

IHS PROJECT PH20-V61; WA17-25
EAST COCOPAH INDIAN RESERVATION
Pre-Bid Meeting Minutes: Construction of Lift Station Renovation

Owner: Cocopah Indian Tribe
Reservation: East Cocopah Indian Reservation
Engineer: Indian Health Service
Bid Due Date: March 16th, 2026 by 11:00 AM
Start: 11:00 AM End: 11:49 AM
Location: Cocopah Indian Tribe Wellness Center

I. Introduction and Sign-In Sheet

II. Attendees:

A. Cocopah Indian Tribe

- i. Rudy Alcala- Public Works Director (*In-Person Attendance*)

B. Indian Health Service

- i. Joel Garcia- Field Engineer (*In-Person Attendance*)
- ii. Kristin Boyle- Field Engineer (*In-Person Attendance*)
- iii. Osvaldo Parra Huergo- Field Engineer (*In-Person Attendance*)
- iv. Hyun Lee- Field Engineer (*In-Person Attendance*)

C. Contractors

- i. Jonathan Garcia- ASR (*In-Person Attendance*)
- ii. Rod Mealey- Stetson Engineering (*In-Person Attendance*)
- iii. Tim Swarhout- Stetson Engineering (*In-Person Attendance*)
- iv. Jacob Ortiz- United Rental (*In-Person Attendance*)

III. Project Description – Construction of a new sanitary sewer lift station, approximately 90 linear feet (LF) of gravity sewer main diversion from the existing sanitary sewer system to the new sewer lift station wetwell, the installation of 55 LF of 6” sewer force main, two new sewer manholes, and sewer lift station electrical and SCADA monitoring units. The work also includes the demolition of the existing sewer gravity sewer lines, wetwell, and lift station; and electrical units and force mains.

IV. Tribe, Consultant and IHS Coordination

Phone Numbers:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| A. Tribe Contact: Rudy Alcala | (928) 210-1807 |
| B. IHS Engineer (Primary IHS POC): Joel Garcia | (480) 466-7840, (480) 217-0950 cell |
| C. IHS Engineer (Secondary IHS POC): Darren Ausdemore | (602) 541-5636 |

V. Administrative Items

- A. Relationship between Tribe and IHS: IHS is technical advisor to Tribe.
Comment: Field Engineer Joel Garcia stated that all the communication shall be directed to the Tribe (Rudy) and that the Tribe is the owner of this project and IHS is the technical advisor to the Tribe.
- B. Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the **Cocopah Indian Tribe’s Tribal Headquarters located at 14515 S. Veterans Drive, Somerton, AZ 85350 within the Cocopah West Reservation**, until

Monday, March 16th, 2026 at 11:00 AM local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read at the Cocopah Indian Tribe's Arts and Crafts Room in the Cultural Center Building located at **14529 Veterans Pl, Somerton, AZ 85350. The location coordinates for the Cocopah Tribal Headquarters are: (32.615840478594, -114.767627433186).** Contractor shall be responsible for making sure bids are received on time. The Owner is not responsible for delays in mail or courier services for bids.

- C. All items discussed in the pre-bid conference are intended to highlight various aspects of the bid package. Bidders shall submit all questions about the meaning or intent of the Bidding Documents to Owner's Consultant and Engineer in writing. Contact information and submittal procedures for such questions are as follows: All requests for information (RFI), questions and submittals should be directed through email to **Rudy Alcala (alcalar@cocopah.gov)** and a copy sent to **Joel Garcia, Indian Health Service Field Engineer (joel.garcia@ihs.gov)**. If any modifications to the bid documents are required, a formal bid addendum will be issued. Questions received less than seven days prior to the date for opening of Bids may not be answered.

Comment: Field Engineer Joel Garcia stated that RFI's will be posted on the Cocopah website.

