



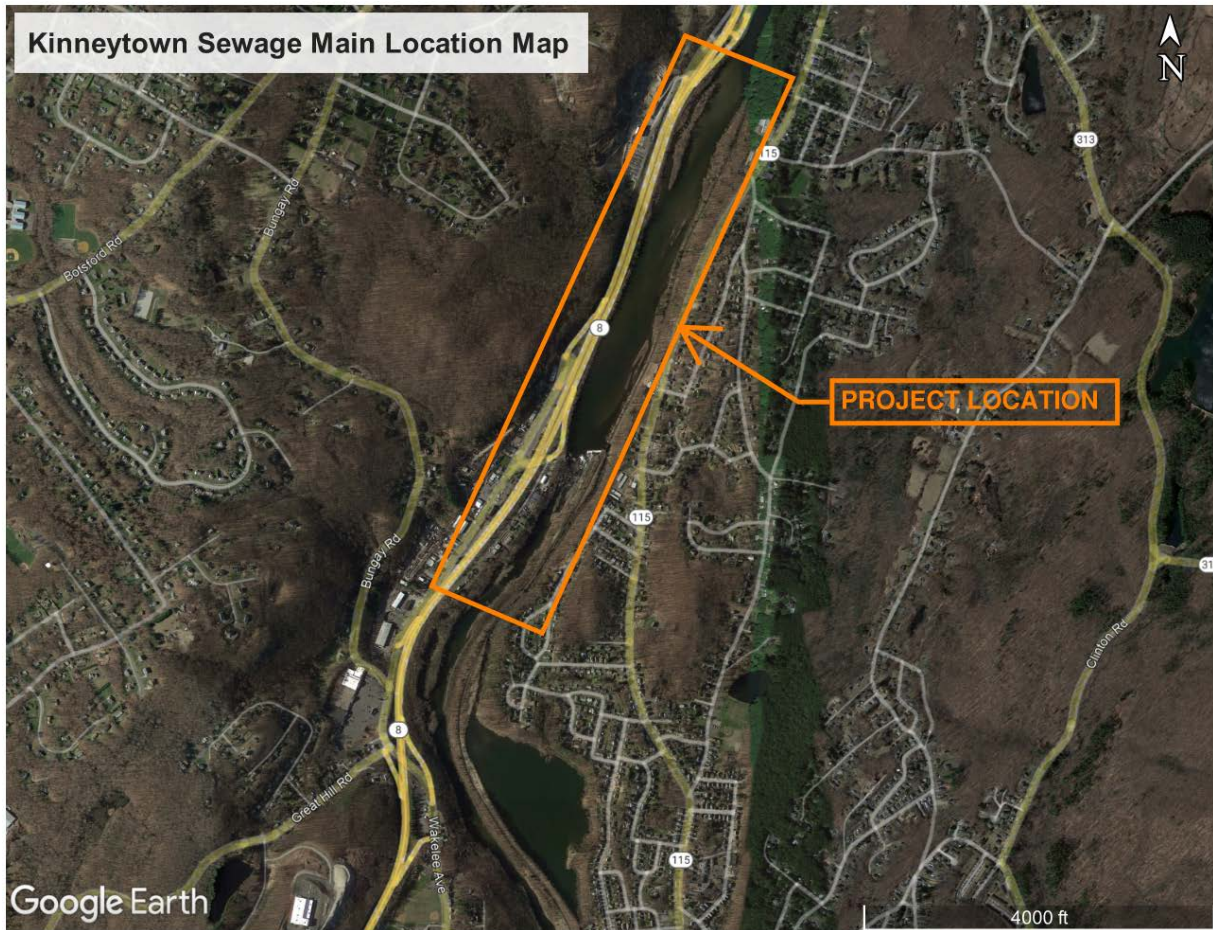
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ):

Engineering Services for Relocation of Three Sewer Siphons and Sewer Lines Associated with the Removal of Kinneytown Dam

Seymour, CT

Intent:

The Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments (NVCOG) is seeking a consultant firm to conduct the study of alternatives, the design, the permit preparation, and construction oversight of the relocation or reconstruction of three sanitary sewer siphons in proximity of Kinneytown Dam in Seymour, Connecticut. The work to relocate the sewer siphons is a required first step of a larger funded project to remove the dam in its entirety. The design project is being funded with a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoring Fish Passage Through Barrier Removal grant received by NVCOG.



