

RFP NOTICE

Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, requests submittal proposals from vendors that are interested in providing professional engineering services for direct potable reuse treatment facilities, including design, permitting, bid services, and construction administration as described herein. Sealed proposals must be received in the Procurement Division, prior to the due date and time listed below.

RFP Number and Title: 26-291, Engineering Services for the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility

Description: Provide professional engineering services for a new direct potable reuse facility at the Cherry Hill water production facility site within the Northwest Regional Utility Service Area, to include preliminary and final design, permitting, bid phase, and construction phase services.

Receiving Period: Prior to 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Bid Opening: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter.

This form is for RFP registration only. Please scroll down for additional information.

Special Instructions: A **MANDATORY** pre-proposal meeting will be held Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the Polk County Utilities Administration building, located at 1011 Jim Keene Blvd, Winter Haven, FL 33880. An authorized representative or agent of the Proposer must be present at this meeting in person, as evidenced by their signature on the meeting's sign-in sheet, or the Proposer's Proposal will be considered non-responsive. A non-mandatory site visit will immediately follow.

To receive a copy of Appendix "A", please go to the following FTP site: <https://ftp3.polk-county.net>, and you will be prompted for a User ID and Password. The User ID is procurevendor and the password is solicitation. After you have logged in to the FTP site, double click on the file folder "RFP 26-291 Cherry Hill DPR.zip", select "Open" or "Save As" to download Appendix "A". If you need assistance accessing this website due to ADA or any other reason, please email Brad Howard at bradhoward@polkfl.gov.

Questions regarding this RFP must be in writing and must be sent to Brad Howard, Sr. Procurement Analyst, via email at bradhoward@polkfl.gov or via fax at (863) 534-6789. All questions must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2026.

RFP REGISTRATION

You must register using this form in order to receive notice of any addenda to these documents. Please fax the completed form to the Procurement Division as soon as possible. It is the vendor's responsibility to verify if addenda have been issued.

RFP Number: 26-291

RFP Title: Engineering Services for the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility

This form is for bid registration only. Please scroll down for additional information.

Carefully complete this form and return it to the Procurement Division via e-mail to procurement@polk-county.net or fax (863) 534-6789. You must submit one form for each solicitation.

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

Proposers must submit their proposal prior to 2:00 p.m. on the receiving date. Proposals must be submitted in a “sealed” parcel or electronically through Polk County’s secure website, Kiteworks. Proposals will be publicly opened at 2:00 p.m. on the receiving date.

Sealed Parcel Submittal:

If you are submitting a sealed parcel proposal submit one (1) original marked ORIGINAL and five (5) copies marked COPY of the proposal in a sealed parcel to the Procurement Division. The parcel should be labeled “RFP #26-291, Engineering Services for the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility” and marked with the proposer’s name and address. The Proposals may be mailed or delivered to:

**Polk County Procurement Division
330 West Church Street, Room 150
Bartow, FL 33830**

To assist with labeling the sealed parcel, please cut along the outer border and affix this label. Be sure to include the name of the company submitting the proposal where requested.

Sealed Proposal. DO NOT OPEN	
RFP Number:	26-291
RFP Title:	Engineering Services for the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility
Due Date/Time:	June 24, 2026, prior to 2:00 pm
Submitted by:	
Deliver To:	Polk County Procurement Division 330 West Church Street, Room 150, Bartow, Florida 33830

Proposals may be mailed, express mailed or hand delivered. It is the Proposers responsibility to ensure their package is delivered to the Procurement Division prior to 2:00 p.m. on the Receiving date and time referenced above. Proposals delivered at 2:00 p.m. or later will not be accepted.

Electronic Proposals Submittal:

All prospective Proposers that are interested in submitting their proposals electronically can do so via the County's secure electronic submittal website, Kiteworks. Proposers must email bradhoward@polkfl.gov at least 48 hours prior to opening to receive a link to upload their submittal. Please only upload your documents as a PDF or Excel file for the Cost Tab, if applicable. Please use the following naming convention of the files:

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 1"

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 2"

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 3"

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 4"

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 5"

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 6"

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 7"

"RFP 26-XXX Tab 8"

"RFP 26-XXX Submittal Documents"

For more instructions, a video tutorial has been produced to further explain the electronic solicitation submittal process. It can be found by clicking here for RFP Submittals: https://youtu.be/vkn_7AHgioE. If you need assistance accessing this website due to ADA or any other reason, please email Brad Howard at bradhoward@polkfl.gov.

Procurement recommends that Proposers submitting electronically double check the documents submitted into Kiteworks to ensure all requested tab information has been uploaded. Failure to upload the requested tab information may result in the proposal being deemed nonresponsive.

POLK COUNTY
Procurement Division
Fran McAskill, Procurement Director
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 26-291
Engineering Services for the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility

Sealed proposals will be received in the Procurement Division **prior to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2026.**

Attached are important instructions and specifications regarding responses to this Request for Proposal (the “RFP”). The failure of a responding proposer (a “Proposer”) to follow these instructions could result in Proposer disqualification from consideration for a contract to be awarded pursuant to this RFP.

This document is issued by Polk County (the “County”) which is the sole distributor of this RFP and all addenda and changes to the RFP documents. The County shall record its responses to inquiries and provide any supplemental instructions or additional documents pertaining to this RFP in the form of written addenda to the RFP. The County shall post all such addenda, together with any other information pertaining to this RFP on the County’s website at <https://www.polkfl.gov/business/procurement/>. It is the sole responsibility of each Proposer to review the website prior to submitting a responsive proposal (a “Proposal”) to this RFP to ensure that that the Proposer has obtained all available instructions, addenda, changes, supporting documents, and any other information pertaining to this RFP.

The County is not responsible for any solicitations issued through subscriptions, publications, or other sources not connected with the County and the Proposer should not rely on such sources for information regarding the RFP solicitation.