- D. Bid Items:
- i. All seal bids shall be in a separate envelop marked "BID ENCLOSED"
 - ii. Properly Filled Out Bid Form with Bid Table (all blanks shall be filled in with unit price multiplied by estimated quantity)
 - iii. Bid Security (5% of total maximum bid)-Bid Bond Form
 - iv. A copy of a valid CONTRACTOR's license for the state in which the work resides, at the time of bidding or Certification of Renewal;
 - v. Bidders claiming Indian Preference must attach a properly completed "Indian Owned Economic Enterprise Qualification Statement" to the bid. Failure to submit this form will void the Bidder's claim for Indian Preference.
 - vi. Contractor's license number as evidence of Bidder's State Contractor's License or a covenant by Bidder to obtain said license within the time for acceptance of Bids;
 - vii. A copy of certification letter from the manufacturer of the Coating System (i.e., one of the approved products listed in the Technical Provisions) that the applicator intends to install in the manholes. The certification letter shall state that the coating applicator has been trained and is certified and approved by the manufacturer to apply the manufacturer's coating in sewer manholes.

- E. Qualifications of Bidders – To demonstrate Bidder's qualifications to perform the Work, after submitting its Bid and within 15 days of Owner's request, Bidder must submit items such as but not limited to the following: Written evidence establishing its qualifications, Contractor License information, subcontractor and supplier qualifications and other required information regarding qualifications.

Comment: Contractor asked about a performance bond. Field Engineer Joel Garcia stated yes, along with a payment bond of full contract amount.

- F. Evaluation of Bids (Responsible Bidder) – In evaluating whether a Bidder is responsible, Owner will consider the qualifications of the Bidder and may consider the qualifications and experience of Subcontractors and Suppliers proposed for those portions of the Work for which the identity of Subcontractors and Suppliers must be submitted as provided in the Bidding Documents.

- G. Evaluation of Bids (Indian Owned Firms)- In evaluation of the bids, the Owner may, within funding limitations, give preference in the amount of five (5) percent above the lowest total bid, to qualified Indian owned firms.

- H. Contract Time/Performance Period – 150 calendar days from Contract Commence Date to Substantial Completions with LD's - \$800/day.
- I. Contract Start/NTP: The Contract Times will commence to run on the day indicated in the Notice to Proceed. A Notice to Proceed may be given at any time within 30 days after the Effective Date of the Contract. In no event will the Contract Times commence to run later than May 15, 2026.
- J. Performance and Payment Bonds for Full Contract Amount Required.
- K. Insurance Requirements.
Comment: Field Engineer Joel Garcia stated that insurance requirements can be found in the EJCDC under supplementary conditions.
- L. Days of the week/Hours of work – Normally no work on weekends & holidays.
- M. Permits, Taxes & Fees shall be the responsibility of the contractor and be incidental to the overall bid cost.
- N. Correction Period (Warranty Period): 1-year warranty after Substantial Completion Date.
- O. Contractor Responsibilities-Contractor is required to perform at least 33 1/3% of the Work, measured as a percentage of the Contract Price, using their employees and equipment.
- P. Owner's Responsibilities- Owner shall issue all communications to Contractor.
- Q. No provision of this Agreement will be construed by any of the signatories as abridging or any sovereign powers of the Tribe; affecting the trust-beneficiary relationship between the Secretary of the Interior, Tribe, and Indian Land Owner(s); or interfering with the government-to-government relationship between the United States and the Tribe.
Comment: Field Engineer Joel Garcia stated that the EJCDC contains information regarding dispute resolution process.
- R. Federal Requirements-This Contract is expected to be funded in part with funds provided by the IHS.

VI. Tour of Project Site – Travel to East Cocopah Lift Station. (32.569421, -114.672934)

VII. Pre-Bid Questions:

- **When are RFI's due?**
 - RFI's are due by February 26, 2026 at 4:00 PM Arizona Time.
- **Is a Performance Bond required?**
 - Yes, a performance bond is required in addition to a payment bond.
- **Is there an available staging area?**
 - The construction equipment can be stored in the fenced area of the East Cocopah Water Treatment Plant.
- **Is there a source for construction water?**
 - The hose bib located on site can be used as a source for construction water.
- **Are Davis-Bacon wages listed in the RFB?**
 - No, Davis-Bacon wages are not listed in the RFB documents.