



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS SOLICITATION DOCUMENT

General Bid Information

	Number:	CAW# 23-24
	Description:	Virtual Lunch and Learn Training, Workshops and Related Services
	Solicitation Issued:	July 6, 2023

Submission Deadline for Response

	Opening Date:	Thursday, July 20, 2023	Bid Opening Time:	4:00 p.m., Central Time
<p>Responses shall not be accepted after the designated opening date and time. It is the responsibility of contractors to submit responses at the designated location on or before the opening date and time. Responses received after the designated opening date and time shall be considered late and shall be returned to the contractor without further review.</p>				

Delivery Information for Response

	Delivery Address:	<p>Central Arkansas Water ATTN: Purchasing Section 221 East Capitol Avenue Little Rock, AR 72202</p> <p>Delivery providers, USPS, UPS, and FedEx deliver mail to CAW's street address on a schedule determined by each individual provider. These providers will deliver to CAW based solely on the street address.</p> <p>Note: For safety purposes, contractor(s) are encouraged to provide submissions electronically or mail with a delivery provider; however, contractors who choose to hand deliver a bid response, should contact the CAW Purchasing Section in advance to make delivery arrangements. Please call Bridgette Johnson at 501-377-1210 or David Hindman at 501-377-1315 before planned delivery at 221 East Capitol Avenue and someone will accept your bid.</p>
	Response's Outer Packaging:	<p>Response must be delivered to CAW in a sealed package. The outer packaging should be properly marked with the information listed below (traditional submittal). If the packaging is not properly marked, it may be opened for identification purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solicitation number and Description Date and time of the opening Proposer's name and return address

Central Arkansas Water Contact Information

	CAW Buyer:	Liz Tuck-Rowan, CPPO, CPPB	Direct Phone #:	(501) 377-1266
	Email Address:	liz.tuck-rowan@carkw.com	CAW's Main #:	(501) 377-1200
	Website:	www.carkw.com		

SIGNATURE PAGE

Proposer's Information

Type or Print the following information.

Company:			
Address:			
City:	State:	ZIP Code:	
Business Designation:	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Service Corp <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit
Minority Designation: <i>See Minority Business Policy</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable AR Minority Certification #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> African American <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander American <input type="checkbox"/> Service-Disabled Veteran Service-Disabled Veteran Certification #: _____
Woman Owned Business:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, my company is a woman owned business <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	Dun & Bradstreet #	DUNS #: _____

Proposer's Contact Information

Contact Person:		Title:	
Phone:		Alternate Phone:	
Email:			

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

	<p>Contractor should indicate below whether or not any known possible conflicts of interest exist with Central Arkansas Water. (See <i>Conflict of Interest Disclosure</i> in Section A.)</p> <p>At the present time, and to the best of my knowledge, (contractor should select one of the following choices).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No known possible conflicts of interest exist.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a possible conflict of interest exists.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If yes, contractor must provide an explanation. _____</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">_____</p>
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Confirmation of Redacted Copy

	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, a redacted copy of submission documents is enclosed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO, a redacted copy of submission documents is <u>not</u> enclosed. I understand a full copy of non-redacted submission documents will be released if requested.</p> <p><i>Note: If a redacted copy of the submission documents is not provided with contractor's response packet, and neither box is checked, a copy of the non-redacted documents, with the exception of financial data (other than pricing), shall be released in response to any request made under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). See Bid Solicitation for additional information.</i></p>
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Israel Boycott Restriction Confirmation

	<p>By checking and submitting a response to this <i>Bid Solicitation</i>, a Prospective Contractor agrees and certifies that they do not boycott Israel, and if selected will not boycott Israel during the aggregate term of the contract.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Prospective Contractor does not and will not boycott Israel.</p>
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Execution of Contractor's Response

Contractor's signature below **shall** represent and warrant contractor's agreement to and compliance with all requirements, specifications, and terms and conditions within this solicitation. The undersigned official **must** be duly authorized to bind the contractor to a resultant contract. (See *Signature Page* in Section A of this solicitation).

Authorized Signature: _____ Title: _____

Printed/Typed Name: _____ Date: _____

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to request interested subject matter experts to present their qualifications, capabilities, and approach to provide various lunch & learns and workshops to create a strong work culture by fostering an inclusive work environment for Central Arkansas Water employees.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Central Arkansas Water (CAW or the Utility) is the largest water supplier in the state of Arkansas. The Utility plays an integral role in the quality of life for residents and the economic health of the communities it serves. As a regional water supplier serving a population of approximately 500,000, CAW contributes to the public health and wellbeing of one in every six Arkansans. In addition, CAW supplies the water needed by industries that compete in regional, national, and international markets. The Utility serves approximately 160,000 metered connections through retail and wholesale service to customers in Pulaski, Saline, Grant, Perry, Lonoke, White, and Faulkner counties.

3. TERM OF AWARD

The initial term of this contract **shall** be for one (1) year. Upon mutual agreement by the contractor and CAW, the contract may be renewed by the CAW Purchasing Section on a year-to-year basis, for up to three (3) additional one-year terms or a portion thereof.

4. ISSUING OFFICE

The CAW Purchasing Section, as the issuing office, is the sole point of contact throughout this procurement process. Contractor's questions regarding this solicitation should be made through the CAW buyer listed on page one (1) of this solicitation.

5. OPENING LOCATION

Responses submitted by the opening time and date **shall** be opened at the following location:

Central Arkansas Water
Purchasing Section
221 East Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72202

6. CONE OF SILENCE

All communication(s) pertaining to this solicitation **shall** be directed to the CAW buyer listed on page one (1) of this solicitation, or his or her designee. CAW has imposed an absolute prohibition against any communication or contact ("Cone of Silence") with any other CAW personnel, CAW consultant, or Central Arkansas Water Commission (CAWC) member regarding this solicitation process.

The prohibition begins with the publication of this solicitation document, remains in place through the CAW solicitation and award process, and ends only after CAW has executed a contract with the successful contractor. The prohibition is suspended only when the CAW Buyer, or his or her designee, initiates or consents to a meeting or communications for the purpose of clarifying a solicitation or another solicitation-related action.

A violation of this policy may result in the disqualification of an offending contractor's response.

