

**Wilmington Environmental Restoration Committee, Inc.  
Olin Chemical Superfund Site  
Wilmington, Massachusetts**

**Notice of Request for Proposals**

The Wilmington Environmental Restoration Committee, Inc. (WERC) is currently requesting proposals from qualified technical advisors for assistance in analyzing and understanding proposed remedial activities to be undertaken by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the Olin Chemical Superfund site, Wilmington, MA. WERC is a citizen group of Wilmington and Woburn residents organized in 2007. Our funding is provided through the USEPA's Technical Assistance Grant program. The appropriate technical advisor will have the expertise to perform the scope of service, including expertise in risk assessment, health sciences, toxicology, hydrogeology, bedrock geology, and engineering, or explain how they will obtain this expertise. Experience in reviewing Technical Impracticability Waivers is desirable.

One time and materials contract will be awarded to the best-qualified applicant within a competitive price range. WERC will negotiate to obtain the best final offer. Candidates will be informed of the Committee's decision to reject or accept a proposal. The selected candidate will work primarily with WERC's Technical Team to provide clear, concise information as directed.

For additional information contact Martha Stevenson, WERC's president, at [Wilmingtonerc@gmail.com](mailto:Wilmingtonerc@gmail.com) or call (978) 658-5488.

**Scope of Service**

The scope of work will require a technical advisor to assist WERC in interpreting technical information provided by EPA and the potentially responsible parties (PRPs), and providing comments to the EPA on the outlined tasks. For all reports and reviews completed by the technical advisor a memo, typically one to five pages, will be prepared for WERC so that information can be disseminated to the membership and the public. Key documents will also be sent to the EPA to be placed in the information repository for the site.

**Professional Qualifications**

Those wishing to be considered should submit a proposal that includes a general description of the candidate's approach for conducting this work, resumes of key personnel, and a detailed cost estimate. The technical advisor must have verifiable credentials and must provide WERC with a list of previous clients and information on any past, current, or anticipated business or financial relationships with any potentially responsible party (PRP) at the site, its parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, subcontractors, and current clients. Currently identified PRPs include American Biltrite Inc., Olin Corporation, Stepan Company, The American Biltrite Rubber Company, NOR-AM Agro LLC, and Fisons Corporation. In addition, the candidate shall describe and fully disclose any work that they may have done in relation to the Olin site and off-site contamination, including any consultation work that may have been conducted for the Town of Wilmington.

The successful candidate will have:

- Expertise to perform the scope of service outlined above, including expertise in hazardous waste site investigation, risk assessment, hydrogeology, planning and implementation of selected remedial alternatives, and other applicable engineering areas, or an explanation of how they will provide this expertise.
- Experience in the review of planning, design, and implementation of cleanup alternatives for hazardous waste sites. Specific areas include soil, surface water, sediment, and groundwater remediation.
- Expertise in the transport of pollutants through bedrock and bedrock fractures.
- Expertise in Technical Impracticability Waivers
- Demonstrated knowledge of CERCLA and other relevant statutes; experience with CERCLA TAG grants preferred.
- Adequate financial resources and accounting procedures in place to manage the tasks required and account for expenditures.

### **Criteria for Selection**

Each proposal received will be evaluated on the following criteria, which are weighted based on the Committee's priorities:

- Past relevant experience
- Knowledge of EPA procedures and reporting requirements
- Value and cost
- Technical qualifications
- Approach to providing technical assistance services
- Ability to provide written and oral translations of technical documents and data in terms understandable to lay persons.

### **Summary**

WERC will evaluate proposals according to the above listed criteria. The goal of the selection criteria, based on the priorities of the Committee and the awarded EPA Technical Assistance is to obtain the best proposal at a reasonable cost. Proposals shall not exceed 20 pages in length, including attachments. Note that all contracts must conform to the requirements of WERC's Technical Assistance Grant from US EPA.

WERC has budgeted an initial \$37,500 of grant funds for the technical advisor services described in this RFP, with additional funding available subject to USEPA's TAG program approval. WERC has the option to renew the contract after the initial contract period for additional one to three-year contract periods as long as the cleanup and funding continue. Contract renewal will be based on satisfaction with the technical advisor's previous

performance and availability of funds.

