

**LDEQ ANSWERS TO PROPOSERS QUESTIONS**  
**RFP No. 2012-04-3501**  
**“Analytical and Consulting Services –**  
**Seafood Safety Response Related - Organics”**

LDEQ’s answers to the following questions are intended to provide information to potential proposers questions to RFP No. 2012-04-3501.

Questions and answers that may potentially result in the disclosure of information from proposals of competing bidders will not be published.

**Question 1:** Are the “Evaluation Units” referenced in the pricing schedule equivalent to sample quantities?

**LDEQ’s answer:** RFP Attachment 2, Schedule of Prices does *not* have evaluation units. RFP Part IV, Proposal Evaluation and Selection, Section 4.3, Price Evaluation Calculation is where evaluation units are located. As indicated in RFP Part IV, Section 4.3, the calculation, including evaluation units, is for evaluation purposes only. The evaluation units in Section 4.3, Table 3 represent theoretical sample quantities for the purpose of proposal evaluation only. Refer also to RFP Attachment 1, Statement of Work, Section 4.0, Project Schedule for approximate quantities based on project plans at the time of RFP issuance.

**Question 2:** Section 2.4 indicates that the lab will require accreditation with LDEQ for all methods and analytes associated with the RFPs. Since these are non-routine methods, is it known that LDEQ will provide accreditation for these methods/analytes?

**LDEQ’s answer:** Yes. LELAP will provide accreditation for these methods/analytes. These methods/analytes are included in the current version (4.0.4) of the online LELAP application. If a previous version was downloaded, within the application, go to Utilities>Update all Methods/Analytes and the latest additions will become available. If omissions are found, there is also a mechanism within the application to request accreditation for additional methods/analytes.

**Question 3:** As our lab is located outside of the State of Louisiana, would it be acceptable to be use FedEx as an alternative to courier service?

**LDEQ’s answer:** Yes, as long as all shipping charges are paid by the Contractor. This may be done via prepaid shipping labels or providing the Department with a FedEx or other commercial shipping service account number.

**Question 4:** Regarding the requirements for corporations not incorporated in the State of Louisiana: Will it be acceptable if we apply for "The Certificate of Authority" and "The Disclosure of Ownership Affidavit" at the time of award (if we are awarded the project)? Do you have any guidance on how to apply for these forms?

**LDEQ's answer:** A company may apply for a certificate and file a disclosure upon receipt of a notice of award from the Department. However, in accordance with RFP Part II, General Information, Section 2.1, Corporation Requirements, the Certificate of Authority and the Disclosure of Ownership must be provided prior to contracting with the LDWF and LDEQ (i.e. prior to obtaining signatures on the contract). RFP Part II, Section 2.1, Corporation Requirements includes contact information for the certifying agency for necessary guidance.

**Question 5:** A minimum detection limit of 1-5ng/L and 0.1-0.5ng/g is requested. Will it be acceptable if we establish MDLs at these levels, or is it required that the PQL and calibration curve meet these low levels?

**LDEQ's answer:** It is acceptable to establish MDLs at the requested levels listed in Attachment 2, Schedule of Prices. PQLs may be higher. However, all data that is detected between the MDL and PQL must be reported.

**Question 6:** Our primary NELAP certification is through the State of California. Our LA DEQ certification is based only on this certification and we cannot attain LADEQ certification for items not on our CA-NELAP certification. The state of California currently does not certify for the 8270D method. Our cert instead lists 8270C. Additionally, CA does not offer the specialized target analytes (such as the isomeric compounds) for certification, nor is the SIM method offered. Will this have a negative effect on our proposal?

**LDEQ's answer:** No, this will not have a negative impact on a proposal as long as the second option for accreditation status is proposed (i.e. intent to apply). LELAP can grant NELAP accreditation for methods/technologies not offered by their primary accrediting body. Depending on what methods are currently being performed under the CA-NELAP certification with no differentiation for technology or method version, the additional parameters may require a full assessment by LELAP.

**Question 7:** Section "3.3, Elements for Financial Information (Volume II)" requests financial information that we believe would typically be requested of a construction firm. As a laboratory, is the request for financial information applicable to us?

**LDEQ's answer:** In accordance with RFP Part IV, Proposal Evaluation and Selection, Section 4.6, Determination of Responsibility, the Department is required in LAC 34:136 to verify prior to award whether or not a company has adequate financial resources for performance, or has the ability to obtain such resources as required during performance. RFP Part III, Proposal Preparation Instructions, Section 3.3, Elements for Financial Information, includes *examples* of documentation that may be provided to determine responsibility. Proposers may send other types of evidence that they deem sufficient for the Department to make its determination. As per Part III, Section 3.3 and Part IV, Section 4.6, the Department may request additional information as necessary.