



governmentattic.org

"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document:	Department of Agriculture (USDA) Documents from Contract to study relocating two USDA agencies from the Washington, DC area, 2018
Requested date:	30-September-2019
Release date:	28-September-2020
Posted date:	23-November-2020
Source of document:	Departmental FOIA Officer 1400 Independence Avenue, SW South Building Room 4104 Washington, DC 20250-0706 Email: USDAFOIA@ocio.usda.gov

The governmentattic.org web site ("the site") is a First Amendment free speech web site and is noncommercial and free to the public. The site and materials made available on the site, such as this file, are for reference only. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals have made every effort to make this information as complete and as accurate as possible, however, there may be mistakes and omissions, both typographical and in content. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals shall have neither liability nor responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss or damage caused, or alleged to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the information provided on the governmentattic.org web site or in this file. The public records published on the site were obtained from government agencies using proper legal channels. Each document is identified as to the source. Any concerns about the contents of the site should be directed to the agency originating the document in question. GovernmentAttic.org is not responsible for the contents of documents published on the website.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of the General Counsel
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-1400

September 25, 2020

Delivered via Electronic Mail

**Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request No. 2020-DA-00001-F
Final Response**

This is the Departmental FOIA Office's (DFO) final response to the above-referenced FOIA request. Your request sought:

[A] copy of all correspondence, memos, reports, emails, etc. (also including internal memoranda) regarding USDA Firm Fixed Price Contract 2314419C0002 awarded to Ernst & Young for USDA Site Solicitation Consulting Services, running 10/22/2018 through 10/23/2019. The solicitation ID was 12314219Q0006...

...the Statement of Work and any modifications to the contract.

...a copy of any Determinations and Findings or Justification and Approvals.

... a copy of all interchange such as emails, memos to the file, correspondence, or communications with the Contractor (to or from) the contractor.

...a copy of any reports or interim reports or updates produced by the Contractor.

Your request has been processed under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

A search for responsive records was conducted by the Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP). The OCP serves the Secretary and USDA agencies with oversight, policy, advice and coordination pertaining to USDA contracting. The OCP search located three hundred one (301) pages of responsive records.

Following a review of the responsive records, the DFO has determined that certain information contained therein should be withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) (FOIA Exemptions 4, 5, and 6). Additionally, two hundred thirty-two (232) pages of records have been withheld in their entirety under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5) (FOIA Exemption 5). Below is an explanation of the information that has been withheld.

FOIA Exemption 4

Exemption 4 of the FOIA, which protects privileged or confidential trade secrets and commercial or financial information, is intended to protect the interests of both the government and submitters of information. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). The exemption covers two broad categories of information contained in Federal agency records: 1) trade secrets, and 2) information that is (a) commercial or financial, and (b) obtained from a person, and (c) privileged or confidential. When commercial or financial information is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner and provided to the government under an assurance of privacy, it is exempt from disclosure.

In this instance, the information withheld under Exemption 4 consists of confidential financial information provided to the agency by businesses bidding on a solicitation related to the Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) relocation. The withheld information is also not customarily disclosed to the public and treated as private by the business submitter. For these reasons, the information is being withheld under Exemption 4 of the FOIA.

FOIA Exemption 5 – Deliberative

FOIA Exemption 5 protects from disclosure those “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency.” One of the frequently invoked FOIA Exemption 5 privileges is the deliberative process privilege. To fall within FOIA’s deliberative process privilege, the records must be both pre-decisional and deliberative; the records must precede the adoption of an agency policy and include the opinions, recommendations, or deliberations on a legal or policy matter.

In this instance, the DFO is partially withholding, under the deliberative process privilege, pre-decisional intra-agency discussions and documents on agency actions relating to the ERS and NIFA relocation, including communications that fall under the consultant corollary doctrine, proposed meetings and agendas, and information that pertains to the acquisition of the contract. The DFO is also fully withholding deliverables under the consultant corollary doctrine. Disclosure of such information would have a chilling effect on the ability of agency officials to engage in free and frank discussions regarding policy but also may cause confusion on the agency’s actual position on the policy at issue.

FOIA Exemption 6

Exemption 6 generally is referred to as the “personal privacy” exemption. It provides that the disclosure requirements of FOIA do not apply to “personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” Application of the exemption involves balancing the public’s interest in disclosure against individuals’ privacy interests.

The information withheld under Exemption 6 consists of the identities of the vendor's points of contact, mobile phone numbers, unpublished business contact information, the personal reflections of individuals, and a signature. This information qualifies as "similar files" because it is information in which individuals have a privacy interest. Releasing the identities of the vendor's points of contact, mobile telephone numbers, and unpublished business contact information could subject the individuals to unwarranted or unsolicited communications, or even harassment. Although the release of individuals' personal reflections would not likely result in unsolicited communications, this information is private in nature and its release does not shed light on governmental operations. Furthermore, the image of a signature could be misused for identity theft. For this reason, there is a strong privacy interest in the image. Since there is a viable privacy interest that would be threatened by disclosure, Exemption 6 authorizes this office to withhold the information. Accordingly, we have determined that the public interest in the information's release does not outweigh the overriding privacy interests in keeping it confidential.

You may appeal this response by email at USDAFOIA@usda.gov. Your appeal must be in writing, and it must be received electronically no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. The OGC will not consider appeals received after the 90 calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 p.m. EST will be considered received the next business day. The appeal letter should include the FOIA tracking number listed above, a copy of the original request, the DFO's response to your original request, and a statement explaining the basis of your appeal. For quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." You should also reference FOIA No. 2020-DA-00001-F.

You may seek dispute resolution services from the DFO's FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Camille Aponte. Ms. Aponte may be contacted by telephone at (202) 505-0271, or electronically at Camille.Aponte@usda.gov or USDAFOIA@usda.gov.

You also have the option to seek assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). Please visit <https://www.archives.gov/ogis/mediation-program/request-assistance> for information about how to request OGIS assistance in relation to a FOIA request.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of processing your request. In this instance, no fees will be charged.

If you have any questions regarding the processing of this request, please contact Ms. Melanie Enciso at (202) 694-5982, or electronically at melanie.enciso@usda.gov or USDAFOIA@usda.gov.

For additional information regarding USDA FOIA regulations and processes, please refer to the information available online at www.dm.usda.gov/foia.

The DFO appreciates the opportunity to assist you with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexis R. Graves". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'A' and 'G'.

Alexis R. Graves
Departmental FOIA Officer
Office of the General Counsel

Enclosures: Responsive Records (69 Pages)

Confidential

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Site Solicitation Consulting Services

Document 3: Proposed Performance Work Statement (PWS)

Solicitation No. 12314219Q0006 dated September 20, 2018; Amendment 1 dated September 20, 2018
October 4, 2018 at 4:00 PM ET



This proposal includes data that may not be duplicated, used or disclosed outside of the USDA and may not be duplicated — in whole, or in part — for any purpose other than to evaluate this solicitation response. If, however, a contract is awarded to Ernst & Young LLP as a result of — or in connection with — the submission of such data, the USDA will have the right to duplicate, use or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting contract. This restriction does not limit the USDA's right to use information contained in the data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subjected to this restriction is contained on all pages of our response.

Prepared by:

Ernst & Young LLP
1775 Tysons Boulevard
Tysons, VA 22102
Phone: +1 703 747 1000
DUNS #: 095347159
TIN #: 34-6565596
Cage Code: 07EQ4
Business Size: Large Business
FSS Contract #: GS-00F-290CA

Authorized Signatory:

Name: (b)(6)
Title: Principal
Phone: +1 (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@ey.com
www.ey.com

PROPOSED PERFORMANCE WORK STATEMENT

United States Department of Agriculture Office of Procurement and Property Management Site Selection Consulting Services

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND DELIVERABLES

- A. Performance Objective #1:** Develop detailed requirements including researching the most critical needs of the affected agencies, considering the overall leadership objectives provided.

Proposed Efforts to Meet Performance Objective: The implementation of the performance objective is divided into two phases:

- **Phase 1 – Project Initiation and Planning**
 - Develop Project Plan for all phases, task, and activities
 - Establish project Performance Management and Reporting requirements
- **Phase 2 – Site Selection Objectives and Requirements**
 - Understand USDA leadership site selection goals and objectives
 - Capture site selection requirements and NIFA and ERS critical needs
 - Develop site selection criteria and importance (“weighting”)

Phase 1 – Project Initiation and Planning: The contractor shall work with USDA leadership to identify, plan, and manage the site selection process of the two agencies. The contractor shall develop a Project Management Plan (**Deliverable 1**), which will include:

- Detailed timeline with milestones and deliverables, and project team structure for tasks, activities, and resources involved in the planning, analyzing, and stakeholder communication of the site selection process.
- Clearly defined the project team structure and governance, including the required USDA stakeholders, and USDA tasks and responsibilities in supporting the project.