Questions regarding this RFP must be in writing and must be sent to Brad Howard, via email at bradhoward@polkfl.gov or via fax at (863) 534-6789. All questions must be received by 4:00 p.m. on June 15, 2026.

Proposers and any prospective Proposers shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to this RFP with any member of the Polk County Board of County Commissioners or any employee of Polk County other than the County Procurement Director or the individual designated above. This prohibition begins with the issuance of the Request for Proposal and ends upon execution of a contract. Any such communication initiated by a Proposer or prospective proposer shall be grounds for disqualifying the offender from consideration for a contract to be awarded pursuant to this RFP and for contracts to be awarded pursuant to RFPs or Requests for Bid that the County may issue in the future.

INTRODUCTION

Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida seeks professional engineering services for the design, permitting, bid and construction phase services in support of the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility, aka the "Project".

Polk County's Selection Process for consultants' services is in accordance with Section 287.055, Florida Statutes, the Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act ("CCNA"). The Professional Services Selection Committee will review the qualifications of all submitting firms.

It is the intent of the County to select and negotiate a Consulting Agreement with one (1) firm.

The County will negotiate a fee schedule and or overall lump sum price as part of "Selection Process", Elevation Level 4, Contract Negotiations.

Services under this contract will be in compliance with Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes referred to as the "Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act" (CCNA). Polk County's Procurement Procedure's Manual outlines the Procedures for Contracting for Professional Services Covered by CCNA. These procedures outline the process used for the selection of a consulting firm awarded through this RFP process.

In accordance with Section 287.055(10), Florida Statutes, or any applicable amending or replacement statute, this provision of the RFP shall serve as the County's public notice that any plans, drawings or designs developed by the successful Proposer(s) on behalf of the County pursuant to this RFP or any agreement, authorization, purchase order or other contract resulting therefrom, are subject to be reused by the County at some future time in accordance with the aforementioned statute.

All services must be performed in accordance with applicable Federal, State and Local regulations.

BACKGROUND, PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Background & Purpose:

Polk County Utilities (PCU) recently hired consultants to conduct a pilot-scale investigation for potable reuse to utilize reclaimed water for future drinking water supplies. The following pilot test report is included in Appendix A.

1. *Potable Reuse Demonstration Pilot Testing Report*, April 2025, prepared by Carollo

Based on the recommendations in the pilot test report, PCU now intends to proceed with design for a full-scale 0.5 million gallon per day (mgd) direct potable reuse water treatment facility.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The selected firm shall have demonstrated experience in the design, permitting and construction of direct potable reuse facilities and/or other advanced water treatment facilities of similar size and complexity. The scope of services to be provided in conjunction with this RFP includes the following:

- Project management services, including contract administration, budget management, invoicing, monthly status reports, project scheduling, coordination with PCU and subconsultants, and meetings.
- Support services, including subsurface utility engineering, geotechnical engineering, land surveying, and threatened/endangered species.
- Preliminary design services, including data collection, site visits, and preparation of a preliminary design report.
- Final design services, including preparation of design drawings, technical specifications, and an opinion of probable construction cost at the 60%, 90% and 100% design milestones. Design services required for the Project are anticipated to include process, civil/site, landscaping, structural, mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation/controls.
- Coordination with a Construction Manager at Risk (if this construction method is selected by PCU) for design reviews, price estimating, bidding, and Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) preparation.
- Permitting services, including attendance at meetings, preparation of permit applications, and responses to requests for additional information (RAI's). It is anticipated that, at a minimum, approvals for the Project will be required from the FDEP and Polk County Land Development Division.
- Bid phase services, including preparation of bid documents, attendance at the pre-bid meeting, preparation of bid addenda, preparation of a bid recommendation, and pre-award services.
- Construction phase services, including construction administration services and resident project representative services.
- Post-construction services, including preparation of record drawings.

AGREEMENT

The term of this agreement is estimated to be for three (3) years after a notice to proceed is issued. The actual term will be negotiated as part of the Selection Process, Elevation Level 4.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals should not contain information in excess of that requested, must be concise, and must specifically address the issues of this RFP. Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective response to this RFP are not desired and may be construed as an indication of the Proposer's lack of cost consciousness. Elaborate artwork, expensive visual aids, and other presentation aids are neither necessary nor desired unless specifically requested. The Proposal responses shall be contained within a three ring binder (original and each copy in separate binders). For the purposes of this RFP, one page

equals a single sided page. It is requested that the responses be in the same order as the selection and evaluation procedures. The submittals should include the following:

Tab 1 – Executive Summary

(Items a-c: Maximum of two (2) pages)

- a) Name, company name, address, telephone number, and email address.
- b) State the number of years in business, as the same company/firm.
- c) State the number of full time employees.
- d) Provide documentation showing proper incorporation by the Secretary of State.
- e) Provide a copy of the firm’s applicable certification(s) from the State of Florida allowing them to provide the services as outlined in the Scope of Service as well as compliance with F.S. 287.055

Tab 2 –Approach to Project (35 Points)

(Maximum of four (4) pages)

- Provide a short narrative project approach outlining how you propose to respond to and manage this project.
- Please describe the specific abilities of the firm/team in regards to this approach. Include any innovative approaches to providing the services, and include any additional information not directly cited in the scope of services.
- Briefly describe firm’s quality assurance/quality control program.
- Please include a project schedule.

Tab 3 – Experience, Expertise, Personnel & Technical Resources (35 Points)

- Provide a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) recent projects performed within the past ten (10) years as the prime firm performing the engineering services for a project of similar size and scope with one (1) of the projects using the CMAR approach for construction. (Limit response to one (1) page per project)
- For each project please provide:
 - a. Name and location of the project;
 - b. Size and cost of the project;
 - c. Project representative name, address, phone number, and email address;
 - d. Date project was completed or is anticipated to be completed; compare to the original date.
 - e. The nature of the firm’s responsibility on the project;
 - f. Identify the key staff and their role in each project;
 - g. Identify working relationship of consultants or joint venture on project, if applicable;
 - h. Provide the original budget and the final budget of the project. Explain the reason(s) for differences, such as owner requested change, contractor claim, and insufficient plans and specifications.
 - i. List of any time extensions created by item h above.

