

March 11, 2022

City of North Port
Utilities Department
6644 W. Price Street
North Port, Florida 34291
Attention: Mike Acosta, PE, Engineering Manager



Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

6920 Professional Parkway
Sarasota, Florida 34240
(941) 907-6900

RE: Request for Letter of Interest No. 2022-03

City of North Port Myakkahatchee Creek Surface WTP Intake Structures Repairs, Renovation and/or Upgrades

Dear Mr. Acosta,

Stantec is pleased to submit our Letter of Interest to provide professional engineering services at the Myakkahatchee Creek Surface Water Treatment Plant (MCWTP) for the raw water intake structures. We have reviewed the RLOI in detail and our proposed team is well qualified to surpass your requirements. The information requested is presented below.



Project Management and Coordination

We understand success is in the details. Through Stantec's Project Management Framework we practice to achieve and sustain our ISO 9001 Quality Management System certification. Our framework enables us to outline required tasks to confirm quality and manage project risk. Providing clear and accurate bidding and construction documents are essential to receiving fair pricing and avoiding change orders. To this end, Stantec provides independent QA/QC checks on all contract documents as part of our certification protocol. Because we understand the bigger picture, our processes have garnered compliments from both contractors and clients on the same set of plans and specs.

Stantec will collaborate with you throughout the scoping and design phase to review design options, product evaluation and selection, and construction sequencing. To help achieve a common vision, Stantec will hold an on-site workshop after notification of selection to collaborate on a final scope of work. Together, we will develop a mutual understanding of the project goals. Based on the results of this workshop and our existing knowledge gained through preparing the Condition Assessment Report, we will submit a detailed scope of work that reflects our shared vision for the project.

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Design and Permitting

Upon issuance of the Work Assignment, we will host a kick-off meeting with the project team. Discussions will include a review of the scope of work and input from North Port Utilities Department's (NPU's) engineering and operations staff for equipment and requirements for operations and controls. Following this, a field survey will be conducted to document existing equipment layouts, locations of underground piping, existing grades and finished floor elevations, and other items necessary to support the design.

We suggest that an asbestos inspection of the pump station buildings take place to identify whether asbestos containing materials are present. An asbestos inspection is typically required for a demolition permit. Completing this inspection in design will allow us to incorporate appropriate handling and disposal requirements into the construction documents.

Construction plans, technical specifications, and an engineer's opinion of probable construction cost will be prepared for a 60-percent design milestone. Following the 60-percent review comment meeting, the 90-percent design milestone submittal will be prepared.

Project permit application packages will be submitted to the regulatory agencies using the 90-percent design construction plans. Permits that we anticipate obtaining during the design phase are an FDEP Specific Permit to Construct PWS Components issued by the local Department and an Environmental Resource Permit issued by SWFWD.

Specifications and Bidding Services

NPU maintains standard specifications that include sections for general requirements (Div. 1), earthwork/site work (Div. 31), exterior improvements (Div. 32), and utilities (Div. 33). These specifications are more tailored towards new construction of distribution and collection main projects and will be used to the extent practical. The unique aspects of this project will require project-specific specifications to supplement the standard specifications. Stantec will develop these project-specific specifications for items such as demolition, metal work, painting and coating, electrical, instrumentation and controls, slide gates, electric motor actuators, pumps, ventilation, and other non-standard fittings and equipment.

While permitting agencies are completing their reviews, Stantec will begin work on the “Issued for bid” (IFB) plans and specifications. Additional design and construction requirements imposed by permitting agencies will be incorporated into the IFB plans and specifications prior to submittal to NPU.

Stantec will review the City’s front end procurement documents to check for conflicts with the construction documents prepared by Stantec. We will attend the pre-bid meeting and prepare responses to design related questions received during bidding. After receipt of bids, Stantec will review the apparent low bid to assess conformance with the project requirements, review bidder references, and prepare a letter for recommendation of award.

Construction Phase Services

Our experience working with NPU has provided us an understanding of the level of service that NPU expects during construction. We will begin the construction phase by preparing conformed “issued for construction” (IFC) plans and specifications that incorporate changes made during bidding. These IFC documents will be provided to NPU and the contractor to ensure that all parties involved in construction execution and oversight are utilizing conformed construction documents.

We will attend the preconstruction and progress meetings, perform periodic site visits, review shop drawings and RFIs, witness startup and commissioning, prepare record drawings and submit certification packages for permit closeout.

Availability of Staff and Ability to Meet Project Schedule

Stantec is committed to providing the resources required to complete this project within the 20-week schedule. Members of our project team have been serving NPU since the early 1990s. Through our experience, we have gained considerable knowledge of NPU’s existing water treatment facility and have developed a strong understanding of the level of service that NPU expects. We also recognize and appreciate that NPU values efficiency—measured both in terms of time and cost.

