

EMERGENCY STORM DEBRIS REMOVAL SERVICES RFPs

AMENDMENT: VENDOR Q&A

The Oklahoma Environmental Management Authority (OEMA) received inquiries from prospective vendors regarding the Emergency Storm Debris Removal Services RFPs (Cubic Yard and Tonnage). The questions submitted and OEMA's official responses are set forth below.

1. Vendor Inquiry Set 1

Inquiry 1.1: Pricing Evaluation Methodology & Comparative Modeling

Vendor Inquiry:

"Please clarify how side-by-side proposal price evaluations will be calculated across competing vendors to determine the lowest or most advantageous price, given the multiple line items and variable hauling distance tiers listed in Part IV."

OEMA Response:

To ensure an equitable "apples-to-apples" comparative evaluation while preserving individual unit price commitments, OEMA will apply each contractor's unit rates from the Part IV Price Form to a standardized, baseline estimated scenario volume model. This comparative evaluation model aggregates extended line-item costs across core operational categories—such as Right-of-Way (ROW) collection, Debris Management Site (DMS) processing, and final haul-out—yielding a single extended aggregate price score for ranking proposals. To preserve the pricing evaluations integrity, OEMA will not disclose the baseline scenario.

To satisfy federal procurement standards set forth in 2 CFR 200.318–200.327, this evaluation model specifically tests for mathematical and material unbalancing of bids. OEMA will review individual unit rates for extreme front-loading of initial mobilization/clearance line items or artificially depressed conditional line items. Unbalanced pricing structures that introduce unacceptable financial risk to the Authority or distort true evaluation costs will result in proposal rejection. All unit prices submitted by the contractor remain firm and binding throughout the contract term.

Inquiry 1.2: Line-Item Inclusion Requirements & Disqualification Risks

Vendor Inquiry:

"Are contractors required to price every single line item in the Part IV Price Form, including conditional or specialized items, and will leaving a line-item blank lead to proposal disqualification?"

OEMA Response:

Pursuant to Part IV, Note 3 of the solicitation, all line items must be priced. If any line item is left blank or if "N/A" is entered in place of a specific dollar figure, the Price Proposal shall be

declared non-responsive and irregular, resulting in immediate rejection and proposal disqualification.

Inquiry 1.3: Extended Totals & Baseline Quantity Calculations

Vendor Inquiry:

"How will extended totals be calculated across the various haul distance tiers (e.g., 0–15 miles vs. 60+ miles) for primary operational tasks?"

OEMA Response:

Extended totals are calculated by multiplying the proposer's submitted unit prices by OEMA's baseline scenario quantities for core operational tasks. This baseline scenario accounts for the varying haul distances across participating OEMA member jurisdictions.

Inquiry 1.4: Line-Item Weighting in Price Scoring

Vendor Inquiry:

"Will high-volume line items such as ROW collection and DMS operations carry greater weight in the final price score than low-volume or specialized items?"

OEMA Response:

Yes. In alignment with real-world disaster recovery operations, line items representing the vast majority of physical debris volume—specifically ROW vegetative/C&D collection, DMS management, volumetric reduction (grinding/burning), and final ash/mulch haul-out—carry the highest proportional weight in the price evaluation model. This ensures that contractor compensation directly aligns with actual work volume while maintaining true cost competition.

Inquiry 1.5: Disposal Facility Tipping Fees & Pass-Through Reimbursement

Vendor Inquiry:

"How are landfill tipping fees handled, and is the contractor expected to include tipping fees in their unit rates or treat them as a pass-through cost?"

OEMA Response:

Because OEMA owns and operates the Union City Landfill utilized during "blue sky" by its members, tipping fees incurred at this facility will be billed directly to the participating OEMA member jurisdiction. In the rare instance that approved disposal occurs at a different final disposal location, landfill tipping fees charged by permitted final disposal locations are treated strictly as pass-through costs. Tipping fees will be reimbursed at actual net cost without contractor markup or administrative surcharges. Reimbursement is strictly contingent upon the presentation of official disposal facility weigh tickets, landfill receipts, and fully reconciled load ticket data attached to monthly partial payment invoices in accordance with RFP Provision I.15.

2. Vendor Inquiry Set 2

Inquiry 2.1: Local Hauling Subcontractor Participation & Diversity Inclusion

Vendor Inquiry:

"Can local dump truck and hauling companies participate as subcontractors, and how are diversity businesses (DBE/MBE/WBE/HUBZone) integrated into this solicitation?"

OEMA Response:

OEMA actively encourages the participation of qualified local subcontractors, including Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), Women Business Enterprises (WBE), and HUBZone firms. Prime Contractors are legally mandated under 2 CFR 200.321 (Affirmative Steps) to take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are utilized when possible. Prime Contractors must outline these outreach efforts in their formal Subcontracting Plan (Part III, Provision 2.E).

