

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Four Rivers Nuclear Partnership– Paducah Deactivation Project (FRNP)

Decision 2029 – Cultural Resource/Historic Preservation Support

1.0 Description

- 1.1 This Request for Information is to gather information for potential Subcontractors to *provide cultural resource and historic preservation services to support the Decision 2029 (D29) regulatory decisions* being pursued at the Department of Energy (DOE) Paducah Site.
- 1.2 THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) ONLY. This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes – it does not constitute a Request for Proposal (RFP) or a promise to issue an RFP in the future. This request for information does not commit the FRNP to contract for any supply or service whatsoever. Further, FRNP is not at this time seeking proposals and will not accept unsolicited proposals. Respondees are advised that the FRNP will not pay for any information or administrative costs incurred in response to this RFI; all costs associated with responding to this RFI will be solely at the interested party's expense. Not responding to this RFI does not preclude participation in any future RFP, if any is issued. If a solicitation is released, it will be sent to the qualifying Contractor.

2.0 Background

The D29 process will pursue comprehensive regulatory decisions for Waste Disposition Alternatives (WDA), Decommissioning and Demolition (D&D) and Environmental Media (EM). All three decision paths will involve the development of independent Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Studies (RI/FS) evaluations for each remedy under the National Contingency Plan (NCP) (40 CFR 300), leading to a Record of Decision (ROD) no later than the end of fiscal year 2029. Each of the CERCLA evaluations will include the integration of National Environmental Policy Action (NEPA) values into the RI/FS process as outlined in DOE's 2013 Secretarial Policy on NEPA. The objective of the D29 process is to secure a CERCLA ROD for each of the three decisions no later than 2029. The services secured under this SOW will support each of the three decision paths (i.e., WDA, D&D and EM) in parallel.

A Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) was developed in 2006 for the Paducah Site that documents past archaeological surveys and historic preservation evaluations conducted at the site. The CRMP outlines the required path forward for both ground disturbing activities in undisturbed areas of the site and potential impacts from future D&D activities on properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Properties. The new WDA decision path will include the evaluation of on-site disposal of D&D and EM waste on the Paducah Site as well as off-site disposal. Two preliminary locations for the WDA on-site alternative and proposed support areas have been presented and will need to be evaluated to determine if additional archaeological surveys are required. Any areas that may require excavation under the EM decision will also need to be evaluated to determine if additional archaeological surveys are required. Planned D&D activities on properties eligible for the NRHP will also need to be evaluated.

- 2.1 Planned Execution: The scope of the cultural resource and historic preservation services required will include the following:
 - 2.1.1 The evaluation of existing cultural resource and historic preservation information available at the Paducah Site including:
 - 2.1.1.1 2006 Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP).

- 2.1.1.2 2004 Programmatic Agreement between the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Kentucky Historical Council (KHC) and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.
- 2.1.1.3 1994 Environmental Investigations at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant and Surrounding Area, McCracken County, Kentucky
- 2.1.2 The identification of all Applicable, Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs) pertaining to cultural resource and historic preservation requirements at DOE's Paducah Site. (Preliminary list is attached).
- 2.1.3 An evaluation of the proposed actions considering the existing requirements in the CRMP (and related documents) and a current review of applicable regulatory requirements.
- 2.1.4 Based on the information assessed in Items #1 - #3, development of a scoping plan will be completed that outlines the proposed strategy for addressing additional cultural resources and historic preservation requirements at Paducah to support the D29 decisions.
- 2.1.5 If additional archaeological investigations are required, the firm will:
 - 2.1.5.1 Develop a Phase I survey plan to address any data gaps pursuant to Paducah Site documentation requirements.
 - 2.1.5.2 Coordinate with the Paducah Site Team to support the execution of any needed cultural resource surveys.
 - 2.1.5.3 Document survey results and make recommendations on further investigations and mitigation (if required).
- 2.1.6 If there are any requirements for recordation of eligible properties at the site, implement additional steps as required in the CRMP.
- 2.1.7 Assign the appropriate SME's to the integrated WDA, D&D and EM Teams to support the development of cultural resource and historic preservation information for incorporation into the RI/FS reports, the Proposed Plans and the RODs as required (e.g., Chapter 2 – Environmental Setting; Chapter 6 – Detailed Evaluation of Alternatives).
- 2.1.8 Provide guidance on consultations with Tribal Nations (as required).
- 2.1.9 Participate in weekly meetings.
- 2.1.10 Provide input as requested to track schedule progress on a monthly basis.
- 2.1.11 The resources needed for this effort will be finalized in the RFP, but are expected to include most or all of the following:
 - 2.1.11.1 Senior National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Specialist
 - 2.1.11.2 Junior NHPA Specialists/Writer
 - 2.1.11.3 Senior Archaeologist
 - 2.1.11.4 Field Archaeologist (multiple)
 - 2.1.11.5 Junior/Mid-Level Writer(s)
- 2.2 Delivery Period: To support DOE Paducah Site's contractual milestones, the following key deliverable dates are provided:
 - August 1, 2024 – Initiate development of the D0 WDA RI/FS Report.
 - March 17, 2025 – Complete development of the D0 WDA RI/FS Report.
 - August 31, 2026 – Initiate development of the D0 WDA Proposed Plan.

