

PRESOLICITATION NOTICE

84 – Clothing, Individual Equipment & Insignia (Federal Supply Group)
315210 – Cut and Sew Apparel Contractors
M67854-14-R-1010

This Presolicitation Notice is being posted in advance of Solicitation No. M67854-14-R-1010 for the Enhanced Fire Resistant Combat Ensemble (EFRCE). The forthcoming solicitation will be issued as a HUBZone small business set aside procurement. Although NO PROPOSALS are being requested at this time, a formal solicitation in support of this procurement effort is estimated to be released sometime between mid February and late March of 2014. To this end, prior to formal solicitation issuance, a DRAFT EFRCE Product Description is attached to this pre-solicitation notice to better prepare offerors. Please note, this EFRCE Product Description is a DRAFT and may change at the time of formal solicitation issuance.

The Marine Corps System Command (MARCORSYSCOM), Product Manager for Infantry Combat Equipment (PdM ICE), has a requirement for Enhanced Flame Resistant Ensemble (EFRCE) sets (set = blouse plus trouser; sizes will vary). In support of market research efforts, a Request for Information was posted as a query to industry on 01 October 2012. To reference this market research query, execute the following: (1) see Federal Business Opportunities website <https://www.fbo.gov> – (2) click sub-link entitled “advanced search form” - (3) will see various advanced search menu options – select “Archived Documents” menu option as well as type in reference number M67854-13-I-1000 under “Keywords or SOL#” menu option & click on “Search” icon at bottom of webpage to pull up aforementioned market research query from October 2012.

In terms of a general description, EFRCE is similar to the current Flame Resistant Combat Ensemble (FRCE) in the Marine Corps inventory; however, the design and fabrics used to construct the FRCE have been modified to increase durability (as such, producing the EFRCE). Please refer to the DRAFT EFRCE Product Description document for more details. Also, of note, following contract award, each shirt and trouser of the EFRCE must be factory permethrin treated and must conform to the permethrin concentration levels and percent bite protection requirements, as established by the Marine Corps. Permethrin treatment process and garment treatment shall comply with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and EPA Product Performance Test Guidelines. The permethrin treatment shall not degrade any performance characteristic of the garments or present any latent defects to the cloth or garment.

The estimated maximum contract ceiling quantity is for 165,000 EFRCE sets (blouse plus trouser). The NAICS code is 315210, Cut and Sew Apparel Contractors, with a size standard of 500 employees.

The Government anticipates awarding a Firm Fixed Price, Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) contract to one qualified (1) HUBZone small business offeror that is capable of producing and delivering an estimated quantity of

165,000 EFRCE sets (set = blouse plus trouser) over a 12 month period. The anticipated ID/IQ contract will cover four (1) one-year ordering periods. At present, DRAFT evaluation factors are: (Factor 1) Technical – Subfactors 1. End Item Visual Examination, 2. End Item Dimensional and Fit Evaluation, 3. Compliance with Performance Requirements, 4. Manufacturing Capability; (Factor 2) Past Performance; (Factor 3) Price. Contract award will be based on a Lowest Price Technically Acceptable (LPTA) evaluation strategy.

Furthermore, with regards to this forthcoming EFRCE procurement, all items, materials, and components thereof submitted shall be in full compliance with the Berry Amendment (10 U.S.C. 2533a). Offerors may be required to provide detailed information certifying compliance.

As a reminder, formal and finalized evaluation factors will be issued with the forthcoming finalized solicitation. In addition, potential offerors are advised that, at present, the evaluation requires offerors to submit a minimum of four (4) EFRCE Product Demonstration Model (PDM) sets (set = blouse plus trouser) in size Medium Regular. At present, these PDMs are not required to be permethrin treated.

Formal procurement with solicitation number M67854-14-R-1010 is anticipated to be issued within the next fifteen (15) to sixty (60) days and will be posted on the internet at the Federal Business Opportunities website located at the following address: <https://www.fbo.gov>.

The forthcoming online version of the solicitation will include all documents of the solicitation package. No hard copies of this finalized solicitation will be issued. Amendments, if any, will be posted at the same location as the forthcoming, formal solicitation. The complete solicitation package (to include the final, non-DRAFT version of the EFRCE Product Description), including amendments, should be received and reviewed prior to submitting a proposal. For planning purposes, offerors can assume an anticipated due date for proposals of approximately 20 March 2014 OR thirty (30) days after the date of formal, finalized solicitation issuance. Proposals shall be submitted in both hard copy and electronic form. Those responding to the solicitation have the responsibility to obtain all amendments and/or other applicable documents.

Offerors may submit questions in response to this presolicitation notice to Erik Halverson at erik.halverson@usmc.mil. Questions regarding this presolicitation notice must be submitted in writing. With regards to questions submitted in response to this presolicitation, it is at the Government's discretion to provide answers. As the formal EFRCE solicitation (to include final, non-DRAFT version of EFRCE Product Description) is still in development, the Government may deem it prudent not to answer questions regarding this presolicitation notice in order to best maintain clarity.

Once the EFRCE Request for Proposal is posted, offerors will have the opportunity to ask questions regarding the formal solicitation. Corresponding answers to the solicitation will be posted publically via amendment. All questions regarding the forthcoming formal solicitation will be in writing, addressed to erik.halverson@usmc.mil. No phone calls will be accepted. Finally, in order to be eligible for award, interested

parties must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM),
<http://www.sam.gov>.