

Inspection, Testing and Maintenance Fire Preventive Systems

USCG Base Cape Cod
70Z08423QAA150600

Q&A

1. Building 5205 – Child Development Center will have to be completed after normal working hours. Who will be assigned to our team for afterhours access?

Afterhours access will be coordinated by the COR.

2. If the contractor responds to a service call during or after working hours but is not provided access to an area, will the government allow for separate invoice for payment or equitable adjustment?

No. A Facility Engineering Department Representative will be on the premises to provide access.

3. Will the government please provide the current/total number of as built system drawings the government currently has on hand for the BLDG's listed within T/E 2?

See SOW Section 3.6.1. Any diagrams/drawings that USCG Base Cape Cod has, will be provided to the Contractor after contract award.

4. Government notes submission of all system diagrams and electronic files no later than 8 weeks after contract award, this is a large undertaking with multiple disciplines needed to conduct proper survey. If prior notification is made, will an extension for this requirement be authorized or able to be discussed as a potential option?

Contractors may request an extension but the Government reserves the right to grant an extension. Situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

5. When/Will the government provide the current inspection, test, and maintenance status of all installed systems to include fire alarms, suppression, and portable fire extinguishers?

Inspection, Maintenance and Test information will be provided to the Contractor after contract award.

6. *REF 3.7 Baseline Status Report:* Will the government allow for the 8-week discrepancy period to include only total working days to accumulate to 8 weeks, not including holidays/weekends?

Refer to SOW Section 3.7.

7. *REF: 4.1 Planned work schedule-* Will the government request this schedule to include preventative maintenance work exclusively?

See SOW Section 4.1.

8. The PWS notes foam systems are no longer used on Base Cape Cod, however there are several areas within the SOW that request services to the (2) foam system *REF: 4.10 "AFFF is no longer being used as Fire Preventive System on Base Cape Cod. Discharge of AFFF into the environment and sanitary sewer system is strictly prohibited. If for any reason an accidental release of any amount AFFF occurs, the Contractor shall notify the COR immediately and the COR will notify the Environmental Health and Safety Division (EHS) of Base Cape Cod."* What is the government requiring the contractor to do with the current foam systems? Note: due to the PFAS chemical in AFFF being classified as a possible human carcinogen, and the issues surrounding increased issues around toxicity, biodegradability, persistence, and treatability not to mention increased litigation, we have encountered the following problems in dealing with these systems:

- Obtaining the original UL listed AFFF foam concentrate to go with original systems in the event of a discharge is difficult – Some companies do not sell it anymore, and or wont transport it over state lines

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- The industry in all segments sees potential liability in handling and dealing with AFFF containing PFAS
- It is extremely difficult to dispose of AFFF with PFAS, and extremely expensive if possible
- Putting a “Green Foam” in an existing system does not work – it violates the UL system listing, and proportion controllers, and other equipment do not allow for proper operation of the system, so the entire system needs to be replaced
- Many states have outlawed AFFF w/PFAS and the list continues to grow
- Acceptable levels of PFAS in drinking water is quantified in parts per trillion, and all known tests cannot detect PFAS in such small amounts so any PFAS detected is not acceptable

Base Cape Cod no longer uses AFFF suppression systems. Base Cape Cod currently has AFFF in storage tanks as part of legacy systems. Contractors are not required to work on the legacy AFFF systems. The maintenance requirements in the SOW are related to the high expansion foam systems.

9. Will the Government allow the contractor to remove these hazardous systems and replace them with a new “Green” fluorine free foam system? Green foam systems can be used to replace the older systems such as those on the Coast Guard Base that have the contaminant perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) which is what is causing all the concern.

No

10. REF 8.2.2- *The On-Site Supervisor shall conduct daily inspections to ensure conformity with this SOW and with the approved Quality Control Plan (QCP). The On-Site Supervisor shall be at the work site during times work is being performed under this contract.* Does the government require an On-site supervisor conduct these inspections daily regardless of work being performed or only at times during normal working hours when work is being conducted?

See SOW Section 8.2. On-Site supervisor shall inspect work daily.

11. Is the Onsite supervisor able to conduct work and inspections themselves? Alone?

See SOW Section 8.2. On-Site Supervisor shall manage and supervise technicians.

12. Does the Onsite supervisor have to be a separate individual or are they able to fill *multiple* roles?

See response to question 11.

13. According to the QCP requirement, will the contractor have to update the QCP and submit reports to the COR EVERY time an inspection of work is conducted?

See SOW Section 11.2

14. Will the government provide proper rates according to the SCA wages? Wage Determination – Amounts for fire techs are \$25.87 and \$31.18?

Please refer to the Wage Determination.

15. Will the government accept inspections of systems be conducted by Massachusetts Fire Marshal Inspectors Licensees, individuals who hold valid Commonwealth of Massachusetts Certificate holder of Fire Equipment Competency certification in accordance with NFPA requirements in lieu of NICET certification?

See SOW Section 8.7. NICET is required,

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16. Will the Government provide a designated area/space for the contractor to deliver a storage container used for material storage and equipment owned by the contractor during the length of this contract?

No.

17. Will the government provide office space for contractor management?

No.

18. Will the Professional Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance reports required per each level of inspection frequency require a report on each individual item within each system or based on the type of system (wet systems report, dry system report, portable fire extinguisher report, etc.)?

See SOW Section 4.9

19. Will the government authorize an extension to the current proposal submission date?

See Amendment 0001