



City of Tacoma

## Questions and Answers

### GRFF Chemical Feed Lines Replacement RFB Specification No. TW24-0031F

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Brandon Snow, Senior Buyer by date questions were due. The answers to the questions received are provided below and posted to the City's website at [www.TacomaPurchasing.org](http://www.TacomaPurchasing.org). Navigate to [Current Contracting Opportunities / Public Works and Improvements Solicitations](#), and then click [Questions and Answers](#) for this Specification. This information IS NOT considered an addendum. Respondents should consider this information when submitting their proposals.

#### Questions Received at the Pre-Bid Meeting Held February 25, 2025:

- 1. Question: Are the work hours flexible-can we propose to work 4 x 10's?**

Answer: Tacoma Water may consider an alternate work schedule proposed by the contractor if Tacoma Water staffing can match the proposed schedule.

- 2. Question: What does poly bag the temporary lines refer to?**

Answer: Specification section 01 14 00 allows for clear, heavy duty poly tubing roll (minimum 6 mil thickness) to act as a secondary containment for the temporary feed lines that will be running on the surface from the chemical facility to the various injection points as shown in the construction plans. This requirement satisfies environmental compliance concerns if the temporary feed lines develop a leak.

- 3. Question: CIV 5 - Can we remove the lid to the vault to access the piping easier?**

Answer: Vault lids are allowed to be removed and reinstalled to assist the contractor during construction. This vault in particular is in gravel so restoration around the vault should be minimal. However, if the vault lid to be removed is in asphalt, refer to the Construction Plans Sheet 1 Standard Notes for restoration requirements.

- 4. Question: Section 01 74 19 is not clear. Are the old chem feed lines considered hazardous? If so, do we have to do training with EPA to properly dispose of the old chem feed lines?**

Answer: WAC 173-303-9903 lists the Discarded Chemical Products List "P" and "U" dangerous wastes. It is our understanding that none of the chemicals used at the GRFF are on this list; therefore, the old chemical feed lines are not considered hazardous. However, all old chemical feed lines must be flushed with water before disposal.

- 5. Question: Can construction staff park in the designated staging area?**

Answer: Tacoma Water agrees that the designated staging area can be utilized for the contractor's staff parking.



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- 6. Question: Gate access- Will we be given special approval for this project to gain access through the gate, or will we be expected to show our ID and insurance every time we get to the site?**

Answer: A permit will be issued for each individual vehicle that will be utilized by the contractor onsite. The permits will be turned into Tacoma Water when the work is complete.

- 7. Question: How rapidly can the switch between the old chem feed lines, to the temporary lines and then to the permanent lines be done?**

Answer: Coordination with Tacoma Water staff is a required critical step to switching between chemical feed lines. Specification section 01 14 00 outlines the requirements for outage requests by the contractor. An outage plan shall be submitted to Tacoma Water 30 days prior to any required shutdowns, followed by written confirmation 1 week prior to each actual shutdown date.

Depending on the chemical service, the duration of the switchover between chemical feed lines can vary, but the contractor should anticipate at least a one to two-day waiting period for Tacoma Water staff to verify successful switchover. Once Tacoma Water is satisfied, permission will be given to the contractor to proceed.

- 8. Question: Can the temporary lines be run against the exterior doors at the chem plant?**

Answer: No. The construction plans detail the route for temporary feed lines to avoid obstructing access to doors on the South side of the Chemical Building to avoid interruption to daily operations and maintenance activities.

- 9. Question: Will the Tacoma Water staff pump out the vaults?**

Answer: Tacoma Water staff will pump the vaults out initially prior to the contractor mobilizing to the site as close to the start of the work as possible. However, it is up to the contractor to keep the vaults dewatered as the construction progresses.

- 10. Question: Will the Tacoma Water staff flush the lines before work begins?**

Answer: All flushing activities will be coordinated and executed by the Tacoma Water staff.

- 11. Question: Pre-Bid Meeting: Should the pipe be “pushed” or “pulled” through secondary containment pipes when being installed?**

Answer: It is the contractor’s discretion to select the best means and methods to follow manufacturer installation instructions and to successfully complete the project as specified and outlined in the Construction Plans.



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### Questions Submitted to Senior Buyer by Deadline on February 28, 2025:

- 1. Question: We were contacted and asked to bid on TW24-0031F Green River Filtration Facility - Chemical Feed Lines Replacement. We read through the Supplemental Bidder Qualifications in Appendix B of the specifications, and we would like to request a modification to the completed project requirements.**

**We have the prior experience required, but not within the last 5 years. One of our projects was started in late 2018 and we were hoping we'd be able to include this in our qualifications despite it being slightly outside of the required time limits. Would it be possible to extend the 5-year requirement if all other qualifications are met?**

Answer: Tacoma Water will accept projects that were completed within the 5-year window for reference.

- 2. Question: Will the installations be conducted via boring or open trench excavation?**

Answer: No excavation is necessary for this project. Only the chemical feed lines inside the existing secondary containment piping are to be replaced, not the containment piping between pull boxes and injection vaults.

- 3. Question: Are any of the vaults classified as "confined spaces" according to Washington state regulations?**

Answer: A confined space is a space that is large enough for a person to enter, has limited means of access and is not designed for continued human occupancy. All of the vaults are considered confined spaces per definition.

- 4. Question: Is there any electrical power in the vaults, or are they solely for water?**

Answer: There is no electrical power in any of the vaults. The vaults contain reinforced PVC tubing that convey chemicals used for water treatment plant operations.

- 5. Question: Will Tacoma Water staff assist with the application of treatment chemicals if necessary?**

Answer: Tacoma Water staff will flush the chemical feed lines out, as well as fill the new chemical feed lines with chemical. The contractor's exposure to water treatment chemicals is anticipated to be minimal, but not zero. The contractor is expected to account for their employees' safety in the chemical exposure safety plan required per specification section 01 33 00.



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- 6. Question: Can we receive a list of other contractors interested in this bid to potentially offer our services as a subcontractor?**

Answer: Please visit the [City of Tacoma Planholder List](#) to find a list of companies publicly interested in solicitation No. TW24-0031F.

- 7. Question: Will we be provided with the total quantities of valves and flanges required for the proposed design?**

Answer: The construction plans show the valves to be replaced in the chemical injection vaults. It is up to the contractor to estimate the quantity of SCH 80 CPVC valves and check valves based on the construction plan details.

The quantity of flanges needed are also shown on the construction plans, with the exception of the flanges needed for temporary piping to connect to existing chemical feed lines. Nine 1-inch flanges will be required to adapt the temporary HDPE piping to the existing lines in the chemical building.