- April 10, 2025 – Initiate development of the D0 EM RI/FS Report.
- June 14, 2026 – Complete development of the D0 EM RI/FS Report.
- October 12, 2026 – Initiate development of the D0 EM RI/FS Report.
- July 30, 2025 – Initiate development of the D0 D&D RI/FS Report.
- March 9, 2026 – Complete development of the D0 D&D RI/FS Report.
- May 7, 2026 – Initiate development of the D0 D&D Proposed Plan.

2.3 Estimated Proposal Period: The bid package, including reference documents, is currently expected to be issued to prospective bidders on June 15, 2024. Proposals are anticipated to be due on July 3, 2024.

2.4 Estimated Award Date: The contract is currently expected to be awarded on, or about, August 1, 2024. Subcontractor is expected to start work immediately upon award.

2.5 Estimated Contract Value: \$150,000 - \$750,000

3.0 Requested Information

3.1 Interested parties are requested to respond to this RFI with a Capability Statement.

3.2 Capability Statements in Microsoft Word for Office 2000 compatible format are due *no later than 22-May-2024, 9:00 A.M. CST.*

Responses shall be submitted via e-mail only to kelly.layfield@pad.pppo.gov

Proprietary information, if any, should be minimized and **MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED.**

4.0 Responses

4.1 Section 1 of the Capability Statement shall provide administrative information, and shall include the following as a minimum:

4.1.1 Name, mailing address, overnight delivery address (if different from mailing address), phone number, fax number, and e-mail of designated point of contact, and CAGE Code.

4.1.2 Business type (large business, small business, small disadvantaged business, 8(a)-certified small disadvantaged business, HUBZone small business, woman-owned small business, very small business, veteran-owned small business, service-disabled veteran-owned small business) based upon North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 541620, Environmental Consulting Services.

4.2 Section 2 of the Capability Statement shall provide responses to the following questions, as well as any additional information that is considered pertaining.

1) Describe briefly the capabilities of your facility and the nature of the goods and/or services you provide. Include a description of your staff composition and management structure.

2) Describe your company's capabilities and experience in archaeological investigations, NHPA compliance, Interface with Tribal Nations, interaction with SHPO offices and development of Memorandums of Agreements and Programmatic Agreements.

3) Describe your company's past experience on previous projects similar in complexity to this requirement. Include contract numbers, a brief description of the work performed, period of performance, agency/organization supported, and individual point of contact (Contracting Officer

or Program Manager). Include quantities, customer, and date of delivery and period of performance.

- 4) What quality assurance processes and test qualification practices does your company employ, including Software Quality Assurance? Please provide a description of your quality program (NQA-1, ISO 9000, QS-9000, EIA-599, or otherwise)?
- 5) Would your company be interested in participating in this solicitation to award? Please explain your response.