The contractor shall establish the project performance management and reporting requirements associated with the execution of the project. These requirements shall include:

- **Risk Management Plan (Deliverable 2):** Identify and address potential risk areas associated with the management and execution of the project. The contractor shall use a risk register to compile risks, probability and impact ratings, triggering events, mitigation strategies, and accountable owners to capture and manage risks. The contractor shall address the risk register during regular meetings with USDA leadership and escalate risks requiring action.

- Weekly and monthly status reports (**Deliverable 3**): Capture progress toward the timeline and deliverables and issues and risks that need to be discussed with USDA leadership. Include a status of funds section to validate the number of hours invoiced for payment will not exceed the number of hours worked performing the PWS.
- Kick-off meeting (**Deliverable 4**): Conduct a formal kickoff meeting to officially initiate the project and mobilize project team.
- **Service Quality:** The contractor will prioritize delivering and maintaining exceptional client service in a consistent and professional manner throughout the life of the engagement. The contractor will implement a service quality program intended to increase transparency, facilitate regular open communication between USDA and the contractor, proactively identify risks, and solicit regular feedback from USDA leadership.
- The contractor will focus on helping USDA achieve its desired outcomes in a manner that is aligned with its culture and how it wants to be served. The service quality program will be designed to: (1) confirm the Contractor's understanding of USDA's specific objectives; (2) establish services quality expectations of USDA executive sponsors, contracting officer representative, and project managers; (3) monitor progress towards meeting the objectives and service quality expectations; (4) provide timely, vetted, and high-quality deliverables; and (5) define the actions to address service quality issues as appropriate.

Phase 2 – Site Selection Objectives and Requirements: The contractor shall work with USDA leadership to conduct a strategic assessment to gain an understanding of the site selection process strategy and confirm the leadership goals and objectives. The contractor shall develop a Site Selection Requirements document (**Deliverable 5**) to include:

- Overall site selection strategy, approach, goals and objectives
- Key decision-makers and stakeholders, both of whom will be part of the process
- Complete list of location considerations (e.g., economic) and critical needs (e.g., proximity to public transportation) for inclusion in the site selection criteria
- Listing of potential geographies/cities to be included as part of the analysis

The contractor shall review and coordinate the site selection requirements document with USDA senior management and executive leadership to confirm USDA leadership priorities.

Through building a cohesive understanding of the site selection strategy and considerations across both agencies, the contractor shall develop the location criteria to select and evaluate different site options. The Federal Register Volume 83, Number 158 outlines the five criteria:

1. Transportation logistics
2. Workforce availability
3. Community/quality of life
4. Capital and operating costs
5. Information technology infrastructure

The contractor shall work with the USDA leadership team to identify additional criteria or sub-criteria (e.g., Transportation – airport hub status, availability of public transportation) and validate the importance (weighting) of each criterion. The contractor shall use these weightings to create a number of different scenarios against which to rank and score each potential location. The location model allows for multiple scenario analysis where different criteria could be prioritized. For example, a “cost” scenario may prioritize minimizing real estate and labor costs; “labor” scenario may prioritize access to a sufficient labor pool and the ability to recruit qualified personnel; and a “transportation” scenario may prioritize transportation infrastructure. These weightings will be used to score each potential location and provide USDA with a narrowed list of options. The quantitative analysis will be supplemented with qualitative insights on each of the locations (e.g., recent company expansions within the city) to support the short-listing of potential locations for additional due diligence.

The contractor shall develop the Location Selection Criteria report (**Deliverable 6**) to outline the five criteria, and identify weightings and importance levels. This will allow the contractor to analyze potential locations across a number of different scenarios to provide USDA leadership with a list of potential locations to meet the needs of each agency.

B. Performance Objective #2: Analyze potential sites to meet the most critical needs of the affected agencies including, but not limited to: pros, cons, constraints and challenges for each potential location.

Proposed Efforts to Meet Performance Objective:

The implementation of the performance objective is divided into three phases:

- **Phase 1 – Location screening and comparison**
 - Develop long list of locations to be evaluated based on criteria
 - Evaluate long list of locations against criteria
 - Determine and socialize short list of locations
- **Phase 2 - Detailed Location Analysis**
 - Perform detailed cost, benefit, and risk analysis
 - Perform city analysis
- **Phase 3 – Site Visits and Recommended Options**
 - Conduct site visits for top-ranked locations
 - Finalize prioritization and analysis

- Outline benefits (pros), risks (cons), and challenges

USDA leadership has chosen to relocate NIFA and ERS in order to improve customer service, strengthen their offices and programs, and save taxpayer dollars. Due to the unique characteristics of each agency such as workforce size, mission, and desired square feet per employee, each agency will be assessed using a unique set of factors to identify potential locations that appropriately meet their specific needs.

Phase 1 – Location screening and comparison: The contractor shall analyze an initial list of potential locations for both NIFA and ERS based on the agreed-upon selection criteria to identify a long list of potential locations for both agencies.

The contractor shall score each long list location against the key selection criteria and compared across costs, benefits, and risks. Under each location, locations will be ranked and scored and will then be averaged across the scenarios to develop a prioritized short list of potential locations that align to the selection criteria. The contractor shall develop a Location Short List Assessment (**Deliverable 7**) to document:

- Evaluation of the long list of potential sites against criteria
- Determination of the short list of sites

Phase 2 - Detailed City-Location Analysis: Based on the short list of sites, the contractor shall conduct individual city-location analysis, including costs, benefits, risks, and other qualitative considerations to help prioritize the different locations.

- Outline of pros, cons, constraints, and challenges for each short list locations
- Validation of short list of sites meeting USDA's critical needs

The contractor shall develop the City-Location Analysis Report (**Deliverable 8**), detailing the analysis of each of the cities from the short list locations.

Phase 3 - Community Evaluations for Top Locations: The contractor shall conduct an independent facilities study, including a review of existing facilities (federal or military) and building capacity and scalability. The contractor shall participate in site visits with the USDA team to the top two to three site locations from the short list. The site visits will include:

- Meetings with city officials, recruiting agencies, and other parties
- Reviewing and evaluating existing facilities or available sites
- Further revising of city-location analysis report (Deliverable 8) based on site visits

C. Performance Objective #3: Provide recommendations to USDA leadership based on site and proposal analysis using both in-person presentations and written documents.

Proposed Efforts to Meet Performance Objective: After performing a detailed analysis using qualitative and quantitative factors and narrowing down the list of finalist locations with the input of USDA leadership, the contractor shall develop a Location Study Report (**Deliverable 9**), detailing the location assessment and methodology, results, and final recommendations on the short list location.

The report will including the following:

- Alignment to evaluation criteria: How the potential site addresses the five site criteria categories (transportation logistics, workforce, community/quality of life, capital and operating costs, and IT infrastructure);
- Location site map: A map showing the location of the potential site, nearby (within 10 miles) political boundaries, demographics and characteristics of surrounding communities (within 10 miles); and
- Site description: Include ownership, total site acreage and acreage available for development; existing physical infrastructure including number of structures, their size, vintage, and current use; current activities; on-site tenants (if applicable); and estimated costs as tenant.

For each location selected, the contractor will provide a recommendation rationale, as well as the benefits and limitations for USDA to consider in selecting new location for each agency.

The contractor shall develop an Executive Summary Recommendation presentation (**Deliverable 10**) of the Location Study Report to USDA senior management and executive leadership on the approach, results of the analysis, and final recommendations.

D. Performance Objective #4: Develop and support an overall communication plan relevant to the transition.

Proposed Efforts to Meet Performance Objective:

The implementation of the performance objective is divided into three phases:

- **Phase 1 – Define Communication Content and Audience**
- **Phase 2 – Develop Communication Strategy and Plan**
- **Phase 3 – Support Communication**

Phase 1 – Define Communication Content and Audience: The contractor shall develop a Communication Plan (**Deliverable 11**) to communicate the transition to new locations for NIFA and ERS. During the first phase, the contractor shall:

- Identify and prioritize impacted stakeholders across USDA, NIFA, and ERS
- Identify and segment stakeholder groups
- Conduct stakeholder/audience analysis to assess impact
- Validate impact, define and prioritize communication needs by stakeholder groups
- Define communication principles and objectives of communications for each audience group
- Define key messages and themes

Phase 2 – Develop Communication Strategy and Plan:

The contractor shall develop the communications strategy to outline the goals and objectives of the relocation of the agencies to the new location and define overarching messages.

