ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals will be received in the Office of the Procurement Coordinator,

Greenville Utilities Commission, 401 S. Greene Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834 until

4:00 PM (EDST) on July 28, 2016 for Tree Removal Services.

Instructions for submitting proposals and complete specifications will be available in the Office of the Procurement Coordinator, Greenville Utilities Commission, 401 S. Greene Street, Greenville, North Carolina during regular office hours, which are 8:30AM – 5:00PM Monday through Friday.

Greenville Utilities Commission reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

SECTION I

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

JULY 28, 2016 @ 4:00 PM

1.0 NOTICE TO RESPONDENTS

Sealed proposals, subject to the conditions made a part hereof, will be received in the Office of the Procurement Coordinator, Greenville Utilities Commission, 401 S. Greene Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834 until 4:00 PM (EDST) on July 28, 2016.

2.0 STANDARD FORMS REQUIRED

Each respondent must submit a proposal on the enclosed "Request For Proposal" (RFP) form(s). The proposal must be signed by an authorized official of the firm. A letter, resolution, or other documentation listing official(s) authorized to sign GUC's Terms & Conditions for the company and the official legal name of the firm as registered with the appropriate local and/or state agencies must accompany the respondent's response.

3.0 **DEPOSIT**

A deposit is **NOT** required for this proposal.

4.0 NC SALES TAX

Do **not** include NC sales taxes in the quoted figure; however, Greenville Utilities Commission (GUC) does pay sales tax. Sales tax should be added to the invoice as a separate item.

5.0 FEDERAL EXCISE TAX

GUC is exempt from Federal Excise Tax and will issue a Federal Exemption Certificate upon request to the successful respondent.

6.0 EXCEPTIONS TO BE CLEARLY STATED

If the proposal is not in strict accordance with Section II, "Specifications," respondent must list or note all exceptions **on the RFP Form**, otherwise, it is fully understood that the successful respondent will furnish equipment, materials, or services exactly as specified. GUC reserves the right to accept or reject proposals and to determine the best responsible, responsive proposal from the standpoint of quality, performance, and price.

7.0 EVALUATION CRITERIA AND AWARD

Proposer selection shall be based on evaluation and rating of Proposer's demonstrated competence and qualifications/performance for the type of services/products to be offered. The following guidelines will be used as minimum criteria for rating the Proposer:

- Quality of approach and methodology that demonstrates an understanding of the requirements.
- Quality, extent and relevance of Proposer's staff / experience in conducting service(s).
- Location and facilities attributes.
- Overall cost

GUC reserves the right to reject all proposals or accept such proposals, as appears in its own best interest, and to waive technicalities or irregularities of any kind in the proposal. GUC is not obligated to accept the lowest cost proposal. If a proposal is to be awarded, it will be awarded to the responsible, responsive respondent whose evaluation by GUC indicates that the award will be in GUC's best interests.

8.0 PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNTS

Respondents are urged to compute all discounts into the price offered. If a prompt payment discount is offered, it may be considered in the award of the proposal.

9.0 NUMERICAL ERRORS

In the case of a discrepancy between a unit price and the extension (the unit price multiplied by the number of units), the unit price governs. In the case where numerical quotes are stated both in numbers and in words, the words govern.

10.0 MINORITY BUSINESS PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

GUC has adopted an Affirmative Action and Minority and Women Business Enterprise Plan (M/WBE) Program. Firms submitting a proposal are attesting that they also have taken affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment, and to utilize M/WBE suppliers of materials and/or labor.

11.0 CONTRACT PERIOD

September 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

12.0 CONTACT INFORMATION:

Questions regarding this request for quotation should be directed to Jeff Byrd, Electric Distribution Engineer at (252) 551-1568, byrdwj@guc.com, or Cleve Haddock, Procurement Coordinator at (252) 551-1533, haddocgc@guc.com.

13.0 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The attached Terms and Conditions must be considered as part of the proposal.

SECTION II

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TREE REMOVAL SERVICES SPECIFICATIONS

JULY 28, 2016

General Description

The successful Contractor will supply labor, tools and equipment as specified necessary to provide services capable of independently performing tree removal and stump grinding.

