

**RFP Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Climate Change in Delaware**

**Contract # NAT20319-CLIMATE\_ECON**

Responses to questions received by April 17, 2020

Answers Posted: April 24, 2020

**Questions Regarding Bid Advertisement**

**Q: Was this bid posted to the nationwide free bid notification website at [www.mygovwatch.com](http://www.mygovwatch.com)?**

A: No

**Q: Other than your own website, where was this bid posted?**

A: It has only been submitted to the State of Delaware Contracting website, however other services may monitor the state site and repost.

**Questions Regarding Bid Submission**

**Q: Do you anticipate extending the bid due date?**

A: At this time, it is not expected that the deadline will be extended. If there are changes to the submission date or submission process an addendum will be added to the RFP on the <https://bids.delaware.gov> web page.

**Q: Will you be keeping a list of interested bidders, or do we need to register with the procurement department to ensure that we receive all communications about the RFP?**

A: No, to learn about any updates interested companies should monitor the RFP site (<https://bids.delaware.gov>) on a regular basis.

**Q: Is DNREC willing to relax any standards or eliminate paper submission given the coronavirus-related stay and home and shelter in place order? For example, would you consider allowing electronic-only submissions and/or delaying receipt of the notary mark?**

A: An Addendum to the contract concerning bid submission is posted on the RFP website please monitor <http://bids.delaware.gov> for all addenda to this RFP.

**Q: Given the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines will DNREC accept bids from offerors following current local state guidance for notarization procedures?**

A: Offerors may follow local state guidance for notarization procedures and the DNREC will accept notarized electronic signatures in lieu of original signatures.

**Q: Given the current COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines provided by numerous Federal and State health agencies, hardcopy submissions may have an adverse effect on the health of personnel preparing bid responses. Hardcopy submissions may require personnel to make unnecessary trips and interact with numerous different individuals. Will DNREC allow for bidders to submit copies of proposals via email?**

A: All bids will be electronic submission as outlined in Addendum #1

**RFP Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Climate Change in Delaware**

**Contract # NAT20319-CLIMATE\_ECON**

Responses to questions received by April 17, 2020

Answers Posted: April 24, 2020

**Questions Regarding Contractual and Proposal Requirements**

**Q: Can the aggregate insurance requirement amounts be modified?**

A: Any exceptions or modifications to the contract should be listed on the Exception Form (Attachment 3). Any exceptions or modifications will require review and acceptance by the Office of Management and Budget and the State Department of Insurance.

**Q: Does the proposal have a page limit?**

A: No

**Q: If a bidder is not a staffing company, nor does it contract out its employees, what would be required to satisfy 8(c)? Or would this clause be considered not applicable?**

A: Not Applicable

**Q: Is this a time and materials type contract with invoices submitted monthly or a fixed price contract with invoicing and payment based on a deliverables schedule?**

A: Fixed Price

**Q: If fixed price, should bidders submit a payment schedule by deliverable as part of the cost submission?**

A: Yes

**Q: If the contract award is fixed price by deliverable, is bidder required to include hours and hourly labor rates in the cost proposal, or should a bidder only propose a firm fixed price by task/deliverable?**

A: Include estimated hours by task/deliverable and table of labor rates

**Q: Will Delaware expect the budget to be managed by task or can we manage to the entire budget since there may be some overlap between task/subtasks?**

A: Budget managed by entire project

**Q: Can bidders propose fully burdened rates by labor category and provide an assignment of staff per labor category to which the rate will apply?**

A: Yes

**Q: Will DNREC specify milestones and deliverables after the contract is awarded, or will this be determined by the awardee?**

A: These will be agreed upon by DNREC in consultation with awardee, proposed milestones and deliverables should be included in the proposal

**RFP Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Climate Change in Delaware**

**Contract # NAT20319-CLIMATE\_ECON**

Responses to questions received by April 17, 2020

Answers Posted: April 24, 2020

**Q: Would this be considered a Large Public Works contract?**

A: No

**Questions Regarding Contract Amount and Funding**

**Q: Is the funding ceiling \$150,00 or \$200,000?**

A: \$150,000

**Q: Does the DNREC anticipate that the COVID19 pandemic will have any effect on funding allocated for this project?**

A: No

**Q: Given the very detailed analyses required by the scope of work in Appendix B, is the State of Delaware considering providing its own funds to increase the budget over the \$200,000 figure?**

A: No, the maximum allowable amount for this contract is \$150,000

**Questions Regarding the Scope of Work**

**Q: DNREC outlined 29 impact areas across natural resources, transportation, public health, agriculture, and public safety. Is the expectation that all 29 of these would be monetized under this project?**

A: Yes

**Q: There is a wide range of hazards, sectors, and impacts up for consideration. Does the DNREC see a breakdown between the use of established hazard-impact relationships and the development of new ones specific to the project?**

A: Yes

**Q: Does the DNREC have a prioritized list of sector-hazard impacts for economic analysis?**

A: No, all listed sector-hazard impacts should be analyzed

**Q: Does the text in Section II, Paragraph 2, page 2 and 3, suggest that the selected contractor will be estimating the social benefit of a series of specified climate adaptation projects where the counterfactual (i.e. the base case) assumes climate change occurs and the state agencies do not undertake the projects outlined in the Climate Action Plan?**

A: This contract will be to estimate the economic impact to the state of future climate change from base line conditions (present time) if no adaptation actions are taking. The information from this contract will be used to estimate cost vs benefit of possible adaptations measures in the future.