Background and Purpose

After decades of failed fish passage and power generation at Kinneytown Dam, a proposal has been developed and funded to remove the dam, restoring the natural flow of the Naugatuck River. The proposal was developed by the Naugatuck River Restoration Coalition, consisting of NVCOG, the Naugatuck River Revival Group, and Save the Sound, and is supported by municipal leaders, state and federal regulatory agencies, the CT federal delegation, environmental advocates, and the current dam owner. In partnership with Save the Sound, NVCOG applied for and received funding through the NOAA Restoring Fish Passage Through Barrier Removal grant program for the acquisition and decommissioning of the facility, and for the design and construction work for the dam's deconstruction. The grant also included funding for the design and construction oversight for the relocation of Town of Seymour owned sewer siphons that cross the Naugatuck River in proximity to the dam.

Three sewer siphons, owned by the Town of Seymour as part of the municipal sanitary sewer system, cross under the Naugatuck River near the dam and will be impacted by its removal. All three siphons were constructed in or around 1965. Two of the siphons are located upstream of the dam and are situated in impounded sediment. One is located approximately 600 feet upstream of the dam, and the second is located approximately 2,700 feet upstream of the dam near the confluence of Nickel Mine Brook. A third siphon is located approximately 1,000 feet downstream leading directly to the Seymour Wastewater Pollution Control Facility. Since the two upstream siphons are situated in impounded sediment that will be relocated or mobilized when the dam is removed, the siphons will need to be relocated prior to dam removal.

The sediment in which the two upstream siphons are situated is largely coarse sand and gravel, has accumulated since the dam's construction, and likely contains contaminants from upstream discharges during that time. We anticipate some exceedances based on initial screening level testing that showed Dieldrin, benzo analytes, bis(2-hloroethyl)ether, Hexachlorobenzene, Pentachlorophenol, and Dibromoethane slightly above CT-RCS criteria, and Chlordane, Anthracene, Fluoranthene, Pyrene, Total PCB, and Total Copper slightly above the NOAA-FPEC criteria. NVCOG has engaged EPA Region I, and the facility and sediment are currently being investigated under an EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessment. Based on the findings of the assessment, a sediment management plan will be developed and implemented in consultation with regulators. The selected consultant will be expected to incorporate EPA findings and any required sediment management during dam removal into the siphon design.

One concept has been proposed that would cut off flow from the two upstream siphons, with flow routed through a new sewer interceptor on the east side of the river to the location of the third siphon below the dam which would be enlarged to carry the additional flow. As part of the proposed design work, additional alternatives will be developed and investigated. The preferred alternative that best meets the needs of the overall dam removal project will be selected by the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) to advance to design. The selected consultant will then develop design plans for the preferred alternative, in consultation with the PAC.

Under the NOAA grant, Save the Sound will oversee the design work of the dam removal, and engineering services for that effort will be sought under a separate solicitation issued by Save the Sound. Since the sewer siphon relocation and the dam removal are closely interconnected, and decisions made in the design of one will impact the other, the consultant selected to design the siphon

relocation will be expected to coordinate closely with the consultant selected for the dam removal design throughout the project.

East of the Naugatuck River, the existing and proposed sewer siphons and sewer interceptor are located under and near the CTDOT owned Waterbury Branch Rail Line, on which Metro North operates passenger service between Bridgeport and Waterbury. To the west of the river, they are in close proximity to CT Route 8. The selected consultant will be expected to have a firm understanding of all applicable ROW concerns and permitting issues that will likely arise during this project, and an understanding about all permissions/ easements or other considerations that will be necessary to construct the project.

The PAC will oversee all aspects of this project and will consist of representatives of NVCOG, Save the Sound, Town of Seymour WPCA, NOAA, and/or other relevant stakeholders. The selected consultant will be expected to participate in regular project meetings with the PAC. The selected consultant will be expected to present design options, progress and final plans to the public as determined appropriate by the PAC.

