

Description of Work:

The Independent Cost Estimator (ICE) will provide independent cost estimates during preconstruction, with services potentially extending into the construction phase, using production-based methodologies and production-based heavy civil estimating software platforms, for comparison with the Department and negotiation with the Contractor. Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (OPCC) estimates are expected to occur at different milestones during each work package, followed by the Construction Agreed Price (CAP) final negotiations per NCDOT's CM/GC Guidelines. The ICE will also need access to Microsoft Project and / or Primavera P6 scheduling software to review the contractor's construction schedule as per the Critical Path Method, CPM.

Upon completion of each estimate, ICE will provide a summary and detailed cost breakdown. Production-based estimates will be translated into unit prices and submitted in an estimate format, as required by the Department. The ICE will provide an independent quantity take-off and participate in quantity reconciliation meetings with the Department. To minimize quantity uncertainty and approach consistent pricing, ICE will work with the Department to ensure the quantities are accurate, and errors and omissions are minimized.

The Independent Cost Estimator's responsibility at the OPCC meetings is to gain a common understanding of bidding assumptions including means and methods, equipment, material costs, exclusions and risk assignment, document those assumptions and advise the Project Team if there are more cost-effective ways of accomplishing the work. Following the OPCC meetings, the ICE will adjust their estimates and resubmit a revised cost estimate to the Department.

The ICE will review and evaluate the CM/GC's CAP bid / price proposals for recommendation in award of the construction contract and subsequent work packages, as required. Familiarity with and adherence to the NCDOT CMGC Guidelines is strongly encouraged.