

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AND

SOLICITATION #: 36C77626B0006

RESPONSES TRACKING SHEET

PROJECT TITLE: 621-24-701 EHRM Infrastructure Upgrades Tier 3
Data Center Construction - Mountain Home
VAMC

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
1			Will the Government provide detailed written requirements for contractor badging? Please clarify the process for obtaining PIV badges, including required documentation, background checks, and estimated processing timeframes.	<p>Regardless of affiliation, everyone working within VA facilities or requiring access to VA information systems requires a VA PIV Card. PIV badging requirements can be found at https://www.osp.va.gov/How To Get A VA ID Badge.asp</p> <p>Immediately after the bonds are provided to the Government, the contractor shall immediately start working with the identified COR at the site to commence the VA PIV process for all known contractor personnel that will be working the project. All contractors must have a PIV Card in order to work on site.</p>
2			Please confirm that any designers or consultants who provided professional services for the construction documents, including reports, are precluded from pursuing this project as a Prime contractor, Mentor-Protégé partner, or subcontractor.	Any member of the design team of this project is not permitted to be part of the construction team.
3			Please confirm that this project is a competitive SDVOSB set-aside and that any bonding provided by a contractor must be through a SDVOSB or SBA/VA APPROVED Mentor-Protégé partnership under the SBA/VA Mentor-Protégé program in which the partnership has been approved prior to the due date.	This project is set aside for SDVOSBs. The bonding requirements must be met for this project per the applicable clauses, provisions, and instructions to offerors.

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4			<p>1) Should we include the 29 network cabinets in our bid or will be VA be providing those?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If we provide, do you have a cabinet brand you prefer? b. Document "Attachment 2 - V2_621-24-701_Specifications" page 374 says "cabinets and related equipment should be white in color" Is black an acceptable color substitute? c. Same document, page 358 says "provide six keys to COR for each cabinet". Page 374 contradicts that and says "provide two per cabinet". Which is correct? d. Same document says, the cabinets need to be "Compliant with facility's SMS card access system". What is your card access system brand and model? e. Same document, page 374 says provide a "Vertical Exhaust Duct" for each server cabinet where it calls for this optional item. Should we assume ALL cabinets get the VED or just some? Please clarify. <p>2) Same document, Page 374 says we "Must supply 45U of 1RU blanking panels for each cabinet". Page 377 contradicts that and says "provide enough to fill 75% of all RUs in each server and network cabinet". Which is correct?</p>	<p>1) Yes, the network cabinets are CFCI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Basis of design: Chatsworth ZetaFrame Cabinet (PN:ZB14-A222Ae1) or equivalent. b. VA to confirm. c. VA to confirm preference. d. VA to confirm. e. Provide VED for all cabinets. <p>2) Refer to 377 for blanking panels.</p>
5			<p>What color do the phenolic nameplates and associated text on them need to be?</p>	<p>Refer to specification 26 05 11 <i>Requirements for Electrical Installations</i> §1.11</p>

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6			<p>1) Several places in same document says “All cabling used shall be pre-terminated and procured to the specific length required by the design (horizontal and vertical paths) with no more than 1 meter of excess length on each end”. Is that statement accurate or can we fusion splice all fiber cable on this project like we normally do? Quoting and ordering per-terminated fiber cable to exact lengths will be extremely hard, if not impossible to do.</p> <p>2) Same document, page 359 says, “Provide minimum one cabinet with blank rack space, for additional system expansion equipment” Is that accurate? If so, should that cabinet be installed in the MCR or just warehoused at your location somewhere?</p> <p>3) Same document, page 361 says, “Provide each cabinet with an internal UPS”. Do you have a preferred make/model/part # or additional specification requirements that we should quote?</p>	<p>1) All interconnections within the MCR rack lineup, from one rack to another, needs to be pre-terminated. Cabling leaving the racks, exiting the room shall not be pre-terminated.</p> <p>2) Disregard providing one additional blank cabinet. Cabinets shall be provided as shown on the construction documents drawings.</p> <p>3) Centralized UPS in use within MCR. No rack mounted UPS.</p>
7			Please provide the sign schedule and spec section.	Refer to specification 10 14 00 & 01 28 26 per Addendum 2.
8			The VA’s Master Specification 01 32 16.15, 'Project Schedules' (Small Projects – Design/Bid/Build) , was revised effective December 1, 2025 . The updated version is now available on the Technical Information Library (TIL). Will the VA be updating the 01 32 16.15 spec for this project to include this spec instead of the older one?	This has already been updated. See Addendum 1 dated 12/22/25 posted in the original solicitation.

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9			Also will the VA still keep in VAAR 852.232-71 or will VAAR 852.232-70 replace this Clause?	VAAR 852.232-71 is to be replaced by VAAR 852.232-70. This project will now adhere to VAAR 852.232-70.
10			Drawing EP102 shows mechanical units 77-ERU-1 feeding from MCR EQ B and 77-ERU-2 feeding from MCR EQ A, both located in room 3A212. However, the E-601 One-Line Diagram for Panels MCR EQ A and MCR EQ B does not show the feeders or breakers for these units. Could you please provide the feeder and breaker sizes for 77-ERU-1 and 77-ERU-2?	These outdoor units are powered via indoor units. Coordinate with mechanical contractor for more information.
11			Regarding the basket tray shown on drawing TN402, what are the required dimensions? Additionally, does the drawing represent a single tray or multiple trays?	Cable tray shall be sized to hold the maximum expected cable load at not more than 40% fill and not more than 6" maximum cable depth. 270536 2.1, C. Refer to Telecommunications and Architectural Floor Plans.
12			Does the VA utilize a specific vendor to service the existing fire alarm system? If so, please provide their contact information.	Johnson Controls Simplex office number: 423-467-3547
13			Does the VA utilize a specific vendor to service the existing clean agent system? If so, please provide their contact information.	Johnson Controls Simplex office number: 423-467-3547
14			Where will the designated contractor lay-down area and office trailer yard be located?	Refer to sheet AS001. Coordinate with the VA on lay-down location.
15			Will onsite parking be available for contractors and crew? If so, will there be a designated area, and what is its proximity to the project site?	Contractor parking shall be co-located with the Contractor laydown site identified on Drawing AS001.

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16			Will the owner accept Procore Project Management software as the primary submittal and data tracking tool for this project?	Procore – No Substitute
17			How many calendar days should be included in the critical-path method schedule for owner and A/E submittal review?	See POP for overall calendar days. Refer to documents for period of performance.
18			How long after award will the Government provide the submittal register?	General contractor shall generate their own submittal register in Procore.
19			Please clarify whether QC Manager candidates with directly relevant QC experience on comparable Federal construction projects may be considered acceptable if their formal education differs from the degree described in the solicitation/specification/01 45 00, provided their qualifications are documented in the proposal/QC Plan submittal.	Contract documents provide qualification requirements for QC/QA Managers. Qualifications may not be substituted.
20			Confirm the required number of submittal copies/digital format and turnaround time expectations per VA electronic submittal procedures (new section in addendum).	Digital format for product information submittals is acceptable to Spur. Actual physical material samples need to be provided per the specifications and catalogued digitally. Review durations to be determined post bid award. Digital submittals are required to be submitted through Procore per specifications.
21			If double- or triple-hatting is not permitted, please confirm acceptable alternatives, such as designating a qualified alternate SSHO or QC representative under the superintendent's oversight, and any documentation/submittal requirements to demonstrate independence and competency.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.

