

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (RFP)

1. Since this is a full and open competition, what, if any, small business subcontracting requirements will be included in the RFP?

Answer: *In accordance with FAR 52.219-9, large businesses are required to submit a Subcontracting Plan with proposal submission.*

2. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; A. General Management; 1. Cyber Security – Are the requirements set forth in the Cyber Security section for a specific number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions?

Answer: *No, this is to be determined by the prospective offeror in accordance with its proposed technical approach.*

3. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; A. General Management; 1. Cyber Security – Is this an FTE or partial FTE requirement?

Answer: *This is to be determined by the prospective offeror in accordance with its proposed technical approach.*

4. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; A. General Management; 1. Cyber Security – What are the specific labor categories, e.g. Information System Security Officer?

Answer: *The specific labor categories are to be determined by the prospective offeror; however, the specific titles to be used in the offeror's submission package are Information System Security Site Manager and Information System Security Officer.*

5. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; A. General Management; 4. System Development and Lifecycle Management – In reference to the Lifecycle Management Plan referenced in the SOW: Will this Standard Operating Procedure be posted on the NNSA ProForce Acquisition website?

Answer: *The Lifecycle Management Plan for alarm systems already exists and merely requires periodic updating. No standard operating procedures were developed as part of the Lifecycle Plan developmental process; therefore, no procedures for LMP exist for actual posting to the NNSA SPFSS website. The NNSA has a program called the "Physical Security Technology Management Plan" which is a "work in progress." Initial data submissions have been spread-sheet oriented, but have required effort on the sites to evaluate age and projected reliability of components in order to support future budget numbers that would include replacement as predicted. This includes not only technical components, but vehicles, weapons, uniforms, etc. This effort by NNSA is being modified on a monthly basis as the process is "fine-tuned" and requires effort by the contractor to assess systems and components and provide data to HQ. Therefore, the requirement exists in the SOW for a contractor to work within the current (at the time of award) constraints and format that would exist.*

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6. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; A. General Management; 4. System Development and Lifecycle Management – Will a complete listing of all Equipment and Security Systems be listed in the RFP along with dollar values?

Answer: *No. A property listing that includes systems will be made available to those requesting this information via a CD which is Official Use Only (OUO) and must be controlled by the requestor as such. Prospective offerors may request a copy of the CD through the Contract Specialist and the Contracting Officer. Office utilities are included in the government furnished items & purchases.*

7. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; B. Protective Force; 1. Management – The Management section makes reference to “base mission” which currently covers DAF and other Order compliance requirements. Is the mission of the ProForce contract inclusive of surge mission requirements, and other “Non-DAF” surge missions?

Answer: *No.*

8. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; B. Protective Force; 1. Management – Please define base mission?

Answer: *Please see Statement of Work, Attachment J-1, Page 3, NNSA/NSO Facility Mission.*

9. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; B. Protective Force; 1. Management – What are the surge mission requirements, if any?

Answer: *Surge mission requirements (the definition of surge mission cannot be all inclusive since Headquarters guidance, potential national security concerns, customers, and funding levels can be dramatically affected by national and international events) vary from year to year and are primarily related to ‘Work for Others’ customers. The mission requirements range from use of category I Special Nuclear Material outside the material access area (The Device Assembly Facility) to after hour protection of classified matter. Support can range from one day to two weeks. Within the last five years, this support has ranged from as low as \$400,000 per year to as high as \$2M per year.*

10. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; B. Protective Force; 1. Management – What are the specific protection requirements for the RSL, Nellis AFB, Manning, Systems, Classified Protection, etc.?

Answer: *We currently have no continuous, permanent security manning of RSL facilities. An agreement exists between the NNSA/NSO and Nellis Air Force Base for alarm response back-up by Air Force Security Forces to the RSL facilities only. NNSA/NSO M&O contractor personnel are responsible for installation and maintenance of the security systems at that location. The facilities are described within the current SOW.*

11. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; D. Vulnerability Assessments and Performance Testing – What is the scope and depth of responsibility for the ProForce Contractor for the Vulnerability Assessment and Performance Testing requirement?

Answer: *Please see the Statement of Work, Attachment J-1, page 16, D. Vulnerability Assessments and Performance Testing, and the Award Fee Plan at Attachment J-15 for this information. The information in Attachment J-1 is adequate for this purpose. Information in Attachment J-15 expands on the information in the SOW.*

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12. SOW Reference: III. Requirements; D. Vulnerability Assessments and Performance Testing – Is the ProForce Contractor responsible for performing assessments or will this remain a separate and distinct contract?