Using this strategy as a framework, the contractor shall assess key communications channels and their effectiveness, information needs for each type of stakeholder group, and defined feedback mechanisms to evaluate communications effectiveness. The contractor shall:

- Create communications plan, including targeted audience, methods, enabling tools, channels, timelines, owners, and evaluation approaches

In the Communication Plan the Contractor shall include a matrix that details each communication activity, communication vehicle, audience, key message, purpose of message, communication medium, potential sensitivities, mitigation strategies, information source, and date planned for execution.

The plan should inform USDA stakeholders of the benefits of the transitions, innovation and improvements, and foster and garner support of key stakeholders for the future relocation.

Phase 3 – Support Communication:

Once the communication schedule is approved, the contractor will work with the project sponsor to finalize the process for communication artifact development and dissemination. The process will allow for the capture of lessons learned, dissemination to key stakeholders, and refinement of communication materials,

Summary of Deliverables, Performance Standard and Deliverable Due Dates:

#	Deliverable	Performance Standard	Deliverable Date
1	Project Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets goals and objectives of the project within the period of performance • Meets the performance work statement (PWS) requirements 	Draft: 15 business days after award Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received. The contractor will update as needed thereafter.
2	Risk Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Risks are clearly identified and mitigation plan is in place to minimize risks to the project • Meets the PWS requirements 	Draft: 15 business days after award Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received. The contractor will update as needed thereafter.
3	Weekly and Monthly Status Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets the PWS requirements • Information is current and accurate • Written deliverables shall be free of grammatical and typographical errors 	No earlier than 7 business days after award. Frequency to be set by USDA thereafter.
4	Kick off meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting is conducted on time 	No later than 7 business days after award.
5	Site Selection Requirements Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets the PWS requirements 	Draft: 30 business days after award Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written deliverables shall be free of grammatical and typographical errors 	The contractor will update as needed thereafter.
6	Location Selection Criteria Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets the PWS requirements • Written deliverables shall be free of grammatical and typographical errors 	<p>Draft: 30 business days after award</p> <p>Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received.</p> <p>The contractor will update as needed thereafter.</p>
7	Location Short List Assessment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets the PWS requirements • Written deliverables shall be free of grammatical and typographical errors 	<p>Draft: 45 business days after award</p> <p>Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received.</p> <p>The contractor will update as needed thereafter.</p>
8	City-Location Analysis Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets the PWS requirements • Written deliverables shall be free of grammatical and typographical errors 	<p>Draft: 60 business days after award</p> <p>Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received.</p> <p>The contractor will update as needed thereafter.</p>
9	Location Study Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets the PWS requirements • Written deliverables shall be free of grammatical and typographical errors 	<p>Draft: 90 business days after award</p> <p>Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received.</p> <p>The contractor will update as needed thereafter.</p>
10	Executive Summary Recommendation presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets goals and objectives of the project and performance work statement PWS requirements 	<p>Draft: 90 business days after award</p> <p>Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received.</p>
11	Communication Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on time • Meets the PWS requirements • Written deliverables shall be free of grammatical and typographical errors 	<p>Draft: 90 business days after award</p> <p>Final: No later than five business days after USDA feedback has been received.</p> <p>The contractor will update as needed thereafter.</p>

EY | Assurance | Tax | Transactions | Advisory

About EY

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

Ernst & Young LLP is a client-serving member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited operating in the US.

© 2018 Ernst & Young LLP.
All Rights Reserved.

BSC No. 1010-2903724
ED None

This publication contains information in summary form and is therefore intended for general guidance only. It is not intended to be a substitute for detailed research or the exercise of professional judgment. Neither Ernst & Young LLP nor any other member of the global Ernst & Young organization can accept any responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of any material in this publication. On any specific matter, reference should be made to the appropriate advisor.

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT		1. CONTRACT D.C. CODE		PAGE OF PAGES 1 3	
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. P00001		3. EFFECTIVE DATE See Block 16C		4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO. 939974	
5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)		6. ISSUED BY USDA, DM/OCF/POD/AMB, POD Acq Mgmt Acquisition Management Branch-WDC 355 E Street S.W. 10th Floor, Suite 10-149A Washington DC 20024-3243		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6)	
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code) ERNST YOUNG LLP 1775 TYSONS BLVD 1100164106# TYSONS VA 22102		(x)		9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO.	
CODE 1100164106#		FACILITY CODE		9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11)	
		x		10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO. 12314419C0002	
				10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13) 10/22/2018	

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

- ☐ The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers ☐ is extended ☐ is not extended.
Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods: (a) By completing items 8 and 15, and returning _____ copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)
DA00.19.....198R41RELOC.2540... Net Increase: \$169,655.30

13. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO MODIFICATION OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS. IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

CHECK ONE	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
X	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority) FAR 52.212-4, Alternate I (Jan 2017)) (2)

E. IMPORTANT Contractor ☐ is not ☒ is required to sign this document and return 1 copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible)

Tax ID Number: 34-6565596

DUNS Number: 095347159

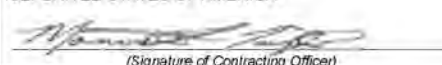
USDA Site Solicitation Consulting Services for ERS and NIFA Relocation

Award Type: Time-and-Materials

Award Ceiling: \$339,310.60

This modification adds funding in the amount of \$169,655.30 for USDA Site Selection Consulting Services in support of USDA making a decision on where to relocate two USDA agencies as announced in Federal Register Volume 83, Number 158 (Wednesday, August 15, 2018). The contractor's quote dated October 4, 2018, pricing revised October 15, 2018, is hereby fully funded in the amount of \$339,310.60. The contractor shall perform services in Continued ...

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9 A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print) (b)(6)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) MONICA L. TAYLOR	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR (b)(6) (Signature of person authorized to sign)	15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  (Signature of Contracting Officer)	16C. DATE SIGNED 10-23-18

CONTINUATION SHEET

REFERENCE NO. OF DOCUMENT BEING CONTINUED
12314419C0002/P00001

2020-DA-00001-F

PAGE 2 OF 3

NAME OF OFFEROR OR CONTRACTOR

ERNST YOUNG LLP

ITEM NO. (A)	SUPPL ES/SERVICES (B)	QUANTITY (C)	UNIT (D)	UNIT PRICE (E)	AMOUNT (F)
	<p>accordance with its accepted quote, in its entirety. The period of performance for this effort is October 24, 2018 through October 23, 2019.</p> <p>This order is hereby fully funded. The contractor shall not exceed the available obligation on this order. The contractor shall not work at risk. The contractor shall not assume that additional funding will be added nor shall the contractor commence any work beyond the available funding. The ceiling may only be increased via formal modification to this contract signed by a warranted USDA Contracting Officer. Only the Contracting Officer may increase the award ceiling.</p> <p>All other terms and conditions remain the same. Delivery: 10/24/2018 Delivery Location Code: DASO-OCP-DO USDA, DM/OCP/DO, Office of the Dire 1400 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE SW, WHITE WASHINGTON DC 20250 US</p> <p>Payment: Invoice Processing Platform (IPP) All invoices must be submitted electronically through the Invoice Processing Platform (IPP) via www ipp gov Agency Code: DA00 Budget Yr Start: 19 SHC: 198R41RELOC BOC: 2540 FOB: Destination Period of Performance: 10/24/2018 to 10/23/2019</p> <p>Add Item 002 as follows:</p>				
002	<p>USDA Site Selection Consulting Services Obligated Amount: \$169,655.30</p> <p>The Contractor shall submit invoices in the Invoice Processing Platform (IPP) as identified on the SF1449. Any invoice submitted outside of the IPP system will not be processed for payment. Unless providing a courtesy copy, invoices shall not be sent directly to the Contracting Officer and/or Program Office. Invoices not submitted in IPP will be considered improper and returned to Continued ...</p>				169,655.30

CONTINUATION SHEET

REFERENCE NO. OF DOCUMENT BEING CONTINUED
12314419C0002/P00001

2020-DA-00001-F

PAGE 3 OF 3

NAME OF OFFEROR OR CONTRACTOR

ERNST YOUNG LLP

ITEM NO (A)	SUPPL ES/SERVICES (B)	QUANTITY (C)	UNIT (D)	UNIT PRICE (E)	AMOUNT (F)
	<p>the vendor. The Contractor shall attach documentation to support the invoice in IPP, if applicable. USDA will not enter invoices into IPP on behalf of the contractor. If assistance is needed, the IPP Helpdesk may be reached at: (866) 973-3131 or IPPCustomerSupport@fms.treas.gov.</p> <p>Payment Status: USDA NFC Accounts Payable Branch 800-421-0323</p> <p>Contracting Officer: Monica L. Taylor, 202-720-3009, MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov</p> <p>Contracting Officer Representative (or Technical Point of Contact): TBD</p> <p>Vendor Point of Contacts: (b)(6), Principal, (b)(6), (b)(6)@ey.com (b)(6), Assistant Director, (b)(6), (b)(6)@ey.com</p>				

From: [Deva Brannen](#)
To: [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services
Date: Monday, October 29, 2018 6:09:58 PM

Hi Monica,

Catherine Von Seggern, an Executive Director at EY, will be the primary technical POC. Her email address is [\(b\)\(6\)@ey.com](#).