However, all operational arrangements must strictly comply with RFP Provision I.22 (Excessive Tiering), which explicitly limits subcontracting to a two-tier maximum. Multi-tiered subcontracting passes are prohibited to maintain administrative oversight, eliminate excessive markups, and protect federal grant funding.

Inquiry 2.2: Subcontractor Scope of Work & Operational Coordination

Vendor Inquiry:

"What is the specific division of operational responsibilities between a local hauling subcontractor and the Prime Contractor?"

OEMA Response:

The specific division of operational responsibilities is ultimately determined through direct contract negotiations between the Prime Contractor and the subcontractor. While OEMA does not dictate or participate in these private commercial agreements, standard industry frameworks typically divide operational duties into distinct categories. We encourage local hauling contractors to engage potential bidders to increase local participation.

Inquiry 2.3: Insurance Coverage & ACORD Certificate Requirements

Vendor Inquiry:

"What are the specific insurance requirements for Prime Contractors, and are subcontractors required to carry the same level of coverage?"

OEMA Response:

Prime Contractors must submit an original ACORD certificate meeting all requirements of RFP Provision I.16, naming Oklahoma Environmental Management Authority as an Additional Insured. Key minimum limits include:

Pursuant to Provision I.16.E.4, Prime Contractors are legally responsible for ensuring that all sub-tier contractors carry insurance coverage that is appropriate, proportionate, and compliant with statutory requirements for their specific assigned scope of work. The specific insurance requirements are ultimately determined through direct contract negotiations between the Prime Contractor and the subcontractor.

Inquiry 2.4: Interested Prime Contractors & Plan Holders List Availability

Vendor Inquiry:

"How can local subcontractors obtain a list of prospective Prime Contractors who plan to bid on this contract to explore teaming opportunities?"

OEMA Response:

OEMA maintains an official Plan Holders List of prospective firms that have registered interest in this solicitation. To facilitate sub-tier teaming and local vendor engagement, the official Plan Holders List—along with the complete attendance roster from the October 28 pre-proposal conference—will be published via a formal solicitation Amendment on the official OEMA procurement portal (<https://oemaok.org>) immediately following the pre-proposal conference. Subcontractors may download this public directory directly from the portal to initiate teaming outreach with prime bidders.

Inquiry 2.5: Pre-Proposal Conference Attendance for Subcontractors

Vendor Inquiry:

"Are subcontractors allowed or required to attend the mandatory pre-proposal conference on October 28, 2026?"

OEMA Response:

While mandatory pre-proposal attendance is strictly enforced as a prequalification requirement for Prime Contractors, prospective subcontractors are strongly encouraged to attend. Subcontractors may attend either in-person at 1505 S. Rock Island, El Reno, OK, or virtually via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82795331211>) on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at 2:00 PM CST to network directly with prospective prime bidders prior to the November 9 proposal deadline.

3. Vendor Inquiry Set 3

Inquiry 3.1: Clarification on Bidding by CY vs. Ton and Debris Scope

Vendor Inquiry:

"Do we need to choose whether we intend to bid by the CY or by the ton? Or is the tonnage RFP for a separate debris stream?"

OEMA Response:

Qualified contractors may submit proposals for the Cubic Yard RFP, the Tonnage RFP, or both solicitations, provided they submit separate, complete proposal packages clearly labeled on the outside with their respective title: "STORM DEBRIS REMOVAL SERVICES – CUBIC YARD" or "STORM DEBRIS REMOVAL SERVICES – TONNAGE." Both standalone RFPs share an identical debris scope—covering all eligible vegetative debris, construction and demolition waste, hazardous tree/stump abatement, and Debris Management Site processing—meaning the only distinction is the unit of measurement used for operational tracking, ticketing, and billing. OEMA issued both solicitations simultaneously to evaluate pricing under both standard

industry metrics and ultimately select the procurement structure that delivers the most cost-effective disaster recovery services for its member jurisdictions.

Inquiry 3.2: Disposal Facility Tipping Fees & Pass-Through Reimbursement

Vendor Inquiry:

"Can you confirm whether tipping fees will be regarded as a pass-through cost?"

OEMA Response:

Please refer to Inquiry 1.5.

Inquiry 3.3: Pre-Bid Meeting Registration

Vendor Inquiry:

"Can you also confirm whether there is any registration necessary for the pre-proposal conference?"

OEMA Response:

No, OEMA does not require registration for the pre-proposal conference. However, OEMA strongly encourages all prospective prime contractors and subcontractors to register as an "Interested Party" by emailing General Manager David Griesel (dgriesel@oemaok.org). Registering ensures your firm receives all official solicitation updates, Q&A responses, pre-proposal attendance rosters, and RFP addenda.

Upcoming Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting

As a reminder to all interested bidders, OEMA will host a Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at 2:00 PM CST, logging all in-person and digital Zoom attendees to establish prime contractor prequalification eligibility.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL:

Amendment Prepared By:

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