Safety

Job site activities shall at all times be conducted in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and Local requirements, to include but not limited to, the North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health Standards, The National Electrical Safety Code and the North Carolina Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.

Work Week

The work week will be within GUC's normal working hours. These hours are 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding holidays, as shown on the attached holiday schedule.

Damage to Facilities

The Contractor shall be responsible for damages to any Greenville Utilities Commission or customer-owned facilities caused by its employees.

Supervision

The Contractor shall remain in close communication with the GUC Representative at all times. No work shall commence unless it has been directed by the GUC Representative.

Scope of Work

All tree removal services shall conform to good forestry standards.

All trees and debris generated by the Contractor from tree removal shall be chipped, removed from the site.

Customer Notification

Greenville Utilities Commission will provide advance notification of customers being affected by tree removal activities. All tree removal requests will be referred to the Greenville Utilities Commission Representative and approved prior to removal.

Emergency Services (Not Applicable)

Contingency

Any situation which occurs such that the Contractor cannot satisfactorily perform the job, should be brought to the attention of the Greenville Utilities Commissions Representative immediately. The Contractor will be required to respond to customer complaints within 24 hours. If the GUC Representative deems a complaint valid, the Contractor will be expected to resolve the claim immediately. The successful Contractor is responsible for all costs as a result of its and/or employee(s) negligence.

Contractor Employees

Employees will maintain a professional attitude toward the work being performed and toward any and all customer contact incurred while working.

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

PROPOSAL FORM

VENDOR PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

| 1. | Please provide a brief history of your firm: |
|----|--|
| 2. | Please provide a statement of qualifications and describe experience level for each crev position: |
| 3. | Please provide your firm's office location(s): |
| 4. | Please provide a list of similar work completed or in process: |
| 5. | Please describe age and type of equipment proposed: |
| 6. | Please provide at least three (3) references with contact information: |
| | |

Questions 1–6 must be answered. GUC reserves the right to reject any proposal that has incomplete responses.

GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

PROPOSAL FORM

FOR TREE REMOVAL SERVICES

The undersigned respondent hereby declares that it has carefully examined the enclosed detailed specifications for furnishing GUC with the services listed below. The undersigned respondent further agrees, if this proposal is accepted within thirty (30) days from the date of the opening, to furnish any or all of the items upon the quoted prices.

All questions pertaining to this RFP must be received by or before July 15, 2016. Responses will be made to questions received by July 22, 2016.

Start Date For All Tree Removal/Stump Grind is September 1, 2016 and All Tree Removal/Stump Grind Must be Completed By December 31, 2016 Per The Specifications And Tree Locations Identified Within This RFP.

[Balance of page left blank intentionally]