Answer: *Conduct of Vulnerability Assessments and Performance Testing (Field Evaluations) are not within the scope of this procurement and will be performed under a separate and distinct contract as indicated in the SOW, page 17, Section D.1. This section states that another organization is the cognizant contractor for the Vulnerability Assessment and Performance Testing processes and that this contract provides subject matter support to these processes. Field Evaluations are force-on-force exercises to determine if deterrence, response time, and threat reduction are reasonable.*

13. Are the pertinent sections that reference Vulnerability Assessments, Personnel Security, and Badging all being included within the ProForce contract or will they remain as separate and distinct contracts?

Answer: *This effort will be performed under a separate and distinct contract.*

14. Will there be opportunities to ask further questions after the RFP is issued?

Answer: *Yes. Please submit all questions through the FedConnect website.*

15. Will the moratorium issued by Secretary Chu affect the NTS procurement?

Answer: *The moratorium does not affect this procurement.*

16. What is the status of the current technology deployment effort; deliverables, what systems will be installed, and when will they be installed?

Answer: *As of April 2011, management of the Security Technology Deployment Program was transferred to the Protective Force contractor. With this transfer, the PF contractor was given a 5 month transition period to evaluate the supplied technologies, work with the VA lab to evaluate effectiveness and return on investment, and provide a recommendation to AMSS by September 30, 2011 to deploy or eliminate each individual technology. Therefore, an "active" status does not exist, and the only deliverable is the report on September 30, 2011 by the incumbent. The contractor who is awarded the follow-on contract on October 1, 2011 will be responsible for implementing the recommendations to AMSS. The work associated with Argus was baselined within the cost section of the RFP to facilitate formulation of proposals.*

17. Will a manning chart be posted to the website that indicates numbers of FTE's and positions?

Answer: *No.*

18. Volume 1, Tab 5: Is the intent to require a certain percentage of subcontracting to be done under this contract?

Answer: *Please refer to response under Question No. 1, same subject. The offeror shall identify subcontracting goals in its subcontracting plan.*

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19. Some elements of the SOW seem to be similar to the PAI contract, which is expiring this year. Are there intents to move the PAI SOW under the ProForce contract?

Answer: *No, this larger ProForce contract is more involved with Systems that support the current PAI contract. For example, PAI does badging; the ProForce contract doesn't do this work, but supports the Systems in relation to that.*

20. Under the Collective Bargaining Agreement, how is bidding being handled?

Answer: *Each prospective offeror must separate out Direct Costs & Fringe and will also be responsible to read through the CBA to determine the maximum liability.*

21. While formulating a successful proposal for the “Security Protective Force and Systems Services” contract, the RFP and SOW instructs contractors to demonstrate a “Full understanding of the potential threats contained in the current **DOE Graded Security Protection Policy.**” My attempt to access the GSP Policy was met with a “Classified” response. Please advise as to how my firm can access this information in order to deliver an effective security plan.

Answer: *The DOE Graded Security Protection Policy cannot be posted on the SPFSS webpage, but can only be directly provided to prospective offerors upon request. The requestor must control and dispose of the document consistent with DOE Order 471.3 and DOE Manual 471.3-1 which will be provided along with the policy. Prospective offerors may request a copy of a CD with the Policy, Order, and Manual on it through the Contract Specialist and the Contracting Officer.*

22. Reference: Section L, NNS-L-1003(b)(1), page L-9 of 14, identifies the page limit for Volume II and states, “TAB-1 Criterion: Criterion 1, Technical Approach and Staffing Summary (Page Limit: 30 pages except for Staffing Plan Summary Spreadsheet attachment which has no page limit)”

The paragraph titled **Staffing Plan Summary**, page L-10 of 14, states, “The Offeror shall describe the *labor categories and job duties* of all proposed labor categories to perform the work required by the entire SOW. See Attachment L-8.”

Attachment L-8 provides a column (Column A of the spreadsheet) to identify the Labor Categories, but does not provide an area to place the corresponding *Job Duties*.

Is it the intent of the Government to have the Offeror place the job duties, corresponding to the labor categories, in the narrative of the proposal responding to the requirements of Section L, NNS-L-1003(b); 2) If yes, then will the Government consider exempting the job duties input from the total page count of Volume II?

