

November 27, 2023

NEW YORK CITY WATER BOARD

**REQUEST FOR INDICATIONS OF INTEREST TO PROVIDE
AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF RECORDS FOR PURPOSES OF IDENTIFYING
PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES**

DUE: JANUARY 8, 2024 AT 4:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME

The New York City Water Board (the “Board”) is issuing this Request for Indications of Interest (“RII”) and seeking statements of interest and qualifications from qualified firms to assist the Board and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) in performing an environmental assessment focused on evaluating records and other information that may pertain to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”).

Following receipt of the indications of interest submitted in response to this RII, the Board anticipates inviting a subset from among those firms submitting indications to participate in a forthcoming Request for Proposals that would result in the selection of one or more firms to provide environmental consulting services to identify potential sources of PFAS substances in certain sections of the City’s water supply system, principally the Kensico Reservoir and the nearby Kensico Basin, to evaluate potential risks of exceeding regulatory thresholds, and to provide forward-looking recommendations about the regulatory environment governing PFAS substances.

To obtain the RII, please visit nyc.gov/nycwaterboard or email onazem@dep.nyc.gov with the message subject line “PFAS Consulting RII 2023”.

The Board expects to hold an informational conference for interested firms. Information about registering for the informational conference and about the format for submitting questions concerning this RII are available in the RII materials available on the Board’s website.

The Board, DEP, and the City of New York are committed to vendor diversity. The Board anticipates including a selection criteria in the forthcoming request for proposals that would provide a selection score bonus to certified M/WBE firms. Accordingly, it is anticipated that M/WBE certified firms will be prioritized for review when evaluating the indications of interest.

The dates and times of the RII and the procedures for submitting an indication are also described in the RII document on the Board’s website, and prospective bidders are required to adhere to the procedures for communicating with the Board and DEP described in the RII document.



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**AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF RECORDS FOR PURPOSES OF
IDENTIFYING PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES**

TO THE

NEW YORK CITY WATER BOARD

NOVEMBER 27, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|-------|---|----|
| I. | INTRODUCTION..... | 4 |
| II. | THE BOARD AND DEP | 5 |
| III. | SCOPE OF WORK | 5 |
| IV. | CONTRACT TERMS AND FEES | 10 |
| V. | FORMAT AND CONTENTS FOR INDICATIONS OF INTEREST | 11 |
| VI. | SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS..... | 13 |
| VII. | INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING INDICATIONS OF INTEREST | 13 |
| VIII. | INFORMATION ON NYC WATER BOARD CONTRACT POLICIES | 14 |
| IX. | ADDITIONAL INFORMATION | 15 |

TIMETABLE FOR SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR INDICATIONS OF INTEREST

Release Date of the Request.....November 27, 2023

Deadline for Submitting Written Questions..... December 11, 2023 (4:00 P.M. Eastern Time)

Proposer’s Information Conference December 15, 2023 (2:00 P.M. Eastern Time)

Indications of Interest Due January 8, 2024 (4:00 P.M. Eastern Time)

Proposals should be delivered in accordance with the instructions under Section VII herein.

Consultant Interviews (if requested) Dates to Be Determined

Selection of Firms Eligible to Propose on the Scope of Work..... January 31, 2024

Release of Water Board’s Request for Proposals to Perform the Scope of Work2024 Q1

To register for the informational conference or to submit questions, please contact the designated Water Board contact listed below.

DESIGNATED WATER BOARD CONTACT PERSON FOR INQUIRIES

Proposing firms are advised that the Water Board’s designated contact person for all matters concerning this Request is:

Omar Nazem
New York City Water Board
59-17 Junction Boulevard
8th Floor
Corona, NY 11373
onazem@dep.nyc.gov
718-595-3591

I. INTRODUCTION

The New York City Water Board (the “Board”) is issuing this Request for Indications of Interest (“RII”) and seeking statements of interest and qualifications to assist the Board and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) in connection with performing an environmental assessment focused on evaluating records and other information that may pertain to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”).

DEP operates its water supply activities with the goal of ensuring reliable, high quality water service for DEP’s customers. Water supply and water quality are highly regulated activities, and DEP is subject to numerous rules and regulations and sources of oversight at the Federal, State, and local level. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) and the water utility industry work in partnership to identify emerging trends and to develop new scientific knowledge to support improvements in the water quality delivered to end customers.

