

# AGUA SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS for ENGINEERING SERVICES

Agua Special Utility District (District) requests the submission of qualifications statements, which will lead to the possible award of a contract to provide Engineering services to perform a feasibility study, including the exploration and planning of test locations for future design and planning of a groundwater desalination facility for the District.

## Scope of Work

The scope of work shall include an analysis of the feasibility, planning, acquisition, and design of a groundwater desalination facility to provide increased water capacity to the District's system, including but not limited to, an analysis of the underground hydrological conditions within the District's service area, exploration of ideal locations and depth to maximize capacity and minimize cost, as well as an analysis for efficient connection to the system to address system pressure and capacity, necessary additional water storage facilities, Groundwater wells, and distribution water lines; assistance in application preparation and documentation to federal, state, and other possible funding sources, and other related services necessary for the design and planning of such facility.

Project Description: The project consists of a Groundwater Desalination Facilities, water storage facilities, groundwater wells, and distribution water lines.

## Guidelines for Content of Qualification Statements

DO NOT INCLUDE COST INFORMATION with the qualification statement. Responses that include cost or pricing information will be rejected and will not be considered by the District.

Detailed instructions on the preparation of the qualification statement must be obtained from the District. For more information on preparing, submitting, or requesting the qualification statement, contact, Roberto Salinas, General Manager, at [robertos@aguasud.com](mailto:robertos@aguasud.com) and [cynthiav@aguasud.com](mailto:cynthiav@aguasud.com), the Subject Line: **Groundwater Desalination Facility RFQ for Engineering Services or call the District at 956-585-2459**. This information should be requested as soon as possible in order to allow time to prepare the document and comply with the procedures.

## Submittal Deadline

Eight bound copies and one USB of the qualifications statement must be sealed with the service name marked in the lower left corner and filed with the District by Friday, April 12, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at 3120 North Abram Road, Palmview, Texas 78572. The qualifications statement received after this time will not be considered.

## Minimum Qualifications and Selection Criteria

The District will evaluate the proposals to determine which firm has the best qualifications.

## Contract Terms and Negotiation Schedule

The consultant for *Engineering* services is expected to negotiate an agreement for services that is acceptable to the District. If an acceptable contract cannot be negotiated, the District may formally end negotiations and begin negotiating with the next highest qualified person or firm.

This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) or other possible funding sources. Any contract or contracts awarded under this Invitation for Bid (IFB) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected to be funded in part by a loan from the TWDB or other possible funding sources. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees are or will be a party to this IFB, RFQ, or any resulting contract. RFQ's are issued in accordance with Section 2254 of the Texas Government Code (Professional Services Act).

This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, which includes EPA-approved fair share goals toward procurement of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) firms. EPA rules require that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to M/WBEs through demonstration of the six affirmative steps. For more details of the DBE Program and the current, applicable fair share goals, please visit [www.twdb.texas.gov/dbe](http://www.twdb.texas.gov/dbe).

Agua Special Utility District is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Small, minority, and women-owned business enterprises are encouraged to submit proposals.