Answer: *It is the intent of the Government that the offeror attach separate sheet(s) with narrative job duties cross-referenced to the Staffing Plan Summary Spreadsheet (Column A Labor Categories). The cross-referenced narrative job duties sheet(s) are considered to be part of the Staffing Plan Summary Spreadsheet and are therefore, exempt from the total page count of Volume II.*

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23. Reference: NNS-L-1001(g)(2) Instructions for Proposal – General Page Description; “With the exception of headers and footers, spreadsheet, charts, tables, diagrams or design drawings graphs, tables and spreadsheets throughout the proposal, the text shall be 12 point (or larger), **single-spaced**, using a Courier, Geneva, Arial or Universal font type.”

Is the requirement for “single spaced” line spacing in Courier, Geneva, Arial or Universal font type met by using in MS Word “Exactly 12 point” line spacing in any one of these font styles?

Answer: *Please see the final RFP posted 6-11-2011; NNS-L-1001(g)(2) has been changed regarding font type.*

24. Reference: NNS-M-1003(c) Criterion 3 Corporate Experience (TAB 3); “The Government will evaluate and assess the currency, relevancy and depth of the Offeror's experience as it relates to performing the SOW.”

Please provide a definition or the attributes by which you will evaluate the “depth” of offerors experience as it relates to performing the SOW.

Answer: *Depth is the extent or magnitude of the offeror’s experience as it relates to performing the requirements of the SOW.*

25. Reference: NNS-1001(g) Instructions for Proposal – General: “Pages shall be numbered by section within volumes”

The Section L does not use the term section. Is it compliant to sequentially number all the pages that are included with each identified TAB? Alternatively, please clarify what constitutes a section in the RFP.

Answer: *The sentence in question was deleted from the Proposal Instructions in the final RFP. Refer to NNS-L-1001(g)(3) for page numbering instructions.*

26. Reference: NNS-L-1001 INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION – GENERAL; “(e) Page Count Exceptions. Only Volume II has specifically identified page limitations for individual evaluation criteria which must be strictly adhered to; however, the following are excluded from the Volume II page limitations: Table of Contents, Title Pages, Glossary”; and

NNS-L-1002 PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS: VOLUME I -- OFFER AND OTHER DOCUMENTS; ” Volume I, Offer and Other Documents, shall contain a Proposal Cover Sheet and TABS 1 through 5 as follows: (a) The Proposal Cover Sheet is required by FAR 52.215-1(c)(2) entitled, "Instructions to Offerors-Competitive Acquisition," which is included by reference in this Section L.”

Is the required “Proposal Cover Sheet” considered a “Title Page” and is therefore excluded from page count limitations?

Answer: *The “Proposal Cover Sheet” is to be included in Volume I and is not required in Volume II. Volume I has no page count limitation.*

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (RFP)

27. Reference: Section L, NNS-L-1003(b)(4)(B), page L-11 of 14, states, “The Offeror shall complete Attachment L-6 to Section L and shall provide information on cited safety and health violations and on accidents with injuries and/or fatalities that have occurred within the last five (5) years while the Offeror, its predecessor companies, parent or holding companies (if relevant), all teaming participants, and/or any of its major subcontractors were responsible for providing security services.”

Discussion: The L-6 Form requires in addition to the Offeror’s name the “Contract Title” and “Contract Number”.

Are we correct in presuming that a separate L-6 form is required for each Contract worked in the last 5 years for which the Offeror provided security services?

Answer: *Yes, a separate L-6 form is to be completed for each contract for the prime and all subcontractors for the past 5 years where the Offeror provided Security Services.*

28. Discussion: A large corporation operating many contracts over the past five (5) years may produce a voluminous number of completed L-6 forms and supporting information on each accident with injury.

Will the Government allow the submission of this information in a separate binder as Part 2 to Tab – 4 of Volume II?

Answer: *Yes, a separate binder may be submitted as Part 2 to Tab 4 of Volume II. This binder shall only include completed L-6 forms.*

29. Reference: Section L, NNS-L-1003(b)(4)(B), page L-11 of 14, states, “The Offeror shall complete Attachment L-6 to Section L and shall provide information on cited safety and health violations and on accidents with injuries and/or fatalities that have occurred within the last five (5) years....”