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22			Will the VA permit the use of Procore or an equivalent construction management software platform for submittals and project communications?	Procore – No Substitute
23			Will the owner accept the “Primavera P6” for schedule submission and monthly updates?	MS Project shall be used for scheduling - No Substitute. PDF copies shall be shared with the project team.
24			Is this project tax-exempt, and will the CO/COR provide the necessary tax-exempt certificates?	No
25			Because of COVID-19 throughout the U.S. and the resulting Federal, State and local governments’ responses/requirements, are there any new work requirements or mandates that will be required by the VA on this project?	VA to confirm any such requirements specific to their station.
26			Many VA campuses are beginning to address tuberculosis protocols on VA campus projects, including the 90-day screening before assignment to the worksite. This requirement will limit the amount of personnel who can immediately perform work right after the award. Will this project be required to follow 01 35 26 1.13 for TB-required protocols and a requirement to follow the 90-day screening before beginning work on the project?	Per specification 01 35 26 1.16, tuberculosis protocols are included with this contract.
27			What is the approximate duration between issuing the award and issuing the NTP?	The Government anticipates issuance within 90 calendar days after award.
28			For planning the preliminary project schedule, please provide an anticipated award date.	Award is anticipate to be around 30-45 days after bids are received.
29			How many calendar days should be included in the critical-path method schedule for the owner and A/E to review and respond to RFIs?	Reference question #17

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30			Will the Government provide the 3-D REVIT Design model in native file format for the creation of coordination drawings and use by contractor?	VA can provide 2D CAD files upon request.
31			1.Please confirm that the project scope will be completed during normal working hours, not nights and weekends.	Per specification 01 10 11 3.G, normal work hours will be from 7:00am to 4:40pm (local time). Nights and weekend work to be coordinated with the COR and performed as required. Bids shall include an allowance for off-hours work requirement.
32			2.What are the station's normal work hours? Will work be restricted to normal business hours, or will the VA require night/weekend work due to the Tier 3 Data Center environment?	Per specification 01 10 11 3.G, normal work hours will be from 7:00am to 4:40pm (local time). Nights and weekend work to be coordinated with the COR and performed as required. Bids shall include an allowance for off-hours work requirement.
33			3.Given that this is an operational medical facility with high traffic and specific ICRA requirements, is it permissible to perform work in common areas, such as corridors, after normal business hours?	Per specification 01 10 11 3.G, normal work hours will be from 7:00am to 4:40pm (local time). Nights and weekend work to be coordinated with the COR and performed as required. Bids shall include an allowance for off-hours work requirement.
34			Where will the designated laydown area be for the GC?	Refer to AS001. Coordinate with the VA on lay-down location.
35			Can you confirm that the owner will be contracting directly with a third-party commissioning agent for commissioning the project and that the Contractor is only to include participation/coordination with the Commissioning Agent?	Refer spec section 01 91 00. VA has contracted with 3 rd party Cx agent.

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36			<p>Are there specific testing/certification standards (e.g., TIA-568, BICSI) and documentation formats required for fiber and copper cabling commissioning?</p>	<p>The Contract Documents incorporate by reference the following standards and design manuals, including but not limited to:</p> <p>VA Office of Information & Technology Infrastructure Standard for Telecommunications Spaces (ISTS) v4.0</p> <p>VA PG-18-10 Telecommunications and Special Telecommunications Systems Design Manual</p> <p>BICSI standards</p> <p>ANSI/TIA-942-B</p> <p>Applicable Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) standards as defined in VA PG-18-10</p> <p>Contractor shall test, certify, and document all copper and fiber optic cabling installations in accordance with the above referenced standards and their latest adopted editions as of the date of the Contract Documents.</p> <p>Test documentation shall demonstrate compliance with the performance category specified and be submitted in manufacturer-native electronic format from the field test instrument, including complete parameter results. As-built documentation, cable schedules, labeling records, and warranty certification shall be included in the closeout submittal.</p>
37			<p>Clarify the level of commissioning required (e.g., Level 4 or 5 per VA specs) for power, cooling, fire suppression, and communications systems, including who provides the Commissioning Authority.</p>	<p>Refer spec section 01 91 00 for general requirements. Items/ scopes/ divisions that require commissioning are listed in each specification section. Contractors are responsible for all commissioning requirements in accordance with the specifications.</p>

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38			Has the facility Operation & Maintenance team reviewed the Contract Documents for operability to avoid change orders?	Contractor is responsible to review contract documents for operability.
39			Can the contractor use an existing office inside the building for a temporary construction office during construction instead of setting up a temporary trailer?	Temporary office space inside the VA facility will not be provided.
40			Can the contractor use the existing restroom facilities in the work area or adjacent ones nearby?	Public restroom facilities within the VA may be used but shall be left in good condition by the contractor.
41			Can the contractor use the existing on-site utilities for temporary electrical and water free of charge?	Contractor must provide physical connections to VA utilities if available. VA will supply power and water free of charge after contractor physically connects to service. Bids shall include an allowance for generators to provide temporary power to laydown site if access to VA utilities is not possible.
42			Will the owner provide the fire watch during the period that the fire suppression and/or fire alarm system is not in service?	All firewatch must be provided by the contractor.
43			Please provide detailed guidance for noise and vibration operations, including acceptable levels/duration, hours of operations for acceptable levels, and acceptable noise levels after hours.	Refer to specification 01 00 00 1.6.G

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44			<p>1.Can the QA/QC dual hat as the Superintendent?</p> <p>2.Spec 01 45 00 3.4 B. (pg. 6&7) calls specifically for the superintendent to hold QC role: "The CQC System Manger is assigned as CQC System Manager but has duties as project superintendent in addition to quality control."</p> <p>3.Can the government please confirm that the response provide to numerous questions that does not allow the QC role to be dual hatted is going to over ride the specification that requires the superintendent and QC to be held by 1 person?</p>	<p>See Addendum 3: CQC System Manager: Identify as CQC System Manager an individual within the onsite work organization that is responsible for overall management of CQC and has the authority to act in all CQC matters for the Contractor. The CQC system Manager is required to be a graduate engineer, graduate architect, or a graduate of construction management, with a minimum of 10 years construction experience on construction similar to the scope of this Contract. This CQC System manager is on the site at all times during construction and is employed by the General Contractor. Identify in the plan an alternate to serve in the event of the CDQC System Manager's absence. The requirements for the alternate are the same as the CQC System Manager.</p> <p>No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.</p>
45			Can the SSHO dual hat as a Superintendent?	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
46			Has the owner entered into an agreement with the owner-furnished equipment vendor?	Contractor shall furnish all labor, materials, and equipment required to complete this project IAW the design and specifications.
47			In the RFP it states there is an asbestos report. Please provide report.	Hazardous material survey report provided within Environmental Design Narrative; . For the narrative, see Amendment 0005, 0005 - Environmental Narrative - 621-24-701.
48			Can the owner confirm that the General Contractor is to not include any Asbestos or Lead Removal?	All abatement shall be provided by the contractor. Known environmental hazards identified in contract documents.