As regulatory authorities and the public expand the types of substances appropriate for study and regulatory oversight, the Board and DEP have identified the need to retain a specialist advisor (referred to herein as the “Consultant”) to provide a comprehensive review of relevant water quality data, land use, and other records.

One category of water quality topics that has become a subject of regulatory and industry focus in recent years is the protective coatings added to food and beverage packaging, clothing, and other consumer products to create antistick or water repellant layers, and that are used industrially as fire retardants and in firefighting foams at military and civil airports. These compounds are referred to generically as perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, abbreviated as “PFAS”, and have become an area of interest in water quality evaluation due to their ubiquity in the environment and the relatively long time periods required for these substances to break down in nature.

The Biden-Harris administration has been particularly focused on this regulatory area and has advanced numerous regulatory and evaluative proposals involving these compounds, in addition to making significant funding available to water systems in which PFAS substances are detected in the water supply. In 2021, the EPA issued a determination to regulate two specific PFAS compounds, perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), under the Safe Drinking Water Act, followed by the introduction of proposed standards in 2023. The EPA’s efforts mirrored similar efforts in New York State, including the New York State Department of Health’s 2020 regulation establishing maximum contaminant levels for PFOS and PFOA, and additional proposals by New York State anticipated in 2024. Although the regulation of PFAS is still an evolving area of regulatory focus, DEP is subject to EPA and New York State Department of Health (DOH) water quality requirements.

The firm or firms retained to assist the Board and DEP will perform activities that include conducting a review of paper and digital records, maps, surveys, databases, reports, and other information sources as may be relevant, for purposes of evaluating the presence or potential presence of specific PFAS compounds in lands and waters that contribute to identified portions of the City’s water supply system. Representatives from both the Board and DEP will participate in the Consultant selection process.

II. THE BOARD AND DEP

The Board is a public benefit corporation of the State of New York (the “State”) that was created by Sections 1045 and Section 1046 of Title II-A of the Public Authorities Law of New York State. The Board is authorized under Section 1045(g) to enter into contracts for purposes of carrying out the Board’s duties and authorities. The City leased the City’s water and wastewater system to the Board in 1985, retaining DEP to operate the system, including managing the billing and collection on behalf of the Board. The City, DEP, and the Board work together, alongside numerous other City agencies, to manage the operations and finances of the water and wastewater system.

DEP is the sole provider of water and wastewater service to substantially all of the City’s residents, in addition to providing water service to another one million residents north of the City, concentrated in Westchester County.

The City’s water and wastewater system generates approximately \$3.8 billion of operating revenues annually, has \$32 billion of outstanding debt instruments, and issues approximately \$2 billion of new debt each year.

III. SCOPE OF WORK

The New York City Water Board is requesting indications of interest from qualified vendors interested in assisting the Board and DEP with an evaluation of records and other information involving PFAS substances. Following receipt of the indications of interest, the Board will invite the selected firms to participate in a forthcoming request for proposal process that is expected to lead to the selection of a vendor to perform the Scope of Work and deliverables described herein.

This request for indications of interest and the anticipated request for proposals are expected to result in the Board retaining one or more firms to provide the environmental consulting and water quality evaluation services required by the Board to assist it and DEP in identifying potential sources of PFAS in identified sections of the City’s water supply system, principally the Kensico Reservoir and the nearby Kensico Basin, to evaluate potential risks of exceeding regulatory thresholds, and to provide forward-looking recommendations about the regulatory environment governing PFAS. Substantially most of the source water that is the subject of this Scope of Work is unfiltered water drawn from the Catskill and Delaware watersheds, in addition to some contributions of surface water from the Kensico Basin region.

For the purposes of the contemplated Scope of Work, PFAS is considered inclusive of the perfluorinated and polyfluorinated compounds described in EPA’s Fifth Unregulated Compound Monitoring Rule, as well as those PFAS family of compounds listed in Subpart 5-1 of Title 10, “Health,” of the State of New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations.

The Scope of Work involved in providing the Board with the deliverables described below will require the selected Consultant to perform the tasks described in sections A, B, and C below, in order to produce the deliverables described in section C.

Substantial completion of the Scope of Work within the first year is expected.

The Board, DEP, and the City of New York are committed to vendor diversity. The Board anticipates including a selection criteria in the forthcoming request for proposals that would provide a selection score bonus to certified M/WBE firms. Accordingly, it is anticipated that M/WBE certified firms will be prioritized for review when evaluating the indications of interest.