5.0 Discussions

FRNP representatives may or may not choose to meet with potential bidders. Such discussions would only be intended to get further clarification of potential capability to meet the requirements, especially any development and certification risks.

6.0 Questions

Questions regarding this announcement shall be submitted by e-mail to FRNP Procurement department kelly.layfield@pad.pppo.gov . **Questions must be submitted within 3 days of receiving the RFI.** Verbal questions will NOT be accepted.

7.0 Summary

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) ONLY to identify sources that can provide cultural resource and historic preservation services to support the Decision 2029 (D29) regulatory decisions being pursued at the DOE Paducah Site.

Location resource	Requirements	Prerequisite	Citation
Location encompassing aquatic ecosystem as defined as 40 CFR 230.3(c)	The discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States is prohibited if there is a practical alternative that would have less adverse impact. No discharge shall be permitted that results in violation of state water quality standards, violates any toxic effluent standard, and/or jeopardizes an endangered species or its critical habitat. No discharge will be permitted that will cause significant degradation of waters of the United States. No discharge of dredged or fill material shall be permitted unless appropriate and practicable steps in accordance with 40 CFR 230.70 et seq. are taken that will minimize potential adverse impacts of the discharge on the aquatic ecosystem.	Action that involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into "waters of the U.S.," including jurisdictional wetlands— applicable	40 CFR 230.10(a), (b), (c) and (d) 40 CFR 230, Subpart H
Mitigation of state waters other than wetlands	Must provide mitigation that results in no overall net loss of resource values for any activity that would result in appreciable permanent loss of resource value of a state water. For any mitigation involving relocation or re-creation of a stream segment, to extent practicable must complete mitigation before any impact occurs to existing state waters. Mitigation measures include but are not limited to: restoration of degraded stream reaches and/or riparian zones; new (relocated) stream channels; removal of pollutants from and hydrologic buffering of stormwater runoff; and other measures which have a reasonable likelihood of increasing the resource value of a state water. Mitigation measures or actions should be prioritized in the following order: restoration, enhancement, re-creation, and protection.	Activity that would result in an appreciable permanent loss of resource value of a state water — applicable	TDEC 0400-40-07-.04(7)(a)
<i>Cultural Resources</i>			
Presence of historical resources on public land	Federal agencies must take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties.	Federal agency undertaking that may impact historical properties listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places— applicable	36 CFR 800.1(a)
	Determine whether the proposed Federal action is an undertaking as defined in § 800.16(y) and, if so, whether it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties.		36 CFR 800.3(a)
	Determine and document the area of potential effects, as defined in §800.16(d).		36 CFR 800.4(a)(1) – (2)
	Review existing information on historic properties within the area of potential effects, including any data concerning possible historic properties not yet identified.		36 CFR 800.4(b)
	Take the steps necessary to identify historic properties within the area of potential effects.		36 CFR 800.4(c)(1) – (2)
	Apply the National Register criteria (36 CFR 63) to properties identified within the area of potential effects that have not been previously evaluated for		

