

## ADDENDUM 1

RFP 473-19-00002

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR A CONTRACTOR TO MANAGE A COMPREHENSIVE CYBERSECURITY AND PHYSICAL SECURITY OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR MONITORED UTILITIES

### Introductory Note:

The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT or Commission) is issuing a Request for Proposals for contractor to serve as the “Cybersecurity Monitor” to manage a comprehensive cybersecurity and physical security outreach program for monitored utilities. The objective of the program will be to develop a framework for collaborative discussion between the Public Utility Commission of Texas “PUCT”; Monitored Utilities and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) regarding efforts to secure critical electric infrastructure from cyber and physical vulnerabilities.

### Questions (in black) and Answers (in red):

1. Is the expectation that the “Contractor” will provide threat intelligence to help conduct audits and general assessments or is there an internal source that the “Contractor” would use for those tasks?

Threat intel will come from internal PUC source, but it can also come from the Contractor as well.

2. Would the “Contractor” need to share, create or view documents classified as Secret?

The Contractor should be prepared to share, create or view documents classified as Secret dependent upon the threat landscape to electric utilities and if that information needs to be shared into a reportable format for briefing purposes.

3. If the “Contractor” does need to share, create or view documents classified Secret do they need direct access to a Secret Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNet) or reach an agreement with a facility that has SIPRNet facilities?

The Contractor would either need to have its own Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) or have access with a facility that offers the Contractor the ability to access Secret information.

4. Is there an expectation that the Contractor be integrated into the Incident Response Team functions for the PUCT and/or any of the Monitored Utilities, if so would that need to be covered and incorporated in to the annual firm, fixed cost?

The PUCT does not expect the Contractor to be integrated into the Incident Response Team functions of the PUCT or any Monitored Utilities. The expectation is for the

Contractor to provide guidance and Best Business Practices for Monitored Utilities that need assistance in developing an Incident Response Program.

5. What would be an example of a situation or a instance that an “ad hoc report” would be requested by the “Contract Administrator”?

An example would be a report outlining an aggregate assessment of utilities in the area of developed Incident Response Plans, exercised Incident Response Plans and how often reviewed by executive leadership. However, the purpose for the requirement that the contractor create ad hoc reports at the request of the Contract Administrator is to allow the PUCT to request reports that were not specifically anticipated to be needed at the time of contract formation.

6. How many “Monitored Utilities” are expected to be covered by this scope of work?

TBD.

7. When stating the “Contractor” would need to “offer approved training as needed” to the “Monitored Utilities” is the campaign execution and content generation for this training expected to be covered in the “firm and fixed costs”?

Yes.

8. Who is the current incumbent and what is the current contract value?

There is no current incumbent.

9. Is this contract is single awarded or multi-awarded?

The PUCT anticipates awarding this contract to a single contractor, but there will be no exclusivity clause in the contract prohibiting the PUCT from contracting with other contractors for similar services.

10. What is the annual budget for this contract?

The PUCT declines to provide that information. Each proposer should offer their best price for these services.

11. Could you please provide Infrastructure details Like, Servers, Laptop, PC, Application of users etc.?

The contractor is expected to provide their own equipment.

12. Are you required consultant on full time or just on as need basis?

Full Time.

13. What area of focus does each of the current outsourced personnel have?

There are no current outsourced personnel for the duties contemplated by this solicitation.

14. Is there an incumbent provider currently performing these services?

No.

15. If so, please provide the company name and contract number.

N/A.

16. How many labor hours are expected to be associated with this requirement?

The PUCT has not estimated labor hours for this contract. Proposers should make that estimate for themselves.

17. What labor categories are required for the requirement?

Each proposer should determine what labor categories they wish to propose for the services solicited.

18. Are there specific Texas prevailing wages required with the positions necessary to execute this requirement?

No.

19. Is there a Collective Bargaining Agreement in place and if so would you please provide a copy?

No.

20. How many Monitored Utilities are involved in this PUCT program?

TBD.

21. Where will the Project Management Office for this requirement be located?

The contractor should expect to work out of its own office, with travel as necessary to meet with PUCT staff or monitored utilities. The PUCT contract administrator is located in Austin, Texas.

22. As part of the outreach program, does the PUCT require that contractor personnel be physically located at any of the Monitored Utilities for an extended period of time?

No.

23. The RFP requires a company to possess an Interim Secret by March 2020 and a full Secret by June of 2020. Given the extended time required to obtain a facility clearance letter from

the Federal Government, this suggests that bidders must already be in the pipeline for a full Secret or already possess the clearance. Please confirm that companies without the required ability to obtain the full Secret by June 2020 will not be considered for award.

Each proposer should describe their plan and expected timelines for obtaining interim and full Secret clearance by the deadlines described in the RFP. If the top proposers appear to be unable to meet these timelines, the timelines may be negotiated at the Best and Final Offer stage.

24. Do all contractor personnel proposed to work on this requirement require a Secret clearance?

No, just those personnel that will have access to the potential aggregated information collected during the assessment of utilities by the Contractor. But proposers must describe how they will safeguard that information, including ensuring that only people with the appropriate clearances view classified information.

25. Do any personnel require more than a Secret level clearance?

No.

26. In Section 4.D, the RFP lists several factors that constitute potential preference points in the evaluation. Are these factors all the same, i.e.: if a vendor meets one of the three or more they obtain preference points?

The factors in Section 4.D all describe ways to qualify for a single preference that is used to break ties – the Texas Vendor Preference. If two proposers tie and each qualify for the preference, we will issue another request for best and final offers.

27. What is this contract value (i.e., the budget allocated)?

The PUCT declines to provide that information. Each proposer should offer their best price for these services.

28. What is the frequency of in-person meetings?

As-needed, at least quarterly.