A. Desktop analysis and data review

1. Compile and conduct a desktop analysis of the available water quality data and other records that are in DEP's possession, that are publicly available, or that are otherwise purchased or obtained by the Consultant to summarize both the currently known and identifiable, as well as the prospective and potential sites, activities, and other sources, by which PFAS compounds may enter into the Kensico Reservoir water supply or its tributaries, including sources located within the Kensico Basin.
 - a. DEP will be able to provide some information sources to assist with this part of the Scope, including a list of the types of activities and land uses that have tended to be associated with PFAS, historical photography, GIS data, site surveys and technical maps, information from in-house databases, studies and reports, and other sources. The consultant will be required gather additional records and information to support the analysis, such as data from state, federal, or local agencies, scientific literature, and may be required to purchase certain records from commercial database providers.
 - b. The analysis will include PFAS data and records based on data collected from the following reservoir and tributary sampling sites and inter-connections to the Kensico Reservoir: Site 6BRK, Delaware Shaft 18 downtake (DEL18DT), Delaware Shaft 17 (DEL17), Catskill Aqueduct at Pleasantville Alum, Catskill Influent Chamber (CATALUM), West Branch Reservoir (CWB1.5), Westchester County Airport, and Kensico Reservoir tributaries (Bear Gutter Creek (BG9), Malcolm Brook (MB-1), N5-1, N12, Whippoorwill Creek (WHIP), and E9, E10, and E11).
2. Develop qualitative and numerical summaries as appropriate, explaining the findings of the desktop review, including a preliminary list that describes the locations of potential PFAS sources identified, including preliminary details about which types of PFAS compounds may have been identified.
3. Provide the locations of and categorize any identified sites of potential PFAS emission both with respect to the significance of the potential size of the released quantities of the

compounds, whether the use of the site is historical or ongoing, and the feasibility of site remediation.

B. Regulatory

1. Review and summarize the findings of existing PFAS site investigation reports.
2. Review EPA, DOH, and other regulatory rules and policies to summarize the applicable rules and threshold concentration levels, including any proposed or finalized National Primary Drinking Water Regulations and associated maximum contaminant levels established by the EPA for PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act.
3. Identify the typical compliance risks faced by water systems with respect to current and the potentially more stringent future state and federal PFAS regulations.
4. Identify the additional information, studies, or actions that would be required to implement industry best practices and conform to the expectations of regulators, in light of current and developing state and federal approaches to the issue.
5. Estimate PFAS loading from tributaries in the Kensico Basin and from the Catskill and Delaware aqueducts to determine the relative contributions of these sources under different operational scenarios (float, by-pass, on-line), seasons, and antecedent flow conditions. Based on these estimated loadings, evaluate the potential of source water remediation in the Kensico Basin to minimize future regulatory risk.
6. Based on the review of available water quality data and other records, evaluate the likelihood of detecting and exceeding federal or state regulatory limits for the Kensico Reservoir outflow PFAS at Shaft 18 downtake (DEL18DT).

C. Project Deliverables Required to Perform the Scope of Work

The Consultant will be expected to attend all project meetings, and to coordinate and present at a project kickoff meeting, monthly update meetings, a final project meeting, and other calls and project events as requested by DEP or the Board.

In addition to the interim and draft reports described below, the Consultant will be expected to provide the Board with the deliverables listed below. Each report shall be provided in an editable draft form, prior to submitting a final report in an agreed upon format and content.

The entire Scope of Work described above, as well as the detailed descriptions provided below, must be addressed by one or more of the deliverables.

- **Deliverable A:** Interim Progress Report.
 - Project progress report listing data sources compiled, a list of sites analyzed or anticipated to be analyzed, the indications with respect to the presence of PFAS

concentrations associated with each site, and a description of work still in process on the project. The progress report should include an update on the status of work evaluating known PFAS contamination sites, including the site at Westchester County Airport and other sites in the vicinity of the airport.