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49			Has the work area been checked for asbestos, lead-based materials, and/or other hazardous materials? Is there a report available?	See response to questions 47 & 48.
50			What is the Government's policy if asbestos products are encountered during construction which is not quantified in the construction documents?	All abatement shall be provided by the contractor. Known environmental hazards identified in contract documents. For the narrative, see Amendment 0005, 0005 - Environmental Narrative - 621-24-701.
51			Keynote A2 on HA101, says to "remove window assembly with underlying presumed asbestos framing/plug caulks and seals within a negative air pressure enclosure, 3 window assemblies. Install fire-treated plywood cover adequately secured over window opening, 1 window cover." AE102, Keynote 8.94 appears to be showing a window film on the existing windows. Please clarify what is correct.	Only remove window gasketing as required to apply blackout film as per AE Keynote 8.94. Window frames are to remain intact and should not be disturbed. Note that asbestos containing caulking/sealants associated with original window systems are presumed present and concealed/hidden behind exposed frames. Any work requiring window frame removal must be performed by a licensed abatement contractor.
52			Drawing HA101 shows 4 windows on East side to be within the work area. The 2 windows in 3A113 and 1 window in 3A112 are identified to contain asbestos but not the window in 3A112A. does the window in 3A112A contain asbestos?	Room 3A112A window frames are to remain intact and should not be disturbed. Note that asbestos containing caulking/sealants associated with original window systems are presumed present and concealed/hidden behind exposed frames. Any work requiring window frame removal must be performed by a licensed abatement contractor.
53			Drawing HA101 note A2: The window in 3A112 is identified to contain asbestos and is scheduled to be removed and replaced with fire rated wood. Drawing AE101 note 8.94 calls for the window to be disassembled completely film applied and reinstalled. Can the VA please clarify if the existing window is to be abated and reinstall or is being replaced?	Only remove window gasketing as required to apply blackout film as per AE101 Keynote 8.94. Window frames are to remain intact and should not be disturbed. Note that asbestos containing caulking/sealants associated with original window systems are presumed present and concealed/hidden behind exposed frames. Any work requiring window frame removal must be performed by a licensed abatement contractor.

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54			Drawing HA101 note A6: The windows in 3A113 are identified to contain asbestos and are scheduled to be protected only no removal or abatement. Drawing AE101 note 8.94 calls for the window to be disassembled completely film applied and reinstalled. Can the VA please clarify if abatement of these 2 windows is within the scope of this project?	Only remove window gasketing as required to apply blackout film as per AE101 Keynote 8.94. Window frames are to remain intact and should not be disturbed. Note that asbestos containing caulking/sealants associated with original window systems are presumed present and concealed/hidden behind exposed frames. Any work requiring window frame removal must be performed by a licensed abatement contractor.
55			Will the windows be removed or will they just receive a blackout film.	Only remove window gasketing as required to apply blackout film.
56			Are there any known asbestos-containing materials (ACM) or other hazardous materials in rooms 3A112, 3A112A, etc., and if so, can the VA provide survey reports or abatement requirements?	Yes. Please refer to Drawing HA101 and contract specifications for details. Hazardous material survey report provided within Environmental Design Narrative. For the narrative, see Amendment 0005, 0005 - Environmental Narrative - 621-24-701.
57			Are there any known asbestos-containing materials (ACM) or other hazardous materials in rooms 3A112, 3A112A, etc., and if so, can the VA provide survey reports or abatement requirements?	Yes. Please refer to Drawing HA101 and contract specifications for details. Hazardous material survey report provided within Environmental Design Narrative. For the narrative, see Amendment 0005, 0005 - Environmental Narrative - 621-24-701.
58			Please confirm if any hazardous material abatement required in this project. If so, Will the VA provide recent asbestos and lead survey reports?	Yes. Please refer to Drawing HA101 and contract specifications for details. Hazardous material survey report provided within Environmental Design Narrative. For the narrative, see Amendment 0005, 0005 - Environmental Narrative - 621-24-701.
59			Can the existing service and/or public elevators be used for construction activities? Are there any restrictions or time constraints?	Service elevator may be used for construction related tasks.

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60			Will the Government consider candidates with extensive relevant experience and CQM-C certification as meeting the qualification requirements in lieu of a formal degree, consistent with FAR and VA guidelines that allow for equivalent experience for technical roles?	Contract documents provide qualification requirements for QC/QA Managers. Qualifications may not be substituted.
61			Please confirm if the Government will consider a QA/QC organization in which the named QC Manager provides overall program management and decision-making authority, while on-site inspections and documentation are carried out by project-dedicated QC personnel reporting to that individual.	Contract documents provide qualification requirements for QC/QA Managers. Qualifications may not be substituted.
62			May CQM discipline-specific staff (HVAC, plumbing, electrical, low voltage, civil, etc.) be provided by trade subcontractors performing the work, rather than directly by the CM, provided they meet the minimum experience requirements?	Reference specification 01 45 00 3.4.C
63			Who is the current fire alarm vendor on site?	Johnson Controls Simplex office number: 423-467-3547
64			Who is the current fire sprinkler subcontractor on site?	Contractor to subcontract fire sprinkler related work.
65			Who is the CCTV vendor/system on site?	Avigilon
66			Who is the access control vendor on site?	Hirsh Velocity: PACS System
67			Please confirm if the sprinkler heads will need to be turned up while the acoustical ceiling tile is out.	Confirmed, the VA requires interim protection during construction. Construction area shall have either a 1 hour fire rated barrier around the construction site, or sprinkler head shall be turned up when the acoustical ceiling tiles are removed.

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68			Please confirm if existing floors will need to be covered with a self-leveling material?	Refer to 09 05 16 Subsurface Preparation for Floor Finishes
69			Can the loading dock area be used for dumpsters? if not, provide the location.	Dumpster shall be located at the contractor's laydown site.
70			Provide the path for the removal of debris.	Debris removal path shall be coordinated with the COR, path shall minimize disruptions to the operation of the hospital.
71			Will the project require power system studies such as Protective Device Coordination and Arc Flash?	A coordination study, arc flash calculations, and short circuit calculations are required for this project. Specification section <i>26 05 73 Overcurrent Protective Device Coordination Study</i> is included in Addendum 02, issued as part of Amendment 0004.
72			Can the VA provide as-built drawings or surveys of the existing MCR (room 3A109) showing current equipment layout, power distribution, cooling infrastructure, and cable routing to facilitate accurate relocation planning?	Existing MCR layout represented in contract drawings. No existing as built drawing exists.
73			What is the exact VA Tier 3 data center standards (e.g., specific references from VA OIT Infrastructure Standards, PG-18-10 Electrical Design Manual, or OEHRM requirements) that the new MCR must meet, particularly for redundancy (N+1 or 2N) in power and cooling? Please confirm if the required redundancy is concurrently maintainable (Tier 3) level, and provide details on the existing normal, emergency, and UPS sources serving Floor 3 of Building 77.	The design is informed by the referenced standards and others within the PG-18-10 series, including the HVAC Design Manual, taken as a whole rather than specific cited sections. Information on the existing normal, emergency, and UPS sources serving Floor 3 of Building 77 is shown on the one-line diagram on sheet E-601.
74			Are there any restrictions on shutdown durations or required phasing for existing MCR power/cooling systems during relocation to avoid impacting hospital operations?	Yes. Refer to phasing information in contract documents specifically the narratives and drawings. Refer to RFI 116 below. Refer to Amendment 0005, and all the attached 0005 - Architectural Narrative - 621-24-701.