**RFP Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Climate Change in Delaware**

**Contract # NAT20319-CLIMATE\_ECON**

Responses to questions received by April 17, 2020

Answers Posted: April 24, 2020

**Q: Will the consultant have the opportunity to review, and revise as appropriate, the impacts presented for each agency on page 46 and 47 of the Scope of Work?**

A: No

**Q: Is the analysis period for the economic impacts the 79-year period presented in the Scope? The US Army Corps of Engineers generally uses 50 years when evaluating water resources projects.**

A: Yes

**Questions Regarding Available Data**

**Q: Can we assume that the climate change forecasts by the three drivers contained in the 2014 DNREC can be used as they are presented and do not need to be updated?**

A: Yes

**Q: Do the five agencies, especially DNREC, have additional data or GIS files with the results of the driver forecasts that will be provided to the consultant?**

A: Data and GIS layers are available related to sea level rise inundation in Delaware.

**Q: Do the results of the 2017 sea level rise study supersede the forecasts of sea level rise in the 2014 DNREC study and should be used? If so, will data and GIS files from this analyses be provided to the consultant?**

A: Yes

**Q: Can you describe the level of participation by the five agencies during the study? Will they provide data and GIS files containing the climate change forecasts by driver to the consultant?**

A: DNREC will assist with acquiring data from other agencies, but no guarantees on amount of data available or obtainable.

**Q: To what extent did the 2014 study forecast direct effects, such as area of land affected by storm surge levels that will be available to the consultant?**

A: The 2014 climate projections study did not entail any spatial analyses (such as flooding or storm surge), however the 2017 sea level rise study did include spatial analysis for coastal inundation and that information will be provided to the consultant.

**RFP Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Climate Change in Delaware**

**Contract # NAT20319-CLIMATE\_ECON**

Responses to questions received by April 17, 2020

Answers Posted: April 24, 2020

**Q: The RFP states (top of page 46) that impacts on the resources listed below are contained in the scenario resources presented above (i.e., the 2014 and 2017 studies). Does this mean that there are data and GIS files with the direct impacts, in addition to the impacts presented in these two studies, which will be provided to the consultant?**

A: The 2014 Climate Change Impact Assessment describes qualitatively the potential impacts to resources in Delaware based on the best available science including peer-reviewed articles and government reports. These are identified in the endnotes for each chapter. The GIS layers and accompanying data from the 2017 sea level rise study will be provided to the consultant.

**Q: To what extent do agencies listed in the RFP have the supporting geospatial and other data needed for the economic analysis?**

A: Substantial environmental, elevation, imagery and data, unknown for Delaware specific economic data.

**Q: Based on initial review, data needed to evaluate all impacts requested by various agencies may not be available for the State. However, data and results from similar impact studies conducted both nationally and internationally is normally adopted to evaluate similar economic damages. Is this approach is accepted for economic analysis requested in the proposal when it may not be possible to obtain values for Delaware?**

A: Yes

**Q: To what extent do agencies listed in the RFP have the supporting geospatial and other data needed for the economic analysis?**

A: Substantial environmental, elevation, imagery and data, unknown for Delaware specific economic data.

**Q: Is the following data available from DNREC, or through other resources that would be made available to the contractor?**

- **Digital maps of DE (satellite, etc. with land use and parcel numbers)**  
Yes
- **Property tax databases**  
Yes, but county assessments may be out-of-date
- **FEMA flood maps with parcel numbers**  
Yes, may have to overlay separate layers
- **Farmland altitude and type/value of annual crops**  
Statewide DEM available, generalized crop info (acres per county/state)
- **Roads/bridge inventory and depreciated values (as per Governmental Accounting Standards Board) on the books**  
Unknown at this time
- **Business locations and tax generation amounts**

**RFP Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Climate Change in Delaware**

**Contract # NAT20319-CLIMATE\_ECON**

Responses to questions received by April 17, 2020

Answers Posted: April 24, 2020

Unknown at this time

- **Locations of nuclear and ‘other’ power plants, hospital and other large public centers (sewer treatment plants, landfills, universities, military bases, etc.)**

Yes

- **Large business locations, e.g. DuPont**

Most

- **Aquifer information to estimate salt-water intrusion.**

Yes

**Questions Regarding Deliverables**

**Q: What is the format of the final deliverable(s) the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) is seeking?**

A: Written/Electronic Report that contains procedures, sources of information/values, assumptions (including justifications for assumptions), results and references

**Q: What is the balance of quantitative versus qualitative analysis DNREC expects for each of the resources listed?**

A: As quantitative as possible with available information.

**Q: What is the balance of direct versus indirect economic impacts DNREC expects?**

A: Desire both direct and indirect impacts to be included.

**Q: Who is the target audience for the final work product of this project?**

A: State and local government officials

**Q: Does DNREC prefer all analysis endpoints to be monetized or should some endpoints be left in their native units? For example, increased heat may result in a specific number of mortalities, would DNREC want those incremental mortalities assigned an economic value?**

A: Most impacts are to be monetized but there may be exceptions (ex. deaths), which would be approved upon consultation with by DNREC

**Q: Could you provide several examples of how an agency will use the results of the study to do cost versus benefits of future adaptation projects?**

A: This will provide baseline data to compare the cost of adaptation measures and cost savings to the state from proposed adaptation projects (ex. Amount of tourism dollars lost because of flooded roads vs. cost to elevate roads) This project will not estimate the cost of adaptation measures.

**RFP Economic Analysis of the Impacts of Climate Change in Delaware**

**Contract # NAT20319-CLIMATE\_ECON**

Responses to questions received by April 17, 2020

Answers Posted: April 24, 2020

**Miscellaneous Questions**

**Q: What additional details are you willing to provide, if any, beyond what is stated in bid documents concerning how you will identify the winning bid?**

A: No additional details on winning bid selection will be provided.

**Q: Where can the Climate Action Plan be found?**

A: The plan is currently being created, information regarding the plan can be found at [declimateplan.org](http://declimateplan.org).