Additional information about the Kinneytown Dam Removal Project can be found at www.nvcogct.gov/noaa

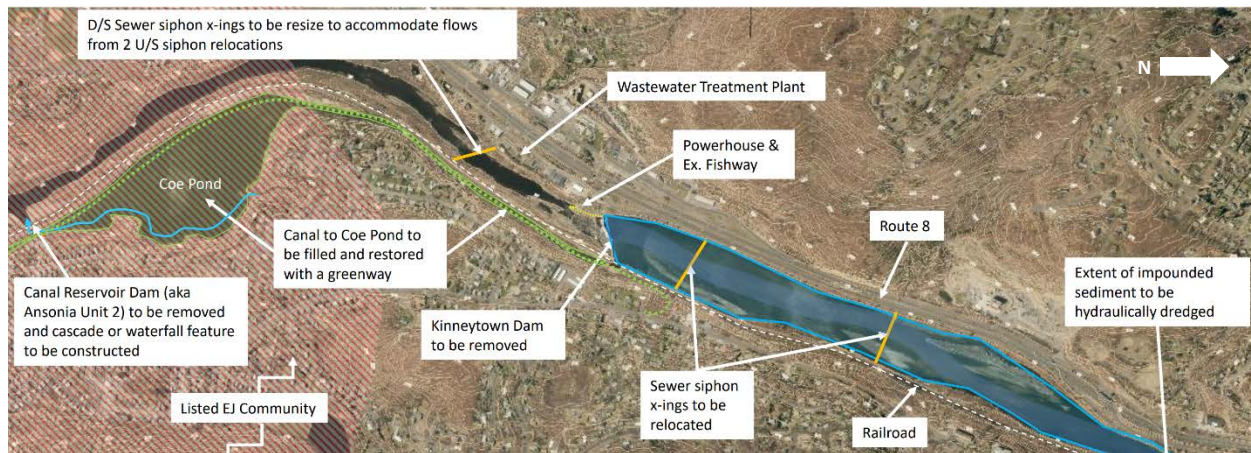


Figure 1: Concept plan indicating approximate locations of sewer siphons.

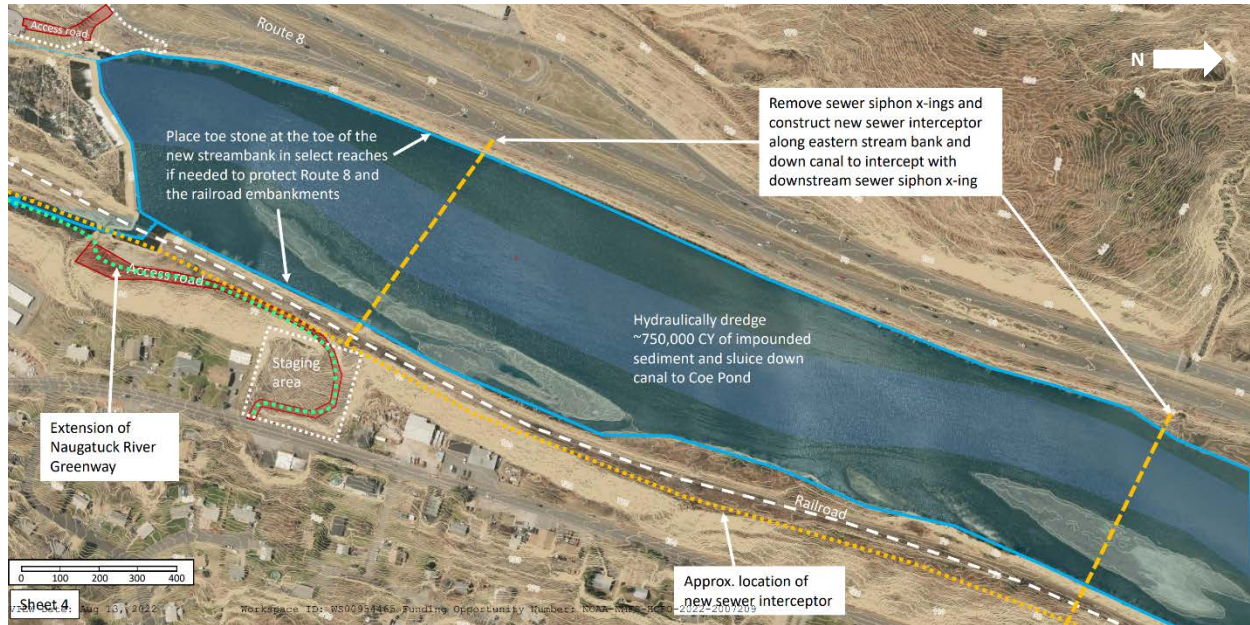


Figure 2: Concept plan showing approximate location of two upstream sewer siphons.