Key staff members assigned to this project recently completed the NPU MCWTP Transfer Pump Upgrades project—which included similar upgrades and design challenges—and prepared the 2021 MCWTP Raw Water Intake Facilities Condition Assessment Report. Key staff and their roles include:

Stephen MacEachern, PE, will serve as the Project Manager and will lead the Stantec Team. Stephen will act as the point of contact for NPU and will strive to ensure communication is always open and two-way. He has worked on several projects with NPU over the past 10 years. This has created relationships with NPU staff that help deliver projects on time and on budget.

Harold Schmidt, PE, BCEE, will serve as the Project Technical Lead and will oversee the technical aspect of the project design. Hal has nearly 40 years of experience in the planning, design, and construction of over \$3.5B worth of utility CIPs throughout the southeastern US, including some of the largest surface water treatment plants in the region. Hal has a keen understanding of NPU’s facilities and has worked on projects that have improved the level of service provided by NPU for the past 30 years.

John Spalding, PE, will serve as the Senior Project Engineer. He will apply his over 15 years of experience in design and project delivery to lead the design development, construction document preparation, permitting, and services during bidding and the construction phase. John has extensive experience and knowledge from his work on similar projects, including the MCWTP Transfer Pumps Upgrade project completed in 2021. His technical knowledge and experience working on multi-discipline projects will help to ensure the different disciplines involved in this project will work collaboratively to provide a seamless design that is complete and correct and will meet NPU’s needs.

Bradley Buchanan, PE, will serve as the Electrical and Instrumentation & Controls Engineer. He has experience in providing complete electrical design, motor control, instrumentation and controls, PLC, and HMI design for municipal water and wastewater providers in Florida. His experience includes electrical and instrumentation & controls designs for previous projects for NPU. This experience has given Brad knowledge of NPU’s design and operations preferences.

Dave Severns, PE, will serve as the underwater Structural Engineer. Having led the 2021 inspection, Dave has firsthand knowledge of the submerged raw water intake piping and supports. He will provide our design team advice and guidance for the improvements and upgrades for the intake piping. Dave is an accomplished structural engineer with more than 33 years of experience in underwater infrastructure inspection, structural analysis, and rehabilitation/replacement planning.

Proposed Cost-Saving Measures and Value-Added Ideas for the Project

Stantec proposes to specify T-intake screens designed specifically for intake pipes for raw water supply to prevent aquatic life, vegetation, and debris from entering the wet wells, thereby improving raw water quality. These T-screens are typically provided with an airburst cleaning system that removes debris through a rapid release of high-pressure air. As a cost-saving measure, we propose installing a single airburst cleaning system with air piping designed to serve the intake screens at both Myakkahatchee Creek Pump Stations. This will eliminate the cost of providing dedicated airburst cleaning systems and associated electrical work for each intake.

Following storm events, the area around the Myakkahatchee Creek Pump Stations is subject to ponding that extends a considerable distance to the southwest. This is a nuisance and potential safety risk for plant operations staff. We will investigate re-grading the area around the stations and discuss other measures such as adding stormwater piping to help alleviate the issue.

The discharge piping and valves for Myakkahatchee Creek Pump Station no. 2 are partially below grade, resulting in maintenance challenges. We will discuss options to correct this issue, such as new elevated pump platforms in the pump house or specifying pumps with a higher discharge elevation.



If the instability of material availability and construction pricing continues, we can discuss Additive Alternate bidding to fully utilize budget availability. The T-screens and airburst cleaning system at the Cocoplum Waterway Pump Station could be a Bid Alternate. This station was completed within the last 10 years and is in relatively good condition, and there are removable screens inside the wet well. We do recommend that the Cocoplum Waterway Pump Station wet well and equipment improvements remain in the design as the addition of VFDs at this station will allow the pumps to operate more efficiently and reduce electricity costs.

Finally, we suggest that NPU discuss with the City's Purchasing Department the possibility of allowing electronically signed and sealed IFB plans and specifications for use during bidding. Scanned copies of signed and sealed hard copies are poorer quality than electronically signed and sealed PDFs, which may cause some design details to be unclear. Providing clear bidding documents are essential to receiving fair pricing and avoiding change orders during construction.

References

Our history and our experience with repeat clients speak volumes for our reputation. We are proud of the work we do for our clients and are pleased to provide relevant project references that members of our project team have worked on.