### **Submittal**

Proposals shall clearly identify the consultant's name and business address and are due by close of business on Wednesday, August 5, 2020. Proposals shall include:

1. Approach to providing technical assistance services
2. Project experience
3. Resumes of principal personnel
4. Firm/Team history<sup>1</sup>
5. Financials
6. Labor breakdown
7. Three references

In addition to emailing your proposal, please mail two (2) hard copies of the proposal to: WERC, Inc. 7 Chandler Road, Wilmington, MA 01887

### **Background Information**

The Olin Chemical Superfund site comprises the Olin property, an approximately 53-acre parcel at 51 Eames Street in Wilmington, Massachusetts and adjoining off-property areas contaminated by manufacturing and waste disposal activities at the property. The current facility is inactive and has been since 1986. Chemical manufacturing began at the site in 1953. Historical wastewater disposal practices were a major source of the contamination associated with the Olin Chemical facility. The facility produced specialized chemicals for the rubber and plastics industry including blowing agents, stabilizers, and antioxidants. Prior to 1970, chemicals were discharged into several unlined pits/lagoons, ditches/streams and ponds on the property. The lagoons were periodically dredged and the sludge was deposited in a landfill in the southwest corner of the property (now known as the Calcium Sulfate Landfill). Liquid wastes were released to an unlined on-property ditch system. On-site waste disposal practices have resulted in subsurface contamination both on and off the Olin Chemical property and the closure of municipal and private drinking water supply wells.

The Olin Chemical property was added to EPA's Superfund National Priorities List in April 2006. In June of 2007, EPA reached a settlement agreement with a group of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Since 2008 numerous remedial investigations have been conducted to identify the site's contaminants of concern and to assess the extent of contamination on and off the Olin property. Due to the complexity of the site EPA divided it into three separate Operable Units (OU) to correspond to the three major media impacted.

Principal contaminants found in the groundwater (OU3) at the site include ammonia, chloride, sodium, sulfate, chromium, and N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA). These chemicals were also present in several of Wilmington's municipal drinking water wells in the Maple Meadow Brook aquifer. These wells were taken out of service in 2003. The contamination in the aquifer extends approximately 0.75 miles west from the Olin Chemical property to the municipal wells, and comprises a complex mixture of organic and inorganic chemicals. The extent of contamination to the north and northeast of the property is still being investigated. NDMA has been confirmed in a number of private wells, including several deep bedrock wells to the

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<sup>1</sup> EPA general grant information available at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag/index.htm>

southwest.

Principal contaminants detected in site-related surface water and sediment (OU2) include trimethylpentenes, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, chromium, and petroleum hydrocarbon compounds. Surface water and sediment contamination is associated with an on-site stream/drainage system, which is described as the south, east, and west streams (both on- and off-property).

Principal contaminants detected in on-site soil (OU1) include: trimethylpentenes, acetone, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, N-nitrosodiphenylamine, pesticides (including BHC compounds), aluminum, calcium, chromium, iron, sodium, chloride, ammonia, sulfate, hydrazine, azodicarbonamide (Kempore™) and aromatic extractable petroleum hydrocarbon fractions.

In 2015 Olin submitted an RI report for the property and the surface waters and sediments (OU1 and OU2). They have yet to file a final RI report on groundwater contamination, and in fact notified EPA that they may petition for a Waiver of Technical Impracticability, which will require review and comments from WERC's selected candidate, if Olin actually applies for a waiver. In April, 2019, after 12 years and Olin's failure to develop a comprehensive and complete RI and FS for all OUs, the EPA added the site to the Administrator's Emphasis List. Olin is now on a fast track to prepare Feasibility Studies for OU1 and OU2, and additional proposals to address OU3, including an Interim Plan for the removal of the most contaminated groundwater. The OU1 and OU2 Feasibility Study, an OU3 Interim Action Feasibility Study, and a Record of Decision (ROD) for OUs 1 and 2 are expected in the near future.

### **Proposed Tasks**

Based on expected documents from Olin/EPA WERC anticipates the need for the following tasks:

- Review and provide technical feedback on implementation of EPA's ROD, which will include Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) activities to implement the soil, sediment, surface water, and groundwater cleanup remedies
- Review of ongoing data gap investigation to further refine the Conceptual Site Model (CSM) for the site, including fate and transport of NDMA through fractured bedrock and selection of final remedy for groundwater
- Review of draft and final Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study reports
- Review and provide technical feedback on EPA's proposed plans for groundwater and RD/RA implementation activities under the final ROD
- If submitted by PRPs, review of Waiver of Technical Impracticability