and staff who will be assigned to this project.
  - C. References
4. **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CHECKLIST:** If applicable, proposers must complete and enclose with their proposal the company’s Affirmative Action Plan (see *Attachment C*).
5. **CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT:** Each proposer is required to certify by signing the “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion” (*Attachment D*).

MO Local Emergency Planning Committee – Hazardous Materials Facility Identification Outreach project

“Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion” is a certification that the proposer is not on the U.S. Comptroller General’s Consolidated Lists of Persons or Firms Currently Debarred for Violations of Various Contracts Incorporating Labor Standards Provisions.

## **H. SELECTION PROCEDURE**

The selection committee will review the responses received against the criteria and determine if follow-up telephone interviews are desired and decide or decide to conduct follow-up interviews. If follow-up interviews are warranted, they will be scheduled for the week of March 17<sup>th</sup>.

MARC on behalf of the Mid America LEPD reserves the right to negotiate a contract, including a scope of work, and contract price, with any proposers or other qualified party.

This Request for Proposal does not commit MARC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in preparation of a response to this Request, or to procure or contract for services or supplies. MARC reserves the right to accept or reject all responses received as a result of this Request or cancel this Request in part or in its entirety if it is in the best interests of MARC to do so. Proposers shall not offer any gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value to any officer, employee, agent, or director of MARC for the purpose of influencing favorable disposition toward either their proposal or any other proposal submitted because of the Request for Proposal.

MARC reserves the right to suggest to any or all proposers to the Request for Proposals that such proposers form into teams of firms or organizations deemed to be advantageous to MARC in performing the Scope of Work. MARC will suggest such formation when such relationships offer combinations of expertise or abilities not otherwise available. Proposers have the right to refuse to enter any suggested relationships.

All Proposals submitted hereunder become the exclusive property of MARC.

## **I. PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**The proposals submitted by each Contractor will be evaluated according to the following factors, in order of priority:**

- A) Specialized experience and technical competence of the contractor and assigned staff relative to the scope of work and task requirements outlined in this RFP.
- B) Understanding the nature of the project
  - 1) Understanding the proposed scope of work
  - 2) Understanding the required elements
  - 3) General understanding of the regional nature of the project
  - 4) General organization and clarity of the proposal
- C) References reflecting previous work experience of the project team and satisfactory accomplishment of contractor responsibilities.
  - 1) Quality of final product
  - 2) Ability to meet work schedules.

MO Local Emergency Planning Committee – Hazardous Materials Facility Identification Outreach project

3) Responsiveness to client input

D) Project cost, schedule of persons

- 1) Project schedule and timeliness of products
- 2) Total project cost

**J. INTERVIEW/PRESENTATION**

The project selection team may require a virtual interview/ presentation from contractors submitting a proposal.

**K. CONTRACT AWARD**

MARC will notify the selected candidate by telephone and email. Following verbal notification, MARC will negotiate a standard professional service agreement with the selected candidate. The selected candidate's proposal will be incorporated by reference in the contract. Additionally, MARC will notify, via email, the candidates who are not selected.

**L. PROTEST PROCEDURES**

In the course of this solicitation for proposals and the selection process, a proposer (bidder of offer or whose direct economic interest would be affected by the award of the contract) may file a protest when in the proposer's opinion, actions were taken by MARC staff and /or the selection committee which could unfairly affect the outcome of the selection procedure. All protests should be in writing and directed to Mr. David Warm, Executive Director, Mid-America Regional Council, 600 Broadway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO 64105. Protests should be made immediately upon the occurrence of the incident in question but no later than three (3) days after the proposer receives notification of the outcome of the section procedure. The protest should clearly state the grounds for such a protest.

Upon receiving the protest, MARC's Executive Director will review the actual procedures followed during the selection process and the documentation available. If it is determined the action(s) unfairly changed the outcome of the process, notifications with the selected proposer will cease until the matter is resolved.

**M. PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE**

The following is a tentative schedule for the Contractor selection process:

| <b>Activities</b>    | <b>Schedule</b>                        |
|----------------------|--|
| RFP issued           | Feb 25, 2025 (original date)           |
| Questions Due        | April 2, 2025                          |
| Proposals Due        | April 7, 2025 5:00 pm CST              |
| Interviews as needed | TBD (if needed)                        |
| Selection            | Week of April 7, 2025                  |
| Contract Execution   | Immediately after contract negotiation |
| Project Completion   | Prior to May 15, 2025                  |

**ATTACHMENT A: AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CHECKLIST**

Federal regulations require that any firm of 50 or more employees soliciting an assisted federally funded contract must have an affirmative action program. If applicable, please provide a brief response to the following items that would typically be covered in any such program. You may provide a copy of your program and reference appropriate pages.

1. The date plan was adopted.
2. Name of Affirmative Action Officer
3. Statement of commitment to affirmative action by the chief executive officer
4. Designation of an affirmative action officer, assignment of specific responsibilities, and to whom the officer reports.
5. Outreach recruitment
6. Job analysis and restructuring to meet affirmative action goals.
7. Validation and revision of examinations, educational requirements, and any other screening requirements.
8. Upgrading and training programs
9. Internal complaint procedure
10. Initiating and ensuring supervisory compliance with the affirmative action program
11. Survey and analysis of entire staff by department and job classification and progress report system
12. Recruitment and promotion plans (including goals and timetables)

**ATTACHMENT B: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion**

This Certification is required by the regulation implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 29 CFR Part 98 Section 98.510, Participants' responsibilities. The Regulations are published as Part II of June 1985, Federal Register (pages 33, 036-33, 043)

**Read the instructions for Certification below prior to completing this certification.**

1. The prospective proposer certifies, by submission of this proposal that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
2. Where the prospective proposer is unable to certify any of the statements in this certification, such prospective proposer shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed – Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Authorized Representative

.....  
Instructions for Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion:

1. By signing and submitting this agreement, the proposer is providing the certification as set below.
2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department, or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.