

Request for Qualifications (Final 10/13/2006)

Categorization and Quantification of Nitrogen Loading from Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Types.

A Background:

The Florida Department of Health is requesting qualifications for the task of Categorization and Quantification of Nitrogen Loading from Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Types. The cost of this task shall not exceed \$25,000. This task is part of the Wekiva Onsite Nitrogen Contribution Study that the Florida Legislature has assigned to the Department. The appropriation language reads:

“\$250,000 in non-recurring tobacco settlement funds are provided to the Department of Health to conduct or contract for a study to further identify and quantify the nitrogen loading from onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) within the Wekiva Study Area. The objectives of the study shall be determined by the Department’s Research Review and Advisory Committee, which shall also have oversight of the study. The Department shall provide a report to the Executive Office of the Governor, President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than June 30, 2007. The report shall assess whether OWTS are a significant source of nitrogen to the underlying groundwater relative to other sources and shall recommend a range of possible cost-effective OWTS nitrogen reduction strategies if contributions are significant.”

Deliberations of the Department’s Research Review and Advisory Committee resulted in the developments of the following tasks:

Task 1: Field Study to identify and quantify nitrogen loading at a few sample OWTS in the Wekiva Study Area

Task 2 (subject to this RFQ): Categorization and Quantification of Nitrogen Loading from Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Types

Task 3: Assessment if OWTS are a significant source of nitrogen to the underlying groundwater relative to other sources; in particular enumeration and aggregation of OWTS loading

Task 4: Recommend a range of possible cost-effective OWTS nitrogen reduction strategies if significant

Qualifications are requested for the following services to proceed with the study. This will be a fixed-price purchase order. Vendors must be registered in MyFloridaMarketPlace before purchase order can become effective, unless exempted, and assume any associated fees.

Vendors are invited to submit a bid addressing the qualification requirements by 2 pm October 20, 2006 to:

Florida Dept. of Health,
 Bureau of Onsite Sewage Programs
 Attn: Eberhard Roeder Eberhard_roeder@doh.state.fl.us; fax 850-922-6969
 Re: Wekiva OWTS categorization
 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-08
 Tallahassee FL 32399-1713

B Services Needed:

- 1.) Based on existing literature data, categorize as appropriate onsite wastewater treatment system types in regard to the nitrogen load as a product of total nitrogen concentration and flow with some estimator of variability. At least two performance boundaries shall be considered: (1) effluent from the last treatment receptacle, and (2) percolate at the water table. Suggested categories for consideration by the offeror are: depth to water table; soil texture (either as texture or as design hydraulic loading rate); user category (single family residential, multifamily, domestic strength commercial, high-strength commercial); system type (conventional, mound, ATU). An example for how the deliverable could be structured is given below for single family residences based on Anderson and Otis, 2000 and Anderson 2006. A draft table with supporting documentation shall be submitted to the department by January 08, 2007, and presented to the Onsite Sewage Research Review and Advisory Committee at a meeting in early 2007.

Category (unit)	Single family Conventional (residence)	Single family Conventional (residence)	Single family ATU-extended aeration (residence)	Single family Mound (residence)	Etc.	Etc.
subcategory	Sandy soil, deep water table	in water table	Sandy soil, deep water table	shallow water table		
Concentration C (mg/L)	60 or 40	40	30	40		
Flow Q (gallons per day)	110 or 165	165	165	165		
Load from last receptacle (lbs/year)	20	20	15	20		
Load to water table (lbs/year)	15	20	15	15		

- 2) Coordinate with and advise the entity that will implement the enumeration and aggregation of OWTS loadings and other nitrogen loading in the Wekiva Study area. This is anticipated to be a GIS-based study. Such advice may include issues such as the establishment of numerical criteria for the interpretation of soil maps relative to such categories as “deep” and “shallow” water table.
- 3) Incorporate comments received, new information obtained in the course of the field study (task 1), and new literature in a revision document of the loading estimates to be submitted by 4/2/2007. Present these final results to the Onsite Sewage Research Review and Advisory Committee.

Note: The offeror shall prepare deliverables using software and hardware applications that are consistent with the Department Standards (currently Microsoft software, PC-compatible)

C Qualifications to be submitted:

The offeror will submit a resume or curriculum vitae, which shall include information on length of experience in onsite sewage evaluations, related projects and publications. The offeror will also submit a cost proposal for the task, which will give prices for the three services listed in B. The total price will not exceed \$25,000.

D Evaluation of Proposals

To determine the best qualified offeror, the qualifications will be awarded points according to the following criteria:

- 1) Length of experience in onsite sewage evaluations: 0-1 years=0, 1-5 years=1; 6-10 years=2; 10+ years=3, 20+years=4
- 2) a) Projects address nitrogen loading by onsite sewage systems: yes=2; no=0
2) b) Projects address environmental impacts by onsite sewage systems in Florida: yes=2; no=0
- 3) Publications related to Nitrogen and Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems
 - National or international peer-refereed journal article, each: 0.6
 - Project report, Published Contributions to Proceedings of national meetings (NOWRA, ASABE), Book Chapters, each: 0.3
 - Published Contributions to Proceedings of Florida state meetings (FEHA, FOWA) and Florida state organization publications, each: 0.1

While DOH reserves the right to select any or none of the offerors, it expects to begin negotiation with the offeror with the most points first.