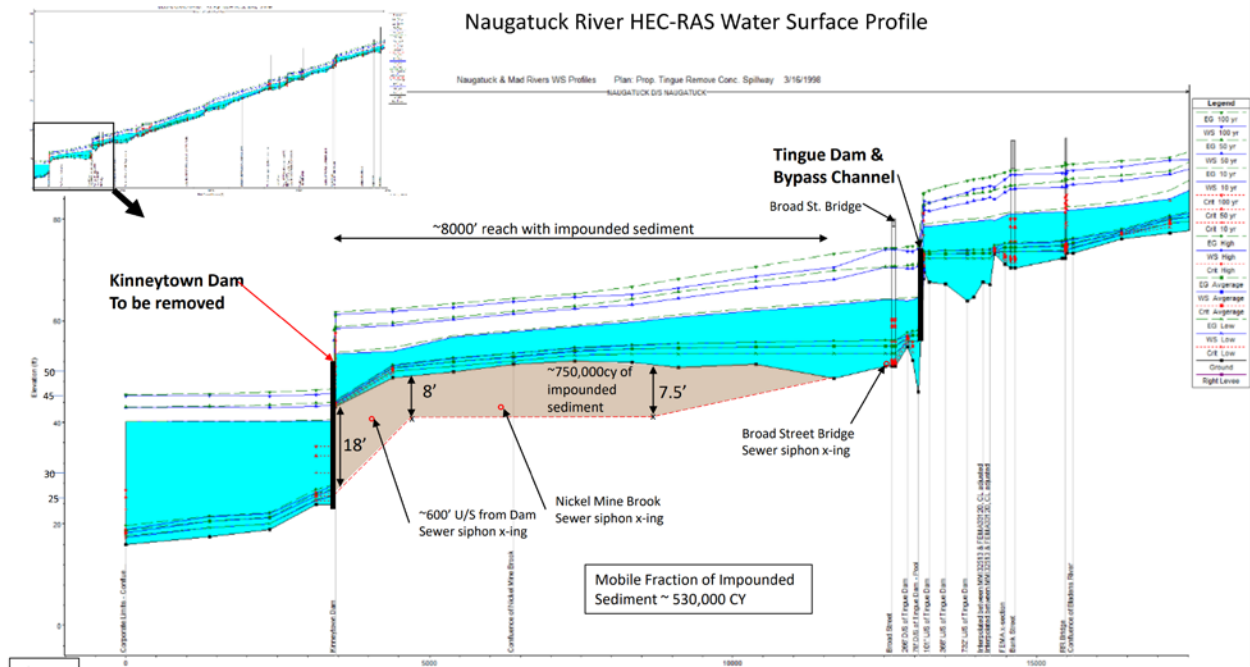


Figure 1: Excerpt from the Naugatuck River HEC-RAS model indicating the approximate location of the two sewer siphons and the impounded sediment that they are situated in upstream of Kinneytown Dam.

Anticipated General Scope:

The project is envisioned as consisting of 3 phases, fees for which may be negotiated separately.

Phase 1 – Data Collection and Alternatives Analysis

1. Meet with stakeholders and perform field walk with NVCOG and PAC to gather information.
2. Conduct comprehensive topographical and existing condition survey to gather data within the project area.
3. Develop several conceptual alternatives for relocation/ replacement of two sewer siphons including pros, cons, and construction estimates for each alternative.
4. Coordinate with consultant working under Save the Sound to design the removal of Kinneytown Dam.
5. Participate in Bi-weekly coordination meetings with NVCOG and the PAC.
6. Prepare and make a presentation in one public information meeting
7. Recommend preferred alternative based on input from the PAC and the public.

Phase 2 – Design

1. Develop 30% Preliminary Design Plans and cost estimates, and 90 and 100% Final Design Plans, cost estimates, specifications, and other related documents during the design process. Final Engineering plans will be of sufficient detail to permit the project to advance to construction. New siphons must be designed following NEIWPC's Technical Report (TR-16) design guidance. Guidance for sewer collection is included in chapter 2 of the TR-16 document.
2. Attend meetings to present 30% and 90% plans to NVCOG and the PAC.
3. Respond to comments on plan submissions provided by NVCOG, the PAC, regulators, and stakeholders.
4. Develop construction documents including plans, specifications, construction cost estimates, and special provisions based on the selected alternative.
5. Develop and submit all necessary permit application documents.
6. Develop bid documents and complete project advertising and bid analysis.
7. Coordinate with the consultant working under Save the Sound to design the removal of Kinneytown Dam.
8. Participate in Bi-weekly coordination meetings with NVCOG and the PAC.
9. Participate in one public information meeting.