7. DEFINITION OF REQUIREMENT

- A. The words "**must**" and "**shall**" signify a requirement of this solicitation and that contractor's agreement to and compliance with that item is mandatory.
- B. Exceptions taken to any requirement in this solicitation, whether submitted in the contractor's bid response or in subsequent correspondence, may cause the Contractor's bid response to be disqualified.
- C. Contractor may request exceptions to non-mandatory items. Contractor should clearly explain the requested exception and should reference the specific solicitation item number to which the exception applies.

8. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- A. CAW has made every effort to use industry-accepted terminology in this solicitation.

- B. "Central Arkansas Water", "CAW", and the "utility" are used synonymously in this document.
- C. "Central Arkansas Water Commission", "CAWC" and the "commission" are used synonymously in this document.
- D. The words "bidder", "vendorr" or "Contractor" are used synonymously in this document.
- E. The terms "Invitation to Bid", "ITB", and "Solicitation" are used synonymously in this document.
- F. The following acronyms are defined:

ANSI	American National Standards Institute
AMS	Asset Management System

9. PRICING

- A. Pricing information is prohibited from being included in your response.**

10. REQUIREMENT OF ADDENDUM

- A. This solicitation **shall** be modified only by an addendum written and authorized by CAW.

B. The contractor **shall** be responsible for checking the Purchasing Section of the CAW website www.carkw.com for any and all addenda up to the established bid opening date and time.

11. NONCOLLUSION

Contractor **shall** represent and warrant that in connection to a response to this solicitation:

- A. The contractor has not been a party to any collusion among contractor(s) in the restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to bid at a fixed price or to refrain from bidding.
- B. The contractor has not been a party to any collusion with any official or employee of CAW as to quantity, quality, or price in the prospective contract, or any other terms of said prospective contract.
- C. The contractor has not been a party in any discussion between bidders and any official of CAW concerning exchange of money or other things of value for special consideration in the letting of a contract.

12. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

- A. Contractor should complete the *Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure* section on the *Bid Signature Page* of this solicitation.
- B. Contractor **must** disclose all known possible conflicts of interest, which exist at the time of contractor's bid submission. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to the following:
 - 1. Relationships between contractor's employees, principals, officers, and agents and the employees of CAW.
 - 2. Relationships between contractor's employees, principals, officers, and agents and the CAWC.
 - 3. Those resulting from material adverse matters, as distinguished from the conduct of business as usual.
- C. Contractor's failure to disclose such a relationship may result in one of the following:
 - 1. CAW's rejection of contractor's bid response.
 - 2. CAW's cancellation of any resultant contract.

13. ISRAEL BOYCOTT NOTICE

- A. Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-1-503, a public entity **shall not** enter into a contract valued at \$1,000 or greater with a company unless the contract includes a written certification that the person or company is not currently engaged in and agrees for the duration of the contract not to engage in, a boycott of Israel.
- B. Contractor's signature on the Bid Signature Page **shall** represent and warrant they do not boycott Israel and will not boycott Israel during the remaining aggregate term of the contract.

14. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

- A. Response documents pertaining to this solicitation will become the property of CAW and **shall** be subject to the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

- B. One (1) complete copy of the original response from which any proprietary and/or confidential information has been redacted should be submitted on a flash drive in the contractor's response.
 - C. Except for the redacted information, the redacted copy **must** be identical to the original hard copy, reflecting the same pagination as the original and showing the space from which information was redacted.
 - D. The contractor **shall** be responsible for identifying all proprietary information and for ensuring the electronic copy is protected against restoration of redacted data.
 - E. The redacted copy **shall** be open to public inspection under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) without further notice to the contractor.
 - F. If a redacted copy of the submission documents is not provided with contractor's response, a copy of the non-redacted documents, with the exception of financial data (other than pricing), **shall** be released in response to any request made under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
 - G. If CAW deems redacted information to be subject to FOIA, the contractor will be contacted prior to release of the documents.
15. **PUBLICITY**
Contractor **shall not** issue a news release or article pertaining to this solicitation or any portion of the project, in any medium, at any time during the pendency of the solicitation or fulfillment of the terms of this contract without CAW's prior written approval. Contractor's failure to comply with this requirement may be cause for CAW's rejection of Contractor's response or CAW's cancellation of this contract.
16. **RESERVATION**
This solicitation **shall not** commit CAW to issue an award or contract. CAW **shall not** pay costs incurred in the preparation of a response.

SECTION 2– SCOPE OF SERVICES REQUIRED

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Central Arkansas Water is contracting for inclusive, and work-related subject matter lunch & learn and workshop experts. The following is a listing of the general tasks that will be performed by the consultant(s) as part of this task. Note that these specifications are not comprehensive but serve to provide basic requirements. The utility is seeking a consultant or consulting team who can leverage their expertise and experience to develop the necessary tasks and deliverables for successful workshop and educational opportunities. The consultant(s) should also engage employees throughout the process, ensuring that the training is effective and meets their needs. Current **budget** is \$12,000.00.

The Consultant(s) will prepare and deliver appropriate virtual lunch & learns and/or learning workshops on creating a culture of excellence and continuous improvement for:

- 1) All Employees – approximately 350 individuals
 - a. 1-2 lunch & learns/workshops per month over 12-month period. These lunch & learns/workshops will be informal, and attendance is voluntary.
 - b. Lunch & learns/workshops will be 60 minutes each.
 - c. Lunch & learns/workshops will be conducted virtually and pre-recorded. The pre-recorded lunch & learns/workshops will be shared with all employees to ensure access to information.

The lunch & learns/workshops will cover relevant, inclusive, and work-related topics to acquire new skills, knowledge, and understanding, and open opportunities for personal and professional growth. The virtual lunch & learns/workshops will be provided and pre-recorded for all CAW employees.

Overall course objectives for the lunch & learns/workshops are for participants to learn:

- Providing employees with practical strategies and tools to be more inclusive and equitable in their work.
- Enhancing employee skills and knowledge in specific work-related areas to improve job performance and productivity.
 - To respect and accept differences by fostering an environment where employees feel valued and respected for who they are and what they bring to the team.
 - To create a sense of community and belonging within the organization by bringing employees together to share their experiences and perspectives.
 - Increasing employee engagement and job satisfaction by offering opportunities for personal and professional development

SECTION 3– SUBMISSION FORMAT AND CONTENT

CAW discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals. For CAW to evaluate proposals fairly and completely, offerors must follow the format set out herein and provide all the information requested.