MCWTP Transfer Pump Upgrades – City of North Port Utilities: Stantec provided hydraulic analysis and design, permitting, bidding, and construction phase services for the replacement of an existing vertical turbine transfer pump, installation of a new vertical transfer pump, upgrades in two clearwell rooms, and filter gallery piping modifications. The improvements provide greater efficiency and improved operations for filter backwashing and conveying finished water to the ground storage tanks.

Jennifer Fehrs, PE – Project Manager

Phone: 941-223-4138

Email: jfehrr@cityofnorthport.com

Water Treatment Plant Upgrades – City of West Palm Beach: Stantec assisted the City of West Palm Beach surface WTP with rehabilitation of 32 dual media filters, which included four new 500-700 HP high service pumps and the construction of a new transfer pump station with four 300 HP vertical turbine pumps to facilitate the UV treatment process. One existing 250 HP vertical turbine pump was rehabilitated to deliver water to a new Powdered Activated Carbon contact chamber.

Poonan Kalkat, PhD – Dir of Public Utilities

Phone: 561-822-2284

Email: PKalkat@wpc.org

Long Term Water Supply Program – Columbia Power and Water Systems (CPWS): Stantec provided design services for modifications to CPWS' two existing raw water intake pump stations. The original intake was constructed in 1952 and outfitted with four 2400V pumps. Stantec designed upgrades including replacement of the four pumps with three 480V pumps that will operate in a lead/lag/standby configuration and the replacement of all internal piping, valving, and instrumentation. The second intake was constructed in 2002 and has 2300V pumps. Stantec designed modifications to convert these to 480V and add VFDs. Stantec also developed plans to rehabilitate the traveling water screens on both intakes and designed structural improvements to bring the structures up to modern standards.

Jonathan Hardin – VP Water Operations

Phone: 931-375-7646

Email: Jonathan.Hardin@cpws.com

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this LOI. We look forward to partnering with the NPU on this project.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen C. MacEachern, PE
Project Manager

stephen.maceachern@stantec.com

c. 941-914-1916



Harold Schmidt, PE, BCEE
Project Technical Lead

harold.schmidt@stantec.com

c. 407-341-3083

CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM

F.S. §112.313 places limitations on public officers (including advisory board members) and employees' ability to contract with the City either directly or indirectly. Therefore, please indicate if the following applies:

PART I.

- I am an employee, public officer or advisory board member of the City
_____ **(List Position or Board)**

- I am the spouse or child of an employee, public officer or advisory board member of the City
Name: _____

- An employee, public officer or advisory board member of the City, or their spouse or child, is an officer, partner, director, or proprietor of Respondent or has a material interest in Respondent. "Material interest" means direct or indirect ownership of more than 5 percent of the total assets or capital stock of any business entity. For the purposes of [§112.313], indirect ownership does not include ownership by a spouse or minor child.
Name: _____

- Respondent employs or contracts with an employee, public officer or advisory board member of the City
Name: _____

- None of The Above

PART II:

Are you going to request an advisory board member waiver?

- I will request an advisory board member waiver under §112.313(12)
- I will NOT request an advisory board member waiver under §112.313(12)
- N/A

The City shall review any relationships which may be prohibited under the Florida Ethics Code and will disqualify any vendors whose conflicts are not waived or exempt.

BUSINESS NAME: _____

NAME(PERSON AUTHORIZED TO BIND COMPANY): _____

SIGNATURE: _____

THIS PAGE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH LETTER OF INTEREST

**DISCLOSURE FORM FOR
CONSULTANT/ENGINEER/ARCHITECT**

Please select only one of the following three options:

_____ Our firm has no actual, potential, or reasonably perceived, **financial*** or **other interest**** in the outcome of the project.

_____ Our firm has a potential or reasonably perceived **financial*** or **other interest**** in the outcome of the project as described here:

_____.

Our firm proposes to mitigate the potential or perceived conflict according to the following plan:

_____.

_____ Our firm has an actual **financial*** or **other interest**** in the outcome of the project as described here:

_____.

***What does “financial interest” mean?**

If your firm, or employee(s) of your firm working on the project (or a member of the employee’s household), will/may be perceived to receive or lose private income depending on the government business choices based on your firm’s findings and recommendations, this must be listed as a financial interest. An example would be ownership in physical assets affected by the government business choices related to this project. The possibility of contracting for further consulting services is not included in this definition and is not prohibited.

****What does “other interest” mean?**

If your firm, or employee(s) of your firm working on the project (or a member of the employee’s household), will/may be perceived to have political, legal or any other interests that will affect what goes into your firm’s findings and recommendations, or will be/may be perceived to be affected by the government business choices related to this project, this must be listed as other interest.

BUSINESS NAME: _____

NAME (PERSON AUTHORIZED TO BIND THE COMPANY): _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____