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75			Please provide the current load calculations (kVA/kW) for the existing MCR equipment and projected loads for the relocated Tier 3 setup to confirm UPS and power infrastructure sizing.	Total MCR load calculated for new equipment is in bid documents under the file name 'Server & TR - Electrical Load Estimation.pdf'. No existing load calculations were performed. Provided in Amendment 0006
76			For the clean-agent fire suppression system: Which specific agent (e.g., FM-200, Novec 1230) is preferred or approved by VA for occupied spaces, and are there cylinder storage location preferences beyond room 3A112A?	Basis of design calculations for the renovation is NOVEC 1230. See FG101 general note 4.
77			Confirm whether the new fire-rated assembly in the MCR requires a specific fire-resistance rating (e.g., 2-hour) and if UL-listed assemblies or equivalent are acceptable.	Refer to partition tags on AE101 and Partition Types on AE001.
78			Please clarify acceptable firestop systems (e.g., specific manufacturers/products listed in VA master specs) for walls/floors in the new MCR spaces.	Refer to Specification Section 07 84 00 for performance requirements. Contractor to submit product for review to ensure that it meets performance requirements.
79			For HVAC upgrades and Johnson Controls DDC: Provide the current DDC protocol/version and integration requirements for tying new controls into the existing VA building management system (BMS). Can you also give us the current Local JCI reps contact information.	Coordinate current local BMS contractor information with VA medical staff. Johnson Controls Rep: Mike Scarbrough - Michael.Scarbrough@jci.com
80			Please confirm acceptable testing/adjusting/balancing (TAB) procedures and certification requirements for the new computer room cooling systems per VA specs.	Refer to Specification section 23 05 93 for further information.

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81			For structured cabling (DIV 27): Confirm required fiber types (e.g., OM4 multi-mode, OS2 single mode) and redundancy configurations (A/B diverse paths) for backbone cabling to the new MCR.	All information regarding fiber types and redundancy can be found within the contract documents. Specifically, the Telecommunications Drawings, Narrative, and specs. For the narrative, see Amendment 0005, 0005 - Telecommunications Narrative - 621-24-701.
82			Clarify if the new MCR requires a dedicated telecommunications grounding busbar (TGB) and if it must connect to the building main grounding electrode system per VA and NEC requirements.	Yes. Refer to Telecommunications Drawings for more information. See Amendment 0005, 0005 - Telecommunications Narrative - 621-24-701.
83			Are there preferred rack/enclosure manufacturers or VA-approved products for the new MCR (e.g., specific ladder rack, tray, or cabinet types)?	Refer to contract documents (specifically the Telecommunications Drawings, Narrative, and specs), and OIT Design Guide Templates found on the TIL for VA-approved products. For the narrative, see Amendment 0005, 0005 - Telecommunications Narrative - 621-24-701.
84			Please provide access protocols, badging requirements, and escort procedures for contractor personnel working in occupied Floor 3 areas during construction.	Refer to Question 1 response.
85			Interim Life Safety Measures (ILSM): Confirm specific ILSM requirements for work near patient care areas, including fire watch, temporary barriers, and notification procedures.	Refer to sheet GI002 and Spec Section 01 35 26 Safety Requirements.
86			In the addendum to the specs (Attachment 4)- The addendum revised contractor work hours—please clarify if overtime or off-hours work is permitted/required for critical tie-ins or shutdowns, and any associated costs.	Per specification 01 10 11 3.G, normal work hours will be from 7:00am to 4:40pm (local time). Nights and weekend work to be coordinated with the COR and performed as required. Bids shall include an allowance for off-hours work requirement.
87			Provide preferred or required sequence for demolition of existing MCR equipment vs. build-out of new spaces to minimize downtime.	Existing MCR shall not be demolished under this project. For phasing requirements refer to contract documents.

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88			For selective demolition: Confirm if existing equipment in room 3A109 is to be removed by contractor, turned over to VA, or disposed of, and any salvage credits.	None of the above. Existing MCR shall not be demolished under this project.
89			Structural modifications: Are engineer-stamped calculations or shop drawings required for any minor wall/ceiling penetrations or reconfigurations in the affected rooms?	Penetrations through non-structural walls/ceilings are generally acceptable without review. No penetrations, holes or other modifications shall be made through new or existing structural members without first contacting the EOR for approval, unless such penetrations are already shown and detailed on the structural drawings.
90			Confirm acceptable flooring types (e.g., anti-static raised floor or sealed concrete) and painting specifications for the new MCR to meet Tier 3 environmental controls.	Refer to sheet AE601. No raised flooring in this project.
91			Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA): Provide the required ICRA class for this project and any specific barriers, negative pressure, or HEPA filtration needs.	Refer to sheet GI002. It was determined during the design of this project that Category D, Low Patient Risk is attributed to this project per the VA provided ICRA sheet. This results in a Level III level of precautions. Contractor is to verify and coordinate ICRA requirements with the VA. Refer to specification section 01 35 26 Safety Requirements for additional information.
92			Can the VA locate and mark existing utilities (power, fiber, HVAC lines) in rooms 3A112 series prior to demolition/start of work.	Contractor to field verify all existing conditions prior to demolition/start of work.
93			Clarify if independent third-party testing is required for specific items (e.g., firestopping, cable certification, TAB) and approved labs.	Not Mechanical & not required

