

RFQ No. 2026-03

Dworshak Small Hydropower Plant Owner's Advisor Services

Addendum No. 1: Responses to Questions



Question 1: *Will the Owner's Advisor be the one selecting the Operations and Maintenance contractor, or will the Board select and administer the contract?*

Answer 1: The Board will ultimately be the one to select an O&M contractor and will administer the contract. The Owner's Advisor will assist throughout the selection process.

Question 2: *Have you defined, or how do you define "small hydro" in regard to experience?*

Answer 2: The Dworshak Small Hydropower Plant (Plant) included "Small Hydro" in the name to help differentiate it from the Dworshak Dam's 400 MW power station. Regarding experience, the Board is looking for experience that best matches the Plant's generating capacity of 3 MW, although all hydropower experience will be considered.

Question 3: *Are the O&M documents included in the 25-page limit, and are summaries allowed?*

Answer 3: Summaries are encouraged and are to be included in the 25-page limit. Full and redacted examples of O&M documents, or other full and redacted examples of experience, may not be appended. If full examples are included, they will be included in the 25-page limit.

Question 4: *Should experience be limited to 5 years if there is relevant experience prior?*

Answer 4: Experience should be targeted towards relevant experience within the last 5 years. Experience prior to that will also be considered and evaluated at the Evaluation Committee's discretion.

Question 5: *Do the technical lead and project manager need to be one person, or can those be two separate roles (with respect to qualifications, etc.)?*

Answer 5: The Owner's Advisor can provide as many staff as are necessary to complete the job, if all are qualified. A technical lead and project manager, if separate people and cumulatively fulfilling both the Lead Consultant's and Project Manager's criteria, both require Professional Engineering Licensure, and other experience and certifications should be described for both roles as per Section 3.2A. Other team member roles and experience should be described as per Section 3.2B.

Question 6: *Section 3.1D: Prior client deliverables are the property of those clients and may not be reproducible or shareable without client authorization, even in redacted form? (related to question 6-8)*

Answer 6: If applicable, and at the discretion of the client, examples of previous work, including summaries and excerpts, should be provided. Provide justification if no examples exist that can be shared.

Question 7: *CEII provisions limit the disclosure of certain content found in these document types?*

Answer 7: Provide as much documentation as applicable while remaining below the page limit. If unable to do so, provide justification.

Question 8: *The full versions of these deliverables can each run dozens of pages, and including four full deliverables would exceed the 25-page submittal limit?*

Answer 8: If needed, include a summary and/or excerpts of examples in the body of the SOQ. All full versions of the deliverables will fall under the 25-page limit.

Question 9: *Several qualification requirements specify experience within the last five years. Would the Board consider relevant project experience completed beyond 5 years (10 to 15 years or more) for qualifications evaluation purposes if it demonstrates strong relevance and comparable scope?*

If older experience is acceptable, how will it be evaluated relative to more recent experience?

Answer 9: Yes, however, older experience will be judged at the discretion of the Evaluation Committee. If relevant, include both recent experience (<5 years) and older experience (>5 years). Experience that is more recent is preferred.

Older experience will be evaluated at the discretion of the Evaluation Committee. They will consider all factors of the examples given, including relevancy, quality of work, total level of experience, etc.

Question 10: *The RFQ references “small hydro” in multiple qualification requirements. Could the Board provide a definition or criteria used to classify a project as “small hydropower” (capacity, facility type, or regulatory classification)?*

In the absence of a strict definition, will the Board consider experience on medium or large hydropower facilities as relevant, particularly where the overall types and scope (equipment, systems, or services) is comparable?

Answer 10: See Answer 2. The Board will certainly consider experience with medium or large hydropower facilities, especially if the scope of work is similar.

Question 11: *Will experience performing similar services (condition assessments, facility planning, O&M plans, safety programs, and EAP development) on other types of facilities (non-small hydro) be considered acceptable for qualifications evaluation purposes if the work scope is substantially similar?*

Answer 11: Yes, this experience will be considered, but the Board is primarily looking for experience specific to hydropower.

Question 12: *Would the Board consider team-based qualifications, where required experience for the five experience areas listed in the RFQ is distributed across multiple team members rather than held by each key team member individually?*

Answer 12: See Answer 5. It is mandatory that the Lead Consultant (and Project Manager, if separate people) possesses an Idaho Professional Engineering License. Other key team members may share responsibilities, and thus experience requirements may be distributed among team members.

Question 13: *Section 3.2 of the RFQ describes the requirements of the “Lead Consultant” which includes both technical and project management requirements. The section asks for other team members but does not describe what role they need to fill. Section 4 of the draft contract refers to the “Project Manager” having the required Professional License in the state of Idaho and does not mention the “Lead Consultant.” This appears to indicate that the Project Manager and the Lead Consultant are the same individual. Can the PM and Lead Consultant be two individuals with the Lead Consultant being the Licensed Idaho PE dealing with the technical issues and the Project manager, not an Idaho PE dealing with contracting, project delivery, and management issues?*

Answer 13: See Answer 5. The Lead Consultant and Project Manager, if different people, will both need to possess an Idaho Professional Engineering License to fulfill both RFQ and contractual requirements. Other key members may fill roles as needed and are not required to have Idaho PE licensure, although higher levels of licensure/experience will score higher during SOQ evaluation.

Question 14: *Section 3.8, Item F states: “Submittal package should include five hard copies and a USB drive containing a PDF of the submittal.” Is there a way to upload submissions electronically instead of providing the USB and Hard Copies of the submission, or can it be emailed?*

Answer 14: No, the submittal package must include five hard copies and a USB drive containing a PDF of the SOQ to be considered for evaluation.

Question 15: *In Section 2.1 – Required Services, Item 6 states the need for the OA’s assistance for developing and maintaining safety plans and procedures for the Plant. Can you clarify if this Safety Plan is for a public safety plan (PSP) or for an OSHA safety plan for plant personnel, or both?*

And this is the plan referred to in Section 3.1 D. c.?

Answer 15: The Safety Plans and Procedures, as listed in Section 2.1, will be for the plant personnel. The IWRB is looking for assistance from the OA to help with determining which safety plans are needed to meet all statutory requirements. The IWRB may then ask for assistance with creating and implementing these plans.

Yes, this is the plan referred to in Section 3.1 D. c.

Question 16: *In Section 2.1 – Required Services, Item 4 states the need for the OA’s assistance in developing and maintaining an emergency action plan for the Plant. Can you clarify if this is also a public safety plan and separate from the O&M type procedures and plans as noted in Item 10 in this section?*

And this is the plan referred to in Section 3.1 D. d.?

Answer 16: This will be a separate action plan from O&M procedures and will not be a public document. The IWRB is looking for assistance from the OA to help with determining which plans are needed and will ask for assistance with creating and implementing these documents.

Yes, this is the plan referred to in Section 3.1 D. d.