Tree(s) Removal Locations And Cost Form

| Name | Parcel # | Address | Number of Trees | Price |
|---------------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Stox | 28710 | 3961 Charles Blvd. | 1 | |
| Jarman | 18392 | 3971 Charles Blvd. | 2 | |
| Margaret Porter | 18394 | 4011 Charles Blvd. | 1 | |
| Franklin Porter | 32067 | 4041 Charles Blvd. | 1 | |
| Bradman | 04454 | 4051 Charles Blvd. | 20 | |
| First Wesleyan Church | 00783 | 4121 Charles Blvd | 13 | |
| Sabato Raia | 14589 | 4211 Charles Blvd | 5 | |
| Joyner | 17501 | 4221 Charles Blvd | 7 | |
| Carolyn Harris | 02117 | 1307 Carolyn St. | 11 | |
| Mary Branch Ellis | 02132 | 4439 Charles Blvd | 3 | |
| David Branch Jr | 40563 | 4485 NC 43 | 5 | |
| Anthony Sutton | 18041 | 3149 Bells Fork Rd. | 1 | |
| Langemann Properties | 73853 | 0 NC 43 | 1 | |
| Danny Qualliotine | 14936 | 0 NC 43 | Clear 15 ft. no grinding | |
| Walter Evans | 53781 | 4715 NC 43 | Clear 15 ft. no grinding | |
| Jeffrey Cox | 41907 | 4759 NC 43 | 1 | |
| Lonnie Mills | 51033 | 4769 NC 43 | 1 | |
| Daystar LLC | 23302 | 1472 Faith Dr | 10 | |
| Vernon Ragan | 45151 | 4881 NC 43 | 2 | |
| Willam Roberson | 30917 | 1915 B Stokes Rd | 2 | |
| William Evans | 41465 | 4951 NC 43 | 1 | |
| Mae Bell Evans Properties | 82932 | 4974 NC 43 | 4 | |
| Joel Bunch | 07253 | 4987 NC 43 | 2 | |
| Dalton Beacham | 01265 | 4999 NC 43 | 1 | |
| Ida Lynn Hudson | 10366 | 5244 NC 43 | Clear 15 ft. no grinding | |
| Coward | 42633 | 2217 Mills Rd | 2 | |
| Fornes | 58460 | 2239 Mills Rd. | 6 | |
| Fornes | 07900 | 2261 Mills Rd. | 4 | |
| Yates | 41542 | 1908 Ken Ln. | 1 | |
| Yates | 41542 | 1952 Longleaf Ln. | 5 | |
| Yates | 41542 | 1953 Longleaf Ln. | 3 | |
| Forbes | 07838 | 2497 Mills Rd | 37 | |
| Mills | 14961 | 2503 Mills Rd | 1 | |
| Macar Properties | 67237 | 0 Mills Rd. | 16 | |
| Sadler | 67239 | 1921 Manor Ct. | 3 | |
| Hardee | 67238 | 1918 Manor Ct. | 1 | |
| Strickland | 67240 | 2573 Mills Rd. | 4 | |
| Betty Lee McGowan | 16154 | 2639 Mills Rd. | 1 | |

| | Total Trees | 179 | <u>Total</u> <u>Cost</u> | \$ |
|---|------------------|-----|-----------------------------|----|
| Trees are to be removed and stumps ground exc | ept where noted. | | | |

Letter of Compliance to E-Verify for Greenville Utilities Commission

| ١. | | enville Utilities Commission; |
|----|---------------|---|
| 2. | As pa | art of my duties and responsibilities pursuant to said proposal and/or contract, I m that I am aware of and in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify, Article 2 chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes, to include (mark which applies): |
| | of sa | After hiring an employee to work in the United States I verify the work authorization aid employee through E-Verify and retain the record of the verification of work norization while the employee is employed and for one year thereafter; or I employee less than twenty-five (25) employees in the State of North Carolina. |
| 5. | affir | art of my duties and responsibilities pursuant to said proposal and/or contract, I m that to the best of my knowledge and subcontractors employed as a part of this bosal and/or contract, are in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify, Article 2 chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes, to include (mark which applies): |
| 6. | worl verif | After hiring an employee to work in the United States the subcontractor verifies the k authorization of said employee through E-Verify and retains the record of the fication of work authorization while the employee is employed and for one year eafter; or |
| 7. | | Employ less than twenty-five (25) employees in the State of North Carolina. |
| | | Specify subcontractor: |
| | | (Company Name) |
| | Ву: | (Typed Name) |
| | | (Authorized Signatory) |
| | _ | (Title) |
| | _ | (Date) |

Iran Divestment Act Certification For Greenville Utilities Commission

| Transer (ii applicable). | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Name of Vendor or Bidder: | | | | |
| IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT (REQUIRED BY N.C.G.S. 1 | | | | |
| As of the date listed below, the vendor or bidder listed above is not listed on the Final Divestment List created by the State Treasurer pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-6A-4. | | | | |
| The undersigned hereby certifie make the foregoing statement. | s that he or she is authorized by the vendor or bidder listed above to | | | |
| | | | | |
| Signature | Date | | | |
| Printed Name | Title | | | |

Notes to persons signing this form:

N.C.G.S. 143C-6A-5(a) requires this certification for bids or contracts with the State of North Carolina, a North Carolina local government, or any other political subdivision of the State of North Carolina. The certification is required at the following times:

When a bid is submitted

DED Number (if applicable):

- When a contract is entered into (if the certification was not already made when the vendor made its bid)
- When a contract is renewed or assigned

N.C.G.S. 143C-6A-5(b) requires that contractors with the State, a North Carolina local government, or any other political subdivision of the State of North Carolina must <u>not</u> utilize any subcontractor found on the State Treasurer's Final Divestment List.