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94			With the revised period of performance in addendum, confirm if the 365-day completion includes phased substantial completion for partial MCR activation.	The period of performance for project completion is 365 days after issuance of the Notice to Proceed.
95			Confirm if any wage determination updates apply beyond Attachment 7 (Washington County, TN), and if certified payroll is required weekly or bi-weekly.	Attachment 7 is to be followed. Also, per FAR 52.222-8 (DEV NOV 2025) Payrolls and Basic Records in the solicitation/contract. Payrolls are required to be submitted weekly.
96			Can the VA schedule a follow-up walkthrough of the affected rooms (3A109, 3A112 series) for bidders/contractors to verify field conditions and measurements?	No additional site visit will be scheduled.
97			Is the use of Johnson Controls Direct Digital Controls (DDC) a mandatory/brand-name-only requirement with no substitutions permitted or is it specified as a basis of design/preferred system where products of equal performance and compatibility from other manufacturers acceptable?	No, coordinate current local BMS contractor information with VA medical staff. Open protocol BMS system required, provide integration.
98			If DDC substitutions are permitted, please confirm the specific performance, protocol, and integration requirements that an alternate DDC system must meet, including: Compatibility and full interoperability, Supported communication protocol, Cybersecurity compliance, Any required licensing, programming tools, training, or maintenance contract implications, demonstration of seamless integration without additional cost.	Please refer to Specification Section 23 09 23.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
99			If Johnson Controls is required due to existing system compatibility or standardization at this facility, please provide: Confirmation of the current BMS platform and version in use, Any VA-approved justification for brand-name specification, details on whether the contractor would be required to coordinate directly with Johnson Controls or an authorized representative for programming/integration and the email and contact info who the current representative is.	Controls contractor shall be responsible for verifying all existing BMS systems compatibility with VA and manufacturer. Coordinate current local BMS contractor information with VA medical staff.
100			In Section 01 35 26 (Safety Requirements) or equivalent, the SSHO must often be a separate qualified individual from the Prime Contractor's Superintendent and/or Quality Control Manager, with duties only as the SSHO. Please confirm if the Project Superintendent can serve concurrently as the SSHO (double-hatting) for this project, or if a dedicated, separate SSHO is required at all times when work is performed.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
101			Per Division 01 Quality Control requirements (e.g., Section 01 45 00 or similar), is the Project Superintendent permitted to also serve as the Contractor Quality Control (CQC) Manager (double-hatting), or must these be separate personnel to ensure independent quality oversight and documentation?	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
102			For smaller or less complex projects, some VA contracts allow limited combining of key roles. Please clarify if triple-hatting (one individual serving as Project Superintendent, SSHO, and CQC Manager simultaneously) is acceptable on this Tier 3 Data Center relocation project, or if dedicated separate personnel are required for each role to meet safety, quality, and supervision mandates in an occupied VA medical facility.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
103			Confirm the minimum qualifications for the SSHO (e.g., OSHA 30-hour certification, EM 385-1-1 experience, etc.) and whether the SSHO must be full-time dedicated on-site with no other duties (no double- or triple-hatting allowed), especially during high-hazard activities like electrical work, HVAC modifications, or demolition in the MCR areas.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
104			The solicitation requires the contractor to provide supervision, with the superintendent typically required to be physically present on-site at all times when work is being performed. Please confirm if this full-time on-site requirement applies strictly to the superintendent, and if any double hatting with SSHO or QC roles would violate this presence mandate.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
105			Given the project's focus on relocating the MCR with minimal disruption (including potential phased shutdowns/tie-ins), clarify if combining roles (e.g., superintendent doubling as SSHO) is allowable during low-activity phases or if separate personnel are required throughout the 365- day performance period to maintain continuous safety and quality oversight.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
106			In other VA EHRM infrastructure upgrade projects (e.g., similar Tier 3 data center or critical IT room relocations), VA has often required separate SSHO and QC personnel from the superintendent to ensure impartiality. Please provide any project-specific guidance or references from the specs/addenda on whether role combining (double/triple-hatting) is prohibited or restricted for this Mountain Home project.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
107			Drawing TN405. Is there a difference between the Equipment Distributor Cabinet and the Server Cabinet?	In terms of functionality? Yes. In terms of cabinet? No.
108			Drawing TN405. Do we need to provide and install the Equipment Distributor Cabinets and Server Cabinets? If yes, please provide the specified manufacturer and part number.	Cabinets are CFCI. Refer to question 4 for basis of design.
109			Drawing TN405. Please provide more information on the 6" Cable Management sidecars to/for Network Cabinet	Basis of design: OR-MM20VMD706.
110			Drawing TN501 Do we need to provide and install the "fiber pathway channel" referenced in Detail #6? If yes, please provide additional information and installation location(s).	Yes. These are for intra-mcr rack lineup cabling. To be installed as needed. Refer to 255 below.
111			Drawing TN602 Please clarify which cabling description needs to be followed for the cable groups 60 & 61, per table or per schematic. 60 - RK104 to RK204 / RK104 to RK215 -or 61 - RK215 to RK114 / RK204 to RK114	60 = RK104 to RK215 61 = RK204 to RK114
112			The specifications call for polyiso SIPs. Would expanded polystyrene SIPs be considered and allowed?	Expanded polystyrene is an acceptable substitution.
113			Will the project require power system studies such as Protective Device Coordination and Arc Flash?	Duplicate response. Refer to question / response #71

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
114			Can the VA provide as-built drawings or surveys of the existing MCR (room 3A109) showing current equipment layout, power distribution, cooling infrastructure, and cable routing to facilitate accurate relocation planning?	No, as-built drawing is not available. Contractor shall verify all existing field conditions prior to bid.
115			What is the exact VA Tier 3 data center standards (e.g., specific references from VA OIT Infrastructure Standards, PG-18-10 Electrical Design Manual, or OEHRM requirements) that the new MCR must meet, particularly for redundancy (N+1 or 2N) in power and cooling? Please confirm if the required redundancy is concurrently maintainable (Tier 3) level, and provide details on the existing normal, emergency, and UPS sources serving Floor 3 of Building 77.	Duplicate question. Refer to answer #73.
116			Are there any restrictions on shutdown durations or required phasing for existing MCR power/cooling systems during relocation to avoid impacting hospital operations?	Yes. Refer to phasing information in contract documents specifically the narratives and drawings. Refer to RFI 74 above.
117			Please provide the current load calculations (kVA/kW) for the existing MCR equipment and projected loads for the relocated Tier 3 setup to confirm UPS and power infrastructure sizing.	Duplicate response. Refer to question / response #75.
118			For the clean-agent fire suppression system: Which specific agent (e.g., FM-200, Novec 1230) is preferred or approved by VA for occupied spaces, and are there cylinder storage location preferences beyond room 3A112A?	Basis of design calculations for the renovation is NOVEC 1230. See FG101 general note 4. If required cylinder storage may be coordinated with equipment in the MCR space. If possible locate all cylinder storage in room 3A112A.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
119			Confirm whether the new fire-rated assembly in the MCR requires a specific fire-resistance rating (e.g., 2-hour) and if UL-listed assemblies or equivalent are acceptable.	Refer to partition tags on AE101 and Partition Types on AE001.
120			The solicitation references "Supplemental Insurance Requirements." Can the VA confirm required limits (General Liability, Auto, Umbrella, Professional Liability, Pollution, Builder's Risk), and whether cyber/data liability coverage is required due to EHRM scope?	See Section 4.5 of the solicitation for the requirements. VA does not pay for Builders risk.
121			Please clarify acceptable firestop systems (e.g., specific manufacturers/products listed in VA master specs) for walls/floors in the new MCR spaces.	Refer to Specification Section 07 84 00 for performance requirements. Contractor to submit product for review to ensure that it meets performance requirements.
122			For HVAC upgrades and Johnson Controls DDC: Provide the current DDC protocol/version and integration requirements for tying new controls into the existing VA building management system (BMS). Can you also give us the current Local JCI reps contact information.	Coordinate current local BMS contractor information with VA medical staff. DDC controls must be compatible with the existing building automation system. Johnson Controls Rep: Mike Scarbrough - Michael.Scarbrough@jci.com
123			Please confirm acceptable testing/adjusting/balancing (TAB) procedures and certification requirements for the new computer room cooling systems per VA specs.	Refer to Specification section 23 05 93 for further information.
124			For structured cabling (DIV 27): Confirm required fiber types (e.g., OM4 multi-mode, OS2 single mode) and redundancy configurations (A/B diverse paths) for backbone cabling to the new MCR.	Duplicate. Refer to question / response #81.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
125			Is this project exempt from sales tax? If so, will the VA provide a tax exemption certificate for material purchases?	No. See Special Note regarding FAR 52.229-3 Federal, State, and Local Taxes and Special Notes regarding FAR 52.229-3, in the solicitation. It is solely the responsibility of the offeror to include all state and local sales or use taxes for construction materials, and all other applicable taxes, in their bid or proposal price. Tennessee is NOT tax exempt.
126			Will payment applications be accepted for materials stored on-site or in a bonded off-site warehouse?	In accordance with contract terms and conditions, Contractors should not submit an offer assuming the Government will approve monthly progress payments for material and/or equipment procured by the Contractor and stored on the construction site, as space is available, or at a local approved location off the site. Payment of stored materials and/or equipment is at the Contracting Officer's discretion and will be handled on a case-by-case basis during the contract and under such terms and conditions as the Contracting Officer approves.
127			Will the Government consider including an Economic Price Adjustment (EPA) clause to address significant fluctuations in material pricing?	This will be awarded as a Firm Fixed Price (FFP) contract and all escalation should be factored in your FFP. Additionally, FAR 52.216-4 "Economic Price Adjustment – Labor and Material" is not included in the solicitation and will not be added.
128			If tariffs are imposed on materials (e.g., steel, wood) after bid submission but before award, will the Government allow a price escalation even if the materials remain Buy American-compliant?	This will be awarded as a Firm Fixed Price (FFP) contract and all escalation should be factored in your FFP. Additionally, FAR 52.216-4 "Economic Price Adjustment – Labor and Material" is not included in the solicitation and will not be added.
129			Will the Government provide detailed requirements for contractor badging? Please clarify the PIV process, including documentation, background checks, and estimated processing time.	See response to #1.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
130			How soon after contract award does the Government anticipate issuing the official Notice to Proceed?	The Government anticipates issuance within 90 calendar days after award.
131			Will the Government consider reducing the required bid validity period (e.g., to 60 days) to account for inflation and contractor pricing risk?	No
132			Can the Government confirm the stated contract duration is accurate, considering phased access and execution requirements?	The period of performance for project completion is 365 days calendar days after NTP.
133			The solicitation references "Supplemental Insurance Requirements." Can the VA confirm required limits (General Liability, Auto, Umbrella, Professional Liability, Pollution, Builder's Risk), and whether cyber/data liability coverage is required due to EHRM scope?	See response to #120.
134			May one individual serve in dual or multiple roles (SSHO, QCM, Superintendent) if fully qualified?	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
135			If not, may the Superintendent also serve as SSHO?	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
136			Can the VA confirm the expected level of background investigations for contractor personnel and approximate processing timelines for clearance approvals?	Refer to Question 1 Response.
137			Will the contractor be required to provide a site office/trailer, or will space within the facility be made available?	Temporary office space inside the VA facility will not be provided.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
138			Will the VA allow temporary connection to existing utility infrastructure, with the contractor responsible for metered usage?	Contractor must provide physical connections to VA utilities if available. VA will supply power and water free of charge after contractor physically connects to service. Bids shall include an allowance for generators to provide temporary power to laydown site if access to VA utilities is not possible.
139			Will designated parking and staging areas be provided for contractor personnel and deliveries? Will the VA provide laydown space or containers, or must these be arranged off-site?	Contractor laydown area identified on Drawing AS001. Dumpster shall be located at the contractor's laydown site.
140			Is there a freight or construction elevator that contractors will be required to use for material deliveries and equipment transport?	Service elevator may be used for construction related tasks.
141			What ICRA level is required for the project?	It was determined during the design of this project that Category D, Low Patient Risk is attributed to this project per the VA provided ICRA sheet. This results in a Level III level of precautions. Contractor is to verify and coordinate ICRA requirements with the VA. Refer to specification section 01 35 26 Safety Requirements for additional information.
142			If abatement is required, will the VA identify known ACM/LCM locations?	Refer to sheet HA101 in the drawings. VA to provide report.
143			If ACM remediation is required, can remediation activities be performed during normal working hours, or will after-hours work be required?	See response to questions 47 & 48.
144			Does the existing roof have an active warranty? If so, what company holds the warranty?	No warranty exists on the roof.
145			Does the VA have an existing fire alarm/security service provider? If so, please provide contact information for required coordination.	Johnson Controls Simplex office number: 423-467-3547