Location resource	Requirements	Prerequisite	Citation
	<p>National Register eligibility. If the agency official determines any of the National Register criteria are met and the SHPO/THPO agrees, the property shall be considered eligible for the National Register for section 106 purposes. Shall apply the criteria of adverse effect to historic properties within the area of potential effects.</p> <p>Shall ensure that a determination, finding, or agreement under the procedures in this subpart is supported by sufficient documentation to enable any reviewing parties to understand its basis.</p>		<p>36 <i>CFR</i> 800.5(a) 36 <i>CFR</i> 800.11(a)</p>
Presence of archaeological resources on public land	No person may excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface, or attempt to excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface any archaeological resource located on public lands or Indian lands unless such activity is pursuant to a permit issued under §7.8 or exempted by §7.5(b) of this part.	Action that would cause the irreparable loss or destruction of significant historic or archaeological resources or data on public land— applicable	43 <i>CFR</i> 7.4(a)
Presence of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony	<p>Intentional excavation of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony from Federal or tribal lands may be conducted only if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objects are excavated or removed following the requirements of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) (16 USC 470aa et seq.) and its implementing regulations and • The disposition of the objects is consistent with their custody as described in §10.6. 	Action involving alteration of terrain that might cause irreparable loss or destruction of any discovered significant scientific, prehistoric, historic, or archaeological resources— applicable	43 <i>CFR</i> 10.3(b)(1) and (3)
Presence of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony (cont.)	Must take reasonable steps to determine whether a planned activity may result in the excavation of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony from Federal lands.		43 <i>CFR</i> 10.3(c)
	If inadvertent discovery occurred in connection with an on-going activity on Federal or tribal lands, in addition to providing the notice described above, must stop activities in the area of the inadvertent discovery and make a reasonable effort to protect the human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony discovered inadvertently.	Excavation activities that inadvertently discover such resources on federal lands or under federal control— applicable	43 <i>CFR</i> 10.4(c)

Location resource	Requirements	Prerequisite	Citation
	Must take immediate steps, if necessary, to further secure and protect inadvertently discovered human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony, including, as appropriate, stabilization or covering.		43 <i>CFR</i> 10.4(d)(ii)
Presence of a cemetery	Intentional desecration of a place of burial without legal privilege or authority to do so is prohibited.	Action that would alter or destroy property in a cemetery— applicable	TCA 39-17-311(a)(1)
	Disinterment of a corpse that has been buried or otherwise interred, without legal privilege or authority to do so, is prohibited.		TCA 39-17-312(a)(2)
<i>Endangered, Threatened or Rare Species</i>			
Presence of Tennessee nongame species as defined in TCA 70-8-103 and listed in TWRA Proclamations 00-14 and 00-15	May not take (i.e., harass, hunt, capture, kill or attempt to kill), possess, transport, export, or process wildlife species. May not knowingly destroy the habitat of such species. Certain exceptions may be allowed for reasons such as education, science, etc., or where necessary to alleviate property damage or protect human health or safety. Upon good cause shown and where necessary to protect human health or safety, endangered or threatened species or "in need of management" species may be removed, captured, or destroyed.	Action impacting Tennessee nongame species, including wildlife species which are "in need of management" (as listed in TWRA Proclamations 00-14 and 00-15 as amended by 00-21)—applicable	TCA 70-8-104(b) and (c) TCA 70-8-106(e) TWRA Proclamations 00-14, Section II and 00-15, Section II, as amended by Proclamation 00-21 (TBC) See also the TN Natural Heritage Program Rare Animal List (2009)
Presence of Tennessee-listed endangered or rare plant species as listed in TDEC 0400-06-02-.04	May not knowingly uproot, dig, take, remove, damage or destroy, possess or otherwise disturb for any purposes any endangered species.	Action impacting rare plant species including but not limited to federally listed endangered species— relevant and appropriate	TCA 70-8-309(a) 16 <i>USC</i> 1531 et seq. TDEC 0400-06-02-.04 and Tennessee Natural Heritage Program Rare Plant List (2012)
Presence of federally endangered or threatened species, as designated in 50 <i>CFR</i> 17.11 and 17.12 or critical habitat of such species	Actions that jeopardize the existence of a listed species or results in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat must be avoided or reasonable and prudent mitigation measures taken.	Action that is likely to jeopardize fish, wildlife, or plant species or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat— applicable	16 <i>USC</i> 1531 et seq., Sect. 7(a)(2)
Presence of migratory birds as defined in 50 <i>CFR</i> 10.13, and their habitats	Unlawful killing, possession, and sale of migratory bird species, as defined in 50 <i>CFR</i> 10.13, native to the U.S. or its territories is prohibited. Requirements are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• avoid or minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse impacts on migratory bird resources when conducting agency action;	Action that is likely to impact migratory birds— applicable Federal agency action that is likely to impact migratory birds— TBC	16 <i>USC</i> 703-704 Executive Order 13186