Request for Qualifications – General Contractors
NATURAL GAS BYPASS PIPELINE

The University of Arkansas Fayetteville, in accordance with the policies of the Board of Trustees, is soliciting responses from interested firms to provide general contractor construction management services for a university-owned Natural Gas Bypass Pipeline (UA Bypass).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
This project will construct an intrastate natural gas pipeline to provide high pressure gas service for the combustion turbine generator being installed at the University of Arkansas. The Combined Heating and Power project (CHP) will nearly double the volume of gas used by the central heating plant. The new pipeline will support transmission level pressures required by the natural gas turbine generator. The construction for this project will be comprehensive, and will include all required operational systems—such as custody level gas metering, pipeline maintenance and safety systems, data telemetry systems, pipeline protective systems—and all necessary permitting, supports of right of way acquisition, and construction and permanent utility easements.

The primary purpose of the UA Bypass project is to better manage and stabilize long term natural gas supply and costs. Stable utility costs allow for more effective management of limited budget resources and provide for more accurate budget forecasting. This operational cost stability will contribute to the financial and operational success of the CHP. In addition, this financial benefit will extend broadly to campus users and auxiliary operations, such as University Housing and Arkansas Athletics, to help them better manage their cost of operations.

Experience with this type of project is a requirement for qualification. The construction team will be expected to address the relevant utility and site issues associated with high pressure natural gas pipelines. Experience with not only the technical, but applicable legal and environmental compliance requirements to all local, state, and federal regulations associated with the design, construction, and commissioning of high pressure natural gas pipelines should be demonstrated. Firms responding to this request for qualifications should demonstrate the following:

- Experience with high pressure natural gas pipeline projects
- Experience with associated pressure reduction stations, pipeline maintenance equipment, line safety systems, cathodic protection and filter systems and other ancillary gas transmission support and service systems
- Experience with custody transfer metering, telemetry systems, and other remote control and condition monitoring equipment for process systems
- Experience with installation of systems and equipment subject to application specific local, state, and federal inspection, quality control and safety requirements
- Experience with laying and site restoration of subgrade utilities across a variety of site conditions, including varying terrain, urban and rural settings, crossing state highways, etc. To include required pedestrian and traffic controls as necessary.
- Processes and procedures to evaluate the sub-contractors’ capabilities to deliver a project of this complexity successfully.
- Demonstrated management of a complex construction schedule and logistical plan to execute a project of this type
- Demonstrated management of startup and testing of high consequence process systems

Constructors will work with Facilities Management, engineers and consultants, and an independent third-party commissioning agent to advance overall site and campus master planning principles, as well as sustainability initiatives. The project will be fully commissioned and constructed as required by all local, state, and federal requirements for natural gas pipeline installation, maintenance, and operations.

The total project cost for the UA Gas Bypass and associated district infrastructure is currently estimated at $6.0 million. The estimated design and construction timeline is 12-18 months. For general campus planning and standards information, visit http://planning.uark.edu.

**SUBMISSION**

The deadline for responses is 1:00 PM CST on Friday, November 21, 2014.

All respondents will be notified of the results by EMAIL, so please provide accurate contact information.

**Address ten (10) copies of responses to:**

James Milner, construction coordinator  
University of Arkansas / Facilities Management  
521 S. Razorback Road  
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Statements of Qualification will be reviewed by a selection committee using a standardized Construction Services Shortlist Evaluation form. This form is available for download at http://planning.uark.edu/rfq.

In addition to the demonstrated experience listed above, written responses should include, at minimum:

1. Experience of key personnel in GMP/Fast-Track Projects
2. Specific project experience (within the past five years) with long distance high pressure natural gas piping system installation, commissioning and startup
3. Prior experience with fully commissioned projects meeting stringent legal, environmental, and public safety requirements
4. Records of management teams on similar projects with timely completion and with high quality workmanship
5. Records of previous similar projects: owner verification and contact information
6. Current and projected workload
7. Current maximum bonding capacity and rate  
8. Proof of licensure in the State of Arkansas  
9. Statement of diversity in the workforce, if applicable  
10. Certificate of women-owned or minority-owned business, if applicable

Professional Services Required:
GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE MANAGEMENT, ESTIMATING, SUBCONTRACTOR SELECTION, PROJECT AND CHANGE ORDER PRICING, DEMOLITION, SCHEDULE CONTROL, COST REDUCTION AND CONTROL, CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING, SITE AND EXECUTION LOGISTICS, PROJECT AND INSPECTION COORDINATION, CLOSEOUT, AND WARRANTY.

LOCATION
The project will begin near Nettleship Street and Eastern Avenue in Fayetteville, and will extend approximately four (4) miles west. The exact route has yet to be determined. The natural gas bypass pipeline will connect into the EGT interstate pipeline near Farmington.