- The Interim Progress Report should give an indication of how the tasks and topics required by the Final PFAS Report will be achieved.
- The Interim Progress Report should give an indication of status toward completion of each of the tasks and topics required by the Final PFAS Report.
- **Deliverable B: Ranking Methodology Report.**
 - A report describing a proposed methodology for categorically ranking both the significance and the feasibility of remediation of potential PFAS contamination sites.
 - The Methodology Report will include a description of the sources that will be used and the analytical and technical approaches that will be employed.
 - a. As indicated above, DEP will be able to provide a list of the types of activities and land uses often associated with PFAS; however, the Consultant will be expected to work independently to compile a complete listing of all possible sources, whether identified from DEP-provided data or other sources.
- **Deliverable C: Final PFAS Sources Report.**
 - A final report detailing known, identified, and potential PFAS contamination sites, their locations, remediation potential, and the relative significance of any potential PFAS contribution. The report shall:
 - a. A list that describes the locations of potential PFAS sources identified, including details about which types of PFAS compounds may have been identified, the significance and loadings of the compounds, remediation potential, method or record used to identify its detection, and other factors as may be available or requested.
 - b. Include a complete description and catalog of all desktop research performed, including a complete description of all records reviewed, sources consulted, specific descriptions of the chemicals and any other substances included in the review, and a complete list of all locations in the Kensico Reservoir, Kensico Basin, and any other locations included in the review.
 - c. Include a qualitative evaluation of whether any PFAS levels measured in Kensico tributaries may be attributed to potential in-basin sources identified in this analysis.

- d. Identify any tributaries with elevated PFAS levels where no potential sources were identified through the analysis.
 - e. Include a discussion and analysis of additional PFAS sources that may be potential contributors to PFAS levels in the Kensico Reservoir, Kensico Basin, and Kensico tributaries, such as individual septic systems, atmospheric deposition, and the response of PFAS compounds under different ambient conditions, including an evaluation and discussion of the scientific literature on the potential sources by which PFAS may be introduced to the Kensico Reservoir.
 - f. Summarize current findings associated with any potential contamination associated with the site located at the Westchester County Airport, including findings involving any sites identified beyond the known PFAS sites subject to the Order on Consent involving the Airport.
 - g. The report will include maps showing potential PFAS contamination sites with accompanying geodata and metadata in a digital file format compatible with ArcGIS version 10 or higher. All shapefiles and file geodatabase feature classes delivered to DEP shall have complete and valid attribute data with no missing or extra information, misspellings, or other typographic errors that might complicate querying. All shapefiles and file geodatabase feature classes delivered to DEP shall also include comprehensive metadata listing methodology, source, area extent, accuracy, projection, and data caveats.
- **Deliverable D: Initial PFAS Loading Methodology Report**
 - The Initial PFAS Loading Methodology Report will describe a proposed approach to estimating PFAS loadings to the Kensico Reservoir and for evaluating regulatory compliance risk with respect to threshold levels and will include a plan to address the topics required by the Final PFAS Loading Report (Deliverable E).
 - Water quality records will be analyzed to estimate PFAS loading from the tributaries in the Kensico Basin and from the Catskill and Delaware aqueducts to estimate the relative contributions of these sources under different operational scenarios (float, by-pass, on-line), seasons, and antecedent flow conditions.
 - The applicable federal regulations for this deliverable include any proposed or finalized National Primary Drinking Water Regulations and associated maximum contaminant levels established by the EPA for PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act.
 - **Deliverable E: Final PFAS Loading Report**
 - The Final PFAS Loading Report will compile and analyze PFAS data collected at the water flow from the reservoir at DEL18DT, into the reservoir at CWB1.5, DEL17, CATALUM, and Kensico Tributaries, and limnology samples collected from within the

Kensico Reservoir, in order to describe the relative loading of PFAS compounds from these major inflows and to evaluate the likelihood of exceeding the federal regulatory limits for PFAS at DEL18DT.

- The Final PFAS Loading Report will include a specific discussion of the findings of the Consultant's review of records and data pertaining to the Westchester County Airport and sites within the Kensico Basin at which PFAS may be detected, including an evaluation of remediation options and whether the remediation options would be likely to lower the chance of PFAS concentrations exceeding regulatory thresholds at Shaft 18 downtake (DEL18DT).
- **Deliverable F: Final Additional Studies Report.**
 - Based on the findings and conclusions described in the preceding deliverables, the Consultant will provide a written report explaining any additional information needed to further the understanding and characterization of sources of PFAS in the Kensico Reservoir and Kensico Basin, including the relationship of PFAS levels observed in Kensico tributaries to the levels observed at DEL18DT and any steps DEP may take to better understand and minimize federal and state compliance risks involving the Catskill-Delaware system with respect to both current state and federal regulation, as well as potentially more stringent future state and federal regulation.
 - The recommended additional steps may include additional monitoring, research, obtaining additional information about the potential PFAS sites identified by the Consultant while performing the Scope of Work, and other actions.
 - The report will include a summary of the state of the science involving analytical methods for detecting PFAS and will discuss any information gaps created by current analytical detection limits, as well as the regulatory uncertainty surrounding the suite of future regulated PFAS compounds and their maximum contaminant levels. The report will also describe the steps DEP may take to minimize future risks to regulatory compliance, whether through operational blending, end of line treatment, site level remediation, or other source water protection initiatives.