Have a great evening!

Best Regards,
 Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 4:18 PM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Hi Deva,

Do you know who will be the primary technical POC for EY during this effort? I wanted to introduce the technical POC via email to our USDA technical POC prior to the meeting. I wasn't sure if it would be Karen or if it would be determined at a later date?

Please advise.

Thanks!

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 2:02 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Good afternoon, Monica

It looks like EY can make Wednesday work, but we will have two people who need to call in for the meeting.

Thanks,
Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
Ernst & Young LLP
1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
Fax: +1 (b)(6)
Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 10:19 AM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services
Importance: High

Good morning Deva,

Per my voicemail, is it at all possible for EY to reconsider their availability on Wednesday between 3-4:30? It looks like the Deputy Secretary is out on travel Friday and Wednesday is the date where both the Deputy Secretary and the Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture are available. Please advise. Thanks!- Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
Contracting Officer
USDA/Departmental Administration
Office of Contracting and Procurement
Procurement Operations Division
Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>

Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 7:51 AM

To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Good morning, Monica

Unfortunately, it looks like Wednesday is going to be a difficult day for the team. Is it possible to hold the kick off on Friday, November 2nd, at 9am or 11am?

Thank you,
Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts

Ernst & Young LLP

1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America

Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6) @ey.com

Fax: +1 (b)(6)

Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [<mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>]

Sent: Friday, October 26, 2018 3:54 PM

To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>

Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Good afternoon Deva,

We are looking into having a kickoff on next week Wednesday. Can you ping your team on next week to see if everyone is available. It would be on-site next Wednesday (Oct 31st) between 3-4:30 if possible.

Let me know if that works for EY.

Thanks!

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM

Contracting Officer

USDA/Departmental Administration

Office of Contracting and Procurement

Procurement Operations Division

Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.

202-720-3009

MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 2:08 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Good afternoon, Monica

Understood, thank you for the update. We will hold for the next steps.

Best Regards,
 Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) Cell: +1 (b)(6) (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 2:00 PM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Thanks Deva,

I spoke with Francisco briefly this morning. Just as an update, I am still waiting for a central technical point of contact to be named. Please hold for next steps. USDA is working on (b)(5) DPP and I should know the next steps by the end of the week, if not earlier.

I'll be sure to copy all of you with any updates.

Enjoy the remainder of your day.

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Thank you!



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 5:19 PM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Earvin W Shade <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Good evening Deva,

Attached is the fully executed modification for your records. Have a great evening.

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 3:58 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Cc: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Earvin W Shade <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Monica,

Good afternoon. Thank you for the modification, that was quick! Attached is the EY signed copy, if you could send back a fully executed copy I would appreciate it.

Best Regards,
Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
Ernst & Young LLP
1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
Fax: +1 (b)(6)
Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [<mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 11:19 AM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Earvin W Shade <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Good morning Deva,

I received the remainder of the funding this morning. Please review and sign if no questions and/or concerns.

Thanks!

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
Contracting Officer
USDA/Departmental Administration
Office of Contracting and Procurement
Procurement Operations Division
Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 9:28 AM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Thank you, Monica!



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [<mailto:Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 5:34 PM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>;
 Earvin W Shade <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Good evening Deva,

Thank you for the quick response. Attached is the fully executed award for your records. Have a great evening! – Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
Monical.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 5:23 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Cc: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>;
 Earvin W Shade <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Monica,

Good evening. Attached is the EY signed copy of the modification. If you could return a fully executed copy I would appreciate it.

Thank you,
 Deva

Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP



1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [<mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 4:26 PM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>;
 Earvin W Shade <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: Award of USDA RFQ 12314219Q0006, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services
Importance: High

Good afternoon Deva,

Congratulations! Your firm has been selected for award of USDA Site Selection Consulting Services. Partial funding is being obligated for me to make an award. Please review and let me know if it is possible for EY to sign the award today. I do understand the short turnaround so if additional time is needed, please let me know.

I respectfully ask that EY not make any announcements until a fully executed award has been issued and signed by the Contracting Officer.

Please confirm receipt.

Thank you.

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 4, 2018 3:53 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <(b)(6)@wdc.usda.gov>
Cc: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>;
 Earvin W Shade <(b)(6)@ey.com>

Subject: EY Submission: USDA Site Selection Solicitation

Good afternoon Ms. Taylor:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our proposal that demonstrates how we can assist the USDA in meeting the Secretary's goal of making USDA the most effective, efficient, and customer-focused department in the entire federal government.

Attached please find the following documents:

Document 1, Firm's experience

Document 2, Past performance

Document 3, Proposed Performance Work Statement (PWS)

Document 4, Quality Assurance and Surveillance Plan (QASP)

Document 5, Pricing

Our proposal responds to all aspects of the solicitation and provides the best value to USDA. The reasons for selecting EY to work with you to provide site solicitation consulting services are compelling:

- ▶ We have the corporate experience to address your requirements with minimal risk to you.
- ▶ We leverage a robust methodology and a suite of enablers to drive towards results quickly to meet your performance objectives.
- ▶ USDA will benefit from our extensive and relevant past performance because we know the challenges you will encounter and how to quickly overcome them.

Thank you again for the opportunity to demonstrate how we can assist the USDA. If you have any questions, or would like a presentation from our team, please do not hesitate to call Karen Shrum at +1 (b)(6) or (b)(6)@ey.com or me at +1 (b)(6) or (b)(6)@ey.com.

Please confirm receipt of this submission.

Best Regards,
Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts

Emst & Young LLP

1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America

Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com

Fax: +1 (b)(6)

Website: <http://www.ey.com>

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing

to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and

deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com.

If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: [Catherine Von Seggern](#)
To: [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#); [Deva Brannen](#); [Briscoe, Johanna - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Karen Shrum](#); [Francisco E Rodriguez](#); [Kim N Frahm](#)
Subject: RE: Virtual Introductions: EY and USDA Technical Contact- Site Selection Consulting Services
Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 10:18:57 PM

Thank you Monica,

Dr. Briscoe, I look forward to kicking off our engagement tomorrow and hope to meet you in person very soon.



Catherine von Seggern | Executive Director | Construction & Real Estate Advisory Services
 Ernst & Young LLP
 300 First Stamford Place, Stamford, CT 06902, United States of America
 Direct: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>
 Assistant: Susan FitzGerald Jenkins | Phone: 1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 9:54 AM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Catherine Von Seggern <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Briscoe, Johanna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Johanna.Briscoe@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Virtual Introductions: EY and USDA Technical Contact- Site Selection Consulting Services

Good morning Deva, Catherine,

Prior to the meeting on tomorrow, I wanted to virtually introduce you to the USDA primary technical point of contact for the USDA Site Selection Consulting Services effort. I am copying Dr. Johanna "Jeleen" Briscoe, Chief of Staff for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, (202) 260-8260, Johanna.Briscoe@osec.usda.gov.

Dr. Briscoe,

Catherine Von Seggern, an Executive Director at EY, will be the primary technical POC for this effort. Her email address is (b)(6)@ey.com.

Deva Brannen is the Assistant Director, Contracts, and I have been working with her from a contractual standpoint.

If I can be of any assistance to either of you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a great day.

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM

Contracting Officer

USDA/Departmental Administration

Office of Contracting and Procurement

Procurement Operations Division

Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.

202-720-3009

MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: [Karen Shrum](#)
To: [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Catherine Von Seggern](#); [Francisco E Rodriguez](#); [Deva Brannen](#)
Subject: Site Selection Clarification
Date: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 10:34:02 AM

Monica,

Looking forward to seeing you later today. Deva had let me know that you had reached out to her regarding a question raised about EY's structure. Deva had correctly informed you about our structure, but I wanted to provide you with additional information. You should feel free to use/share with the Secretary's office, should it be helpful in future communications. From an EY perspective, we generally have "no comment" on incidents like these, however, if this is helpful to you, please feel free to use. We can also discuss later today if needed.

Thank you
 Karen

"Ernst & Young LLP is a Delaware Limited Liability Partnership, headquartered at 5 Times Square, New York, NY, and serves clients in the United States. It is one of a number of separate member firms of the EY network, each of which is a separate legal entity."