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
146			Will the facility remain occupied during construction, or will temporary relocation of staff/equipment be required?	Facility will remain occupied outside of scope areas. Contractor to coordinate schedule with VA to determine when temporary relocation of staff/equipment is required.
147			Will demolition of major systems (e.g., AHUs, utilities) require after-hours or phased work to minimize disruption?	Yes. For phasing requirements, refer to contract documents. For after hours work, coordinate with VA staff on station.
148			Will the VA provide temporary cooling/heating during system cutovers? If not, should the contractor include them?	Per specification 01 10 11.6 Use of Government-owned material and equipment is prohibited. If required the contractor will provide.
149			Are existing primary and secondary cable pathways intended to be reused?	Existing pathways will remain and be reused where feasible.
150			Will the Government provide a formal shutdown/outage approval process and outage window schedule for data center cutovers? If yes, what is the typical lead time required for outage approval?	Utility outages to be coordinated through COR.
151			During electrical cutovers, should the contractor include temporary generators/load banks to maintain Tier 3 operational continuity, or will the VA provide backup power continuity during shutdowns?	Should any temp power be needed, this is the contractor's responsibility. Existing MCR shall remain. No demolition of existing MCR shall take place under this SOW.
152			Is there an existing PACS headend and what brand is it?	Refer to specification 01 28 26 Standard Finish and Fixture Schedule Hirsh Velocity
153			Must the PACS integrate with other security systems (e.g., CCTV)?	Yes, it must. Refer to contract documents.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE									
154			Will the system reside on the VA Network?	Not enough information provided to answer.									
155			Will the PACS connect to the internet for integration with national databases?	Not enough information provided to answer.									
156			Must the system integrate with equipment installed under the EHRM program?	Not enough information provided to answer.									
157			Is American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) certification required for fabrication and/or erection of structural steel?	Yes, reference specifications section 05 12 00.									
158			AE112 Note 4 states to extend roof walkway to new equipment. Where is the roof walkway design and/or detail provided in the drawings/specifications?	Provide roof walkway pads to match existing EPDM rooftop walkway pads. Refer to Addendum 2 for modified sheet AE121, posted in Amendment 0004.									
159			SPEC/DWG. Amended spec attachment 4 Spec 01 00 00 1.6 I 7. D. Coordinate with the Local Exchange Carriers (LEC) for service handoff, splicing, and termination requirements. Who is and can the VA please provide contact information for LEC?	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Carrier</th> <th>Circuit IDs</th> <th>Info</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>AT&T</td> <td>IZEJ542337ATI ETH1000-17116504</td> <td>www.att.com/expressticketing.com Click line for full document on AT&T express ticketing No local LEC number not available.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lumen/ Brightspeed</td> <td>AGEP686098 ATI</td> <td>866-472-6389, Option 2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Carrier	Circuit IDs	Info	AT&T	IZEJ542337ATI ETH1000-17116504	www.att.com/expressticketing.com Click line for full document on AT&T express ticketing No local LEC number not available.	Lumen/ Brightspeed	AGEP686098 ATI	866-472-6389, Option 2
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#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
160			Spec 01 35 26 SSHO 1.9 A: Requires that the SSHO be a separate person with no other duties. Would the VA wave this requirement and allow the superintendent to also act as the SSHO.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.
161			Spec 26 41 00 3.2 B master label is requiring a new master label for the lighting protection system (LP). The drawings do not provide enough information to give a fair and reasonable price for this scope of work. It is an industry standard when a limited amount of work is done (as in the scope of this project) and only extending the existing LP system that a UL letter of findings is sufficient in place of the master label. Would the VA accept a letter of findings in lieu of a master label?	This specification section is not applicable to this project. There will be no new lightning protection on the roof areas within scope. Spec to be omitted as part of Addendum 2.
162			Reference question 3 if a master label is required. Can the VA please provide complete as-built of the lighting protection system to include all cabling, air terminals, one-line electrical drawings to include surge protection) and complete system grounding so we can provide reasonable pricing?	Refer to response to RFI #161 above.
163			Is the roof under warranty and if yes who holds the warranty?	There is no warranty on the roof.
164			Where will the dumpster and laydown area be located?	Contractor laydown area identified on Drawing AS001. Dumpster shall be located at the contractor's laydown site.
165			M-401 keynote 13 directs us to run "under floor". 1) What space/department is directly below the work area that we would need to access above ceiling? 2) Is it a hard ceiling?	1.) Rooms SA125 (Storage), SA120 (Media Prep), SA122 (Glassware/Sterilization), SA124 (Staff Lounge) are under the new MCR. 2.) Drop Ceiling