- Provide an organizational chart of the team highlighting the key individuals who will work on this contract as identified above.
- The key staff presented in the consultant's response shall be the staff utilized on this contract. Please provide the resumes of the key staff including, but not limited to, the items in the list below (One (1) page maximum per resume):
 - a) Name and current position held by the person
 - b) Name, title and project assignment
 - c) Experience:
 - 1) Types of projects.
 - 2) Size of projects (dollar value of project).
 - 3) What were their specific project involvements?
- Demonstrate each key staff's availability and office and home location to respond to the needs of the project (Two (2) pages maximum for all key staff member)
- Identify sub consultants to be used, if any. For each sub consultant identified please provide
 - Their locations that can be utilized to expedite a deliverable if required.
 - A brief description of their experience outlining their qualifications to perform the intended services
 - A brief resume for each key personnel that will be assigned to perform the intended services.

Tab 4 Is the Firm a “Polk County Entity”? (5 Points)

- There will be a maximum of five (5) points allocated for this Tab. If the Proposer is a Polk County Entity then five (5) points will be allocated. If the Proposer is not a Polk County Entity but is utilizing one or more sub-consultants that are a Polk County Entity to assist in performing the scope of work then the Proposal will be allocated one (1) point for each sub-consultant which is a Polk County Entity up to a maximum of five (5) points. The Polk County Entity sub-consultant(s) must have been identified under Tab 3, Experience, Expertise, Personnel and Technical Resources in order to qualify for point allocation.
- Provide documentation of the Proposers' headquarters and local offices, if any, and the amount of time the firm has been located at each such local office. Please also indicate the number of employees at the local office.
- Provide documentation of the sub-consultant's headquarters and local offices, if any, and the amount of time the sub-consultant has been located at each such local office. Please also indicate the number of employees at the local office.
- Proposers or sub-consultants will be allocated points if they meet the following Polk County Government definition of Polk County Entity.
 - The term “Polk County Entity” means any business having a physical location within the boundaries of Polk County, Florida, at which employees are located and business activity is managed and controlled on a day to day basis. Additionally, the business must have been located within the boundaries of Polk County for a minimum of 12 months prior to the date

the applicable solicitation is issued. This requirement may be evidenced through a recorded deed, an executed lease agreement, or other form of written documentation acceptable to the County. The County shall have the right, but not the obligation, to verify the foregoing requirements.

- In the event a Proposer lists one or more sub-consultants in Tab 4 which is a Polk County Entity and receives point(s) as a result, and after the Proposer is awarded the project, if successful, it is determined that the listed sub-consultant does not assist in the performance of the scope of work (and is not replaced with an alternative sub-consultant which is a Polk County Entity), then the Proposer acknowledges and agrees that it may be suspended or debarred by the Procurement Director for failure to comply with the conditions, specifications or terms of a proposal or contract with the County or for committing a fraud or misrepresentation in connection with a proposal or contract with the County, in accordance with the Polk County Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual.

Tab 5 Is the Firm a “Certified Woman or Minority Business Enterprise” (5 Points)

- Polk County Board of County Commissioners has a long standing commitment to encouraging the utilization of Women and Minority Businesses that do business with the County as vendors. To that end we encourage all of our prime and professional services vendors to utilize W/MBE vendors where at all possible, irrespective of a company’s certification status. Please explain how the submitting firm will encourage minority participation in the project. (Limit response to one page)
- There will be a maximum of five (5) points allocated for this tab. If the Proposer is a Woman or Minority owned business then five (5) points will be allocated. If the Proposer is not a Woman or Minority owned business but is utilizing one or more sub-consultants that are a Women or Minority owned business to assist in performing the scope of work, then the Proposal will be allocated one (1) point for each sub-consultant which meets the County’s certification criteria of Women or Minority owned, up to a maximum of five (5) points. The Woman or Minority owned business sub-consultant(s) must have been identified under Tab 3, Experience, Expertise, Personnel and Technical Resources in order to qualify for point allocation.
- Proposers or sub-consultants will be allocated points if they are a certified W/MBE as evidenced by providing the documentation described below.
- If the Proposer or sub-consultant has a certified W/MBE status, provide documentation of the firms’ certified W/MBE status as defined by the Florida Small and Minority Business Act and as defined in Polk County’s Purchasing Procedures. Polk County’s Purchasing Procedures recognize the following to meet the requirement of a certified W/MBE status:
 - Valid W/MBE Certification from one of the following:
 - Florida Minority Supplier Development Council
 - Women Business Enterprise National Council

- The State of Florida Office of Supplier Diversity
- Florida Department of Transportation
- U. S. Small Business Administration
- Federal Aviation Authority
- Other Florida governmental agencies

Certifications from other governmental agencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- In the event a Proposer lists one or more sub-consultants in Tab 5 which is a Women or Minority owned business and receives point(s) as a result, and after the Proposer is awarded the project, if successful, it is determined that the listed sub-consultant does not assist in the performance of the scope of work (and is not replaced with an alternative sub-consultant which is a Women or Minority owned business), then the Proposer acknowledges and agrees that it may be suspended or debarred by the Procurement Director for failure to comply with the conditions, specifications or terms of a proposal or contract with the County or for committing a fraud or misrepresentation in connection with a proposal or contract with the County, in accordance with the Polk County Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual.