Offerors must include a fully completed and signed Submittal Form as the cover sheet to the RFQ. Failure to include this form fully completed with a signature shall cause the submission to be declared non-responsive and eliminated from further consideration.

Submittal Requirement: Responses shall be in accordance with the maximum number of pages and content requirements indicated in the table below, double-sided pages are considered two pages. Responses shall not be written in a font size smaller than 10 points. Each section of the submittal shall be identified and assembled in the order listed under Response Content Requirements. Materials not identified or germane to the submission will be discarded without evaluation. Failure to provide a response in conformance with these requirements may cause a submission to be declared non-responsive and eliminated from further consideration.

Maximum Pages	Response Content Requirements
2	Item 1: Submittal Form (with signature)
1	Item 2: Table of Contents
1	Item 3: Letter of Intent (meet the insurance and bond requirements)
2	Item 4: Firm's Background & Trainer's Qualifications

2	Item 5: Experience with inclusive and work-related subject matter, virtual lunch and learn and general workshops.
10	Item 6: <u>Workplan for Project (detail methodology, strategies, procedures and timeline)</u>
18	Maximum Pages for RFQ Submittal

Failure to follow these guidelines in any manner may result in disqualification of your response.

SECTION 4 - EVALUATION PROCESS

4. Evaluation Process

All responses will be scored based on the overall responsiveness to the solicitation requirements, interviews (if needed), and the reference accounts provided. CAW, at its sole discretion, may conduct interviews to seek clarification or gather more information.

4.1 Qualifications Evaluation Process

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) format is intended to present interested firms the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to perform the required services.

Upon the review of qualified proposals, the Review Committee shall select the firm deemed best qualified and most responsive. The committee will determine whether in-person interviews will be required or whether a decision may be reached by reviewing the written proposals. The selected firm will be notified, and contract negotiations will commence. If Central Arkansas Water is unable to negotiate a contract, CAW shall cease negotiations and begin negotiations with the next most qualified and most responsive responder.

Evaluations will be based upon the capability of the firm and upon the abilities and accomplishments of the individual or individuals assigned to perform the services. In addition, any experience in working with governmental entities or clients on water rate development should be cited by the responder. Of particular emphasis will be the qualifications of the key personnel that the responder identifies to work with CAW.

4.2 Scoring

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated by a selection committee composed of representatives from the administrative and human resources departments.

<i>Five Areas of Consideration</i>	<i>Rating (0-10)</i>	<i>Weight (0-10)</i>	<i>Weighted Rating</i>
General & Professional Reputation		10	
Trainer Qualifications		15	
Experience with inclusive and work-related subject matter, virtual lunch and learn and general workshops		30	
Work Plan Training Sessions		40	
Proximity & Familiarity with Geographical Area		5	
Rating Index Total			

- **General and Professional Reputation** – Indicate number of years in business, office location(s), current limits of professional liability insurance, and resources of the firm(s) to perform the work.

- **Trainer Qualification**– Provide resume and qualifications of the key personnel.
- **Experience with inclusive and work-related subject matter, virtual lunch & learn and workshops** – Illustrate a history of successful training of similar scope, budget, and strategy as the project described in this solicitation by listing three (3) virtual lunch and learn, seminars/lectures completed within the last five (5) years. Include the clients' names, and – for each client – a current contact telephone number of a client representative who is familiar with the project details. The offeror's experience and performance on comparable government engagements, quality of professional personnel assigned to the engagement, and quality of management support personnel for consultation. Provide a minimum of three (3) references where the offeror has completed a similar scope of work.
- **Work Plan for This Project** – Describe the overall approach to this project. Indicate unique qualifications of your firm(s) and how the unique qualifications pertain to this project. The offeror's adequacy of processing collection payments and reporting of the payments.
- **Proximity and Familiarity with Geographical Area** – Indicate experience in working with city agencies and municipal utilities within the State of Arkansas.

No assurances are given or intended to imply that CAW and their respective committee will award a contract, as a result of this request or submittal of qualifications. CAW will not be liable for any costs associated with responding to this request or negotiating a contract.

4.3 Pricing

Pricing information is prohibited from being included in your response.

Pricing information is defined as statements including, but not limited to the following:

- "At no additional cost"
- "Free of charge"
- "For an additional fee"

Pricing information includes any information by which the cost of the equipment or service is set out, may be computed, or may be compared to another company.

SECTION 5- INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING RESPONSES

5. **Instructions for Submitting Responses**

A total of one (1) signed response by a person authorized by the Company to execute contracts **must** be provided to the Purchasing Section.

Responses must be in English.

5.1 **Response Documents**

A. **Must** include all required copies of the response.

- a. Response may be submitted electronically to the following email on or before the established bid opening date and time: procurement@carkw.com.
- b. Responses are limited to a maximum of eighteen (18) pages per proposal. A single side equals to a single page.

B. Companies who submit pricing information in the responses may be disqualified.

5.2 **Additional Sourcing Information**

AR Bid: The official posting can also be found on the AR Bid website at <https://arkansas.ionwave.net> The solicitation document can be downloaded from the

attachments tab of this posting. Note: it is the contractor's responsibility to properly register and utilize the AR Bid website.

SECTION 6 – QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

6. Questions and Clarifications

- A. All requests for clarification or additional information **must** be submitted in writing to CAW Purchasing Section at CAW procurement@carkw.com. Written questions **must** be submitted by 4:00 p.m., no less than seven (7) calendar days prior to the response opening date on page one of this solicitation.
- B. For each question submitted, the company should reference the specific solicitation number and section to which the question refers.
- C. Companies' written questions will be consolidated and responded to by CAW. CAW's consolidated written response is anticipated to be posted by the close of business three (3) calendar days prior to the submission deadline.
- D. All questions and answers, clarification of, and addenda to, this solicitation will be published on the CAW's website www.carkw.com; under section Procurement, Questions and Answer for Open Solicitations. It is the Company's responsibility to review CAW's solicitation information online in order to obtain all available information and all updated requirements for this solicitation.
- E. Companies **must** be registered for contract award and future bid notifications. Companies may register on-line [AR Bid \(ionwave.net\)](http://AR Bid (ionwave.net)), Supplier Registration.