The State Treasurer's Final Divestment List can be found on the State Treasurer's website at the address www.nctreasurer.com/lran and will be updated every 180 days.

It is certified that this proposal is made in good faith and without collusion or connection with any other person responding on the same above listed items. It is also certified that this proposal is made in good faith and without collusion or connection with any GUC employee(s).

| Certified check or cash for \$n | or proposal bond | for \$ n/a attached | d. |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|----|
| Firm Name | | Phone () | |
| Address | | | |
| City | State | Zip Code | |
| Fax () | E-Mail | | |
| | d Name | Γitle | |
| | Signature | Date | |

Three (3) copies of your proposal should be received no later than July 28, 2016 at 4:00 PM (EDST).

NO PROPOSALS CONSIDERED UNLESS SUBMITTED ON ALL PROPOSAL FORM(S)

RETURN ALL PROPOSAL FORM(S)

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO: All Employees

DATE: August 13, 2015

SUBJECT: 2016 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The following holidays will be observed by the City of Greenville and Greenville Utilities Commission during 2016:

New Year's Friday, January 1, 2016

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 18, 2016

Good Friday Friday, March 25, 2016

Memorial Day Monday, May 30, 2016

Independence Day Monday, July 4, 2016

Labor Day Monday, September 5, 2016

Veterans Day Friday, November 11, 2016

Thanksgiving Thursday, November 24, 2016

Friday, November 25, 2016

Christmas Friday, December 23, 2016

Monday, December 26, 2016 Tuesday, December 27, 2016

New Year's (2017) Monday, January 2, 2017

For 2016, the "floating holiday" has been designated as Tuesday, December 27.

This information is being provided in order to allow you to make personal plans for the use

of the holidays.

Barbara Lipscomb

City Manager

Anthony C. Cannon

GUC General Manager/CEO

SECTION III

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF

APPARATUS, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

| These Terms and Cond | ditions, made and entered into on this the day of |
|--------------------------------|--|
| , by and between GF | REENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF |
| GREENVILLE, PITT COUNTY | , NORTH CAROLINA, with one of its principal offices and places |
| of business at 401 S. Greene S | Street, Post Office Box 1847, Greenville, Pitt County, North |
| Carolina 27835-1847, hereina | fter referred to as "GUC" and |
| a | organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of |
| the State of | , with one of its principal offices and places of |
| business at | , hereinafter referred |
| to as "PROVIDER"; | |
| | |

1.0 <u>TAXES</u>

No taxes shall be included in any bid prices. GUC is exempt from Federal Excise Tax. GUC is not exempt from North Carolina state sales and use tax or, if applicable, Pitt County sales and use tax. Such taxes shall be shown as a separate item on the invoice.

2.0 INVOICES

It is understood and agreed that orders will be shipped at the established contract prices and quantities in effect on dates orders are placed. Invoicing at variance with this provision may subject the contract to cancellation. Applicable North Carolina sales tax shall be invoiced as a separate line item. All invoices must bear the GUC purchase order number. Mail all invoices to Greenville Utilities Commission, Finance Department, P. O. Box 1847, Greenville, NC 27835-1847.

3.0 PAYMENT TERMS

Payments for equipment, materials, or supplies will be made after the receipt and acceptance of the equipment, materials, or supplies and after submission of a proper invoice. GUC's normal payment policy is thirty (30) days. GUC will not be responsible for any goods delivered without a purchase order having been issued. Payment will be made in U. S. currency only.