Tab 6 – Interaction with County and Regulatory Agency Staff (5 Points)

- Provide documentation supporting the specialized qualifications of the proposed staff in terms of meeting this scope of service. Qualifications should highlight experience with regulatory agencies, identifying specific agencies and the items being addressed, including construction permitting, water use permitting, consent orders, consultation, governing regulations; and other related activities. Describe the firm’s ability to work with the County’s Utilities Division, Procurement Division, Building Division, Codes Division, and County Attorney’s Office staff in order to successfully fulfill the scope of service. Demonstrate the firm’s knowledge of permitting process, as well as local regulatory agencies, including, but not limited to FDEP and Polk County Land Development Division. (Limit response to one (1) page)

Tab 7 – Timely Completion of Projects (5 Points)

- Describe the firms’ current and future projected workload. Describe specifically the firms’ daily ability to handle each aspect of the scope of services described herein. (Limit response to two (2) pages maximum)

Tab 8 – Surveys of Past Performance (10 Points)

- Provide reference surveys from past clients for all projects identified under Tab 3.
- Completed surveys (see Exhibit 1 - Detailed Instructions on How to Prepare and Send Performance Surveys). Procurement will take the average of all three surveys and score as follows:
 - Average Score between 9-10 10 Points

by the process stated under each corresponding Tab description as set forth on Pages 9-12.

- 1) Each Selection Committee member shall score each Proposal on the following evaluation criteria:
 - Approach to Project (Tab 2) 35 Points
 - Experience, Expertise, Personnel, and Technical Resources(Tab 3) 35 Points
 - Interaction w/ County & Regulatory Agencies (Tab 6) 5 Points
 - Timely Completion of Projects (Tab 7) 5 Points
 - Subtotal 80 points**

by the following process:

- 1) Each Selection Committee member shall determine which of the following descriptions apply to each of the foregoing evaluation criteria:
 - EXCELLENT (1.0): Of the highest or finest quality; exceptional; superior; superb; exquisite; peerless.
The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described specifically how and what will be accomplished in such a manner that exhibited an exceptional and superior degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, schedules, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver far beyond expectation.
 - VERY GOOD (0.8): To a high degree; better than or above competent and/or skillful.
The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described specifically how and what will be accomplished in such a manner that exhibited a very high degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, schedules, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver beyond expectation.
 - GOOD (0.6): Having positive or desirable qualities; competent; skilled; above average.
The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described specifically how and what will be accomplished in such a manner that exhibited a skillful and above-average degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, and schedules, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver at the expected level.
 - FAIR (0.4): Average; moderate; mediocre; adequate; sufficient; satisfactory; standard.

The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described sufficiently how and what will be accomplished in a manner that exhibited an adequate and average degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, schedules, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver at a level slightly below expectation.

- POOR (0.2): Inadequate; lacking; inferior in quality; of little or less merit; substandard; marginal.

The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that did not satisfy the requirements and described in an inadequate manner how and what will be accomplished. The information provided simply reiterated a requirement, contained inaccurate statements or references, lacked adequate information, or was of inferior quality. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, and schedules, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver at a substandard and inferior level.

- UNACCEPTABLE (0.0):

The Proposer failed to provide any information for a given criterion, provided information that could not be understood, or did not provide the information for a given category as requested.

After a Selection Committee member has determined the description applicable for each evaluation criterion, the total points available for such criterion shall be multiplied by the factor associated with the applicable description to produce the number of points allocated for that evaluation criterion. For example, a Selection Committee member classifies the "Experience and Expertise" criterion (which shall be worth 25 points for the purpose of this example) as "Very Good" (which is a description factor multiplier of 0.8). The points that Selection Committee member allocated for that evaluation criterion would be 20, calculated as follows: 25 available points x 0.8 applicable description factor multiplier = 20 points.

A Selection Committee member's total score for each Proposal shall equal the sum of the total points allocated for each evaluation criteria.

When all Selection Committee members have completed their Proposal evaluations, the individual Selection Committee member's total scores for each Proposal will be added together to produce a final score for each Proposal.

Procurement will confirm the calculations for the final score for each Proposal. Then, Procurement shall publish a rank-ordered listing of the Proposals to the Selection Committee with the Proposal receiving the highest point as the highest-ranked Proposal.

In accordance with Section 287.055(4)(a), Florida Statutes, if there are three (3) or more Proposers in Elevation Level 2, the Selection Committee will elevate no fewer than the

three highest scored of such Proposers to Elevation Level 3 for interviews. If there are only two Proposers in Elevation Level 2, the Selection Committee shall elevate those two Proposers to Elevation Level 3 for interviews. If there is only one Proposer in Elevation Level 2, then the Selection Committee may collectively decide if they would like to elevate the Proposer to Elevation Level 3 for interviews or if they would like to recommend the Board authorize staff to enter into Contract Negotiations with the Proposer. In the latter case, after Board approval to authorize staff to negotiate a contract, the Proposer will then be elevated to Elevation Level 4 for contract negotiations.

Elevation Level 3 (Proposer Interviews)

The Selection Committee are required to conduct interviews of the Proposers that it has elevated from Elevation Level 2 to Elevation Level 3.

During an interview, elevated Proposers may be requested to make a presentation focusing on their qualifications, approach to the project and the ability to furnish the required services. The Selection Committee members will have an opportunity to inquire about any aspect of the RFP and the Proposer's Proposal. After all elevated Proposer interviews, each Selection Committee member will individually rank the Proposers in numerical order beginning at number 1 for the Proposer deemed to be the most highly qualified to perform the required services. In accordance with Section 287.055(4)(b), Florida Statutes, in determining whether a Proposer is qualified, each Selection Committee member shall consider such factors as:

- Ability of Personnel
- Whether a Proposer is a certified minority business enterprise
- Past performance
- Willingness to meet time and budget requirements
- Location
- Recent, current, and projected workloads
- Volume of work previously awarded to each Proposer by the County

Procurement shall receive and compile each Selection Committee member's ranking of each Proposer, and then publish a rank-ordered listing of Proposers to the Selection Committee, based on the combined average rankings given each Proposer. The Selection Committee members will then collectively decide if they would like to recommend the Board, or if applicable the County manager, authorize staff to enter into Contract Negotiations with all Proposers elevated to Proposer Interviews, starting with the highest-ranked Proposer. After Board or County Manager approval, as applicable, to authorize staff to negotiate a contract, the highest-ranked Proposer will then be elevated to Elevation Level 4, Contract Negotiations.