IV. CONTRACT TERM AND FEES

The term of the proposed contract is expected to be for one-year with an additional one-year extension option available at the discretion of the Board. Substantial completion of the Scope of Work within the first year is expected.

The maximum compensation authorized by the Board for performing the contemplated Scope of Work is \$350,000. Respondents to this RII are not expected to provide indicative pricing with their Indications of Interest; pricing and cost structure will be requested from the vendors selected to participate in the Request for Proposal process that the Board anticipates will follow this RII.

V. FORMAT AND CONTENT FOR INDICATIONS OF INTEREST

A. Qualifications and Technical Proposal

1. Describe your firm's experience and qualifications, including these topics:
 - a. A description of your firm's history, business focus, and range of service offerings;
 - b. A description of your firm's specific expertise providing environmental consulting services and conducting environmental assessments;
 - c. A description of your firm's specific expertise with federal and state water quality regulations surrounding PFAS;
 - d. A description of the specific materials and substances that your firm has expertise evaluating based on a review of records, maps, and other documents relating to water systems and the real property comprising water systems;
 - e. A description of previous expertise evaluating the presence or potential presence of substances belonging to the PFAS category of substances, such as PFOA and PFOS based on a review of documents and records, databases, and other relevant sources;
 - f. A description of the types of records, documents, materials, instruments, and other sources your firm is familiar with examining as part of PFAS evaluations;
 - g. A description of the specific types or categories of PFAS compounds your firm has expertise or experience in evaluating.
 - h. A description of your firm's experience in calculating pollutant loadings from water quality data.
2. A list of three or more comparable consulting assignments your firm has performed since 2018, including at least two organizations for which the senior personnel who would advise the Board and DEP have provided services. If your senior personnel has changed firms over this period, the list may include clients from the senior personnel's previous firm, but the list should indicate the firm affiliation of the senior personnel when these services were provided.
3. List the senior personnel that would provide services to the Board and DEP including, for each individual:
 - a. Name, position, length of service, experience in performing environmental assessments involving PFAS compounds and providing environmental consulting services, and the names of some representative organizations to which the senior team members have provided such services;

- b. The location of the office(s) in which each individual works; and
 - c. A complete resume for members of the proposed project team.
4. Describe the approach of your firm and the services your firm will provide from the perspective of performing a PFAS evaluation, including:
 - a. Any methodological approach or evaluation framework used by your firm;
 - b. Your approach to working with client organizations;
 - c. Examples of how you have helped previous client organizations to understand the complex records and data to draw conclusions about PFAS indications, levels, and sources.
5. Please provide a perspective on the timeline and resource requirements your firm has tended to employ in completing previous PFAS evaluations.
6. Describe any other qualifications or experience that make your firm particularly well-suited to be selected as a consultant to the Board and DEP.
7. Please list any M/WBE certifications awarded to your firm or any pending applications with which your firm is involved.

B. Cover Letter

Although any Indications of Interest submitted in response to this Request are non-binding, the Consultant's response to the RII should include a cover letter signed by a senior officer who is authorized to bind your firm and who will have direct responsibility for this engagement. It should indicate the business address, e-mail and telephone number of such senior officer.

C. Vendor Diversity and Equal Opportunity Information

The Board encourages proposals from minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises (M/WBEs). M/WBEs responding to this RFP are also encouraged to apply for M/WBE certification with the New York City Department of Small Business Services and with the State of New York through Empire State Development. In addition, the Board further encourages firms that are not M/WBE firms to consider whether there may be an opportunity to partner with an M/WBE firm through a subcontractor or other arrangement.

The Board contracts with firms who undertake or continue programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, or marital status.

Accordingly, respondents are requested to include a short statement on any M/WBE certifications or credentials the firm possesses, and/or any M/WBE, partners or subcontractors with whom the firm has previously worked.

