

DETERMINATION DECISION MEMO

Belmont Lake Dam Repair and Spillway Replacement

Project Number: 199-38

Location: Wayne County

Project Allocation: \$3,100,000

Est. Construction Duration: 365 CD

DETERMINATION REGARDING THE USE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) METHOD OF PROCUREMENT

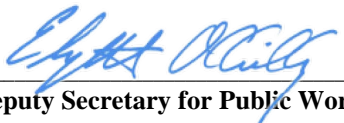
The scope for this project encompasses renovation of an earthfill dam, approximately 27.5-ft high and 600-ft long. The spillway is located through the right abutment and consists of an excavated channel with a 65-ft long concrete weir. The dam impounds a 172-acre lake on the West Branch of the Lackawaxen River. The rehabilitation will include removal of the existing concrete control section, construction of a new cast-in-place concrete drop structure, Articulating Concrete Block lined channel downstream of the existing culvert, installing an embankment drainage system, raising and flattening the embankment and extending the existing low-level outlet conduit and other miscellaneous items.

The use of the standard competitive sealed bid process for the repairs and spillway replacement of the Belmont Lake Dam is not practical or advantageous to the Commonwealth. The scope of renovating this high hazard dam requires a contractor with dam-specific construction experience with safety and water control since the lake won't be completely drained during construction. In addition, the project:

- involves a high hazard dam; risk of life for all those downstream is a critical concern and of utmost importance. The Contractor must be experienced and capable of formulating emergency evacuation plans after the award of the contract.
- requires extensive experience with environmental concrete and coffer dam(s), which constitute a specialized type of construction and is subject to DEP review.
- construction on this high hazard dam spans several months of work, including a winter shut down, which will require scheduling expertise to incorporate the shut down within the contractual duration.

- excavating and re-using excess spoils that must remain on site;
- this site contains identified wetlands located within a high quality watershed, requiring extensive specialized contractor experience in E&S plans and wetland mitigation.

The above factors demonstrate the unique construction considerations on this project, which requires specific contractor knowledge, skill and experience to safely and successfully complete the renovations to this high hazard dam. Consequently, it is not practical or advantageous to use the competitive sealed bidding process because the low bid approach does not allow the Commonwealth to consider the specific factors presented herein and cost in the award process in a timely manner.


Deputy Secretary for Public Works

7-12-19
Date