About EY

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

Ernst & Young LLP is a member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited serving clients in the United States



Karen Shrum | Principal | Government and Public Sector

Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Direct: 1 (b)(6) | Mobile: 1 (b)(6) (b)(6) [@ey.com](#)
 EY/Comm: (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

Assistant: Allye Marquez | Phone: 1 (b)(5) | (b)(5) @ey.com

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Headquarters

- o 8/9/18: USDA to Realign ERS with Chief Economist, Relocate ERS & NIFA Outside DC

I will be out of the office next week in training. I will have access to email but may be a little slower than normal to respond. Jeleen will be backing me up (again!) as technical expert and Monica will be available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us with questions.

Again, I look forward to working with you. Have a great weekend.

Michele

Michele Esch

Special Projects

Executive Director, NAREEE Advisory Board

U.S. Department of Agriculture

(o) 202.720.8408

(c) (b)(6)

michele.esch@ars.usda.gov

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: Esch, Michele - ARS
To: Francisco E Rodriguez; Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC
Cc: Bice, Don - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: USDA Project - Follow Up on Timeline and Scope
Date: Monday, November 26, 2018 10:23:53 AM

Hi Francisco

I just tried to call you and left a message. I am available this morning until 10:30 and then after 2.

We made a decision late on Tuesday to postpone the all hands meetings scheduled for tomorrow. We felt that employees are interested in hearing information that we don't have yet. We tentatively have the all hands rescheduled for 12/11 – stay tuned for more details.

We need (b)(5) DPP, (b)(6)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Also, we would like to schedule a meeting with E&Y and the USDA site selection leadership team later this week. (b)(5) DPP, (b)(6)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I look forward to talking to you today.

Michele

Michele Esch

Executive Director, NAREEE Advisory Board

U.S. Department of Agriculture

(o) 202.720.8408

(c) (b)(6)

michele.esch@ars.usda.gov

From: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 9:53 AM
To: Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>; Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Cc: Bice, Don - OSEC, Washington, DC <Don.Bice@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: USDA Project - Follow Up on Timeline and Scope

Hi Michele,

(b)(6) !

Just wanted to follow up to discuss the items below. We have the two Town Hall meetings tomorrow, so want to make sure we align on expectations and logistics.

Please let me know when you are available today to discuss. For the scope and timeline discussion, we will need to bring the right people together.

Let me know, thanks!

R/Francisco

Francisco E. Rodríguez | Manager | Advisory Services

Ernst & Young LLP

Mobile: (b)(6) | Office: (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ev.com

From: Francisco E Rodriguez

Sent: Wednesday, November 21, 2018 10:29 AM

To: 'Esch, Michele - ARS' <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>; Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <Monica.L.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>

Cc: Bice, Don - OSEC, Washington, DC <Don.Bice@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: USDA Project - Follow Up on Timeline and Scope

Michele,

Thanks for the follow up message. I'm available today between 11:30am and 1pm and then in the afternoon after 2:30pm through 5pm. Please let me know if these times work for both Don and you. Understand Monica is out this week, we could follow up with her upon her return.

These topics would be great to discuss during our call, (b)(6), (b)(5) DPP
(b)(5) DPP, we would need to
(b)(5) DPP. Monica, along with Karen and Catherine, would need to be in the subsequent discussion as this impacts the contract.

Please let me know when we could connect today and happy to set up the conference line.
Thanks!

~Francisco

Francisco E. Rodríguez | Manager | Advisory Services

Ernst & Young LLP

Mobile: (b)(6) | Office: (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ev.com

From: Esch, Michele - ARS [<mailto:Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>]

Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 4:10 PM

To: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>

Cc: Bice, Don - OSEC, Washington, DC <Don.Bice@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: USDA Project - Follow Up on Timeline and Scope

Hi Francisco

Thank you for your email. We definitely need to follow up from the meeting on Friday and discuss next steps. Don and I are available by phone tomorrow anytime. Monica is out of the office this week. What works for you?

A few items that we want to cover:

- (b)(5) DPP
-
-
-

Please let me know a time that works for you.

Michele

Michele Esch

Executive Director, NAREEE Advisory Board

U.S. Department of Agriculture

(o) 202.720.8408

(c) (b)(6)

michele.esch@ars.usda.gov

From: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 1:40 PM

To: Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>; Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>

Cc: Bice, Don - OSEC, Washington, DC <Don.Bice@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: USDA Project - Follow Up on Timeline and Scope

Michele, Monica,

Happy Tuesday, hope this message finds you well.

Would like to follow up with you on the project timeline and scope discussion stemming from Friday's meeting. Please let me know a good time for us to reconnect and have this discussion. Meanwhile, we will continue to (b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP as we discussed during the meeting.

(b)(6), (b)(5) DPP

. Will follow up with you separately on the action items from the meeting.

When you get a chance, please let me know. I'm in the office through tomorrow mid-day and then back on Monday, 26 November.

Thanks, and feel free to reach out to me at (b)(6).

R/Francisco

Francisco E. Rodríguez | Manager | Advisory Services

Ernst & Young LLP

Mobile: (b)(6) | Office: (b)(6)

(b)(6)@ey.com

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: [Deva Brannen](#)
To: [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx
Date: Monday, December 10, 2018 11:05:09 AM
Attachments: [USDA Non-Disclosure Sarah El Sharkawi.pdf](#)

Hello Monica,

Good morning. I have one more NDA for you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
 Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Thanks Deva! – Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Monday, December 3, 2018 2:59 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Monica,

Good afternoon. Attached are the final two NDAs. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Best Regards,
Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
Ernst & Young LLP
1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
Fax: +1 (b)(6)
Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [<mailto:Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 9:45 AM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Thanks for the update. You can just send them all to me at one time. Thanks! - Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
Contracting Officer
USDA/Departmental Administration
Office of Contracting and Procurement
Procurement Operations Division
Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
202-720-3009
Monical.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 9:41 AM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Monica,

Good morning!

Our GCO reviewed the NDA and had no comments, we are just trying to collect them from everyone now. Would you rather I send the NDAs to you as I receive them or all at one time?

Best Regards,
Deva

Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
Ernst & Young LLP
1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
Fax: +1 (b)(6)



Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [<mailto:Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 9:32 AM
To: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Morning Deva!

Hope all is well. Just following up to see if you had any comments/revisions on the NDA.

Please advise. Thanks, - Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
Monical.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Sent: Friday, November 2, 2018 1:34 PM
To: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Thank you, Monica. I'm going to quickly review the NDA with our attorney and will let you know if there are any questions.

Have a great weekend!

Best Regards,
 Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [<mailto:Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>]
Sent: Friday, November 2, 2018 12:32 PM
To: Catherine Von Seggern <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Emily Wyant <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Briscoe, Johanna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Johanna.Briscoe@osec.usda.gov>; Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <Michawn.Rich@oc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Good afternoon everyone,

Thank you once again for your attendance and participation in the kickoff meeting for the USDA Site Selection Services contract. Per the discussion, attached is the Contractor Employee Non-disclosure form for review and signature.

Deva, I'm not sure if this needs to be reviewed by you first and you can let me know if EY has any concerns via a separate email and copy Michele Esch. If not, you can send them all in one email or have everyone return to me, copying Michele, whichever works best for EY.

Thanks!! Have a great weekend.

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
Monical.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Briscoe, Johanna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 5:37 PM
To: Catherine Von Seggern <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <Michawn.Rich@oc.usda.gov>; Emily Wyant <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <Monical.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Thank you for your quick action, Catherine and thank you ALL for such a great meeting today! The

(b)(6)

I'm looping Michele and Michawn with the main team from today to make sure you all have each other's contact info. Emily, Michawn will be your main POC for any communications items.

And I'm officially turning reins over to Michele, but will be cheering you all on from the sidelines and am always available to help in any way.

(b)(6)

From: Catherine Von Seggern <(b)(6)@ev.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 3:44 PM
To: Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <Michawn.Rich@oc.usda.gov>
Cc: Briscoe, Johanna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Johanna.Briscoe@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: USDA KickOff Meeting_Site Selection Project_20181031_vF.pptx

Please find attached



Catherine von Seggern | Executive Director | Construction & Real Estate Advisory Services
 Ernst & Young LLP
 300 First Stamford Place, Stamford, CT 06902, United States of America
 Direct: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ev.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>
 Assistant: Susan FitzGerald Jenkins | Phone: 1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ev.com

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if

its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and

deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com.