Elevation Level 4 (Contract Negotiations)

If a Proposer is elevated to this level, the User Division, with the assistance of Procurement and the County Attorney's Office, shall negotiate an Agreement with the elevated Proposer(s) in accordance with Section 287.055(5), Florida Statutes.

If after negotiating for a reasonable time period the parties cannot agree on a contract, the County shall, in its sole discretion, terminate further contract negotiations with that Proposer. Procurement shall notify the Selection Committee that contract negotiations with the elevated Proposer have terminated. The Selection Committee shall then determine whether to recommend to the Board to approve contract negotiations with the next-highest-ranked Proposer, and so on. If the Selection Committee decides not to recommend contract negotiations with the next-highest-ranked Proposer, or if the County determines there is no other Proposer with whom the County can successfully negotiate a contract, then the RFP Selection Process shall terminate.

After contract negotiations with a Proposer are successfully completed pursuant to Elevation Level 4, the Selection Committee shall recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that it selects such Proposer to provide the services as outlined in the Agreement. The Board of County Commissioners shall make the final decision whether to enter into an Agreement with a Proposer.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

CONTACT

After the issuance of any Request for Proposal, prospective proposers shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to the Request for Proposal with the Board of County Commissioners, and any employee of Polk County, other than the Procurement Director or as directed in the cover page of the Request for Proposal. This prohibition begins with the issuance of any Request for Proposal and ends upon completion execution of a contract. Such communications initiated by a proposer shall be grounds for disqualifying the offending proposer from consideration for award of the proposal and/or any future proposal.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The selected firm, if any, shall maintain, at all times, the following minimum levels of insurance and; shall, without in any way altering their liability, obtain, pay for and maintain insurance for the coverages and amounts of coverage not less than those set forth below. Provide to the County original Certificates of Insurance satisfactory to the County to evidence such coverage before any work commences. Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, shall be an additional named insured on all policies related to the project; excluding workers' compensation and professional liability. The Workers' Compensation and General Liability policies shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of Polk County. All insurance coverage shall be written with a company having an A.M. Best Rating of at least the "A" category and size category of VIII. The firm's self-insured retention or deductible per line of coverage shall not exceed \$25,000 without the permission of the County. In the event of any failure by the firm to comply with the provisions; the County may, at its option, on notice to the firm suspend the project for cause until there is full compliance. Alternatively, the County may purchase such insurance at the firm's expense, provided that the County shall have no obligation to do so and if the County shall do so, the firm shall not be relieved of or excused from the obligation to obtain and maintain such insurance amounts and coverages.

Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance providing statutory benefits, including those that may be required by any applicable federal statute:

Admitted in Florida	Yes
Employer's Liability	\$100,000
All States Endorsement	Statutory
Voluntary Compensation	Statutory

Commercial General Liability Insurance. \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability for bodily injuries, death, and property damage, and personal injury resulting from any one occurrence, including the following coverages:

Premises and Operations and Products/Completed Operations;

Broad Form Commercial General Liability Endorsement to include blanket contractual liability (specifically covering, but not limited to, the contractual obligations assumed by the Firm); Personal Injury (with employment and contractual exclusions deleted) and Broad Form Property Damage coverages;

Independent Contractors; Policy must include Separation of Insureds Clause.

Comprehensive Automobile Liability Insurance. \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability for bodily injuries, death, and property damage, and personal injury resulting from any one occurrence, including all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles.

Professional Liability Insurance. \$2,000,000 for design errors and omissions, inclusive of defense costs. Selected firm shall be required to provide continuing Professional Liability Insurance to cover the project for a period of two (2) years after the projects are completed.

INDEMNIFICATION

To the maximum extent permitted by law, the Consultant shall indemnify, protect and hold the County, and its officers, employees and agents, harmless from and against any and all, claims, actions, causes of action, liabilities, penalties, forfeitures, damages, losses, and expenses whatsoever (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses incurred during negotiation, through litigation and all appeals therefrom) including, without limitation, those pertaining to the death of or injury to any person, or damage to any property, to the extent arising out of or resulting from (i) the failure of Consultant to comply with applicable laws, rules or regulations, (ii) the breach by Consultant of its obligations under this Agreement, (iii) any claim for trademark, patent, or copyright infringement arising out of the scope of Consultant's performance or nonperformance of this Agreement, or (iv) the negligent acts, errors or omissions, or intentional or willful misconduct, of Consultant or any persons or entities employed or utilized by Consultant in the performance of this Agreement. The obligations imposed by this Section shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of the Agreement.

PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES STATEMENT

The Consultant declares and warrants that neither the Consultant nor any of the Consultant's affiliates, as that term is defined in Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, are subject to the restrictions in Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, regarding the commission of a public entity crime. If during the term of this Agreement, the Consultant or any affiliate is convicted of a public entity crime or is otherwise prohibited from performing work for or transacting business with the County pursuant to Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, then the Consultant shall be in material default of this Agreement, and in such case, the County shall have the rights and remedies as provided herein.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The County is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The County is committed to equal opportunity employment effort; and expects firms that do business with the County to have a vigorous affirmative action program.

WOMEN/MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE OUTREACH

The County hereby notifies all Proposers that W/MBEs are to be afforded a full opportunity to participate in any request for proposal by the County and will not be subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex or national origin.

AFFIRMATION

By submitting their proposal, the Proposer affirms that the proposal is genuine and not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed person, firm or corporation and is not submitted in conformity with any agreement or rules of any group, association, organization or corporation; the Proposer has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other person to submit a false or sham proposal; the Proposer has not solicited or induced any person, firm or corporation to refrain from submitting a proposal; and the Proposer has not sought by collusion to obtain for him/herself any advantage over other persons or over the County.

DEVELOPMENT COSTS

Neither the County nor its representative(s) shall be liable for any expenses incurred in connection with preparation of a response to the RFP. Proposers should prepare their proposals simply and economically, providing a straightforward and concise description of the proposer's ability to meet the requirements of the RFP.