SECTION 7 **GENERAL CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS**

PAYMENT AND INVOICE PROVISIONS

- A. All invoices **must** be forwarded to:

Central Arkansas Water
ATTN: Accounts Payable
P.O. Box 1789
Little Rock, AR 72203

Or emailed to: accounting_ap@carkw.com

- B. Payment will be made in accordance with applicable CAW accounting procedures upon acceptance of goods and/or services by CAW.
- C. CAW **shall not** be invoiced in advance of delivery and acceptance of any goods or services.
- D. Payment will be made only after the contractor has successfully satisfied CAW as to the reliability and effectiveness of the goods and/or services purchased as a whole.
- E. The contractor should invoice CAW by an itemized list of charges. CAW's bid number should be referenced on each invoice.
- F. Other sections of this solicitation may contain additional requirements for invoicing.

GOVERNING LAW

- A. The laws of the State of Arkansas **shall** govern this contract as to interpretation and performance.
- B. Any and all legal action necessary to enforce any resulting contract **shall** be brought in Pulaski County, Arkansas.

- C. CAW **shall not** agree to any provision of a contract which violates the federal, State, or local laws or the constitution of the State of Arkansas.

CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

The contractor **shall** at all times observe and comply with federal and State of Arkansas laws, local laws, ordinances, orders, and CAW polices and regulations existing at the time of, or enacted subsequent to the execution of a resulting contract which in any manner affect the completion of the work.

INDEMNITY

Contractor **shall** indemnify and save harmless CAW and its agents, servants, and employees from, and against, any and all suits, actions, legal proceedings, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, or losses of any nature whatsoever, civil or criminal, incurred by any of them including attorney's fees arising out of a willful or negligent act, or omission, including, but not limited to actions arising under any local, state or federal environmental laws or regulations, or omissions of Contractor, its officers, agents, servants, and employees; provided, however, that Contractor **shall not** be liable for any suits, actions, legal proceedings, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, and attorney's fees arising out of the award of any resulting contract due to a willful or negligent act, or omission, of CAW, its agents, servants, and employees.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITY

CAW will demonstrate reasonable care but **shall not** be liable in the event of loss, destruction, or theft of contract-owned items to be delivered or to be used in the installation of deliverables. The contractor **shall** be required to retain total liability until the deliverables have been accepted by the authorized CAW official. CAW **shall not** be responsible for or accept liability for any contractor-owned items.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

As a condition for doing business with Central Arkansas Water, the awarded contractor **shall not** discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, political opinions or affiliation, military status, or other status protected by applicable law and **shall** require such compliance in agreements with subcontractors and sub-subcontractors.

DELEGATION AND/OR ASSIGNMENT

Contractor **shall not** assign the contract or any portion thereof or delegate any of Contractor's right or duties thereunder without prior written approval of CAW. This written approval **shall not** be considered as making CAW a party to such subcontract or subjecting CAW to liability of any kind to any subcontractor. No subcontract **shall** under any circumstances relieve Contractor of liability and obligation under any resulting contract, and all transactions **shall** be made through Contractor. Subcontractors **shall** be recognized and dealt with only as workers and representatives of Contractor and as such **shall** be subject to the same requirements of character and competence as required of Contractor's employees. Any purported assignment made in violation of this provision **shall** be void and of no force and effect and **shall** constitute a material breach of any resulting contract.

RECORD RETENTION

- A. The Contractor **shall** maintain all pertinent financial and accounting records and evidence pertaining to the contract in accordance with generally accepted principles of accounting and other specified CAW policies. Upon request, access **shall** be granted to CAW, State or Federal Government entities or any of their duly authorized representatives.
- B. Financial and accounting records **shall** be made available, upon request, to the CAW's designee(s) at any time during the contract period and any extension thereof, and for five (5) years from expiration date and final payment on the contract or extension thereof.
- C. Other sections of this solicitation may contain additional Requirements regarding record retention.

CONFIDENTIALITY

- A. The Contractor, Contractor's subsidiaries, and Contractor's employees **shall** be bound to confidentiality of any information of which they may become aware during the course of providing services under a resulting contract.
- B. The Contractor, Contractor's subsidiaries, and Contractor's employees **shall** be bound to all federal, State, and local laws and to all requirements set forth in this solicitation and/or resulting contract concerning the confidentiality and secure handling of information of which they may become aware during the course of providing services under a resulting contract.

- C. Consistent and/or uncorrected breaches of confidentiality may constitute grounds for cancellation of contract, and CAW **shall** have the right to cancel the contract on these grounds.

CONTRACT INTERPRETATION

Should CAW and Contractor interpret specifications differently, either party may request clarification. However, if an agreement cannot be reached, the determination of CAW **shall** be final and controlling.

CANCELLATION FOR CONVENIENCE

- A. CAW **shall** have the right to cancel a contract, in whole or in part, in the event CAW no longer needs the service or commodity specified in the contract due to program changes, changes in laws, rules, or regulations, relocation of offices, lack of appropriated funding, or if it is determined to be in CAW's best interest to do so. CAW **shall** give the Contractor written notice of cancellation, specifying the terms and the effective date of contract termination. The effective date of termination **shall** be 30 days from the date of notification, unless specified in the notification.
- B. In the event CAW cancels a contract for one of the above reasons, CAW **shall** pay only those sums due for services and/or goods received and accepted up to the termination date as stated in the notification.
- C. The Contractor may terminate any resulting contract by providing written notice of cancellation to CAW. Contractor **must** confirm with CAW that notice of cancellation has been received. Notice of cancellation **must** be provided to CAW a minimum of 90 days prior to termination of contract.

MODIFICATION

The Agreement shall not be modified, except by written amendment, executed by all parties. Oral change orders are not permitted. No change in the Agreement shall be made unless CAW gives prior written approval. Any specification change not properly ordered by written modification to the Agreement executed by CAW shall be void at the sole option of CAW and CONTRACTOR shall be liable for all costs or expenses arising there from and/or for satisfactorily correcting or replacing same.

ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES

Subject to other terms and conditions of this Contract, in the event Contractor defaults in any obligations under this Contract, Contractor shall pay to CAW all costs and expenses (including, without limitation, investigative fees, court costs, and attorney's fees) incurred by CAW in enforcing this Contract or otherwise reasonably related thereto. Contractor agrees that under no circumstances shall CAW be obligated to pay any attorney's fees or costs of legal action to Contractor.

AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT

Contractor warrants: (a) that it is a validly organized business with valid authority to enter into this Contract; (b) that it is qualified to do business and in good standing in the State of Arkansas; (c) that entry into and performance under this Contract is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and, (d) notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract to the contrary, that there are no existing legal proceedings or prospective legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this Contract.

DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

Contractor **certifies** to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it:

is not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or any political subdivision of the State of Arkansas;

has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this proposal, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction.

has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this proposal, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for a violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property.

is not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in paragraphs two (2) and three (3) of this

certifications; and,

has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this proposal, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

FORCE MAJEURE

Each party shall be excused from performance for any period and to the extent that it is prevented from performing any obligation or service, in whole or in part, as a result of causes beyond the reasonable control and without the fault or negligence of such party. Such acts shall include without limitation acts of God, strikes, lockouts, riots, acts of war, epidemics, governmental regulations superimposed after the fact, fire, earthquakes, floods, or other natural disasters ("force majeure events"). When such a cause arises, Contractor shall notify CAW immediately in writing of the cause of its inability to perform, how it affects its performance, and the anticipated duration of the inability to perform. Delays in delivery or in meeting completion dates due to force majeure events shall automatically extend such dates for a period equal to the duration of the delay caused by such events, unless CAW determines it to be in its best interest to terminate the Contract.

INDEPENDENT AGENT STATUS

Contractor shall, at all times, be regarded as and shall be legally considered an independent contractor and shall at no time act as an agent for CAW. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed or construed by CAW, Contractor, or any third party as creating the relationship of principal and agent, master and servant, partners, joint ventures, employer and employee, or any similar such relationship between CAW and Contractor. Neither the method of computation of fees or other charges, nor any other provision contained herein, nor any acts of CAW or Contractor hereunder creates, or shall be deemed to create a relationship other than the independent relationship CAW and Contractor. Contractor's personnel shall not be deemed in any way, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, to be employees of CAW. Neither Contractor nor its employees shall, under any circumstances, be considered servants, agents, or employees of CAW and CAW shall be at no time legally responsible for any negligence or other wrongdoing by Contractor, its servants, agents, or employees. CAW shall not withhold from the contract payments to Contractor any federal or state unemployment taxes, federal or state income taxes, Social Security tax, or any other amounts for benefits to Contractor. Further, CAW shall not provide to Contractor any insurance coverage or other benefits, including Worker's Compensation, normally provided by CAW for its employees.

NO LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Nothing in this Contract shall be interpreted as excluding or limiting any tort liability of Contractor for harm caused by the intentional or reckless conduct of Contractor or for damages incurred through the negligent performance of duties by Contractor.

OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS AND WORK PAPERS

CAW shall own all documents, files, reports, work papers and working documentation, electronic or otherwise, created in connection with the provision of services under this Contract, except for Contractor's internal administrative and quality assurance files and internal correspondence.

APPLICABLE LAW

This contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Arkansas, excluding its conflicts of law's provisions, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the State of Arkansas located in Pulaski County, Arkansas. Contractor hereby irrevocably consents to the personal jurisdiction of Circuit Court of Pulaski County, Arkansas upon and over Contractor.

APPLICABILITY OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Contractor acknowledges that CAW is subject to the requirements of the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (the "FOIA") and to the extent Contractor performs work for CAW, Contractor may also be subject to requirements of the FOIA. Therefore, each party shall assist and cooperate with the other (at their own expense) to enable the other party to comply with any applicable information disclosure obligations under the FOIA. Whenever a party receives a request for information under the FOIA in relation to the Contract or information which it is holding on behalf of the other party, it shall (and shall procure that its sub-contractors shall):

- i. transfer the request for information to the other party as soon as practicable after receipt and in any event within one (1) working day of receiving the request for information;
- ii. provide the other party with a copy of all information in its possession or power in the form that the other party requires within two (2) working days (or such other period as the other party may specify) of the other party requesting that information; and

- iii. provide all necessary assistance as reasonably requested by the other party to enable the other party to respond to the request for information within the relevant time for compliance as set out in the FOIA.

Each party shall be responsible for determining at its absolute discretion whether:

- i. the information is exempt from disclosure under the FOIA; or
- ii. the information is to be disclosed in response to a request for information

HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE

The Contractor shall, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless CAW from loss from all suits, actions, or claims of any kind brought as a consequence of any negligent act of omission by the Contractor. The Contractor agrees that this clause shall include claims involving infringement of patent or copyright. For purposes of this paragraph, "CAW" and "Contractor" includes their employees, officials, agents, and representatives. "Contractor" also includes subcontractors and suppliers to the Contractor. The word "defend" means to provide legal counsel for CAW or to reimburse CAW for its attorneys' fees and costs related to the claim. This section shall survive the Contract. CAW is prohibited from indemnifying Contractor and/or any other third parties.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Central Arkansas Water shall not discriminate against or in the selection of Contractors because of the race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, political opinions or affiliation, or any other status protected by law of the Contractor's owners or personnel.

By submission of a response, you agree that you shall not discriminate in your employment practices or your provision of goods or services to others on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, political opinions or affiliation.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

Contractor shall comply with, and all activities under this Contract shall be subject to, all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, as now existing and may be amended or modified.

INSURANCE

- A. Contractor shall be responsible for its work and every part thereof, and for all materials, tools, equipment, appliances, and property of any and all description used in connection therewith. Contractor assumes all risk of direct and indirect damage or injury to the property or persons used or employed on or in connection with the work contracted for, and of all damage or injury to any person or property wherever located, resulting from any action, omission, commission or operation under the Contract.
- B. Contractor and all subcontractors shall, during the continuance of all work under the Contract provide the following:
 1. Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability to protect Contractor from any liability or damages for any injuries (including death and disability) to any and all of its employees, including any and all liability or damage which may arise by virtue of any statute or law in force within the State of Arkansas.
 2. Comprehensive General Liability insurance to protect Contractor, and the interest of CAW, its officers, commissioners, employees, and agents against any and all injuries to third parties, including bodily injury and personal injury wherever located, resulting from any action or operation under the Contract or in connection with the contracted work. The General Liability insurance shall also include the Broad Form Property Damage endorsement, in addition to coverage for explosion, collapse, and underground hazards, where required.
 3. Automobile Liability insurance, covering all owned, borrowed, leased, or rented vehicles operated by Contractor.