If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE CONFIDENTIALLY NONDISCLOSURE OF NONPUBLIC INFORMATION AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST AGREEMENT

I, **(b)(6)** the undersigned, supporting requirements with the United States
 (Print Name) United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture
 Department of Agriculture's, (NIFA) and Economic Research Service (ERS)
 (Print Agency Name)
 under Contract/BPA (i.e. Delivery/Task/Call Order #) **12314419C0002, Ernst & Young (EY)**, certify
 that I shall:

1. **NOT SEEK** access to nonpublic information beyond what is required and authorized during the performance of this contract. Nonpublic information is information that I gained in the performance of my duties under this service order and that has not been made available to the general public. It includes all procurement sensitive information as well as information that I know or reasonably should know: (a) is routinely exempt from disclosure under 5 USC 552 – Public Information; Agency Rules, Opinions, Orders, Records and Proceedings or as otherwise protected from disclosure by statute, Executive Order or regulation; (b) is designed as confidential by the National Finance Center (NFC) or any other USDA Government Agency; or (c) has not been disseminated to the general public and has not been officially authorized to be made available to the public by official request through the applicable office (i.e. USDA Strategic Planning and Analysis for FOIA Compliance, Procurement Operations Division Contracting Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, or the Office of the General Council, etc).
2. **ENSURE** that I identify myself as a contractor employee and my identity is known when seeking access to and receiving nonpublic information from Government employees, other contractor employees, vendors, proposal Offerors, and members of the general public.
3. **NOT USE OR DISCLOSE** such information for any purpose other than providing contractor support services under this contract. Neither use nor disclose such information for personal, contractor employer, or any commercial purpose.
4. **ADVISE** the Contracting Officer in writing as soon as possible after I become aware of any improper release, disclosure or use of nonpublic information.
5. **AGREE AND RETURN** all nonpublic information given to me (including copies) during contract performance upon completion of each assignment.
6. **RECOGNIZE** that unauthorized release, disclosure and use of nonpublic information is a violation of this Agreement and the Contractor employer's contract and that contractual actions as well as civil or criminal actions authorized by law are applicable to both the Government and the Contractor for unauthorized disclosure, release or use of nonpublic information.
7. **RECOGNIZE** that the performance under this contract/BPA may present me with potential conflicts of interest. A "conflict of interest" includes, but is not limited to: (a) participating personally and substantially in a Government procurement (includes preaward market research, requirements development, proposal evaluations, and contract issues), litigation or other matters that effect my financial interest or those of my spouse, minor child, general partner, an organization in which I serve as an officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee, consultant, agent, or person with whom I am negotiating for or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment; and (b) involvement in a Government procurement, contract/BPA, litigation or other matter that may affect the financial interests of a person

who is a member of my household or with whom I have a close personal relationship, a person from whom my spouse, parent or dependent child serves as an officer, director, trustee, general partner, agent, attorney, consultant, contractor, employee, or any organization in which I am an active participant.

8. **AGREE** that I must not disclose: any information concerning Offeror proposals or the source selection process concerning Offerors; or any Offeror or potential Offerors (including subcontractors) except as authorized by the Contracting Officer to any person outside USDA (e.g., trade association representative, reporter) or to any person with USDA (including superiors, supervisors, and associates) unless, prior to any disclosure I have obtained approval to disclose necessary information from the Contracting Officer and I have obtained a Certificate of Non-Disclosure and Financial Interest Certificate for this source selection from the person to whom disclosure has been approved or I have verified that a Certificate for this source selection is on file from that person.

9. **AGREE** that I will not engage in any personal, business or professional activity or receive or retain any financial interest, which places me in a position of conflict between those interest and my duties or responsibilities related to the performance of this contract.

10. **ACKNOWLEDGE** and understand that Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 52.239-1, Privacy or Security Safeguards states that the contractor's employee shall not publish or disclose in any manner, without the Contracting Officer's written consent, the details of any safeguards either designed or developed by the Contractor under this contract or otherwise provided by the Government. To the extent required to carry out a program of inspection to safeguard against threats and hazards to the security, integrity, and confidentiality of Government data, the Contractor shall afford the Government access to the Contractor's facilities, installations, technical capabilities, operations, documentation, records, and databases. If new or unanticipated threats or hazards are discovered by either the Government or the Contractor, or if existing safeguards have ceased to function, the discoverer shall immediately bring the situation to the attention of the other party.

11. **ACKNOWLEDGE** and agree that I must disclose potential conflicts of interest by providing a written statement of my affiliations and financial interests to the Government upon request to avoid potential conflicts of interest when identified.

12. **UNDERSTAND** that failure to submit this Agreement and comply with the above requirements will result in dismissal from this contract and may result in disciplinary action and referral for civil or criminal action.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: 12/09/2018

From: [Francisco E Rodriguez](#)
To: [Esch, Michele - ARS](#); [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Karen Shrum](#); [Catherine Von Seggern](#)
Subject: FOUO: USDA Project Weekly Status Report (22 Oct - 7 Dec)
Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018 11:02:04 PM
Attachments: [USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 22Oct 7Dec vF.pptx](#)

Attachment (9 pages) withheld in full
under FOIA Exemption 5: Deliberative/
Pre-decisional.

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional****

Michele, Monica,

In accordance with our contract no., 12314419C0002, Site Solicitation Consulting Services Project, EY is pleased to submit the attached weekly status report dated 11 December 2018 for the period covering 22 October to 7 December 2018.

Please confirm receipt.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

R/Francisco

Francisco E. Rodríguez | Advisory Services
Ernst & Young LLP
Mobile: (b)(6) | Office: (b)(6)
(b)(6)@ey.com

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional****

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: [Francisco E Rodriguez](#)
To: [Esch, Michele - ARS](#); [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Karen Shrum](#); [Catherine Von Seggern](#)
Subject: FOUO: USDA Project Weekly Status Report (10 Dec - 14 Dec)
Date: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 4:10:44 PM
Attachments: [USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 10 Dec 14Dec vF.pptx](#)

Attachment (9 pages) withheld in full under FOIA Exemption 5: Deliberative/Pre-decisional.

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional | Deliberative****

Michele, Monica,

In accordance with our contract no., 12314419C0002, Site Solicitation Consulting Services Project, EY is pleased to submit the attached weekly status report dated 19 December 2018 for the period covering 10 December to 14 December 2018.

Please confirm receipt.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

R/Francisco

 Francisco E. Rodríguez | Advisory Services Ernst & Young LLP
 Mobile: (b)(6) | Office: (b)(6) (b)(6) @ey.com

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional | Deliberative****

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: [Deva Brannen](#)
To: [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#); [Karen Shrum](#); [Francisco E Rodriguez](#)
Cc: [Esch, Michele - ARS](#)
Subject: RE: Official Notification: Government Shutdown- Nonexcepted Contract - 12314419C0002, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services- Confirmation of Receipt Requested
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 1:25:17 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Monica,

Good afternoon. Thank you for the notification. I can confirm full performance will start again tomorrow, January 29, 2019.

Best Regards,
 Deva



Deva Brannen | Assistant Director, Contracts
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Boulevard, Tysons, Virginia 22102, United States of America
 Office: +1 (b)(6) | Cell: +1 (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Fax: +1 (b)(6)
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC [mailto:MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 11:09 AM
To: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>;
 Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Official Notification: Government Shutdown- Nonexcepted Contract - 12314419C0002, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services- Confirmation of Receipt Requested
Importance: High

Good morning Karen, Francisco, and Deva,

The Stop Work Order issued on December 26, 2018 is hereby rescinded under the subject task order. The United States Government has passed an appropriations bill into law which has permitted the Government to resume normal operations. Work under the subject contract shall resume effective January 28, 2019. If for any reason full performance under this contract will not commence by Tuesday, January 29, 2019, please notify the Contracting Officer Representative and/or Technical Point of Contact, in writing, of the circumstances and issues delaying performance and the date when full performance will begin. A copy of the formal notification letter is attached.

I thank you for your continued support!

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM

Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

From: Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; 'Francisco E Rodriguez' <(b)(6)@ey.com>;
 Deva Brannen <(b)(6)@ey.com>
Cc: Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>
Subject: Official Notification: Government Shutdown- Nonexcepted Contract - 12314419C0002,
 USDA Site Selection Consulting Services- Confirmation of Receipt Requested
Importance: High

Good morning Karen, Francisco, and Deva,

Attached is your official notification regarding the government shutdown. The subject contract has not been identified as excepted. Please see courtesy copy of letter pasted below as well as attached. I respectfully ask that you confirm receipt of my email and notice. Please disseminate as needed.