Phase 3 - Construction Inspection and Administration

1. Assist with contract administration during bidding and construction.
2. Perform construction inspection during construction.

Timeline

Design under this project is expected to conclude by or before mid-2024 with sewer line relocation construction expected to commence in 2025.

Information & Inquiries:

Updates and amendments to this RFQ can be found at <http://nvcogct.org/content/vendors> or can be obtained by contacting the NVCOG directly. Interested consultants are responsible for monitoring updates and amendments.

All inquiries regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing via email to Aaron Budris, Environmental Planning Director at abudris@nvcogct.gov.

The NVCOG will respond to questions up to seven days before the deadline for responding to this RFQ. All questions and their responses will be posted at <http://nvcogct.org/content/vendors>. No contact with any other NVCOG staff, town personnel, or project partner, other than the authorized contact person, is allowed until such time as an award has been made.

Submission Requirements:

By responding to this RFQ, the prospective consultant represents that they have read, examined, and understand the anticipated work as described in the Scope of Services and can perform the work to achieve the objectives of this project, and that they are certified as a Licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Connecticut. Prospective consultant firms or team must be currently pre-qualified by the Connecticut Department of Transportation in the following categories: environmental engineering, sanitary sewage design, hydraulics, soil remediation.

Proposers are asked to submit responses in two parts: Letter of Interest and Technical Response.

The Letter of Interest must specify the following:

- The name and address of the consultant(s) including the primary office location for the performance of this project.
- General Information on the firm including areas of specialization.
- List of any proposed sub-consultants or associate firms who will participate in your project team and describe what portion of the work they will perform.
- The name, title, telephone number and email address of the individuals within the firm authorized to commit the company to this contract.
- The name, title, telephone number and email address of the individual NVCOG should contact regarding questions and clarifications.
- A statement that the Consultant's response will remain in effect for ninety (90) days after the response date deadline.

The Technical Response must contain a description of the consultant's proposed approach to performing the Scope of Services and demonstrate a commitment of sufficient staff resources with appropriate qualifications with specific reference to:

- Understanding and approach to Scope of Services. Firm will provide a project approach, as well as information relating to the approaches used on similar projects.
- Briefly summarize the most relevant qualifications as they apply to this RFQ.
- Description of services offered by the consulting firm or team that supports the Scope of Services.

- Resumes of key personnel proposed to work on the assignment with emphasis on relevant experience.
- A detailed organization chart.
- A description and status of comparable project experience including references.

The proposer must provide three (3) paper copies and one (1) electronic version in PDF format capable of being emailed to the selection committee of their proposed scope and timeline, as well as all remaining documentation in one (1) digital copy. Paper submissions must be received in a sealed envelope bearing on the outside the name of each firm, full address, and the date and time proposal is due. All submissions shall be clearly marked “Kinneytown Dam Sewer Relocation Design, Seymour, CT”, and shall be delivered to:

Aaron Budris, Environmental Planning Director
 Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
 49 Leavenworth Street, 3rd Floor
 Waterbury, CT 06702
 Hours of business 8:30am-4:30pm Monday thru Friday excluding holidays

The response must be received no later than 2:00 pm on Friday, August 11, 2023. Proposals received after the date and time prescribed shall not be considered.

Selection Process:

The NVCOG will follow a Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process for selecting the preferred Consultant(s). Consultants or consortia of consultants will be asked to demonstrate expertise and experience in all skill areas that may be appropriate to the work required in the Scope of Services. All RFQs received will be reviewed and evaluated by the selection committee that may comprise representatives of the NVCOG, Town of Seymour, and other stakeholders. Up to five prospective consultants will be selected and requested to participate in an interview and presentation to the selection committee.