C. Contractor agrees to provide the above referenced policies with the following limits. Liability insurance limits may be arranged by General Liability and Automobile policies for the full limits required, or by a combination of underlying policies for lesser limits with the remaining limits provided by an Excess or Umbrella Liability policy.

1. Workers' Compensation:

Coverage A:	Statutory
Coverage B:	\$500,000/\$500,000/\$500,000

2. General Liability:

Per Occurrence:	\$1,000,000
Personal/Advertising Injury:	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate:	\$2,000,000
Products/Completed Operations:	\$2,000,000
Aggregate	
Fire Damage Legal Liability	\$100,000

GL Coverage, excluding Products and Completed Operations, should be on a Per Project Basis

3. Automobile Liability:

Combined Single Limit:	\$1,000,000
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D. The following provisions shall be agreed to by Contractor:

1. Contractor will provide an original signed Certificate of Insurance and such endorsements as prescribed herein.
 - a. Contractor will provide on request certified copies of all insurance coverage Certificates of Insurance related to the Contract within ten (10) business days of request by CAW. These certified copies will be sent to CAW from Contractor's insurance agent or representative.
 - b. Any Certificate of Insurance provided shall indicate the Contract name and number.
2. No change, cancellation, or non-renewal shall be made in any insurance coverage without a forty-five (45) day written notice to CAW. Contractor shall furnish a new Certificate of Insurance prior to any change or cancellation date. The failure of Contractor to deliver a new and valid Certificate of Insurance will result in suspension of all payments until the new Certificate of Insurance is furnished.
3. Liability Insurance "Claims Made" basis: If the liability insurance purchased by Contractor has been issued on a "claims made" basis, Contractor must comply with the following additional conditions. The limits of liability and the extensions to be included as described previously in these provisions, remain the same. Contractor must also agree to provide certificates of insurance evidencing the above coverage for a period of two (2) years after final payment for Contractor for General Liability policies. This certificate shall evidence a "retroactive date" no later than the beginning endorsement by means of a certificate of insurance or a copy of the endorsement itself.
4. Contractor must disclose the amount of deductible/self-insured retention applicable to the General Liability and Automobile Liability. CAW reserves the right to request additional information to determine if Contractor has the financial capacity to meet its obligations under a deductible/self-insured plan. If this provision is utilized, Contractor will be permitted to provide evidence of its ability to fund the deductible/self-insured retention.
5. Contractor agrees to provide insurance issued by companies within the State of Arkansas, with the Best's Key Rating of at least A: VII.
6. CAW, its officers and employees shall be endorsed to Contractor's Automobile and General Liability policies as an "additional insured" with the provision that this coverage "is primary to all other coverage CAW may possess." (Use "loss payee" where there is an insurable interest). A Certificate

of Insurance evidencing the additional insured status must be presented to CAW along with a copy of the Endorsement.

7. Contractor will provide a waiver of subrogation endorsement in favor of CAW on their Commercial Auto, General Liability and Workers' Compensation Policies.
 8. Compliance by Contractor with the foregoing requirements as to carry insurance shall not relieve Contractor of their liability's provisions of the Contract.
- E. Precaution shall be exercised at all times for the protection of persons (including employees) and property.
 - F. Contractor is to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Public Law 91-956, as it may apply to this Contract.
 - G. If an "ACORD" Insurance Certificate form is used by Contractor's insurance agent, as it relates to Cancellation "SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS."; the agent shall state the cancellation provisions either on company letterhead or copy of that portion of the policy.
 - H. Contractor agrees to waive all rights of subrogation against CAW, its officers, employees, and agents.

SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors cannot be used on this project.

SAFETY

All Contractors and subcontractors performing services for CAW are required to and shall comply with all Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), State and County Safety and Occupational Health Standards and any other applicable rules and regulations. Also, all Contractors and subcontractors shall be held responsible for the safety of their employees and any unsafe acts or conditions that may cause injury or damage to any persons or property within and around the work site under this Contract.

SECTION 8 **STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. **GENERAL:** Any special terms and conditions included in the *Invitation to Bid* override these standard terms and conditions. The standard terms and conditions and any special terms and conditions become part of any contract entered into if any or all parts of the bid are accepted by Central Arkansas Water.

Any ambiguity in any bid as the result of omission, error, lack of clarity or non-compliance by the bidder with specifications, instructions, and all conditions of bidding shall be construed in the light most favorable to CAW.

Quality, time and probability of performance may be factors in making award.

2. **ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION:** The CAWC and/or their designees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any and all informalities, award items, all or none, or by line item(s), and to make an award to the best bidder pursuant to law.
3. **BID SUBMISSION:** Bids must be submitted to CAW on this form, with all other information required within the bid invitation, on or before the date and time specified for bid opening. If this form is not used, the bid may be rejected. The bid must be typed or printed in ink. The signature must be in ink. Unsigned bids will be disqualified. The person signing the bid should show title or authority to bind his firm in a contract. Each bid should be placed in a separate envelope completely and properly identified. Late bids will not be considered under any circumstances.

The bid number should be stated on the face of the Sealed Bid Envelope. If it is not, the envelope will have to be opened to identify.

