**MCWRA Informational Notice**

**INTERLAKE TUNNEL & SPILLWAY MODIFICATION PROJECT**

January 15, 2015

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**Informational Notice of pending RFP’s for engineering design and environmental compliance services**

**Introduction**

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) intends to issue Requests for Proposals for engineering design and environmental compliance services for the Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification projects. Summary information about the projects and the pending RFPs follows. This information is subject to change and subject to official information in the Request for Proposal documents and notices.

The Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification (collectively referred to as “Projects”) are two separate and distinct projects intended to provide flood control and increase the net total storage capacity of the Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs located in southern Monterey County, California. The Projects involve the preliminary engineering of a gravity flow water conveyance tunnel from the Nacimiento Reservoir to the San Antonio Reservoir and the design of modifications to the spillway at San Antonio Reservoir to effect an increase of storage in the San Antonio Reservoir. The Interlake Tunnel will be procured using the Design-Build method in compliance with California Assembly Bill 155. The San Antonio Spillway Modification involves approval of the California Division of Safety and Dams (DSOD) and is intended to be procured using the design-bid-build procurement approach. The Request for Proposals scope of services for the Projects includes all professional services associated with design and environmental clearance necessary to prepare the Design-Build and Design-Bid-Build procurement documents for the respective projects. Both projects will include a Project Labor Agreement for the construction phases.

**Project Description**

The proposed Interlake Tunnel is a gravity flow water conveyance tunnel approximately 12,000 feet long connecting Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs in San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties respectively. Conceptual design of the tunnel project envisions a reinforced concrete lined tunnel with an inside finished diameter of 10 feet and a slope from Nacimiento to San Antonio of -0.4%. The tunnel will have an invert elevation in Nacimiento Reservoir at approximately 745’ MSL with an inlet structure equipped with debris racks and stop logs to facilitate tunnel maintenance. The outlet structure in San Antonio will include a valve facility housing a spherical valve for operation of the tunnel and an energy dissipation structure. The tunnel has an estimated capital cost of $48 million.

The Spillway Modification Project proposes modifying the existing spillway at San Antonio with a crest control device to provide an effective 10 foot increase in the maximum lake elevation increasing the storage capacity of the reservoir by approximately 60,000 acre feet. This potential added storage increases the benefits of the tunnel project by providing additional storage for flood control and conservation releases. The feasibility of the spillway modification at San Antonio has not been determined. There are issues relative to minimum freeboard, requirements for meeting Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) controls, and approval from the Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams. The spillway modification project has an estimated capital cost of $15 million.
Procurement of Professional Services

On December 9, 2014, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency and the Monterey County Board of Supervisors authorized the Agency to proceed with the Interlake Tunnel and San Antonio Spillway Modification project and authorized the Agency to proceed with preliminary engineering and environmental review and permitting activities. Monterey County authorized a funding process for $2.5 million in financial support for these purposes under a financing agreement with the Agency, in addition to the $0.5 million previously authorized.

Requests for Proposals (RFPs) are being prepared for solicitation of design and environmental compliance services for the Projects. Procurement of these services will be conducted in compliance with Monterey County policies and procedures.

The design scope of services are performance based with the following objectives:

1) Perform design consulting services to produce preliminary design documents, specifications and contract bridging documents for the procurement of Design/Build services for the Interlake Tunnel Project in compliance with California Assembly Bill 155.
2) Prepare design and contract bidding documents for the design-bid-build delivery of the San Antonio Spillway Modification Project.
3) Prepare technical documents to support the draft and final EIR environmental and regulatory approval for the Projects.
4) Prepare an Engineer’s Report and detailed capital and operating cost estimates for the Projects to support a California Proposition 218 tax assessment financing plan.
5) Design the Projects within the capital cost constraints established for each project.

The environmental compliance services scope includes the following objectives:

1) Obtain the environmental clearance for the Projects through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.
2) Obtain permits and approvals for construction of the Projects from relevant governing authorities.

Respondents to the RFPs are not precluded from proposing on both the design and environmental compliance RFPs. The Agency may entertain combining the engineering design and environmental compliance work under a single services agreement from firms who respond to both RFPs.

The proposed RFP schedule is as follows:

- Advertise RFP: April 2015
- Receive Proposals: May 2015
- Notice to Proceed: June 2015
Contact Information

The Agency has requested that all questions and communications regarding this Informational Notice be directed to EPC Consultants, Inc., the Program Manager for the Projects retained by the Agency. Official Information regarding the Request for Proposal process will be posted on the websites for the County of Monterey (http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/) and Monterey County Water Resources Agency (http://www.mcwra.co.monterey.ca.us/index.php).

EPC’s point of contact is:
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