Responses to Comments
Request for Proposals 2010-004
Develop Detailed TAC and PM Emissions Inventory for the Bay Area

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Comment #1: Task A describes collecting traffic volume data for major non-state roadways and mentions using traffic studies, online databases or other sources. And I want to confirm that this analysis would be limited to existing traffic count data, and that no new traffic counts would be funded under this project.

Response #1: The consultant would only be required to gather existing information of vehicle counts on roadways already available through various agencies and online databases and will not be required to conduct additional field studies to fill in the missing information.

Comment #2: The RFP lists 5 costing assumptions under Section V, A., 2, b that will be considered for each task. What is the District's formula for scoring cost given these requested cost breakouts?

Response #2: The cost will be compared and assigned points depending if the costs are higher or lower with respect to the other proposals for each assumption. All five cost assumptions will then be tallied for a final score representing the cost portion of the evaluation.

Comment #3: What electronic data are available from the District vis-à-vis the stationary/permitted sources that are to be reviewed?

Response #3: The District currently has detailed emissions inventory based on the year 2008 that includes the permitted facility address and plant number, source of emissions, chemicals emitted, and the emission rates. The data are available in an Excel spreadsheet. However, modeling parameters are not available for many of the sources and, in a few cases, the UTM coordinates are incorrect.

Comment #4: What is the specific list of TAC compounds for which emission estimates are to be generated?

Response #4: TAC compounds are identified in Regulation 2, Rule 5: New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants (for details, please see online reference http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/Rules-and-Regulations.aspx) However, not all of the TAC compounds listed in the regulation are emitted in the Bay Area. Emission estimates from BAAQMD-permitted stationary sources are currently speciated; for other sources, it is assumed that source-specific speciation profiles would be used.

Comment #5: We plan to include a sub-contractor on our team, yet the RFP is not clear where sub-contractor qualifications are to be included. RFP section V, A., 1., j. (Proposal Section VIII) requires that we list sub-contractors, work to be performed, and total number of hours/percentage of time they will spend on the contract, but does not mention qualifications. Should all qualification of prime and subs be included in proposal Section IV "Firm Organization"?

Response #5: Subcontracting is welcome in this RFP. In the proposal, the subcontractors' qualifications, work that they will be doing, and their costs/hours should be clearly stated in the proposal with the prime consultants' information.

Comment #6: The RFP states that annual and 70-year average emissions will be developed. Which years does the District require for annual emissions? Which range of years should the 70-year average be based (e.g., 2010-2080)?

Response #6: For annual emissions, the base year will be 2010 and for the 70-year average, the years will span from 2010 to 2080. However, we are not asking for projections beyond what is readily available; assume constant emissions beyond what is reasonably knowable. For example, the current version of EMFAC projects emissions out to year 2040. It may be appropriate to include additional estimates for reductions from on-road vehicles from regulations that have been approved by the California Air Resources Board, but otherwise EMFAC estimates should be used. For years beyond 2040, it is reasonable to assume that emissions are constant.

Comment #7: Is the District's 2009 inventory of prime and back-up diesel generators considered to be complete? Would the Contractor be required to identify any uninventoried generators?

Response #7: The District's inventory of generators is considered complete for those units that are applicable under District's administrated Statewide Air Toxics Control Measure (ATCM) for Stationary Diesel Engines. The contractor will not be required to identify any additional generators that are not included in the list.

Comment #8: The RFP indicates that the District currently has a database that contains information on the location and emission estimates for about 70% of the gas dispensing facilities (i.e., GDFs or gas stations) in the Bay Area. Would the Contractor required to identify the other 30% of the Bay Area GDFs, or to simply complete all database fields for the already inventoried 70% of the GDFs?

Response #8: The District permits all GDFs that meet Regulation 8, Rule 7: Gasoline Dispensing Facility (for details, please see online reference http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/Rules-and-Regulations.aspx). The consultant will only be required to gather modeling parameters for some of the facilities where data are not available electronically, but will not be asked to identify any additional GDFs that are not included in the list.

Comment #9: The RFP indicates that the District currently has a database that includes "most" of the Bay Area dry cleaners. Please clarify what percent (or range) that "most" represents? Does the District's database include both perchloroethylene and non-perchloroethylene dry cleaners? Would the Contractor be required to identify any uninventoried dry cleaners, or to simply complete all database fields for the already inventoried dry cleaners?

Response #9: The District inventory includes all perchloroethylene dry cleaners that are applicable under Regulation 11, Rule 16: Perchloroethylene and Synthetic Solvents Dry Cleaning Operations ((for details, please see online reference http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/Rules-and-Regulations.aspx). The consultant will only be required to gather modeling parameters for some of the facilities where data are not available electronically, but will not be asked to identify any additional cleaners that are not included in the list.

Comment #10: The task listing indicates that operating/modeling parameters will be compiled for stationary diesel engines and back-up generators, GDFs, and perchloroethylene dry cleaners. Modeling parameters were identified as location, equipment dimensions, and stack parameters (i.e., height temperature, exit temperature, exit velocity, etc.). Please clarify what "operating parameters" mean for this project.

Response #10: The operating parameters may include actual throughput for a GDF versus the allowable threshold in the permit applications. In most cases, the District has already gathered majority of the operating parameters and is seeking assistance on developing modeling parameters for each of the facilities. In this reference, the operating and modeling parameters are synonymous.

Comment #11: The task says that the list of the top 100 permitted stationary sources of TAC and PM2.5) should be "based on year 2009 emissions." Also, the task says that the Contractor will be required to provide "…TAC and/or PM2.5 emissions…" Please clarify if the District will provide the Contractor with the 2009 emissions inventory for the stationary sources, or if those estimates are to be developed under this task, along with the modeling parameters (e.g., geocoded locations, stack data, etc.).

Response #11: The District plans to provide the consultant with the 2009 emissions inventory for permitted sources. The consultant will be required to sort the information and extract the top 100 sources excluding GDFs, diesel engines, and dry cleaners. For these 100 sources, the consultant will be developing geocoded location coordinates and modeling parameters. The emissions for these sources will be included in the 2009 emissions inventory.

Comment #12: What type of contract will be issued (e.g., time and materials, fixed price, etc.)?

Response #12: A time and material contract will be issued based on the costing schedule provided in the proposal.