ADDENDA

The County may record its responses to inquiries and any supplemental instructions in the form of written addenda. The addenda will be posted on the County's website at <http://www.polk-county.net/boccsite/doing-business/bids/>. It is the sole responsibility of the proposers to check the website to ensure that all available information has been received prior to submitting a proposal.

CODE OF ETHICS

If any proposer violates or is a party to a violation of the code of ethics of Polk County or the State of Florida, with respect to this proposal, such proposer may be disqualified from performing the work described in this proposal or from furnishing the goods or services for which the proposal is submitted and shall be further disqualified from bidding on any future proposals for work, goods, or services for the County.

DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

Preference shall be given to businesses with Drug Free Workplace (DFW) programs. Whenever two or more proposals, which are equal with respect to price, quality and service, are received by the County for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, a proposal received from a business that has provided a statement that it is a DFW shall be given preference in the award process.

APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS

This RFP and any resulting agreements shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the State of Florida and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought only in the courts of Polk County, Florida or the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, located in Hillsborough County, Florida. The proposer shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

All contracts are subject to final approval of the Polk County Board of County Commissioners. Persons or firms who incur expenses or change position in anticipation of a contract prior to the Board's approval do so at their own risk.

PROPOSAL ACCEPTANCE PERIOD

A proposal shall be binding upon the offeror and irrevocable by it for ninety (90) calendar days following the proposal opening date. Any proposal in which offeror shortens the acceptance period may be rejected.

ADDITION/DELETION

The County reserves the right to add to or delete any item from this proposal or resulting agreements when deemed to be in the best interest of the County.

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

In accordance with Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes (Public Records Law), and except as may be provided by other applicable State and Federal Law, all proposers should be aware that Request for Proposals and the responses thereto are in the public domain. However, the proposers are required to identify specifically any information contained in their proposals which they consider confidential and/or proprietary and which they believe to be exempt from disclosure, citing specifically the applicable exempting law. Proposers should provide a redacted copy of proposal with submittal.

All proposals received from proposers in response to this Request for Proposal will become the property of the County and will not be returned to the proposers. In the event of contract award, all documentation produced as part of the contract will become the exclusive property of the County.

REVIEW OF PROPOSAL FILES

In accordance with Chapter 119.071 of the Florida Statutes, the responses received for this Request for Proposal are exempt from review for thirty (30) days after the Bid Opening Date or at Recommendation of Award, whichever event occurs first.

Should the RFP be cancelled and re-solicited for any reason, proposal responses shall remain exempt from disclosure for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months or at Recommendation of Award of the subsequent solicitation.

RFP PROTEST

Any proposer desiring to file a protest, with respect to a recommended award of any RFP, shall do so by filing a written protest. The written protest must be in the

possession of the Procurement Division within three (3) working days of the Notice of Recommended Award mailing date. All proposers who submitted a proposal will be sent a Notice of Recommended Award, unless only one proposal was received.

A copy of the protest procedures may be obtained from the Polk County Procurement Division or can be downloaded from the County's website at <https://www.polkfl.gov/business/procurement/protest-procedures/>.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW PROTEST PROCEDURE REQUIREMENTS WITHIN THE TIME FRAMES PRESCRIBED HEREIN AS ESTABLISHED BY POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE PROPOSER'S RIGHT TO PROTEST AND ANY RESULTING CLAIM.

UNAUTHORIZED ALIEN(S)

The Consultant agrees that unauthorized aliens shall not be employed nor utilized in the performance of the requirements of this solicitation. The County shall consider the employment or utilization of unauthorized aliens a violation of Section 274A(e) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a). Such violation shall be cause for unilateral termination of this Agreement by the County. As part of the response to this solicitation, the successful consultant will complete and submit the form "AFFIDAVIT CERTIFICATION IMMIGRATION LAWS."

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION (E-Verify)

A. Unless otherwise defined herein, terms used in this Section which are defined in Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time, shall have the meaning ascribed in said statute.

B. Pursuant to Section 448.095(5), Florida Statutes, the contractor hereto, and any subcontractor thereof, must register with and use the E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the contractor or subcontractor. The contractor acknowledges and agrees that (i) the County and the contractor may not enter into this Agreement, and the contractor may not enter into any subcontracts hereunder, unless each party to this Agreement, and each party to any subcontracts hereunder, registers with and uses the E-Verify system; and (ii) use of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify System and compliance with all other terms of this Certification and Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., is an express condition of this Agreement, and the County may treat a failure to comply as a material breach of this Agreement.

C. By entering into this Agreement, the contractor becomes obligated to comply with the provisions of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., "Employment Eligibility," as amended from time to time. This includes but is not limited to utilization of the E-Verify System to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees, and requiring all subcontractors to provide an affidavit attesting that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with, an unauthorized alien. The contractor shall maintain a copy of such affidavit for the duration of this Agreement. Failure to comply will lead to termination of this Agreement, or if a subcontractor knowingly violates the statute or Section 448.09(1), Fla. Stat., the subcontract must be terminated immediately. If this Agreement is terminated pursuant to Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., such termination is not

a breach of contract and may not be considered as such. Any challenge to termination under this provision must be filed in the Tenth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida no later than 20 calendar days after the date of termination. If this Agreement is terminated for a violation of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., by the contractor, the contractor may not be awarded a public contract for a period of 1 year after the date of termination. The contractor shall be liable for any additional costs incurred by the County as a result of the termination of this Agreement. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to allow intentional discrimination of any class protected by law.

LIMITATIONS

This request does not commit Polk County to award a contract. Proposers will assume all costs incurred in the preparation of their response to this RFP. The County reserves the right to: 1) accept or reject qualifications and/or proposals in part or in whole; 2) request additional qualification information; 3) limit and determine the actual contract services to be included in a contract; 4) obtain information for use in evaluating submittals from any source and 5) reject all submittals.

ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS:

Each party shall be responsible for its own legal and attorney's fees, costs and expenses incurred in connection with any dispute or any litigation arising out of, or relating to this Agreement, including attorney's fees, costs and expenses incurred for any appellate or bankruptcy proceedings.

Prohibition Against Considering Vendor Interests: In accordance with Section 287.05701, Florida Statutes, the County may not (i) request documentation of or consider a Vendor's social, political, or ideological interests when determining if the Vendor is a responsible vendor; or (ii) give preference to a Vendor based on the Vendor's social, political, or ideological interests.

PUBLIC RECORD LAWS

(a) The Consultant acknowledges the County's obligations under Article I, Section 24, of the Florida Constitution and under Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, to release public records to members of the public upon request and comply in the handling of the materials created under this Agreement. The Consultant further acknowledges that the constitutional and statutory provisions control over the terms of this Agreement. In association with its performance pursuant to this Agreement, the Consultant shall not release or otherwise disclose the content of any documents or information that is specifically exempt from disclosure pursuant to all applicable laws.

(b) Without in any manner limiting the generality of the foregoing, to the extent applicable, the Consultant acknowledges its obligations to comply with Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes, with regard to public records, and shall:

(1) keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the services required under this Agreement;

(2) upon request from the County's Custodian of Public Records or his/her designee, provide the County with a copy of the requested records or allow the records

to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or as otherwise provided by law;

(3) ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the term of this Agreement and following completion of this Agreement if the Consultant does not transfer the records to the County; and

(4) upon completion of this Agreement, transfer, at no cost, to the County all public records in possession of the Consultant or keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the service. If the Consultant transfers all public records to the County upon completion of this Agreement, the Consultant shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If the Consultant keeps and maintains public records upon completion of this Agreement, the Consultant shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the County, upon request from the County's Custodian of Public Records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the County.

(c) IF THE CONSULTANT HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE CONSULTANT'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE COUNTY'S CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT:

**RECORDS MANAGEMENT LIAISON OFFICER
POLK COUNTY
330 WEST CHURCH ST
BARTOW, FL 33830
TELEPHONE: (863) 534-7670
EMAIL: RMLO@POLK-COUNTY.NET**

Scrutinized Companies and Business Operations Certification; Termination.

A. Certification(s)

(I) By its execution of this Agreement, the Vendor hereby certifies to the County that the Vendor is not on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created pursuant to Section 215.4725, Florida Statutes, nor is the Vendor engaged in a boycott of Israel, nor was the Vendor on such List or engaged in such a boycott at the time it submitted its bid, proposal, quote, or other form of offer, as applicable, to the County with respect to this Agreement.

(II) Additionally, if the value of the goods or services acquired under this Agreement are greater than or equal to One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000), then the Vendor further certifies to the County as follows:

- (a) the Vendor is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, Florida Statutes; and
 - (b) the Vendor is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, Florida Statutes; and
 - (c) the Vendor is not engaged in business operations (as that term is defined in Florida Statutes, Section 287.135) in Cuba or Syria; and
 - (d) the Vendor was not on any of the Lists referenced in this subsection A(ii), nor engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria when it submitted its proposal to the County concerning the subject of this Agreement.
- (iii) The Vendor hereby acknowledges that it is fully aware of the penalties that may be imposed upon the Vendor for submitting a false certification to the County regarding the foregoing matters.
- B. Termination. In addition to any other termination rights stated herein, the County may immediately terminate this Agreement upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
- (i) The Vendor is found to have submitted a false certification to the County with respect to any of the matters set forth in subsection A(i) above, or the Vendor is found to have been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List or is engaged in a boycott of Israel.
 - (ii) The Vendor is found to have submitted a false certification to the County with respect to any of the matters set forth in subsection A(ii) above, or the Vendor is found to have been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or has been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria, and the value of the goods or services acquired under this Agreement are greater than or equal to One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000).

Proposers Incorporation Information

(Submittal Page)

The following section should be completed by all bidders and submitted with their bid submittal:

Company Name: _____

DBA/Fictitious Name (if applicable): _____

TIN #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

County: _____

Note: Company name must match legal name assigned to the TIN number. A current W9 should be submitted with your bid submittal.

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Type of Organization (select one type)

- Sole Proprietorship
- Partnership
- Non-Profit
- Sub Chapter
- Joint Venture
- Corporation
- LLC
- LLP
- Publicly Traded
- Employee Owned

State of Incorporation: _____

The Successful vendor must complete and submit this form prior to award. The Successful vendor must invoice using the company name listed above.

EXHIBIT 1

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PREPARE AND SEND PERFORMANCE SURVEYS

The objective of this process is to identify the past performance of the Consultant submitting a proposal package. This is accomplished by sending survey forms to past customers. The customers should return the forms directly to the Consultant. The Consultant is to include all surveys in their proposal package.

Sending the Survey

The surveys shall be sent to all clients for whom the Consultant has identified under Tab 3. Surveys should correlate to all projects identified under Tab 3.

If more surveys are included then Procurement will only use those identified under Tab 3.

1. The Consultant shall complete the following information for each customer that a survey will be sent

CLIENT NAME	Name of the organization that the work was performed for (i.e. Hillsborough County).
FIRST NAME	First name of the person who will answer customer satisfaction questions.
LAST NAME	Last name of the person who will answer customer satisfaction questions.
PHONE NUMBER	Current phone number for the reference (including area code).
EMAIL ADDRESS	Current email address for the reference.
PROJECT NAME	Name of the project (CMAR Services for Hillsborough County Fire Station), Etc.
COST OF SERVICES	Cost of services (\$3,000,000)
DATE COMPLETE	Date when the services were completed. (i.e. 5/31/2022)

2. The Consultant is responsible for verifying that their information is accurate prior to submission for references.

3. The survey must contain different services/projects. You cannot have multiple people evaluating the same job. However, one person may evaluate several different jobs.