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
166			Drawing AE101 note 8.94 calls for contact sensors to be applied to the windows. These sensors are not shown on any of the T drawings. Can the VA please clarify what type of sensor is needed?	Contact sensors are not required in these instances. Keynote 8.94 has been modified as part of Addendum 2 for clarification.
167			Spec 20 16 00 INTRUSION DETECTION SYSTEM and T drawings Can the VA please confirm that all required "end devices" I.E. sensors, contacts, switches etc. for the intrusion detection system are identified on the T drawings?	Required edge devices are on the T drawings.
168			Reference RFI 12: If all required "end devices" I.E. sensors, contacts, switches etc for the intrusion detection system are not shown on the T drawings can the VA please provide updated drawing showing all required end devices?	Refer to response on RFI #166.
169			Can you provide a 10-business day extension to receive RFI answers and incorporate them into our proposal?	Extensions have already be provided through previous amendments and account for time to prepare bids after receipt of questions.
170			Is any of the work part of a collective bargaining agreement? Please confirm this project is or can be non-union.	Prevailing wages must be followed. There are no requirements for a PLA or mandatory union work in this project.
171			Please confirm that a PLA is not required.	No PLA requirement for this project.
172			Are any state or local certifications required for the electricians, cable installers, or any other laborers for this project?	Reference Project Specifications. Contractor shall ensure all employees/subcontractors are appropriately trained and in compliance with federal, state, and local regulations.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
173			Are state and local taxes to be included in the total price?	See response #125.
174			Please confirm this is considered a federal facility.	Yes this is considered a federal facility
175			Should we include pricing for all new data center equipment? Will any of the equipment be reused for the upgraded facility?	Yes. The MCR is all new equipment while the existing MCR is to remain in place. Due to this, no equipment will be reused.
176			Please confirm that there is no raised floor or drop ceiling grid in the new MCR.	Correct, there are no raised floors or drop ceilings in the new MCR.
177			Regarding the old MCR, what extent of demolition/ replacement is to be performed?	Not applicable. As there is no demolition of existing MCR.
178			Can the service elevators be used for any portion of construction?	Service elevator may be used for construction related tasks.
179			Is there a proposed laydown area for dumpsters?	Contractor laydown area identified on Drawing AS001. Dumpster shall be located at the contractor's laydown site.
180			During demolition is there a proposed debris/trash route for exit?	Debris removal path shall be coordinated with the COR, path shall minimize disruptions to the operation of the hospital.
181			For removal of mechanical equipment, is there a proposed area to set up crane?	Contractor to coordinate crane location with VA.
182			Are there any restrictions on time for trash removal?	Debris removal times shall be coordinated with the COR, path shall minimize disruptions to the operation of the hospital.
183			Please provide additional specifications/ details regarding the overhead bus electrical distribution system in the new MCR.	Refer to the following specification for more information: <i>26 25 11-01 Busway System in Computer Room.</i>

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
184			Is the battery run 10 minutes at full load to 100% discharge?	Per <i>26 33 53 Static Uninterruptible Power Supply</i> , UPS runtimes must meet a minimum of 10 minutes at full load.
185			What type of batteries are required for the UPS?	Refer to specification <i>26 33 53 Static Uninterruptible Power Supply</i> §2.6.
186			Is there any lightning protection associated with this project?	Refer to answer 161.
187			Is a power coordination study required for this project?	A coordination study is required for this project. Specification section <i>26 05 73 Overcurrent Protective Device Coordination Study</i> will be included in forthcoming addendum.
188			Please confirm that all power distribution is piped in the ceiling space.	All feeders shall be installed in conduit and appropriate busways and raceways per specifications.
189			Will the customer be providing the new equipment racks in the new MCR?	No, refer to contract documents. All equipment is furnished and installed by contractor.
190			Do the new panelboards and distribution panels require metering? If so, will a BAS system be connected to the meters?	Metering will be needed for several distribution panelboards. Specification <i>25 10 10 Advanced Utility Metering System</i> and updated one-line will be issued in forthcoming addendum.
191			The specification states that the copper backbone cables are to be bundled together in 6 cable bundles. Is there flexibility to bundle more copper cables than 6 or are we limited to 6 cables per bundle?	The specification requires copper backbone cables to be bundled in groups of six to ensure proper spacing and maintain bend radius compliance. Bundling more than six cables is not permitted.
192			Sheet TN502 shows a rack bonding bus bar that appears to have single holes for lugs for grounding equipment in the racks. The specifications call for double lugs for grounding equipment. Are the rack bonding bus bars supposed to be 2-hole to allow for double lugs to be utilized?	Rack bonding bus bars shall accommodate the specified two-hole compression lugs.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
193			Specifications call for the controls contractor and integrator to be a subcontractor of the GC. Who is the existing BAS for integration of the control?	DDC controls must be compatible with the existing building automation system. Johnson Controls Rep: Mike Scarbrough - Michael.Scarbrough@jci.com
194			Please verify the minimum numbers of ON-SITE personnel that will be required to fulfill the roles of GC Superintendent, SSHO, and CQC System Manager.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract..
195			Please confirm as indicated on General Note 5 on sheet GI010 that the 4 phases may be worked on simultaneously and one phase does not need to be completed 100% prior to starting another phase. If this is not the case, please confirm if any of the phases are to be completed 100% from others.	Phased work is intended to minimize downtime. The work shall be done a phase at a time, with the only exception being if the contractor can justify the reason for completing work under multiple phases simultaneously in order to mitigate any downtime, which would need to be approved by VA and A/E designers of record.
196			Where on the site can storage trailers / dumpsters, etc go ? Are these items to be in the lay down space shown on sheet AS001?	Contractor laydown area identified on Drawing AS001.
197			Do we need to set up a separate job site trailer, or can we set up inside the space we are working in?	Temporary office space inside the VA facility will not be provided.
198			Please clarify the wall type that is to be used for the Icara Barrier as shown on sheet AD101 keynote 2.48. Does this wall type to match wall type A, B, C, or D on sheet GI002? What are the door and hardware requirements?	It was determined during the design of this project that Category D, Low Patient Risk is attributed to this project per the VA provided ICRA sheet. This results in a Level III level of precautions. Contractor is to verify and coordinate ICRA requirements with the VA. Refer to specification section 01 35 26 Safety Requirements for additional information.
199			Please confirm all ICRA barriers are detailed on the plans.	Architectural sheet AD101 shows proposed ICRA barrier and opening locations, however it is the responsibility of the contractor to interpret and verify ICRA requirements. Refer to specification section 01 35 26 Safety Requirements

