



Pennsylvania
Duane Morris Plaza
30 S. 17th Street
Suite 830
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone
267.804.7286

Delaware
315 S. Chapel Street
Newark, DE 19711
Phone
302.738.7172
Fax
302.738.7175
www.dedc-eng.com

NEW CASTLE COUNTY BUILDINGS
BACKFLOW PREVENTER REPLACEMENT
OMB/DFM CONTRACT #MC1002000435R

ADDENDUM #2

QUESTIONS:

1. *Are all the buildings currently under fire protection (FP) contract for maintenance, inspections and/or warranty from recent work done?*
 - a. Yes, all the NCC buildings are under contract with Hoopes Fire Protection.
2. *Will we be required to contract with the FP vendors from each facility, or will we be able to contract with a single FP vendor for the entire project?*
 - a. The contractor shall contact and hire Hoopes Fire Protection [302 323 0220] to inspect each of the fully installed fire protection backflow preventers within one week of their installation.
3. *Per any code requirements, is there a maximum FP downtime limit that we need to consider for our work on these systems?*
 - a. While the fire protection system is down a fire watch will be required. The contractor shall provide this service as part of the base bid.
4. *Has any consideration been given to having the buildings unprotected while the FP Backflow is being replaced? Will there need to be supplement FP considerations made for the downtime durations during the installation. (i.e. Fire Watch, fire company on stand-bye, etc.)*
 - a. While the fire protection system is down a fire watch will be required. The contractor shall provide this service as part of the base bid.
5. *Incoming main water valves...have they been confirmed that they will operate and hold correctly? Are we to include additional off-hours time to test these valves for proper operation prior to the actual installation, as to not disrupt any scheduled work? If yes, can you please identify these requirements?*
 - a. The main water valves have not been tested. The contractor may schedule a test of these valves if it is necessary. This test will need to be coordinated with DFM prior to scheduling. If the valve is not functioning adequately for the contractor to properly perform their work the contractor will need to stop work and re-schedule after the valve



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is repaired or replaced. The repair or replacement of this valve will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

6. *Are we required to replace both domestic and FP backflow units at the same time, or can they be staggered on different weekends?*
 - a. As long as it does not affect building operations, scheduling is up to the digression of the contractor.
7. *Upon restoring domestic water service to the buildings, is the contractor responsible to go through the buildings and test all water devices (flush valves, faucets, showers, appliances, water heaters, etc.) for correct operation? Who handles any issues and costs with hung-up flush valves or bleeding air from the building systems?*
 - a. DFM Maintenance will be needed to coordinate the building shut down, however the contractor shall be responsible for draining and filling the system. DFM Maintenance will direct the contractor to locations of isolation valves required to minimize system drainage.
8. *Will the state staff be responsible for isolating any cooling towers, water heaters, etc. as to not have any of these items drain back and run dry during shutdowns?*
 - a. DFM Maintenance will be needed to coordinate the building shut down, however the contractor shall be responsible for draining and filling the system. DFM Maintenance will direct the contractor to locations of isolation valves required to minimize system drainage.
9. *Is alternate #1 an add or deduct?*
 - a. This is to be determined by the contractor, but we expect this to be an add alternate.
10. *There are 4 unit prices. Is this work part of the base bid?*
 - a. Unit prices are not to be included in the base bid cost.
11. *Please explain the intent of the unit prices.*
 - a. The unit prices are intended to be deducts to the project for not installing the specified fire protection backflow preventer assemblies. Prior to procurement and replacement of the assemblies, for the unit prices identified on the bid form, the contractor shall test existing device and submit test report findings to DEDC. If existing check valve passes,



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- the work associated with these backflow preventer assemblies may be removed from the contract. If existing check valve does not pass, it is expected that the contractor will replace with specified item as part of base bid.
12. *For the backflows to be installed in the city of Wilmington, the public works department states that we have to purchase these backflows from them directly. Since this is a state funded project, would the city of Wilmington be providing these backflows at cost or no cost to the state?*
- a. The backflow preventors are to be purchased by the Contractor. The State will not be supplying them.
13. *Some of the backflows being replaced are the same type watts 774dc valve that is requesting to be installed. Is there an option to replace the inner check valves rather than replace the whole assembly, as some of these existing backflows are not that old?*
- a. No, the backflow preventor assemblies are to be replaced.
14. *For the backflows being replace, who will be responsible to tying in the tamper switches, or even adding new wires and devices to the new tampers being installed with the backflow? I know premium fire and security do the alarms for the state, will they work through the state to wire up what's needed?*
- a. The contractor is responsible for hiring a fire alarm vendor to modify the existing fire alarm systems for this project.
15. *On pre-bid sheet section 2 letter e stated "as there is off hours works for this project, work hours will need to be coordinated". Is all work on the fire protection to be off hours or is there day shift in some buildings, night shift in others?*
- a. All fire protection work is to be off hours.
16. *Original bid calls for two (2) inspections by architect – dedc – can you please advise if that remains a requirement and if so provide pricing*
- a. The bid documents associated with the previous bids solicitations do not apply to this project. The contractor is responsible for contacting DEDC for inspections a minimum of two weeks in advance. The cost of these inspections will not be the responsibility of the contractor.



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17. Section 3.2.4 – states contractor is responsible for all permits ect. section 3.2.5 states owner will bear all costs for all impact & user fees - can you please define who is responsible for what and provide a fee schedule if will fall on contractor – i.e. – is an inspection required and if so what are fees associated or if a bfp certification report is required are there fees associated with filing report

- a. The contractor is responsible for all permit and inspection costs. Contractor shall be responsible for filling out, submitting, and any fees associated with submitting test results to Cross-Connection Control. There is a \$17 fee for submitting reports online and a \$25 fee for submitting reports by mail.

18. If cannot provide information requested in question #2 – can you please provide a point of contact on who could answer the question.

- a. Contact Cross-Connection Control at (844)-605-5213 for additional information.

19. Is there any certification requirement for the backflow preventer testing?

- a. The contractor performing the testing must have a current ASSE 5000 Certification. A list of testing contractors can be found: <https://nawsc.net/asse-certified-backflow-testers-de/?c=New%20Castle>

ADDENDUM #2

1. Addendum #2 Summary (this document) (4 pages)

Summarized By: DEDC, LLC
Matt Lano

Date: October 15, 2020