The Board, DEP, and the City of New York are committed to vendor diversity. The Board anticipates including a selection criteria in the forthcoming request for proposals that would provide a selection score bonus to certified M/WBE firms. Accordingly, it is anticipated that M/WBE certified firms will be prioritized for review when evaluating the indications of interest.

VI. SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

The Board in cooperation with DEP will identify from the Indications of Interest submitted in response to this Request those firms which will be invited to propose on the RFP that the Board anticipates issuing:

- A.** Overall quality of the response to the RII, including completeness, responsiveness, and clarity.
- B.** Technical ability, resources, and capacity of the proposing firm to provide the services described in this RII.
- C.** Qualifications, relevant experience, and availability of the individuals that will be assigned to provide the services described.
- D.** The extent of M/WBE participation in performing the work will be considered as an additional selection factor.

The selection process will be based upon written proposals, oral presentations (if required), and any other relevant information available to the Board.

VII. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING INDICATIONS OF INTEREST

A. Submission Details

Indications of interest should be submitted via email to the recipients below no later than 4:00 P.M. Eastern Time on Monday, January 8, 2024.

Please email a digital set of your documents to each of the email addresses jasonl@dep.nyc.gov and onazem@dep.nyc.gov. Please indicate “Environmental Assessment RII 2023 from [name of firm]” in the subject line. If the electronic files are too large in size to email, proposers should email a link to a data sharing site along with a covering note within the email making clear the identity of the proposer and the RII they are responding to.

B. Inquiries

Proposers are advised that communications regarding this RII should be directed to the Board’s designated contact person, Omar Nazem, at onazem@dep.nyc.gov and 718-595-3591. Please label written correspondence with the subject line header “Environmental Assessment RII 2023 Inquiries from [name of firm].”

C. Addenda to the RII

The Board may issue responses to inquiries related to substantive issues and any other corrections or amendments to the RII that it deems necessary prior to the proposal due date in the form of written addenda. It is the proposer's responsibility to ensure receipt of all addenda.

D. Subcontracting

If any part of the contemplated Scope of Work herein is expected to be subcontracted, the proposer shall identify the sub-consultant by furnishing its corporate name and the names of its officers, as well as resumes for the personnel who would be involved in this engagement. The selected proposer will be responsible for all work covered herein and is the sole contact regarding contractual matters.

E. Presentations and/or Interviews

Proposers may be invited to give oral and/or visual presentations in support of their proposals or to exhibit or otherwise demonstrate the information contained therein. The Board will schedule the time and location of these presentations.

F. Exceptions to RFP

Any deviation from the legal or technical requirements contained herein must be stated in the proposal and listed on a separate sheet of paper labeled “Exceptions” that is attached to the proposal, along with the reason for the deviation. The inclusion of an “Exceptions” schedule will not constitute a waiver of the legal and technical requirements described herein.

VIII. INFORMATION ON NEW YORK CITY WATER BOARD CONTRACT POLICIES

Respondents to this RII who are invited to submit proposals in response to the Request for Proposals that the Board anticipates issuing in connection with the Scope of Work will be requested to negotiate a definitive legal agreement with the Board using the Board’s standard form of agreement with vendors.

The Board’s form of agreement includes the standard City of New York Appendix A: “General Provisions Governing Contracts for Consultants, Professional, Technical, Human and Client Services.” The Board’s form of agreement also includes as appendix material or supporting schedules additional forms that the vendor would be required to sign, including a Certificate of Non-Collusion,

the City of New York's Doing Business Data Form, an Affidavit of Payment of Taxes, an EEO Policy Statement, and the requirement to complete an Equal Employment Opportunity Staffing Plan.

IX. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Costs incurred in connection with the proposal are the sole responsibility of the proposers. All materials submitted in response to this RII will become the property of the Board.

News releases, public announcements, or communications revealing material terms and conditions of a proposal, or made for the purposes of restricting competition, are prohibited.

The Board reserves, without limitation, the right to:

1. Reject any and all proposals received in response to this RII;
2. Not issue a Request for Proposals in connection with the proposed Scope of Work;
3. Not award a contract;
4. Conduct discussions with one or more proposers;
5. Award a contract without any discussion with proposers;
6. Invite any combination of firms submitting Indications in response to this RII to participate in the subsequent RFP process;
7. Negotiate separately with any combination of proposers; and
8. Assign the final contract award to more than one firm.