

General Information

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Contracting Office Address

U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA),
Office of Contracts and Procurement, 400 7th Street, SW, Room 7104, Washington, DC 20590

Background

In January 2003, the President announced a hydrogen fuel initiative to reverse America's growing dependence on foreign oil by developing technologies and infrastructure to produce, store, and distribute hydrogen for use in vehicles and to generate electricity. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), is conducting Research and Development (R&D) to ensure the safety of the infrastructure supporting hydrogen fuels transportation and of the vehicles used by industry and the public, and to mitigate the likelihood of a hydrogen transportation incident through the development of safety codes, standards and regulations.

Description

This is a SOURCES SOUGHT NOTICE, not a request for competitive proposals. DOT's Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), Office of Innovation, Research and Education (DIR) is seeking capability statements from all interested parties with the technical expertise to accomplish one or both of the following two (2) task areas:

- 1) The capability to synthesize and assess current technology information to identify gaps for ensuring the safety of hydrogen infrastructure for storage, distribution and delivery technologies for the near term (up to five years) and long term (up to 15 years); and
- 2) The capability to synthesize DOT requirements and identify gaps in technical information to aid the development of appropriate regulations, safety codes and standards to ensure the safety of hydrogen transportation infrastructure and delivery operations.

Capability statements must include solid research and analytical experience that indicate ability to address existing, near- and long-term proposed technologies and options, and the ability to complete the task within a six-month time frame from the effective date of award. **Capability includes being able** to convene a group of at least five recognized professional experts to review the findings before submitting final study results to RSPA.

An interested party must also be able to conduct a technical review of applicable literature and available results. The review should include Research and Development (R&D) results performed by DOE Headquarters and DOE National Laboratories, U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), the National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA), various industrial organizations, and other research groups.

Capability Statement Requirements

An interested party must be able to demonstrate extensive experience with, and ability to perform, the kind of work described in this notice. Such documentation may include, but not be limited to, contracts both governmental and commercial, that the proposer has performed, references, i.e., names, titles, telephone numbers, and any other information that documents the proposer's capabilities, e.g. awards, commendations, etc.

A response to this SOURCES SOUGHT NOTICE must contain the following information:

- 1) A 3-5 page summary of the interested party's relevant prior work;
- 2) A description of any potential conflicts of interest the interested party may have in performing the assigned work;
- 3) Resumes of key individuals (documenting expertise and field experience in the technical areas of interest);
- 4) A brief description of the interested party's quality control processes for deliverables;
- 5) References (name and contact information) for whom the interested party has performed similar work;
- 6) A one-page corporate summary including the interested party's web site, if applicable;
- 7) Identification of any current negotiated GSA schedule, government contract, or commercial pricing rates; and
- 8) A statement identifying if the interested party is a small business, 8(a) firm, small disadvantaged business, women-owned business, or HUBZone firm.

Any entity responding to this SOURCES SOUGHT should ensure that its response is complete and sufficiently detailed to allow the Government to determine the entity's qualifications to perform. A Government evaluation panel will evaluate all submissions to this announcement. This is a SOURCES SOUGHT announcement only. This is not a request for proposals and in no way commits the Government to award a contract. The Government will not execute any award(s) based solely on responses to this SOURCES SOUGHT announcement and will not pay for any costs incurred in response to this announcement. Only interested parties responding to this announcement and having shown relevant experience performing this type of requirement will be requested to submit a full proposal and be considered qualified for consideration.

Capability statements must be received no later than **July 8, 2004, at 4:00 PM, EDT**. Please forward via express mail (e.g. FEDEX, UPS, etc.) one hard copy, and one electronic copy via e-mail, to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Special Programs Administration, Office of Contracts and Procurement, ATTN: DMA-30, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 7104,

Washington, D.C., 20590. In all correspondence, ensure that you reference Sources Sought announcement number: **DTRS56-04-SS-0002**. Facsimile submissions will not be accepted.

DO NOT send capability statements via regular mail or courier services because of delays that may be encountered due to mail security screening measures and building access security requirements.

NOTE: All inquiries concerning this announcement, and the electronic version of the capability statement, must be directed to Warren D. Osterberg in the RSPA Office of Contracts and Procurement, telephone: (202) 366-6942; e-mail: warren.osterberg@rspa.dot.gov.

Selection Process:

After reviewing the capability statements submitted in response to this Notice, RSPA will request those **interested parties** demonstrating the essential capabilities to submit a proposal. Proposals will be evaluated according to established criteria. Those being requested to submit a proposal will be given a Statement of Work and informed of the evaluation criteria and procedures.

RSPA may execute one or more awards to have access to the full range of expertise required to meet its hydrogen fuels research needs.

References:

Interested parties are encouraged to read the following documents to become familiar with available study results on hydrogen vehicles and infrastructure safety, as well as safety priorities for DOT programs in RSPA, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), and any other organizations with responsibilities to the emerging hydrogen economy:

- o National Academy of Sciences prepublication, The Hydrogen Economy: Opportunities, Costs, Barriers, and R&D Needs, or visit <http://www.nap.edu/books/0309091632/html>
- o Report to Congress on the DOT Hydrogen Infrastructure Safety R&D Program, visit <http://www.rspa.dot.gov/dra/hydrofuels/hydrogenreport5-20.pdf>