10 CFR 851.23(a)(2) requires DOE Contractors to comply with several 29 CFR sections to include 10 CFR 1904.46.

10 CFR 1904.46 states, “An injury or illness is an abnormal condition or disorder. Injuries include cases such as, but not limited to, a cut, fracture, sprain, or amputation.”

Please confirm your requirement for our proposal to include information on all accidents with injuries that meet the definition of "accidents with injury" as stated in 10 CFR 1904.46.

Answer: *All information associated with reported accidents with injuries, as per the 10 CFR 1904.46 definition of injury, must be submitted, regardless of the severity of the injury.*

30. NNS-L-1003(b)(2) Tab 2: Criterion 2, Key Personnel and NNS-M-1003(b) Criterion 2-Key Personnel: Would DOE consider the inclusion of orals for the Key Personnel or an interview of the General Manager and select key personnel to better assess each of the bidders? Considering 99% of the incumbent force will probably be retained, DOE will likely need to carefully weigh the management and leadership beyond the credentials on paper.

Answer: *No, oral presentations/interviews will not be entertained.*

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31. Provision NNS-L-1003(b)(1): To ensure a full understanding for all parties of the requirements, as currently written, the level of detail you are expecting in the description of labor categories and job duties for all categories could take up a significant portion of the allotted 30 pages. Would DOE consider removing description of labor categories and job duties from the page count?

Answer: *Please refer to response under Question No. 22, same subject.*

32. Provision NNS-L-1003(b)(1) Tab 1: Criterion 1, Technical Approach and Staffing Plan Summary requires Offerors to provide a staffing plan by PWS. There is insufficient information to adequately develop this staffing plan. Would the government consider providing additional workload data to include: current staffing by shift, post, and location, as has been standard DOE practice (SRS, ORO, DOE HQ); current list by position (not name) of current incumbent non-CBA employees; additional workload data and/or historical data or estimated man-hours involved in order to support the installation, maintenance, repair and testing of electronic security systems.

Answer: *The RFP and Reading Room on the SPFSS webpage sufficiently describe the requirements for offerors to propose. Expectations are for each prospective offeror to independently develop numbers that are both efficient and consistent with the ProForce staffing cap and its proposed technical approach.*

33. Provision NNS-L-1003(b)(1) Tab 1: Criterion 1, Technical Approach and Staffing Plan Summary: We also note that Attachment 8 is referred to in this provision for a Staffing Plan Summary, but that the header of Attachment 8 itself indicates it is to be included in Volume III. However, Attachment 7 Instructions for Volume III Cost Proposal do not refer to Attachment 8.

Answer: *The Attachment L-8 (Staffing Plan Summary) header has been changed in the final RFP to indicate that Attachment L-8 is to be included in Volume II, Tab 1.*

34. Attachment J-8, List of GFP/GFE. This attachment indicates an extensive inventory of GFP/GFE is available from the Sunflower Inventory Assets Report, maintained by the M&O contractor, after award. Will the Government consider providing this inventory with the RFP so that the bidders can understand the numbers and types of GFP/GFE available to the contractor? Additionally, please confirm office facilities/utilities are included in the GFP.

Answer: *The Attachment J-8 was revised in the final RFP and now provides instructions for obtaining a CD copy of the GFP/GFE list. This CD is "For Official Use Only" (OUO) and must be controlled by each prospective offeror receiving a copy as such. Office facilities are Government-owned and along with utilities are provided to the Contractor.*

35. Pricing Schedule B-1 requires contractor to estimate ODCs not associated with Government furnished items and purchases. Are the ODCs estimated by the contractor included in the award fee pool base?

Answer: *The cost proposal instructions pertaining to ODCs has been rewritten in the final RFP. The instructions clearly state that ODCs include both baselined ODCs and other ODCs discretely estimated by the contractor. The requirement to exclude ALL ODCs from the award fee pool base is clearly stated in five separate sections: Schedule B CLIN descriptions, Cost Proposal Instructions, Award Fee Plan, Award Fee Clause, and Schedule B Price and Rate Schedules Clause.*

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36. Section NNS-B-1007, Contract Type, indicates this is a cost plus award fee contract. Attachment L-7, Cost Proposal Instructions, states labor rates are fixed billing rates, and that certified cost or pricing data is not required. The sample format for proposed billing rates states these rates are ceiling rates. H-1026 addresses fixed billing rates and fixed hourly rates. I-52.216-07 indicates that hourly rates are subject to re-determination based on post-award audit. Please clarify the type of contract and how the costs are to be billed and if the proposed billing rates are for evaluation purposes only.

