

**Greater Texoma Utility Authority
Request for Qualifications for Bond Counsel Services**

The Greater Texoma Utility Authority is seeking qualifications for bond counsel services for projects funded through the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).

Scope of Work: Bond Counsel services will include: 1) Preparation of preliminary and final financing documents for the project; 2) Delivery of customary opinions; 3) Assistance to the Authority and the Authority’s financial consultant in the preparation of the TWDB Loan application; 4) Submission of Transcript of Proceedings to, and obtaining bond approval of, Texas Attorney General; 5) Closing coordination with TWDB.

Statement of Qualifications (SOQ): Furnish an SOQ to include the following information:

1) Experience with preparation of preliminary and final financing documents; 2) Experience with TWDB funded projects; 3) Experience with obtaining Texas Attorney General approval; 3) Project team and project team resumes.

Submission Requirements: If your firm is interested in being considered for this assignment, submit your SOQ to General Manager, Greater Texoma Utility Authority, 5100 Airport Drive, Denison TX 75020 (US Mail and delivery) (903-786-4433) no later than 3:00 pm CDST, December 6, 2023. One paper copy and one digital copy of the SOQ must be submitted. Each proposal should be limited to no more than 10 pages including the cover letter.

TWDB’s Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)/Women’s Business Enterprise (WBE) Requirements:

This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). Any contract or contracts awarded under this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected to be funded in part by a loan from the TWDB. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies or employees are or will be a party to this RFQ, or any resulting contract.

Equal Opportunity in Employment – All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Greater Texoma Utility Authority is an Affirmative Action/equal Opportunity Employer; Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) “fair share policy,” which includes EPA-approved “fair share goals” for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) & Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms in the Construction, Supplies, Equipment, and Services procurement categories. EPA’s policy requires that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to MBE and WBE firms. Although EPA’s policy does not mandate that the fair share goals be achieved, it does require applicants and prime contractors to demonstrate use of the six affirmative steps in procurement. The current fair share goals for the State of Texas are as follows:

| | <u>MBE</u> | <u>WBE</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Construction | 19.44% | 9.17% |
| Supplies | 25.34% | 8.82% |
| Equipment | 16.28% | 11.45% |
| Services | 20.41% | 13.66% |