4.0 **QUANTITIES**

Quantities specified are only estimates of GUC's requirements. GUC reserves the right to purchase more or less than the stated quantities at prices indicated in the submitted Proposal Form based on our actual needs.

5.0 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The Provider will take affirmative action in complying with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment and employment of the handicapped, and concerning the treatment of all employees, without discrimination by reason of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or physical handicap.

6.0 CONDITION AND PACKAGING

Unless otherwise indicated in the bid, it is understood and agreed that any item offered or shipped shall be new and in first class condition, that all containers shall be new and suitable for storage or shipment, and that prices include standard commercial packaging.

7.0 SAMPLES

Samples of items, if required, must be furnished free of expense to GUC, and if not destroyed, will, upon request, be returned at the Provider's expense. Request for the return of samples must be made at the bid opening, otherwise, the samples will become GUC's property. Each individual sample must be labeled with Provider's name.

8.0 SPECIFICATIONS

Any deviation from specifications must be clearly pointed out, otherwise, it will be considered that items offered are in strict compliance with specifications, and the Provider will be held responsible. Deviations must be explained in detail. **The Provider shall not construe this paragraph as inviting deviation or implying that any deviation will be acceptable.**

9.0 INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE

Providers are to furnish all information requested. Further, as may be specified elsewhere, each Provider must submit with its proposal: cuts, sketches, descriptive literature, and/or complete specifications covering the products offered. Reference to literature submitted with a previous bid does not satisfy this provision. Bids which do not comply with these requirements will be subject to rejection.

10.0 AWARD OF CONTRACT

As directed by statute, qualified bids will be evaluated and acceptance made of the lowest responsible, responsive bid most advantageous to GUC as determined upon consideration of such factors as prices offered, the quality of the article(s) offered, the general reputation and performance capabilities of the Provider, substantial conformity with the specifications and other conditions set forth in the bid, the suitability of the article(s) for the intended use, the related services needed, the date(s) of delivery and performance, and such other factors deemed by GUC to be pertinent or peculiar to the purchase in question.

Acceptance of the order includes acceptance of all terms, conditions, prices, delivery instructions, and specifications as shown on this set of Terms and Conditions and in this order or attached to and made a part of this order.

The conditions of this order cannot be modified except by written amendment in the form of "Amended Purchase Order," which has been approved by GUC's Purchasing Buyer II.

In the event of a Provider's failure to deliver or perform as specified, GUC reserves the right to cancel the order or any part thereof, without prejudice to GUC's other rights. The Provider agrees that GUC may return part of or all of any shipment at Provider's expense. GUC may charge the Provider with all reasonable expenses resulting from such failure to deliver or perform.

11.0 MEDIATION/BINDING ARBITRATION

In the event of any dispute between the Parties, the Parties agree to submit any dispute to non-binding mediation before a mutually agreeable Mediator prior to initiating litigation. If the Parties are unable to agree upon a Mediator within thirty (30) days after demand therefore, either Party may petition a Court of competent jurisdiction for the designation of a qualified Mediator for these purposes. Each Party shall bear its own costs and expenses of participating in the mediation (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees), and each Party shall bear one-half (1/2) of the costs and expenses of the Mediator. Unless otherwise agreed, the Parties will hold the mediation in Greenville, North Carolina. The matters discussed or revealed in the mediation session shall not be disclosed in any subsequent litigation.

In the event the matter is not resolved in mediation, either Party may request arbitration. The parties shall jointly select an Arbitrator, and shall be bound by the decision of the Arbitrator with respect to any dispute between the parties with respect to this Agreement. If the parties are unable to mutually agree upon an Arbitrator, the Parties shall each select an Arbitrator, and the two Arbitrators so selected shall select a third Arbitrator, and the decision of the majority of the Arbitrators shall be conclusive and binding upon the Parties. The Parties at all times agree to equally split the costs of any Arbitrator(s) selected in an effort to resolve the dispute between the Parties. Any party desiring to resolve a dispute under the terms of this Agreement shall notify the other Party in writing, and the Parties shall seek to agree upon a mutually agreed-upon Arbitrator within a period of ten (10) days from the date of such written demand. If the Parties are unable to agree within such ten (10) day period, the Parties shall each select an Arbitrator, and the two (2) Arbitrators so selected shall select a third Arbitrator within fifteen (15) days from the date of the written demand for arbitration, and a decision shall be rendered by the Arbitrator(s) so selected within five (5) days after such Arbitrator(s) is selected.

