



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
16 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0016

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

DAVID A. COLE
COMMISSIONER

March 4, 2010
Subject: **Mowing, Regions 4 & 5**
State Pin No's: 017762.00, 017763.00,
017764.00 & 017765.00
Amendment No. 2

Dear Sir/Ms:

The following questions have been received:

Question: As shown in Amendment #1, question #14: The Department states they can accept or reject mowing from the date of cutting to the date of payment. Can the department consider a weekly approval or bi-weekly acceptance at the most?

Response: The Contract states on page 35, Section II. Invoices and Payments: "The Contractor shall submit an itemized bill to the Department for services at the completion of each mowing cycle for approval and payment."

Question: In years past, when MaineDOT mowed these four areas, there were 8 tractors mowing daily all summer long. Is there a monetary value in which the Department may choose not to award this contract and instead "self perform"?

Response: State law prohibits the release of the Engineer's Estimate. The Department does not have an unlimited budget to perform this work.

Question: Will the Department have the right to end the contract if the mowing runs over by a day or two, or a week or two due to weather conditions such as continuous rain?

Response: Contractors have a responsibility to communicate with the Primary Contact whenever they feel they are having difficulty with schedule or any other issue. The Department can work with Contractors to resolve problems but cannot help if the problems are not brought to its attention in a timely manner. The impact of unusual weather conditions is addressed in the definition of Working Day page 39. The Department can use the Contract modification process to extend the amount of time needed to complete a Mowing Cycle.

Question: Area 4 is a much larger area than the other 3 and has only 45 days to complete the mowing cycle. If a contractor falls behind because of weather conditions, is it excusable?



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Response: Review the answer to the previous question. Also, review MAINEDOT SPECIAL PROVISION, SPECIFICATIONS FOR MOWING AND EQUIPMENT, and Section II. "Mowing Specification for Each Area", Area 4, Equipment, page 39 of the Bid Book. It states: "The Contractor shall have at least one tractor equipped with a triple gang system which consists of 2 side mounted flail or rotary mowing decks capable of mowing ditches and 1 mid mounted flail or rotary mowing deck. At a minimum, any other mowing tractors shall be equipped with flail or rotary mower decks which shall be a mid mount configuration.

The Department is requiring that at least one tractor be a triple gang system which will increase the amount of acres mowed over a single deck system. This should improve the production in Area 4.

Consider this information prior to submitting your bid on March 10, 2010.

Sincerely,


FOR Scott Bickford
Contracts & Specifications Engineer