

1112-2015
RFI RESPONSE No. RFI-0001

BIOSOLIDS LAND APPLICATION

URGENT

**PLEASE FORWARD THIS DOCUMENT TO
WHOEVER IS IN POSSESSION OF THE
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

ISSUED: January 25, 2016
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THE FOLLOWING PROVIDES RESPONSES TO ENQUIRIES FROM RESPONDENTS

Respondents are reminded that they are not entitled to rely on this information or interpretation unless and to the extent that is provided by the City Contact by subsequent addendum

Question 1: Should companies respond to this solicitation if the proposed service is not specific to biosolids land application?

Response 1: RFI 1112-2015 is specific to biosolids land application, and we are looking for information specific to biosolids land application.

Question 2: What is the process for environmental licensing and approvals in Manitoba?

Response 2: The environmental assessment and licensing process in Manitoba is outlined on the Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship website, in the information bulletins at the following link: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal/pubs/index.html>

Question 3: Does the Province of Manitoba regulate the storage of Class B biosolids? Would this be part of an updated Environment Act License?

Response 3: It is expected that the construction and operation of a biosolids storage facility will require an Environment Act License (EAL) from Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship. The EAL for biosolids storage will be the sole responsibility of the Contractor, who will construct, own, operate and maintain the storage facility.

It is expected that the application of biosolids to agricultural land will also require an EAL. Regarding the EAL for biosolids application, it is the City's intention to enter into an agreement with the Contractor to transfer the responsibility of specific clauses to the Contractor.

For information on the environmental licensing and approvals process, see response to Question 1.

Question 4: In the past, what was the typical application rate that Winnipeg used for the dewatered biosolids, before the regulatory changes and afterwards?

Response 4: The biosolids application rates for the WinGRO program are outlined in the biosolids compliance reports, found on the City of Winnipeg website, at the following link: <http://www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/sewage/WPCCLicenseMonitor.stm>

The WinGRO land application program ended in 2010 because of the changes in application rates outlined in the Manitoba Nutrient Management Regulation:

<http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/pdf-regs.php?reg=62/2008>

The equipment used in the WinGRO program could not spread the biosolids onto the agricultural land at the reduced application rates.

Question 5: Will the land application program include biosolids that have been disposed at BRRMF in previous years?

Response 5: The land application program will not include application of biosolids previously disposed at BRRMF.

Question 6: Will existing City Contract 355-2015 cover the transport of biosolids from NEWPCC to the biosolids storage facility, if the storage facility is significantly farther from NEWPCC than BRRMF?

Response 6: Existing City Contract 355-2015 includes the transport of biosolids from NEWPCC to the biosolids storage facility. If the distance from NEWPCC to the storage facility is **significantly** greater than the distance from NEWPCC to BRRMF, additional costs may be applied to the City for biosolids transport under Contract 355-2015. The additional transportation costs would be considered when deciding if the land application program is economically viable.

Question 7: How will the RFI Submissions be evaluated and/or scored?

Response 7: There is no evaluation matrix for the Submissions. The Submissions will not be scored. The information will be used to decide whether to proceed to RFP, and how to structure the contract if an RFP is issued. Our intention is to make the RFP process as viable as possible for the greatest number of bidders.

Question 8: How will the decision on how to proceed be communicated to Respondents? How will the rationale for the decision be provided?

Response 8: Updates on the biosolids management program will be communicated through the City of Winnipeg public engagement website: <http://wwdengage.winnipeg.ca/biosolids/>. Bid Opportunities will be posted on the City of Winnipeg Materials Management website: <http://winnipeg.ca/matmgt/>.

Question 9: Is the 2015 biosolids compliance report available (or part of it)?

Response 9: The 2015 biosolids compliance report is due to Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship by January 31, 2016. It will be posted to the City of Winnipeg website once it is finalized.

Question 10: Can the historical biosolids quality and quantity data be provided in a spreadsheet format?

Response 10: Not at this time.

Question 11: Are there any City owned lands that may be available for the construction of a biosolids storage facility, either at the treatment plant or on lands in close proximity to the site?

Response 11: There is no City owned land available for a biosolids storage facility at NEWPCC, SEWPCC or WEWPCC. At this time, the City has not identified land for a biosolids storage facility.

Question 12: What is the maximum length of contract that the City would consider for a proposal that includes reliable year-round storage and land application? Would a 10 or 15 year contract with a 5 year renewal option be acceptable?

Response 12: The City would consider a contract of this duration if it is in their best interest.

Question 13: Would the City consider a basis of payment that included both fixed rate and variable rate(s)?

Response 13: The City would consider a basis of payment that includes both fixed rate and variable rate(s).

Question 14: Would the City consider an annual Consumer Price Index adjustment to the unit prices?

Response 14: The City would consider a reasonable annual adjustment to unit prices. This adjustment would be determined at the RFP stage. For the RFI Submission, we are asking for an approximate range of costs for each option.

Question 15: The reference to "Risk Matrix" is not clear. Would this be related to the risks identified in 3.2.13 a) or the list of responsibilities outlined in 4.3?

Response 15: The Risk Matrix refers to Part 4.1 and Part 4.3 of the RFI. Part 4.2 and 4.4 provide the opportunity to comment on the risks and responsibilities of the project, for example, comments on how the responsibilities are shared between parties or additional risks/responsibilities not mentioned in the RFI.