



AMENDMENT COVER PAGE - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO:	RM-04-0001 (Posted in FedBizOpps as NIMH-04-DB-0001)
TITLE:	“Molecular Libraries Small Molecule Repository”
AMENDMENT:	Three (3) Dated: February 18, 2004
OMB No.: 0990-0115	PURCHASE AUTHORITY: Public Law 92-218 as amended; <u>Note:</u> The issuance of this solicitation does not commit the Government to make an award, or to pay any costs for the preparation and submission of a proposal.
ISSUED BY: Bruce E. Anderson Contracting Officer Contracts Management Branch NIMH, NIH, DHHS Neuroscience Center Building, 8155 (MSC 9661) 6001 Executive Blvd. Bethesda, MD 20892-9661 POINT OF CONTACT: Bruce E. Anderson E-mail: ba9i@nih.gov Phone (301) 443-2696 or 2234 Fax at (301) 443-0501 Collect calls will not be accepted.	RFP ISSUE DATE: December 29, 2003 <u>DUE DATE: March 16, 2004 (CHANGED)</u> 4:00 p.m., local prevailing time <u>Note:</u> The official Point of Receipt for the purposes of determining timely delivery is the Contract Management Branch, NIMH. A <u>paper</u> copy with original signatures is the official copy for recording timely receipt. If the Contracting Officer or Designee does not receive your proposal at the place and time specified, then it will be considered late and handled in accordance with PHS Clause 352.215-10 entitled “Late Proposals, Modifications of Proposals and Withdrawals of Proposals” located in this solicitation. <u>Facsimile submissions are not acceptable.</u>
TO: ALL OFFERORS	PURPOSE: THE PURPOSE OF THIS AMENDMENT IS TO <u>EXTEND</u> THE DUE DATE FOR PROPOSALS, AND PROVIDE ANSWERS TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS RECEIVED ABOUT THE RFP.

NOTE: OFFERORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ROUTINELY CHECKING THE NIMH WEBSITE AT <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/grants/indexcon.cfm> or <http://www.fedbizopps.gov> FOR ANY POSSIBLE SOLICITATION AMENDMENTS THAT MAY BE ISSUED. THIS OFFICE WILL PROVIDE NO ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATION OF ANY AMENDMENTS.

Enclosure: (pages 2-3)

1. Due Date for Proposals

The due date for proposals is extended two weeks, until March 16, 2004.

2. Statement Regarding Scope of the Contract

The purpose of this amendment is to provide clarification regarding the size of the molecular library to be established, the goals and scope of this initiative, and the Contractor's responsibilities.

The solicitation states that the size of the collection could be "up to 1,000,000 compounds." Be advised that this amount was offered only as the possible upper limits, for offerors to understand the potential size of the collection. It is unknown whether the library will reach this size (or what size will be achieved). While the volume of 500,000 to 1,000,000 compounds is our stated *goal*, the Contractor will not be required or expected to attain this volume, or any specific volume.

There is a finite budget for this effort, and the ultimate size of this collection will be dependent in part upon the available funds and the actual costs incurred for compound acquisition, throughput and storage, and for general operation of the repository. The funds set aside for compound purchases are all that are currently available. It is unknown how many compounds can be acquired with these funds, and how many of these will ultimately be retained as a library resource. The small molecule repository will not be a static collection (i.e. not all compounds acquired will be retained; those retained may later be replaced with others); it will be an *evolving*, dynamic collection of compounds.

The scope of this contract is the requirement that the Contractor will exert its best efforts, in a professional manner, and in accordance with the Statement of Work, to provide a *quality* collection, as large as possible, within the funds provided. This is not a fixed-price contract that places some degree of risk on the Contractor to deliver a finite product or service at a specified price; it will be a cost-reimbursement contract, where the Government will reimburse all actual, reasonable, and allowable costs in conformance with the award.

Therefore, in order to perform this contract most effectively, the Contractor must have some flexibility to adapt to the current and evolving repository needs in concert with the budget provided. Within the scope of the contract, the Government may implement certain *usage* policies based upon the actual size and cost of the resource, the throughput requirements of the NIH screening center network (which is in the process of being implemented), and the actual usage of the library by investigators who are not affiliated with the screening centers.

3. Additional Questions and Answers

Task 5. Informatics

Q.1. Referring to subsection "c", is the intent to provide public access to (any part of) the repository database via either PubChem or the repository website?

A.1. No, at this point it is not our intention to provide public access to any part of the repository database via PubChem, though information from the repository database (structure, etc.) may be used by PubChem in developing a record for a compound.

Q.2. *What precisely is the definition of the "link-out" to the repository? Is it a web URL address to the general repository website, or is it a URL address to a sample-specific database record?*

A.2. As PubChem is still in development the specific details of how it will be connected to the repository have not been finalized, but link-outs will likely be to a general repository website.

Q.3. *Also in reference to subsection "c", what is meant by "...indicating availability of that compound"? Is the indication of availability that the given compound exists in the repository (Y/N, assumed simply by its presence in the PubChem db), or is the indication of availability a query of repository quantities available performed via the inventory database?*

A.3. The indication of availability refers to whether or not a given compound exists in the repository, not a query of the quantity of compound available.

[End of Amendment 03]