4. The past projects can be either completed or on-going.

5. The past client/owner must evaluate and complete the survey.

Preparing the Surveys

1. The Consultant is responsible for sending out a performance survey to the clients that have been identified under Tab 3. The survey can be found on the next page.
2. The Consultant should enter the past clients' contact information, and project information on each survey form for each reference. The Consultant should also enter their name as the Consultant being surveyed.
3. The Consultant is responsible for ensuring all references/surveys are included in their submittal under Tab 8.
4. Polk County Procurement may contact the reference for additional information or to clarify survey data. If the reference cannot be contacted, there will be no credit given for that reference.

Survey Questionnaire – Polk County

RFP 26-291, Engineering Services for the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility

To: _____ (Name of Person completing survey)

_____ (Name of Client Company/Consultant)

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Total Annual Budget of Entity _____

Subject: Past Performance Survey of Similar work:

Project name: _____

Name of Vendor being surveyed: _____

Cost of Services: Original Cost: _____ Ending Cost: _____

Contract Start Date: _____ Contract End Date: _____

Rate each of the criteria on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 representing that you were very satisfied (and would hire the Consultant /individual again) and 1 representing that you were very unsatisfied (and would never hire the Consultant /individual again). Please rate each of the criteria to the best of your knowledge. If you do not have sufficient knowledge of past performance in a particular area, leave it blank.

NO	CRITERIA	UNIT	SCORE
1	Ability to manage cost	(1-10)	
2	Ability to maintain project schedule (complete on-time/early)	(1-10)	
3	Quality of workmanship	(1-10)	
4	Professionalism and ability to manage	(1-10)	
5	Close out process	(1-10)	
6	Ability to communicate with Client's staff	(1-10)	
7	Ability to resolve issues promptly	(1-10)	
8	Ability to follow protocol	(1-10)	
9	Ability to maintain proper documentation	(1-10)	
10	Appropriate application of technology	(1-10)	
11	Overall Client satisfaction and comfort level in hiring	(1-10)	
12	Ability to offer solid recommendations	(1-10)	
13	Ability to facilitate consensus and commitment to the plan of action among staff	(1-10)	

Printed Name of Evaluator _____

Signature of Evaluator: _____

Please fax or email the completed survey to: _____

Affidavit Certification Immigration Laws

POLK COUNTY WILL NOT INTENTIONALLY AWARD COUNTY CONTRACTS TO ANY CONSULTANT WHO KNOWINGLY EMPLOYS UNAUTHORIZED ALIEN WORKERS, CONSTITUTING A VIOLATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN 8 U.S.C. SECTION 1324 A(E) {SECTION 274A(E) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT ("INA")}.

POLK COUNTY MAY CONSIDER THE EMPLOYMENT BY ANY CONSULTANT OF UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS A VIOLATION OF SECTION 274A(E) OF THE INA. **SUCH VIOLATION OF THE RECIPIENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN 274A(E) OF THE INA SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR UNILATERAL CANCELLATION OF THE CONTRACT BY POLK COUNTY.**

BIDDER ATTEST THAT THEY ARE FULLY COMPLIANT WITH ALL APPLICABLE IMMIGRATION LAWS (SPECIFICALLY TO THE 1986 IMMIGRATION ACT AND SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS).

Company Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

State of: _____

County of: _____

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of physical presence or online notarization, this ____ day of _____, 20__, by _____ (*name*) as _____ (*title of officer*) of _____ (*entity name*), on behalf of the company, who is personally known to me or has produced _____ as identification.

Notary Public Signature: _____

Printed Name of Notary Public: _____

Notary Commission Number and Expiration: _____

(AFFIX NOTARY SEAL)

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION (E-VERIFY) CERTIFICATION

(Florida Statutes, Section 448.095)

PROJECT NAME: RFP 26-291, Engineering Services for the Cherry Hill Direct Potable Reuse Water Treatment Facility

The undersigned, as an authorized officer of the contractor identified below (the “**Contractor**”), having full knowledge of the statements contained herein, hereby certifies to Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (the “**County**”), by and on behalf of the Contractor in accordance with the requirements of Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, as related to the contract entered into by and between the Contractor and the County on or about the date hereof, whereby the Contractor will provide labor, supplies, or services to the County in exchange for salary, wages, or other remuneration (the “**Contract**”), as follows:

1. Unless otherwise defined herein, terms used in this Certification which are defined in Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time, shall have the meaning ascribed in said statute.

2. Pursuant to Section 448.095(5), Florida Statutes, the Contractor, and any subcontractor under the Contract, must register with and use the E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the Contractor or subcontractor. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that (i) the County and the Contractor may not enter into the Contract, and the Contractor may not enter into any subcontracts thereunder, unless each party to the Contract, and each party to any subcontracts thereunder, registers with and uses the E-Verify system; and (ii) use of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s E-Verify System and compliance with all other terms of this Certification and Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., is an express condition of the Contract, and the County may treat a failure to comply as a material breach of the Contract.

3. By entering into the Contract, the Contractor becomes obligated to comply with the provisions of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., "Employment Eligibility," as amended from time to time. This includes but is not limited to utilization of the E-Verify System to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees, and requiring all subcontractors to provide an affidavit attesting that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with, an unauthorized alien. The Contractor shall maintain a copy of such affidavit for the duration of the Contract. Failure to comply will lead to termination of the Contract, or if a subcontractor knowingly violates the statute or Section 448.09(1), Fla. Stat., the subcontract must be terminated immediately. If the Contract is terminated pursuant to Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., such termination is not a breach of contract and may not be considered as such. Any challenge to termination under this provision must be filed in the Tenth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida no later than 20 calendar days after the date of termination. If the Contract is terminated for a violation of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., by the Contractor, the Contractor may not be awarded a public contract for a period of 1 year after the date of termination. The Contractor shall be liable for any additional costs incurred by the County as a result of the termination of the Contract. Nothing in this Certification shall be construed to allow intentional discrimination of any class protected by law.

Executed this _____ day of _____, 20__.

ATTEST:

CONTRACTOR:

By: _____

By: _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

Its: _____

Its: _____