



PASO ROBLES TANK, INC.

"A wholly-owned subsidiary of Associated Construction and Engineering, Inc."

Date: 06-11-2024

Subject: Response to RDC Korblex and Samoa Reservoirs Seismic Retrofit Bid Protest

SIQ: 0017246

Response to 06-07-2024 Protest

Humboldt Bay MWD,

In response to the protest submitted by Resource Development Company (RDC) we want to reiterate that Paso Robles Tank, Inc.'s (PRT) subcontractor Simpson Sandblasting (SS) is qualified to apply all coatings systems called out for in the project documents. RDC is not the only company that reached out to Eoncoat during the bid process. Simpson also had conversations with them to get pricing and speak with a representative about certifications. While on the phone with Eoncoat, PRT's subcontractor confirmed that the Phosphate Ceramic Coating System called out for is very similar to products they've used in the past for various applications. The similarities include using plural pumps, operating at equivalent pressures, having a cementitious base and applying direct to substrate with no primer. Even though PRT's subcontractor already has ample experience with equivalent systems, they still made arrangements with Eoncoat to come to their shop prior to any fieldwork to certify them as a company/ individual applicators. In addition, an Eoncoat representative will be onsite during critical stages of field coatings.

Lastly, the protest submitted by RDC is based on an informality or minor defect as it has nothing to do with the financial portion of this project. Therefore, the district can always reference the information to Bidders 1-1 paragraph that states "The owner may waive any informalities or minor defects". In no way could the premise of RDC's protest be considered a material advantage/ disadvantage.

The Owner may waive any informalities or minor defects or reject any and all bids. Any bid may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled time for the opening of bids or authorized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered. No Bidder may withdraw a bid within three (3) months after the actual date of the opening thereof. Should there be reasons why the Contract cannot be awarded within the specified period, the time may be extended by mutual agreement between the Owner and the Bidder.

Respectfully submitted,

Shane P. Wombles

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**Shane P.
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