4. **PRICES:** Bid unit price F.O.B. destination at designated CAW facility in Little Rock/North Little Rock/Roland. Charges may not be added after the bid is opened. In case of errors in extension, unit prices shall govern. Prices shall be firm and not subject to escalation unless otherwise specified in the bid invitation. Unless otherwise specified, the bid must be firm for acceptance for sixty days from the bid opening date. "Discount from list" bids shall not be acceptable unless requested in the bid invitation.
5. **QUANTITIES:** Quantities stated in **term contracts** are estimates only and shall not be guaranteed. Bid unit price on the estimated quantity and unit of measure specified. CAW may order more or less than the estimated quantity on term contracts. Quantities stated on **firm contracts** are actual requirements of CAW.
6. **SPECIFICATIONS:** Specifications furnished with this invitation are intended to establish a desired quality of performance level, or other minimum dimensions and capacities, which will provide the best product available at the lowest possible price, other than designated brands and/or models approved as equal to designated products shall receive equal consideration.
7. **BRAND NAME REFERENCES:** Any catalog brand name or manufacturer's reference used in the bid invitation is descriptive only, not restrictive, and used to indicate the type and quality desired. Bids on brands of like nature and quality will be considered unless otherwise specified. If bidding on other than referenced specifications, the bid must show the manufacturer, brand or trade name, and other descriptions, and should include the manufacturer's illustrations and complete descriptions of the product offered. CAW reserves the right to determine whether a substitute offered is equivalent to and meets the standards of the item specified and may require the bidder to supply additional descriptive material. The bidder guarantees that the product offered will meet or exceed specifications identified in this bid invitation. If the bidder takes no exception to specifications or reference data in this bid he will be required to furnish the product according to brand names, numbers, etc., as specified in the invitation.
8. **GUARANTY:** When submitting an "Invitation to Bid", the bidder warrants to the Central Arkansas Water Commission (CAWC) by Central Arkansas Water (CAW) that the goods and materials covered by the bid are fit for the purpose intended, and they are goods and materials free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service. In addition, bidder must deliver new commodities of the latest design and model, unless otherwise specified in the "Invitation to Bid".

Guarantees and warranties should be submitted with the bid, as they may be considered in making an award.

9. **SAMPLES:** Samples, when requested, must be furnished free of expense to CAW. Each sample should be marked with the bidder's name and address, bid number and item number. If samples are not destroyed during reasonable examination they will be returned at bidder's expense, if requested, within thirty days following the opening of bids. If the bidder does not request the return of samples within thirty days of bid opening, they will become the property of CAW.
10. **AMENDMENTS:** THIS ITB MAY BE MODIFIED ONLY BY AMENDMENTS WRITTEN AND AUTHORIZED BY CENTRAL ARKANSAS WATER. Bidders are cautioned to ensure that they have received or obtained, and responded to, any and all amendments to the bid prior to submission. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to check the Central Arkansas Water website, <http://www.carkw.com> <http://www.lrwu.com/business.html> for any and all addendums.
11. **TAXES AND TRADE DISCOUNTS:** Sales or Use Tax shall not be included in the bid price but must be added by the Contractor to the invoice billing. Although Use Tax shall not be included in the bid, Contractors must register and pay tax direct to the Arkansas State Revenue Department.

Discounts offered will be taken when CAW qualifies for such. The beginning date for computing discounts will be the date of invoice or the date of delivery and acceptance, whichever is later. **CAW' preferred payment term is 2%N10.**

12. **BUSINESS, PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE REQUIREMENT:** All firms or individuals located or doing business in Arkansas are required to be licensed in accordance with the required state, local and county agencies.
13. **SAFETY:** All Contractors and subcontractors performing services for CAW are required to and shall comply with all Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), State and County Safety and Occupational Health Standards and any other applicable rules and regulations. Also, all Contractors and subcontractors shall be held responsible for the safety of their employees and any unsafe acts or conditions that may cause injury or damage to any persons or property within and around the work site under this Contract.
14. **AWARD: Term Contract:** A contract award will be issued to the successful bidder. It results in a binding obligation without further action by either party. This award does not authorize shipment. Shipment is authorized by the receipt of

a purchase order from CAW. **Firm Contract:** A written purchase order authorizing shipment will be furnished to the successful bidder.

- 15. LENGTH OF CONTRACT:** The invitation to bid will show the period of time the term contract will be in effect.
- 16. DELIVERY ON FIRM CONTRACTS:** The invitation to bid will show the number of days to place a commodity in CAW's designated location under normal conditions. If the bidder cannot meet the stated delivery, alternate delivery schedules may become a factor in an award. CAW has the right to extend delivery if reasons appear valid. If the date is not acceptable, CAW may buy elsewhere, and any additional cost will be borne by the Contractor.
- 17. DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS:** No substitutions or cancellations are permitted without written approval of CAW unless stated in the solicitation document. Delivery shall be made during normal work hours only 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., unless prior approval for other delivery has been obtained from CAW. Packing memoranda shall be enclosed with each shipment.
- 18. STORAGE:** CAW is responsible for storage if the contractor delivers within the time required and the agency cannot accept delivery.
- 19. DEFAULT:** Contractor has defaulted, by failing or refusing to perform or observe the terms, conditions or covenants in any resulting contract or any of the rules and regulations promulgated by CAW pursuant thereto or has wrongfully failed or refused to comply with the instructions of CAW and said default is not cured within fourteen (14) days of receipt of written notice by CAW to do so, or if by reason of the nature of such default, the same cannot be remedied within fourteen (14) days following receipt by Contractor of written demand from CAW to do so, Contractor fails to commence the remedy of such default within said fourteen (14) days following such written notice or having so commenced shall fail thereafter to continue with diligence the curing thereof (with Contractor having the burden of proof to demonstrate); (a) that the default cannot be cured within fourteen (14) days, and (b) that it is proceeding with diligence to cure said default, and such default will be cured within a reasonable period of time).

CANCELLATION FOR DEFAULT: CAW may cancel any resulting contract because of Contractor's default by giving Contractor fourteen (14) days advance written notice.

TERMINATION: Notwithstanding the foregoing and as supplemental and additional means of termination of any resulting contract under this Section, in the event that Contractor has frequently, regularly or repetitively defaulted in the performance of any of the covenants and conditions required to be kept and performed by Contractor, in the opinion of CAW and regardless of whether Contractor has corrected each individual condition of default, Contractor shall be deemed by CAW to be a "habitual violator," shall forfeit the right to any further notice or grace period to correct, and all of said defaults shall be considered cumulative and collectively shall constitute a condition of irredeemable default. CAW shall thereupon issue Contractor a final warning citing the circumstances therefore, and any single default by Contractor of whatever nature, subsequent to the occurrence of the last of said cumulative defaults, CAW may terminate any resulting contract upon giving of written final notice to Contractor, such cancellation to be effective upon the date specified in CAW's written notice to Contractor, and all contractual payments due hereunder plus any and all charges and interest shall be payable to said date, and Contractor shall have no further rights hereunder and immediately upon the specified date in such final notice Contractor shall proceed to cease any further performance under any resulting contract and cooperate with CAW to turn over equipment, if any, and all records and service responsibility as otherwise required herein.