Thanks,

Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

Sent via electronic mail: (b)(6)@ey.com and (b)(6)@ey.com

December 26, 2018

Ernst Young LLP
 Attn: Karen Shrum and Deva Brannen
 1775 Tysons Blvd
 Tysons, VA 22102

Subject: Contract # 12314419C0002, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services,
 Performance during a Lapse in Appropriations

USDA appropriations expired on December 21, 2018. As of December 22, 2018, there are no annual appropriations for Federal Agencies, including USDSA.

Consequently, the subject contract is subject to the availability of funds. The only basis to allow the contract to continue would be to prevent imminent harm to life or property, or otherwise meet the standard for "excepted" activities. We have assessed the subject contract and determined it is not for the performance of an excepted activity. Therefore, no work is to be performed under the contract after midnight, December 22nd. You are instructed to refrain from issuing further orders for materials or services related to the portion of the subject contract, to direct any subcontractors to comply with the contents of this letter, and to otherwise minimize costs.

The direction in this letter is in effect until you are notified by the Contracting Officer that work under the contract shall resume. That is not expected to happen until appropriations again become available for this agency. We will notify your firm otherwise if emergency services will be required during the lapse in appropriations.



Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch – Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If

you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: [Francisco E Rodriguez](#)
To: [Esch, Michele - ARS](#); [Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Karen Shrum](#); [Catherine Von Seggern](#)
Subject: FOUO: USDA Project Weekly Status Report (Multiple Periods Covered)
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:33:17 PM
Attachments: [USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report Multiple Periods vF.bptx](#)

Attachment (13 pages) withheld in full under FOIA Exemption 5: Deliberative/Pre-decisional.

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional | Deliberative****

Michele, Monica,

In accordance with our contract no., 12314419C0002, Site Solicitation Consulting Services Project, EY is pleased to submit the attached weekly status report covering the following periods:

- 17 December to 21 December 2018
- 15 February to 1 March 2019
- 4 March to 8 March 2019

No status reports were submitted during the period of the lapse of funding per the USDA memo dated 26 December 2018.

Please confirm receipt.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

R/Francisco

--

Francisco E. Rodriguez | Advisory Services
 Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Blvd, Tysons, VA 22102, United States of America
 Office: (b)(6) | Mobile: (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional | Deliberative****

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5

Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

From: [Francisco E Rodriguez](#)
To: [Taylor, MonicaL - OCP, Washington, DC](#); [Esch, Michele - ARS](#)
Cc: [Karen Shrum](#); [Catherine Von Seggern](#)
Subject: RE: FOUO: USDA Project Weekly Status Report (Multiple Periods Covered)
Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 1:46:11 PM
Attachments: [USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 11 Mar 15 Mar 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 18 Mar 22 Mar 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 25 Mar 29 Mar 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 1 Apr 5 Apr 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 8 Apr 12 Apr 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 15 Apr 19 Apr 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 22 Apr 26 Apr 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 29 Apr 3 May 19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 6 May 10 May19 vF.pptx](#)
[USDA Site Selection Project Weekly Status Report 13 May 17 May19 vF.pptx](#)
Importance: High

Attachments 1-10 (106 pages total) withheld in full under FOIA Exemption 5: Deliberative/Pre-decisional.

Hi Monica,

Thanks for the follow up message. Attached are the all the status report through last week.

Attached are:

- 1 - 11 Mar - 15 Mar 19
- 2 - 18 Mar - 22 Mar 19
- 3 - 25 Mar - 29 Mar 19
- 4 - 1 Apr - 5 Apr 19
- 5 - 8 Apr - 12 Apr 19
- 6 - 15 Apr - 19 Apr 19
- 7 - 22 Apr - 26 Apr 19
- 8 - 29 Apr - 3 May 19
- 9 - 6 May - 10 May 19
- 10 - 13 May - 17 May 19

Please confirm receipt to make sure you are receiving these.

Thanks!

R/Francisco

--

Francisco E. Rodriguez | Advisory Services

Ernst & Young LLP

Mobile: (b)(6) | Office: (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Taylor, MonicaL - OCP, Washington, DC [<mailto:monical.taylor@usda.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 1:32 PM

To: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Esch, Michele - ARS

<Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>

Cc: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Catherine Von Seggern <(b)(6)@ey.com>

Subject: RE: FOUO: USDA Project Weekly Status Report (Multiple Periods Covered)

Good afternoon Francisco,

Hope all is well. It appears some time has lapsed since the last weekly status report deliverable under the contract- When should we expect to receive the updates/reports since that timeframe?

Thanks!

-Monica

Monica L. Taylor, MPA, CPCM, CFCM
 Contracting Officer
 USDA/Departmental Administration
 Office of Contracting and Procurement
 Procurement Operations Division
 Acquisition Management Branch - Washington, D.C.
 202-720-3009
 MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Francisco E Rodriguez <(b)(6)@ey.com>
 Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:33 PM
 To: Esch, Michele - ARS <Michele.Esch@ARS.USDA.GOV>; Taylor, Monica L. - DM, Washington, DC <MonicaL.Taylor@wdc.usda.gov>
 Cc: Karen Shrum <(b)(6)@ey.com>; Catherine Von Seggern <(b)(6)@ey.com>
 Subject: FOUO: USDA Project Weekly Status Report (Multiple Periods Covered)

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional | Deliberative****

Michele, Monica,

In accordance with our contract no., 12314419C0002, Site Solicitation Consulting Services Project, EY is pleased to submit the attached weekly status report covering the following periods:

- 17 December to 21 December 2018
- 15 February to 1 March 2019
- 4 March to 8 March 2019

No status reports were submitted during the period of the lapse of funding per the USDA memo dated 26 December 2018.

Please confirm receipt.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

R/Francisco

--

Francisco E. Rodriguez | Advisory Services Ernst & Young LLP
 1775 Tysons Blvd, Tysons, VA 22102, United States of America
 Office: (b)(6) | Mobile: (b)(6) | (b)(6)@ey.com
 Website: <http://www.ey.com>

****For Official Use Only (FOUO) | Pre-Decisional | Deliberative****

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Any tax advice in this e-mail should be considered in the context of the tax services we are providing to you. Preliminary tax advice should not be relied upon and may be insufficient for penalty protection.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer.

Notice required by law: This e-mail may constitute an advertisement or solicitation under U.S. law, if its primary purpose is to advertise or promote a commercial product or service. You may choose not to receive advertising and promotional messages from Ernst & Young LLP (except for EY Client Portal and the ey.com website, which track e-mail preferences through a separate process) at this e-mail address by forwarding this message to no-more-mail@ey.com. If you do so, the sender of this message will be notified promptly. Our principal postal address is 5 Times Square, New York, NY 10036. Thank you. Ernst & Young LLP



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of the
Assistant Secretary
for Administration

Office of Procurement
and Property
Management

Procurement
Operations Division

Reporters Building
300 7th Street, SW
Suite 353
Washington, DC
20024-9307

September 20, 2018

TO: The File

FROM: Monica L. Taylor
Contracting Officer

SUBJECT: Contract Type Determination, USDA Site Selection Consulting Services
FAR Subpart 16.601(d), Time-and-Materials

Background: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a requirement for Site Selection Consulting Services in support of the USDA making a decision on where to relocate two USDA agencies as announced in Federal Register Volume 83, Number 158 (Wednesday, August 15, 2018). The vendor will provide consulting services in support of this effort. It is the goal of U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue that USDA be the most effective, efficient, and customer-focused department in the entire federal government. To that end, he has determined that USDA will relocate the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and Economic Research Service (ERS) from the National Capital Region to elsewhere in the United States. This effort is intended to improve customer service, strengthen offices and programs, and save taxpayer dollars.

Contract Type: Pursuant to FAR Part 13, the government will obtain the contractor services through a competitive procurement. A combined synopsis/solicitation will be issued via Federal Business Opportunities. The government anticipates awarding time-and-materials task order with fully burdened fixed labor rates. While the government can attempt to estimate the amount of effort necessary to satisfy the task requirements, it was determined that a time-and-materials, heavily labor hour, contract type was most appropriate for the tasks. This is a new requirement. Market research of similar requirements shows that the T&M method is more suitable for this type of work. In addition to, the USDA Senior Procurement Executive has determined that the services outlined in the Statement of Objectives are commercial services under FAR Part 12 and are to be priced on a T&M basis because a Firm Fixed Price contract is not suitable. The successful contractor must perform all tasks and propose the performance work statement. The contractor can estimate but cannot fully price a fixed price scenario due to prior tasks being completed to move on to the next task and overlapping of some tasks. In addition to, this is new work and no contractual history exists for this procurement. A performance-based contract structure will be used for this procurement. This approach requires substantial contractor over-site and government quality assurance but this is outweighed by the contractor's extensive experience in these types of efforts. This acquisition will be conducted as a performance-based acquisition with a fixed price labor rates for all tasks. A not-to-exceed ceiling will be established at time of award. The contractor may not exceed this amount without a bilateral modification to the task order. The government will attempt to shift some risks to the contractor. Due to unknown variables and initial vendor response to solicitation, it is in the best interest of the government to award a time-and-materials task order for the aforementioned services.



