

Federal Acquisition Regulation

52.214-21

CONTRACT AWARD—SEALED BIDDING— CONSTRUCTION (AUG 1996)

(a) The Government will evaluate bids in response to this solicitation without discussions and will award a contract to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to the solicitation, will be most advantageous to the Government, considering only price and the price-related factors specified elsewhere in the solicitation.

(b) The Government may reject any or all bids, and waive informalities or minor irregularities in bids received.

(c) The Government may accept any item or combination of items, unless doing so is precluded by a restrictive limitation in the solicitation or the bid.

(d) The Government may reject a bid as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or subline items. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated in relation to cost for other work, and if there is a reasonable doubt that the bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the Government even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount to allowing an advance payment.

(End of provision)

[48 FR 42478, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 1746, Jan. 11, 1985; 50 FR 52434, Dec. 23, 1985; 61 FR 31664, June 20, 1996]

52.214-20 Bid Samples.

As prescribed in 14.201-6(o)(1), insert the following provision:

BID SAMPLES (APR 2002)

(a) *Bid sample* means a product sample required to be submitted by a bidder to show those characteristics of the offered products that cannot adequately be described by specifications, purchase descriptions, or the invitation for bid (*e.g.*, balance, facility of use, or pattern).

(b) Bidders must furnish bid samples as part of the bid. The Government must receive the bid samples by the time specified in the invitation for bids. If the bidder fails to submit samples on time, the Government will reject the bid, except that the Contracting Officer will consider a late sample sent by mail under the Late Submissions, Modifications, and Withdrawals of Bids provision of this solicitation.

(c) The Government will test or evaluate bid samples to determine compliance with all the characteristics listed for examination in this solicitation. The Government will reject the bid when the sample fails to conform to the required characteristics. Products de-

livered under any resulting contract must conform to—

(1) the approved sample for the characteristics listed for test or evaluation and

(2) the specifications for all other characteristics.

(d) Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, bid samples shall be (1) submitted at no expense to the Government, and (2) returned at the bidder's request and expense, unless they are destroyed during preaward testing.

(End of provision)

Alternate I (MAY 2002). As prescribed in 14.201-6(o)(2)(i), insert the following *Alternate I*:

(e) At the discretion of the Contracting Officer, the requirement for furnishing bid samples may be waived for a bidder if (1) the bid states that the offered product is the same as a product offered by the bidder to the ___ [as appropriate, the Contracting Officer shall designate the contracting office or an alternate activity or office], and (2) the Contracting Officer determines that the previously offered product was accepted or tested and found to comply with specification and other requirements for technical acceptability conforming in every material respect with those in this solicitation.

Alternate II (MAY 2002). As prescribed in 14.201-6(o)(2)(ii), insert the following *Alternate II*:

(e) At the discretion of the Contracting Officer, the requirements for furnishing bid samples may be waived for a bidder if (1) the bid states that the offered product is the same as a product offered by the bidder to the ___ [as appropriate, the Contracting Officer shall designate the contracting office or an alternate activity or office] on a previous acquisition, (2) the Contracting Officer determines that the previously offered product was accepted or tested and found to comply with specification and other requirements for technical acceptability conforming in every material respect with those of this solicitation, and (3) the product offered under this solicitation will be produced under a resulting contract at the same plant in which the previously acquired or tested product was produced.

[48 FR 42478, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 67 FR 13056, Mar. 20, 2002; 67 FR 21536, Apr. 30, 2002]

52.214-21 Descriptive Literature.

As prescribed in 14.201-6(p)(1), insert the following provision:

52.214-22

DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE (APR 2002)

(a) *Descriptive literature*, as used in this provision, means information furnished by a bidder, such as cuts, illustrations, drawings, and brochures, that shows a product's characteristics or construction or explains its operation. The term includes only that information required to evaluate the acceptability of the product and excludes other information for operating or maintaining the product.

(b) Descriptive literature is required to establish, for the purpose of evaluation and award, details of the product offered that are specified elsewhere in the solicitation and pertain to significant elements such as—

- (1) Design;
- (2) Materials;
- (3) Components;
- (4) Performance characteristics; and
- (5) Methods of manufacture, assembly, construction, or operation.

(c) Descriptive literature, required elsewhere in this solicitation, shall be—

- (1) Identified to show the item(s) of the offer to which it applies; and
- (2) Received by the time specified in this solicitation.

(d) If the bidder fails to submit descriptive literature on time, the Government will reject the bid, except that late descriptive literature sent by mail may be considered under the Late Submissions, Modifications, and Withdrawals of Bids provision of this solicitation.

(e) If the descriptive literature fails to show that the product offered conforms to the requirements of the solicitation, the Government will reject the bid.

(End of provision)

Alternate I (APR 2002). As prescribed in 14.201-6(p)(2), add the following paragraphs (f) and (g) to the basic provision:

(f) The Contracting Officer may waive the requirement for furnishing descriptive literature if the offeror has supplied a product that is the same as that required by this solicitation under a prior contract. A bidder that requests a waiver of this requirement shall provide the following information:

Prior contract number _____
 Date of prior contract _____
 Contract line item number of product supplied _____
 Name and address of Government activity to which delivery was made _____
 Date of final delivery product supplied _____

(g) Bidders shall submit bids on the basis of required descriptive literature or on the basis of a previously supplied product under

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paragraph (f) of this provision. A bidder submitting a bid on one of these two bases may not elect to have its bid considered on the alternative basis after the time specified for receipt of bids. The Government will disregard a bidder's request for a waiver under paragraph (f) if that bidder has submitted the descriptive literature requested under this solicitation.

[67 FR 13056, Mar. 20, 2002]

52.214-22 Evaluation of Bids for Multiple Awards.

As prescribed in 14.201-6(q), insert the following provision:

EVALUATION OF BIDS FOR MULTIPLE AWARDS
(MAR 1990)

In addition to other factors, bids will be evaluated on the basis of advantages and disadvantages to the Government that might result from making more than one award (multiple awards). It is assumed, for the purpose of evaluating bids, that \$500 would be the administrative cost to the Government for issuing and administering each contract awarded under this solicitation, and individual awards will be for the items or combinations of items that result in the lowest aggregate cost to the Government, including the assumed administrative costs.

(End of provision)

[48 FR 42478, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 55 FR 3887, Feb. 5, 1990]

52.214-23 Late submissions, modifications, revisions, and withdrawals of technical proposals under two-step sealed bidding.

As prescribed in 14.201-6(r), insert the following provision:

LATE SUBMISSIONS, MODIFICATIONS, REVISIONS, AND WITHDRAWALS OF TECHNICAL PROPOSALS UNDER TWO-STEP SEALED BIDDING (NOV 1999)

(a) Bidders are responsible for submitting technical proposals, and any modifications or revisions, so as to reach the Government office designated in the request for technical proposals by the time specified in the invitation for bids (IFB). If no time is specified in the IFB, the time for receipt is 4:30 p.m., local time, for the designated Government office on the date that bids or revisions are due.