The proposals and consultants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Relevant sewer design experience
- Relevant experience with similar environmental conditions
- Familiarity with the project area
- Project team organization and level of staff commitment.
- Demonstration of project understanding and approach to carrying out the design, which includes detailed considerations for design and construction, applicable standards or other guidelines, and identification of stakeholders.
- Identification of critical tasks/major milestones in the SOW and how they will be best managed.
- Completeness, feasibility, and quality of scope of services and project schedule.
- Clarity and conciseness of the material that is presented.
- Feedback from references

The selected consultant will be notified of their selection within 14 days from the culmination of the interview process and contract negotiations will commence immediately upon notification. A 30-day fee negotiation period will be provided for the selected consultant and NVCOG to finalize the contract fees,

scope of service and agreement. The selection committee will develop an independent estimate for the defined scope of work prior to receipt or review of the most highly qualified consultant's cost proposal. The independent estimate shall serve as the basis for negotiations of the fee for services. At the end of the 30-day negotiation period, the contract shall be awarded. If a negotiated fee cannot be mutually agreed to by both parties, the NVCOG will terminate negotiation and begin negotiation with the second ranked firm.

The firm awarded the contract as a result of being pre-qualified under this RFQ, must meet all Municipal, State and Federal affirmative action and equal employment opportunity practices. This will include compliance with E.O. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity," as amended by E.O. 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and as supplemented by regulations at 41 CFR part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity," Department of Labor."

Other Requirements

Freedom of Information

Respondents are advised that any and all materials submitted in response to this RFQ shall become the sole property of NVCOG and shall be subject to the provisions of Section 1-210 of the Connecticut General Statutes (re: Freedom of Information).

Incurred Costs

This RFQ does not commit the NVCOG or any of its Municipalities to award a contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this request. Neither the NVCOG nor its member municipalities will be liable in any way for any costs incurred by respondents in replying to this RFQ.

Insurance

The NVCOG requires Consultants to provide and maintain adequate professional liability for errors and omissions in the minimum amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) and automobile liability insurance in the minimum amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000). The Consultant(s) and subcontractors shall carry workman's compensation insurance. Proof of adequate insurance must be included in the bid application.

Personnel

The Contractor shall provide the professional services identified in this Scope of Services and requested by the NVCOG. The proposal must identify the person or persons who will be responsible for conducting the work as listed in this scope of services, and include a copy of each person's resume, experiences with municipal/government clients and listing of references.

The NVCOG is requesting that a senior experienced person be the primary representative for your firm in actually performing the services.

Length of Service

It is expected that the agreement and work covered by this RFQ and Scope of Services shall extend for Twenty Four (24) months from the date of execution of an agreement between the NVCOG and the

consulting firm or team with an NVCOG option to extend the agreement. No delivery of services shall start without written contract issued by the NVCOG.

Contract/ Agreement

The successful firm shall enter into a contract with the NVCOG and agree to abide by all state and federal contractual requirements. By signing the agreement with the NVCOG, the Consultant agrees to perform work as specified in the Scope of Services and accepts the terms and conditions set forth in the contract.

Acceptance or Rejection by the NVCOG

The NVCOG reserves the right to accept or reject any or all responses submitted for consideration, to waive any informalities and/or technicalities, or to negotiate separately in any manner necessary to serve the best interests of the NVCOG. Respondents whose responses are not accepted shall be notified in writing.

Amending or Canceling RFQ

The NVCOG reserves the right to amend or cancel this RFQ, prior to the due date and time, if it is deemed to be in its best interest to do so.

Affirmative Action

The NVCOG and its member municipalities participating in this RFQ are equal opportunity employers and require an affirmative action policy from all consultants as a condition of doing business with the NVCOG or its member municipalities, as per Federal Order 11246. By responding to this RFQ, all consultants agree to this condition of doing business with the NVCOG or its member municipalities and, should they choose to audit for compliance, the consultant agrees to cooperate fully.

Minority-owned Business Enterprise (MBE)/ Woman-owned Business Enterprise (WBE)/ Small Business Enterprise (SBE)

It is the policy of NVCOG to practice nondiscrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin in the award or performance of this contract. All firms qualifying under this solicitation are encouraged to submit a proposal and selection will be based on and conditioned upon satisfying the requirements described in this RFQ and Scope of Services. These requirements apply to all proposers, including those who qualify as an MBE, WBE or SBE. Contracts awarded under this RFQ will be required to meet state and regional MBE, WBE or SBE goals.