12.0 GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS

In the event any Governmental restrictions may be imposed which would necessitate alteration of the material, quality, workmanship, or performance of the items offered on this bid prior to their delivery, it shall be the responsibility of the successful Provider to notify the GUC Purchasing Buyer II, at once, indicating in its letter the specific regulation which required such alterations. GUC reserves the right to accept any such alterations, including any price adjustments occasioned thereby, or, in the sole discretion of GUC, to cancel the contract.

13.0 INSURANCE

- **13.1** Coverage During the term of the contract, the Provider at its sole cost and expense shall provide commercial insurance of such type and with the following coverage and limits:
 - 13.1.1 Workers' Compensation The Provider shall provide and maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance, as required by the laws of North Carolina, as well as employer's liability coverage with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 each accident, covering all Provider's employees who are engaged in any work under the contract. If any work is sublet, the Provider shall require the subcontractor to provide the same coverage for any of its employees engaged in any work under the contract.

- **13.1.2 General Liability** Commercial Liability Coverage written on an "occurrence" basis in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
- 13.1.3 Automobile Automobile Liability Insurance, to include coverage for all owned, hired, and non-owned vehicles used in connection with the contract with a minimum combined single limit of \$1,000,000 per accident.
- 13.2 Requirements Providing and maintaining adequate insurance coverage is a material obligation of the Provider. All such insurance shall meet all laws of the State of North Carolina. Such insurance coverage shall be obtained from companies that are authorized to provide such coverage and that are authorized to do business in North Carolina by the Commissioner of Insurance. The Provider shall at all times comply with the terms of such insurance policies and all requirements of the insurer under any of such insurance policies, except as they may conflict with existing North Carolina laws or this contract. The limits of coverage under each insurance policy maintained by the Provider shall not be interpreted as limiting the Provider's liability and obligations under the contract. It is agreed that the coverage as stated shall not be canceled or changed until thirty (30) days after written notice of such termination or alteration has been sent by registered mail to GUC's Purchasing Buyer II.

14.0 PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS

The Provider shall hold and save GUC, its officers, agents, and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, on account of any copyrighted articles or any patented or unpatented invention, device or appliance manufactured or used in the performance of this contract.

15.0 PATENT AND COPYRIGHT INDEMNITY

The Provider will defend or settle, at its own expense, any action brought against GUC to the extent that it is based on a claim that the product(s) provided pursuant to this agreement infringe any U.S. copyright or patent; and will pay those costs, damages, and attorney fees finally awarded against GUC in any such action attributable to any such claim, but such defense, settlements, and payments are conditioned on the following: (1) that Provider shall be notified

promptly in writing by GUC of any such claim; (2) that Provider shall have sole control of the defense of any action on such claim and of all negotiations for its settlement or compromise; (3) that GUC shall cooperate with Provider in a reasonable way to facilitate the settlement of defense of such claim; (4) that such claim does not arise from GUC modifications not authorized by the Provider or from the use of combination of products provided by the Provider with products provided by GUC or by others; and (5) should such product(s) become, or in the Provider's opinion likely to become, the subject of such claim of infringement, then GUC shall permit Provider, at Provider's option and expense, either to procure for GUC the right to continue using the product(s), or replace or modify the same so that it becomes non-infringing and performs in a substantially similar manner to the original product.

16.0 EXCEPTIONS

All proposals are subject to the terms and conditions outlined herein. All responses will be controlled by such terms and conditions and the submission of other terms and conditions, price catalogs, and other documents as part of a Provider's response will be waived and have no effect on this Request for Proposal or any other contract that may be awarded resulting from this solicitation. The submission of any other terms and conditions by a Provider may be grounds for rejection of the Provider's proposal. The Provider specifically agrees to the terms and conditions set forth in this set of Terms and Conditions by affixing its name on the signatory page contained herein.

