

Request for Qualifications for Lewis County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan Update List of Questions from Consultants

1. Does the consultant need to include a schedule in the SOQ?

No, the consultant does not need to include a schedule in the SOQ. Lewis County's goal is to submit a preliminary draft to Department of Ecology by June 30, 2023, but we are flexible. Staff has worked with the Lewis County Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Ecology staff to complete Chapters 1 (Planning Process & Background), 2 (Current Conditions), 3 (Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Transfer, Export and Disposal), 5 (Wastes Requiring Special Handling), and 6 (Moderate Risk Waste). We sent Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 to our Ecology planner/grant officer for an informal review. The planner suggested the inclusion of actions related to climate change and equity and environmental justice.

2. Does the consultant need to address Household Hazardous Waste?

Yes. There is a draft Moderate Risk Waste Chapter completed, but the consultant may be able to add to it.

3. Will the consultant prepare the WUTC cost assessment?

We completed a cost assessment a few years ago, but it will need to be updated. We would like the consultant to do it with our support.

4. The top of page 9 includes a bullet that refers to "Similar environmentally sensitive projects". Is that our experience filling out SEPA checklists? If not, can you describe what type of projects you want described?

We would like to know the consultant's experience with similar solid waste management plan updates.

5. The timeline in the RFQ is very condensed, and Ecology has a very defined timeline, have there already been meetings with Ecology?

Ecology has been involved in our process by participating in SWAC meetings virtually. Our Ecology grant/planning officer has conducted an informal review of Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6.

6. Is the timeline that is published in the RFQ set or is it flexible?

The schedule is flexible. We would like to have a preliminary draft submitted to Ecology by June 30, 2023.

7. To what extent have the identified chapters been edited?

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 are fairly complete, but in Ecology's review, the planner requested the inclusion of equity and environmental justice considerations where relevant included as well as climate change data in Chapter 1. We did have the 6-year and 20-year financial information done a few years ago, but it will need to be updated a bit. We also had the WUTC cost assessment done a few years ago, but it needs to be updated. There is so much going on with Organics that I have been working on a separate organics chapter. In previous plans, organics was in the same chapter as Waste Reduction and Recycling. This new chapter is partially complete. The Moderate Risk Waste Chapter, Chapter 6, might need a bit of work, in my opinion, but the Ecology planner didn't have any specific comments on it.

8. Was the CROP plan written in-house, or was there a consultant assisting with that process?

A Lewis County Solid Waste Utility staff member wrote the CROP. It can either be a standalone document as an appendix or it can be incorporated into the main body of the plan.

9. Does Lewis County Solid Waste have a consultant on retainer?

No.