Answer: *The Contract Type is “Modified Cost-Plus Award Fee”. The CPAF aspect of the contract is modified from the usual definition by providing reimbursement of labor costs for hours worked through billing of pre-determined, non-fee-bearing fixed labor rates, inclusive of estimated overhead (excluding fee). In accordance with FAR 52.216-7, Allowable Cost and Payment (DEC 2002) (Deviation), actual labor costs incurred shall not be the basis for labor cost reimbursement under this modified CPAF contract.*

As previously stated, the final RFP includes a deviation to FAR 52.216-07, which specifically excludes fully burdened prime and subcontractor hourly rates from post-award adjustment based on audit of actual incurred costs. The only post-award rates subject to final incurred cost audit and subsequent adjustment will be the indirect rate (e.g., material handling or G&A) applied to the reimbursable ODC CLINS. The ceiling price for the labor CLINS will be the awarded fully-burdened billing rates multiplied by the awarded (estimated) hours for each proposed labor category. The fully-burdened hourly rates (excluding fee) awarded under this modified cost-plus-award fee contract are final -- and will not be subsequently adjusted -- unless required by FAR 52.222-43, Fair Labor Standards Act and Service Contract Act – Price Adjustment (Multiple Year and Option Contracts), applicable to CLINS 0001, 1001, and 2001.

37. NNS-H-1026, Workforce Transition and Management, the clauses in this section, pension, vacation accrual, and severance pay for employees not employed by the contractor are to be paid by the contractor as an ODC. Are we correct in assuming this cost is included as part of the annual Government-Furnished items and purchases? If not, please provide annual anticipated costs?

Answer: *The cost proposal instructions pertaining to ODCs has been rewritten in the final RFP. The instructions now reflect annual baselined ODC estimates for defined pensions/post-retirement benefits, vacation accrual, and travel. These baselined estimates shall be included in the ODC CLINS. The offeror is also instructed to include discretely estimated ODCs (as applicable) that are not baselined, or provided by the Government as Government Furnished Facilities, Items, and Purchases.*

38. Attachment L-7, Cost Proposal Instructions, requires bidders to provide a description of various mechanisms for interacting with other NNSA/DOE contractors, the services anticipated and an estimated cost/price per unit. Would the Government consider providing historical data of the types of services and the cost per unit of the services?

Answer: *Attachment L-7, Cost Proposal Instructions, Paragraph (d)(ii) is not applicable to the RFP as ODCs are baselined; therefore, this paragraph will be deleted in its entirety by amendment to the solicitation forthcoming.*

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39. Are there any significant events (e.g., movement of SNM, VIP visits, operational assessments, force on force exercises, Limited Scope Performance Tests, new hire classes) that might impact transition schedule?

Answer: *There are no activities currently scheduled for the September/October 2011 timeframe that would have a potential impact on the contract transition period.*

40. Will the GFP/GFE listing include the types of weapons used by the protective force and on which our employees must be trained?

Answer: *Yes. Please refer to the response under Question No. 34 on how to obtain a copy of the GFP/GFE listing.*

41. In Criterion 4, on the L-3 Corporate Experience and Performance Self-assessment Form indicates the requirement for the audit report, if applicable. Is this report included in the page count?

Answer: *The form at Attachment L-3 has been revised in the final RFP to exclude audit reports in the page count limitations.*

42. Attachment J-1 Statement of Work, A.1 Cyber Security: Is the security protective force and systems services contractor responsible for cyber security across the NNSS, or is this requirement for cyber security a function internal to this contract?

Answer: *This requirement for Cyber Security is a function internal to this contract and will not extend beyond the contract's Scope of Work.*

43. If an offeror intends on pursuing a Joint Venture, do both Contractors require a License?

Answer: *Recommend offerors considering a Joint Venture arrangement refer this question to their respective legal counsel for an interpretation of Nevada laws.*

44. I'm very surprised there are no small business goals or requirements associated with this solicitation. Can you offer an explanation as to why?