17.0 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Except as provided by statute and rule of law, GUC will keep trade secrets which the Provider does not wish disclosed confidential. Each page shall be identified in boldface at the top and bottom as "CONFIDENTIAL" by the Provider. Cost information shall not be deemed confidential. The determination of whether a matter is confidential will be determined by North Carolina law.

18.0 ASSIGNMENT

No assignment of the Provider's obligations or the Provider's right to receive payment hereunder shall be permitted without the express written consent of GUC, provided however, upon written request approved by the GUC Purchasing Buyer II, solely as a convenience to the Provider, GUC may:

- Forward the Provider's payment check directly to any person or entity designated by the Provider, and
- Include any person or entity designated by Provider as a joint payee on the Provider's payment check.
- In no event shall such approval and action obligate GUC to anyone other than the Provider, and the Provider shall remain responsible for fulfillment of all contract obligations.

19.0 ACCESS TO PERSON AND RECORDS

GUC shall have reasonable access to persons and records of Provider as a result of all contracts entered into by GUC.

20.0 INSPECTION AT BIDDER'S SITE

GUC reserves the right to inspect, at a reasonable time, the item, plant, or other facilities of a prospective Provider prior to contract award and during the contract term as necessary for GUC's determination that such item, plant, or other facilities conform with the specifications/requirements and are adequate and suitable for the proper and effective performance of the contract. Provider may limit GUC's access to restricted areas.

21.0 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

Any and all payments of compensation of this specific transaction and any continuation or any renewal or extension are dependent upon and subject to the allocation of GUC funds for the purpose set forth in this Agreement.

22.0 GOVERNING LAWS

All contracts, transactions, agreements, etc., are made under and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

23.0 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

Bids, proposals, and awards are subject to applicable provisions of the North Carolina Administrative Code and General Statues and Laws of the State of North Carolina.

24.0 EXECUTION

In the discretion of GUC, failure of a duly authorized official of Provider to sign the Signatory Page may render the bid invalid.

25.0 CLARIFICATIONS/INTERPRETATIONS

Any and all questions regarding these Terms and Conditions must be addressed to the GUC Procurement Coordinator. Do not contact the user directly. **These Terms and Conditions are a complete statement of the parties' agreement and may only be modified in writing signed by Provider and the GUC Purchasing Buyer II.**

26.0 SITUS

The place of all contracts, transactions, agreements, their situs and forum, shall be North Carolina, where all matters, whether in contract or tort, relating to the validity, construction, interpretation, and enforcement shall be determined.

27.0 TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

GUC or Provider may terminate this Agreement for just cause at any time. Provider will be paid for all time and expenses incurred as of the termination date. Termination for just cause by either party shall be by certified letter and shall be effective thirty (30) days after signed and acknowledged receipt of said letter. Just cause shall be based on reasonable grounds, and there must be a fair and honest cause or reason for such action. The causes for termination, include, but are not limited to: (1) Provider's persistent failure to perform in accordance with the Terms and Conditions, (2) Provider's disregard of laws and regulations related to this transaction, and/or (3) Provider's substantial violation of the provisions of the Terms and Conditions.

28.0 DELIVERY

Shipments will be made only upon releases from a purchase order issued by GUC in accordance with GUC's current needs.

Time is of the essence with respect to all deliveries under this Agreement.

Delivery of all equipment, materials, or supplies shall be made Free on Board (FOB) GUC

Warehouse, 801 Mumford Road, Greenville, North Carolina 27834, unless otherwise specified.

The agreed price for such equipment, materials, or supplies shall include all costs of delivery and ownership, and risks of loss shall not be transferred from Provider to GUC until express written acceptance of delivery and inspection by GUC. Delivery hours are between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday only. GUC's purchase order number is to be shown on the packing slip or any related documents. GUC reserves the right to refuse or return any delivery with no purchase order number or which is damaged. GUC will not be charged a restocking fee for any delivery which is refused or returned.