MEMORANDUM TO THE CONTRACT FILE

DATE: October 15, 2018

FROM: Monica L. Taylor
Contracting Officer

SUBJECT: Award Recommendation and Determination for Solicitation No. 12314219Q0006
USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

1. **Purpose:** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a requirement for Site Selection Consulting Services in support of the USDA making a decision on where to relocate two USDA agencies as announced in Federal Register Volume 83, Number 158 (Wednesday, August 15, 2018). The vendor will provide consulting services in support of this effort. It is the goal of U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue that USDA be the most effective, efficient, and customer-focused department in the entire federal government. To that end, he has determined that USDA will relocate the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and Economic Research Service (ERS) from the National Capital Region to elsewhere in the United States. This effort is intended to improve customer service, strengthen offices and programs, and save taxpayer dollars. The period of performance for this effort shall not exceed 12 months, but is expected to take between four and nine months from date of award. Award will be made to that vendor that offers the best value, price and other factors considered. Factors other than price that will be considered include experience, past performance, proposed performance work statement (PWS), proposed quality assurance surveillance plan (QASP), proposed level of effort and the mix of labor categories, and oral in-person briefing. The Government reserves the right to award a single order to encompass both the Economic Research Service (ERS), and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) relocations or two separate orders, one to encompass ERS and one to encompass NIFA.

2. **Acquisition History/Summary:** (b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP

1	(b)(5) DPP	
2	(b)(5) DPP	
3	(b)(5) DPP	
4	(b)(5) DPP	
5	(b)(5) DPP	

(b)(5) DPP

3. **Review of Quotes:** Quotes were to be submitted in accordance in the combined synopsis/solicitation. Each quotation submitted in response to this solicitation was to contain the following: 1) Summary of the firm's experience in performing services related to the statement of objectives; 2) Summary of the past performance related to services similar to that required by the statement of objectives; 3) The Vendor's proposed PWS; 4) The Vendor's proposed QASP; and 5) The Vendor's proposed price. The review from the team was as follows:

(b)(5) DPP

Labor Category	Proposed Rate/Hr.	Estimated Hours	Price
Senior Specialist	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Specialist	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Senior Analyst	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Analyst	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Senior Associate	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Associate	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Junior Associate	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Total Price		(b)(4)	(b)(4)

(b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP

Labor Category	Proposed Project Role	Proposed Hourly Rate	Proposed Level of Effort	Extended Price
Partner/Principal/Executive Director	Engagement Partner	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Senior Manager	Site Selection Technical Lead	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Manager	Project Manager	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Senior	Senior Analyst	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)

Staff	Analyst	(b)(4)	(b)(4)	(b)(4)
Total Labor Costs				
Other Direct Cost (ODC): Est. travel				
Total Price (Labor + ODC)				

(b)(5) DPP

4. Review Team: (b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP



(b)(5) DPP

5. Recommendation: (b)(5) DPP


(b)(5) DPP

6. CO Determination: (b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP

. Accordingly, award
will be made to EY in the amount of \$339,310.60.



Monica L. Taylor, Contracting Officer

10-16-2018

Date

USDA Small Business Program – Procurement Request Review AD-1205

Procurement Request Number:		Date submitted to OSDDBU:	
Description of Product or Service: USDA Site Selection Consulting Services			
Contract History <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Recompete <input type="checkbox"/> Contract Modification		Bundled Requirement (over \$2 million) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Estimated Dollar Value: Base Period \$ <u>\$340,000*</u> Total Estimated Value, including options \$ <u>\$340,000 (no options)</u> <i>*The government estimate at time of issuance was \$250,000 (simplified acquisition threshold).</i>		Period of Performance: Base Period: From <u>10/22/18</u> To <u>10/21/2019</u> Option Periods: From <u>n/a</u> To <u>n/a</u>	
Contracting Office: <u>Departmental Administration, Office of Contracting and Procurement/Procurement Operations Division</u> Contracting Specialist: <u>Monica L. Taylor</u> Telephone Number: <u>202-720-3009</u> Email Address: <u>MonicaL.Taylor@usda.gov</u> Mailing Address: <u>355 E Street SW Rm 10-0149B, Washington DC 20024</u>		Program Office: <u>Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration</u> Program Manager: <u>Don Bice, Assistant Secretary for Administration</u> Telephone Number: <u>202-720-3291</u> Email Address: <u>Don.Bice@usda.gov</u> Mailing Address: <u>1400 Independence Ave SW, 244W, Washington DC 20024</u>	
Proposed Acquisition Method: YES NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Full & Open <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Circumstances Permitting Other Than Full and Open Competition (FAR 6.302-2 thru 6.302-7) <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delivery/Task Order over \$100,000 placed against a mandatory agency contract <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GSA or Other Agency Contract (over \$1 million) – (Federal Supply Schedule or Multiple Award Schedule) – Notification only; No approval required – <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total Small Business Set-Aside <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partial Small Business Set-Aside <u> </u> % <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8 (a) Program Set-Aside or Sole Source <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HUBZone Set-Aside or Sole Source <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service Disabled Veteran– Owned Set-Aside or Sole Source <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Prison Industries (UNICOR) or AbilityOne Program (Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act)		Non-Restricted Determination (attach justification, background information, and market research (list of potential small business vendors)): None of the Following Actions initiated because: <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Source or Proprietary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (continue on separate sheet) Total Small Business Set-Aside not considered: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No reasonable expectation of offers from at least two responsible SB firms offering products of SB firms, and that awards will not be at reasonable prices; or <input type="checkbox"/> If R&D, no reasonable expectations of getting from SB the best sources consistent with (continue on separate sheet). Partial SB Set-Aside not considered: <input type="checkbox"/> Requirement not economically severable into lots <input type="checkbox"/> No SB firm has the technical competence or capacity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (continue on separate sheet) 8(a) award not considered: <input type="checkbox"/> No 8(a) firm with necessary skills or capacity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (continue on separate sheet) HUBZone award not considered: <input type="checkbox"/> No HUBZone firm with necessary skills or capacity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (continue on separate sheet) Service Disabled award not considered: <input type="checkbox"/> No Service Disabled firm with necessary skills or capacity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (continue on separate sheet)	
Clearance/Concurrence			
1. Agency HCA or Designee: <input type="checkbox"/> Concurs <input type="checkbox"/> Rejects		2. Director of OSDDBU: <input type="checkbox"/> Concurs <input type="checkbox"/> Rejects (If rejected, forward to HCA and Contracting Officer.)	
Signature: _____ Date: _____		Signature: _____ Date: _____	
3. SBA/PCR <input type="checkbox"/> Concurs <input type="checkbox"/> Rejects		4. Agency HCA or Designee: <input type="checkbox"/> Accepts Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Rejects Recommendation (If rejected, the Agency may not proceed with the solicitation until consultation with the Director of OSDDBU.)	
Signature: _____ Date: _____		Signature: _____ Date: _____	

PREVIOUS EDITIONS NOT USABLE

June 2007



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of the
Assistant Secretary
for Administration

Office of Contracting
and Procurement

Procurement
Operations Division

Patriots Plaza III
355 E Street SW, Rm
10-1049B
Washington, DC
20024-9307

October 17, 2018

TO: Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business (OSBDU)

FROM: Monica L. Taylor
Contracting Officer

SUBJECT: USDA Small Business Program- Procurement Request Review for
USDA Site Selection Consulting Services

Background: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a requirement for Site Selection Consulting Services in support of the USDA making a decision on where to relocate two USDA agencies as announced in Federal Register Volume 83, Number 158 (Wednesday, August 15, 2018). The vendor will provide consulting services in support of this effort. It is the goal of U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue that USDA be the most effective, efficient, and customer-focused department in the entire federal government. To that end, he has determined that USDA will relocate the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and Economic Research Service (ERS) from the National Capital Region to elsewhere in the United States. This effort is intended to improve customer service, strengthen offices and programs, and save taxpayer dollars.

Acquisition History: On August 9, 2018, USDA issued a Sources Sought Notice on Federal Business Opportunities (FBO). Responses were due at 5:00pm Eastern Time on August 16, 2018. (b)(5) DPP

The combined synopsis/solicitation was issued on Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) on September 20, 2018 with responses due on October 4, 2018 at 4:00pm Eastern Time.

(b)(5) DPP

(b)(5) DPP



Determination: (b)(5) DPP