Answer: *Large business offerors are expected to identify subcontracting goals in their respective subcontracting plans.*

45. Reference: NNS-L-1001(g)(2) **Instructions for Proposal**, page L-7 of 14, states, "With the exception of headers and footers, spreadsheet, charts, tables, diagrams or design drawings, graphs, tables and spreadsheets throughout the proposal, the text shall be 12 point (or larger), single-spaced, using a Courier New or Times New Roman font type."

We understand that it is permissible to use a font size smaller than 12 point for spreadsheets, charts, tables, diagrams, design drawings, graphs, tables and spreadsheets, but is it permissible to use a font type different than Courier New or Times New Roman for these documents?

Answer: *The font size and type limitations refer specifically to proposal text and any type is permissible for the purposes of completing spreadsheets, charts, tables, diagrams, design drawings, and graphs as long as the type utilized is legible.*

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46. Reference: NNS-M-1003(c) Criterion 3 Corporate Experience (TAB3) states, “The Government will evaluate and assess the currency, relevancy and depth of the Offeror's experience as it relates to performing the SOW.”

Please provide a definition of the criterion or the attributes by which you will evaluate the “depth” of offerors experience as it relates to performing the SOW.

Answer: *Please refer to response under Question No. 24, same subject.*

47. Reference: Section L, NNS-L-1003(b)(4)(B), page L-11 of 14, states, “The Offeror shall complete Attachment L-6 to Section L and shall provide information on cited safety and health violations and on accidents with injuries and/or fatalities that have occurred within the last five (5) years while the Offeror, its predecessor companies, parent or holding companies (if relevant), all teaming participants, and/or any of its major subcontractors were responsible for providing security services.”

Discussion: The L-6 Form requires in addition to the “Company Name” the “Contract Title” and “Contract Number.”

Are we correct in presuming that a separate L-6 form is required for each Contract worked in the last 5 years for which the Offeror provided security services?

Answer: *Please refer to response under Question No. 27, same subject.*

48. Discussion: A large corporation operating many contracts over the past five (5) years may produce a voluminous number of pages of completed L-6 forms and supporting information on each accident with injury.

Will the Government allow the submission of this information in a separate binder as Part 2 to Tab – 4 of Volume II?

Answer: *Please refer to response under Question No. 28, same subject.*

49. Reference: Section L, NNS-L-1003(b)(4)(B), page L-11 of 14, states, “The Offeror shall complete Attachment L-6 to Section L and shall provide information on cited safety and health violations and on accidents with injuries and/or fatalities that have occurred within the last five (5) years....”

Also, 10 CFR 851.23(a)(2) requires DOE Contractors to comply with several 29 CFR sections to include 10 CFR 1904.46. 10 CFR 1904.46 states, “An injury or illness is an abnormal condition or disorder. Injuries include cases such as, but not limited to, a cut, fracture, sprain, or amputation. Illnesses include both acute and chronic illnesses, such as, but not limited to, a skin disease, respiratory disorder, or poisoning.”

Please confirm the proposal requirement to include information on all accidents with injuries that meet the definition stated in 10CFR 1904.46.

Answer: *Please refer to response under Question No. 29, same subject.*

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50. Reference: NNS-L-1001 INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION – GENERAL states, “(e) Page Count Exceptions. Only Volume II has specifically identified page limitations for individual evaluation criteria which must be strictly adhered to; however, the following are excluded from the Volume II page limitations: Table of Contents, Title Pages, Glossary”.

Reference: NNS-L-1002 PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS: VOLUME I -- OFFER AND OTHER DOCUMENTS states, ” Volume I, Offer and Other Documents, shall contain a Proposal Cover Sheet and TABS 1 through 5 as follows: (a) The Proposal Cover Sheet is required by FAR 52.215-1(c)(2) entitled, "Instructions to Offerors-Competitive Acquisition," which is included by reference in this Section L.”

Is the required “Proposal Cover Sheet” considered a “Title Page” and is it therefore excluded from page-count limitations?

Answer: *Please refer to response under Question No. 26, same subject.*

51. Reference: Solicitation Section B, states the Base Period of Performance is October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014.

Reference: Attachment J-1 Statement of Work, Section G Transition Period, states “During the initial thirty days of performance of this contract, the contractor shall conduct transition activities in accordance with the contractor's Transition Plan as approved by the Contracting Officer and included in Attachment J-9 of this contract.” We understand the current contract ends September 30, 2011. Please clarify, is the 30 day Transition Period October 1, 2011 through October 30, 2011?

Answer: Yes.