29.0 INDEMNITY PROVISION

Provider agrees to indemnify and save GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION of the City of Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina, and the City of Greenville, North Carolina, its co-owners, joint venturers, agents, employees, and insurance carriers harmless from any and all losses, claims, actions, costs, expenses including reasonable attorney fees, judgments, subrogations, or other damages resulting from injury to any person (including injury resulting in death), or damage (including loss or destruction) to property of whatsoever nature of any person arising out of or incident to the performance of the terms of this Contract by Provider, including, but not limited to, Provider's employees, agents, subcontractors, and others designated by Provider to perform work or services in, about, or attendant to, the work and services under the terms of this Contract. Provider shall not be held responsible for any losses, expenses, claims, subrogations, actions, costs, judgments, or other damages, directly, solely, and proximately caused by the negligence of Greenville Utilities Commission of the City of Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina. Insurance covering this indemnity agreement by the Provider in favor of Greenville Utilities Commission of the City of Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina, and the City of Greenville, North Carolina, shall be provided by Provider.

30.0 FORCE MAJEURE

Neither party shall be considered in default in the performance of its obligations hereunder to the extent that the performance of any such obligation is prevented or delayed by any cause, existing or future, which is beyond the reasonable control of such party. In any such event of force majeure, the parties shall advise each other of such event, and the parties shall negotiate an equitable adjustment to their respective obligations under this Agreement.

31.0 WARRANTY(IES)

The Provider hereby includes all warranties, whether expressed or implied, including, but not limited to, the Implied Warranty of Merchantability and the Implied Warranty of Fitness for a Particular Purpose.

32.0 INTEGRATED CONTRACT

These Terms and Conditions, Instructions to Bidders, Specifications, and the selected Provider's bid represents the entire contract between the Parties. No verbal or other written agreement(s) shall be held to vary the provisions of this Agreement.

33.0 CONTRACT PROVISIONS

Each of the provisions of these Terms and Conditions shall apply to the full extent permitted by law, and the invalidity in whole or in part of any provision shall not affect the remainder of such provision or any other provisions.

34.0 <u>E-VERIFY</u>

E-Verify - I understand that E-Verify is the federal E-Verify program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies, or any successor or equivalent program used to verify the work authorization of newly hired employees pursuant to federal law in accordance with NCGS §64-25 et seq. I am aware of and in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify and Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes. To the best of my knowledge, any subcontractors employed by me as a part of this contract are in compliance with the requirements of E-Verify and Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

35.0 IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT CERTIFICATION

By acceptance of this purchase order, Vendor/Contractor certifies that, as of the date of the purchase order or contract, it is not on the Final Divestment List as created by the State Treasurer pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-6A-4. In compliance with the requirements of the Iran Divestment Act and N.C.G.S. § 143C-6A-5(b), Vendor/Contractor shall not utilize in the performance of the contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Final Divestment List.

36.0 NOTICES

Notices to the Parties should be sent to the names and addresses specified below:

Cleve Haddock, CLGPO Procurement Coordinator Greenville Utilities Commission P.O. Box 1847 Greenville, NC 27835-1847

Vendor Specified on Page 1 of Section III when awarded.

| GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION | COMPANY NAME: |
|--|------------------------------|
| By: Anthony C. Cannon | By: |
| Title: General Manager/CEO (Authorized Signatory) | Title:(Authorized Signatory) |
| Date: | Date: |
| Attest: | Attest: |
| Name (Print): Amy Carson Quinn | Name (Print): |
| Title: Executive Secretary | Title: Corporate Secretary |
| Date: | Date: |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) | (CORP. SEAL) |
| This instrument has been pre-audited in to manner required by the Local Governme | |
| Budget and Fiscal Control Act. | |
| By: | _ |
| Title: Chief Financial Officer | _ |
| Date: | _ |
| APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL | CONTENT: |
| By: Phillip R. Dixon | _ |
| Title: General Counsel | _ |
| Date: | |