EFFECTIVE DATE: In the event of the aforesaid events specified in section 17, termination shall be effective upon the date specified in CAW's written notice to Contractor and upon said date any resulting contract shall be deemed immediately terminated and upon such termination all liability of CAW under any resulting contract to Contractor shall cease, and CAW shall have the right to call the performance bond (if required) and shall be free to negotiate with other Contractors for the goods and services requested in the ITB.

- 20. VARIATION IN QUANTITY:** CAW assumes no liability for commodities produced, processed or shipped in excess of the amount specified on the purchase order.
- 21. INVOICING:** The contractor shall be paid upon the completion of all of the following: (1) submission of an original and the specified number of copies of a properly itemized invoice showing the bid and purchase order numbers, where itemized in the invitation to bid, (2) delivery and acceptance of the commodities and (3) proper and legal processing of the invoice by CAW. Invoices must be sent to the address identified in the Invitation to Bid.

- 22. CAW PROPERTY:** Any specifications, drawings, technical information, dies, cuts, negatives, positives, data or any other commodity furnished to the contractor hereunder or in contemplation hereof or developed by the contractor for use hereunder shall remain property of CAW, be kept confidential, be used only as expressly authorized and returned at the contractor's expense to the F.O.B. point properly identifying what is being returned.
- 23. PATENTS OR COPYRIGHTS:** The contractor agrees to indemnify and hold CAW harmless from all claims, damages and costs including attorneys' fees, arising from infringement of patents or copyrights.
- 24. ASSIGNMENT:** Any contract entered into pursuant to this invitation to bid shall not be assignable nor the duties thereunder delegable by either party without the written consent of the other party of the contract.
- 25. OTHER REMEDIES:** In addition to the remedies outlined herein, the contractor and CW have the right to pursue any other remedy permitted by law or in equity.
- 26. DISCRIMINATION:** In the event a contract is entered into pursuant to the "Invitation to Bid", the Firm shall not discriminate against any qualified employee or qualified applicant for employment because of race, sex, color, creed, age, disability, veteran's status, national origin or ancestry, or any other protected category. The Firm must include in any and all subcontracts a provision similar to the above.
- 27. CONTINGENT FEE:** The bidder guarantees that he has not retained a person to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies maintained by the bidder for the purpose of securing business.
- 28. ANTITRUST ASSIGNMENT:** As part of the consideration for entering into any contract pursuant to this invitation to bid, the bidder named on the front of this invitation to bid, acting herein by the authorized individual or its duly authorized agent, hereby assigns, sells and transfers to CAW all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may have under the antitrust laws of the United States or this state for price fixing, which causes of action have accrued prior to the date of this assignment and which relate solely to the particular goods or services purchased or produced by CAW pursuant to this contract.
- 29. TIE BID:** In determining the award of identical bids, the Purchasing Manager shall break the tie in the following manner: A drawing or the flip of a coin shall be used to determine the successful bidder. Tie bidders shall be invited to witness the tie breaking and at least one witness must be present to verify the results of the tie breaking and shall certify the results on the bid tabulation sheet.
- 30. CONSTRUCTION:**
- a. When noted, the Contractor must supply CAW with evidence of having and maintaining proper and complete insurance, specifically Workman's Compensation Insurance in accordance with the laws of the State of Arkansas, Public Liability and Property Damage. All premiums and cost shall be paid by the Contractor. In no way will CAW be responsible in case of accident.
 - b. When noted, a certified check or bid bond in the amount of 5% of total bid shall accompany bid.
 - c. A Payment Bond equaling the total amount of any bid exceeding \$50,000.00 must be provided.
 - d. A Performance Bond equaling the total amount of any bid exceeding \$50,000.00 must be provided for any contract for the repair, alteration or erection of any public building, public structure, or public improvement (pursuant to A.C.A. §18-44-503, §18-44-501 and §18-44-506 as amended).
- 31. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:** Shall be assessed beginning on the first day following the maximum delivery or completion time entered on the bid form and/or provided for by the plans and specifications.
- 32. SEVERABILITY:** If any provision of this Contract shall be declared illegal, void, or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the other provisions shall not be affected but shall remain in full force and effect.
- 33. MINORITY BUSINESS POLICY:** Central Arkansas Water encourages participation of disadvantaged, small, minority, and woman owned business enterprises in the procurement of goods, services, professional services, and construction, either as a general contractor or sub-contractor. It is further requested that whenever possible, prime contractors who require sub-contractors, seek qualified small, minority, and woman owned business to partner with them.
- 34. ALTERATION OF ORIGINAL ITB DOCUMENTS:** The original written or electronic language of the ITB documents shall not be changed or altered except by approved written addendum issued by Central Arkansas Water. This does not eliminate a Bidder from taking exception(s) to non-mandatory terms and conditions but does clarify that the Bidder

cannot change the original document's written or electronic language. If the Bidder wishes to make exception(s) to any of the original language, it must be submitted by the Bidder in separate written or electronic language in a manner that clearly explains the exception(s). If Bidder's/Contractor's submittal is discovered to contain alterations/changes to the original written or electronic documents, the Bidder's response may be declared as non-responsible, and the response shall not be considered.

35. CURRENCY: All bid pricing must be United States dollars and cents.

36. LANGUAGE: Bids will only be accepted in the English language.

37. NOTICES: Any notice, demand, communication, or request required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing, except where otherwise herein designated by telephone, and delivered in person or sent by certified, return receipt requested, United States Mail as follows:

Central Arkansas Water
Attn: CFO
221 East Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

Notices shall be effective when received at the address as specified above. Changes in the respective address to which such notice shall be directed may be made from time to time by written notice. Facsimile transmission is acceptable notice, effective when received, however, facsimile transmissions received (*i.e.*, printed) after 4:30 p.m. or on weekends or holidays will be deemed received on the next business day. The original of items which are transmitted by facsimile equipment must also be mailed as required herein.