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
200			On sheet S001 strut channel brace is shown for equipment bracing, can you identify locations where this takes place?	This item is for the delegated design seismic restraint bracing required at new non-structural components in accordance with VA Handbook 18-8, associated references, and the project specifications. Reference specifications section 130541 for additional information. A delegated design engineer is to be retained to provide the design for the seismic restraint bracing. Coordinate with VA staff and the project Engineers of Record if deviations are to be requested.
201			May we receive a three-week extension to have time to obtain the best pricing from the vendors?	See response to #169.
202			Is this project prevailing wage.	Yes. See Attachment 7.
203			Are escorts required for all work in existing TRs and MCR?	See response to Question 1. Contractor shall coordinate personnel access to TRs and MCR through COR and VA OIT.
204			Are escorts required during terminations within new TRs and MCR?	See response to Question 1. Contractor shall coordinate personnel access to TRs and MCR through COR and VA OIT.
205			Please clarify VA escort requirements for work in multiple TR rooms and floors.	See response to Question 1. Contractor shall coordinate personnel access to TRs and MCR through COR and VA OIT. The Superintendent is responsible for the oversight of each construction site. Unsupervised work sites where safety/compliance issues arise may be subject to a work stoppage.
206			Will contractor be allowed to provide cleared staff for escorting if VA staff not available?	See response to Question 1. Contractor shall coordinate personnel access to TRs and MCR through COR and VA OIT.
207			What specific areas of which buildings during this project require ICRA measures?	Refer to AD101 for proposed ICRA barrier and opening locations. Contractor is ultimately responsible for interpreting ICRA requirements in coordination with the VA.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
208			Are we to provide any new racks for the MCR?	Yes, all racks in new MCR are new and shall be provided and installed by the contractor.
209			If so, what are the specifications for the new racks?	Duplicate. See question / response #4.
210			Will the VA or the contractor be responsible to move network equipment to new TRs or MCR?	Contractor is responsible and shall coordinate any and all equipment from existing MCR that requires migration with VA OIT staff. Must be scheduled with and approved by VA.
211			Will any floor penetrations be required for the new TR rooms, MCR, or anywhere else in the buildings?	Yes, Refer to Telecommunications drawings.
212			Clarify the requirement for Fire Rated Air Tight Sleeves in the new MCR.	Fire-rated air tight sleeves are required for all penetrations of the MCR walls and floors to maintain fire-resistance and prevent airflow between spaces. Install per manufacturer instructions and VA OIT ISTS v4.0 guidelines. Refer to Spec Section 07 84 00 Fire Stopping, Fire Protection Drawings and Detail 5 on TN501.
213			Clarify extent of fireproofing and firestopping required for new penetrations.	Refer to Spec Section 07 84 00 Fire Stopping, Fire Protection Drawings and Detail 5 on TN501.
214			Are any End point patch cables required for the Category 6A at the WAOs in the TRs? If so how many?	No TR work associated with project. Refer to the Telecommunications drawings.
215			Are any end point patch cables required for the Category 6A at the TRs?	No TR work associated with project. Refer to the Telecommunications drawing
216			Are any end point patch cables required for the fiber at the MCR and TRs?	Refer to the Telecommunications drawings.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
217			Please confirm which color you would like for Category 6A cabling?	Red, White, & Blue
218			Please confirm which color you would like for faceplates?	Tan Plate
219			Does the requirement to open walls trigger Class IV ICRA (hard barriers, negative air pressure, anterooms) for every individual workstation drop?	Contractor to interpret and verify requirements with ICRA. Workstation drops across campus are not included within the SOW. This is an EHRM data center project, not an EHRM infrastructure upgrade project.
220			Are any end point patch cables required for the fiber at the MCR and TRs?	Duplicate. See question / response #216.
221			Does the contractor need to provide any patch panels, fiber enclosures or cassettes?	Refer to Telecommunications drawings, narratives, and specifications.
222			If so, what are the specifications for the panels, enclosures , and cassettes?	Refer to contract document specifications, and OIT Design Guide Templates found on the TIL.
223			Does the contractor need to provide any racks? Is so, what are the specifications for the racks?	Yes all racks in new MCR are new and shall be provided and installed by the contractor.
234			Or is this just a move of the existing racks and contents into the new MCR and TRs?	No. All racks in new MCR are new and shall be provided and installed by the contractor.
235			Spec Section 01 35 26, 1.9.C. states that the project requires separate individuals for Superintendent and SSHO. Please confirm that the SSHO is also to be a full-time site manager.	No role shall be double- or triple-hatted. SSHO and QA/QC personnel shall meet qualifications stated in the contract.

#	RECEIVED	ANSWERED	CONTRACTOR QUESTION	VA RESPONSE
236			Is a Jobsite office trailer required?	Temporary office space inside the VA facility will not be provided.
237			Testing Agency to be provided and paid by Contractor?	Reference specification section 01 45 00
238			Drawings AE-101 shows no raised access flooring. Drawing M-401 keynote 14 says to route a new condensate drain under the floor. Is the contractor to channel concrete out of the floor for this condensate drain and patch? What is the intent?	Correct there is no raised flooring.
239			Section 00 10 11 says that the contractor may only use designated elevator. Section 01 00 00 says that the contractor may not use any elevators, but must provide an outside hoist for transporting materials, and then also says that use of elevators may be allowed. Will the contractor be granted access to elevators?	Service elevator may be used for construction related tasks.
240			What is the existing fire alarm system? See Drawing FA001	Existing fire alarm system is a Simplex 4100 ES. Drawings and specifications indicate Simplex as the existing fire alarm control unit manufacturer.
241			What are the seismic requirements for electrical? We only see mechanical requirements. (Drawing M-502)	Seismic requirements are outlined in multiple places throughout the specifications.
242			Can we work during regular hours for work shown on drawings EP104 and TN403?	Work performed for drawings EP104 and TN403 shall be performed on nights and weekends. Bids shall include an allowance for off-hours work requirement.
243			What is the existing security system? Existing campus VASS system, see Drawing TY601	Avigilon Command Center VMS

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244			<p>Specification section is missing per the Table of Contents:</p> <p>271500 Communications Structured Cabling</p> <p>Can you please confirm if the 27 10 00 will suffice for this project or if the attached 27 15 00 is required? The TOC calls out 27 15 00 but it isn't actually in the specifications. In the TIL the 27 10 00 is listed as "Controls, Signal, and Signal Wire". If there is a need to update specifications, can you provide a estimate to create an addendum?</p>	<p>Non-Concur, 27 10 00 Structured Cabling provided.</p> <p>27 10 00 is the Interim version that is being used to replace 27 15 00. It is not needed. With it not being needed, it should be removed from 23 09 23. 27 10 00 references in D27 specs shall remain, 27 15 00 references in 23 09 23 shall be removed.</p> <p>27 10 00 will suffice for this project. The 27 10 00 version they are referencing is the non-Interim version. Interim specs supersede any non-interim version per correspondence with DCIE.</p>
245			<p>Please confirm that a large business not part of an SBA/VA APPROVED Mentor-Protégé team under the VA Mentor-Protégé program cannot provide a bid guarantee or a payment & performance bond for a SDVOSB.</p>	<p>This project is set aside for SDVOSBs. The bonding requirements must be met for this project per the applicable clauses, provisions, and instructions to offerors.</p>
246			<p>When visiting the link, I noticed the project was "set aside for Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business" – does this mean that General Contractors cannot bid the project unless they meet that requirement?</p>	<p>Yes, this project is a 100% set-aside for SDVOSBs. See section 2.3 of the solicitation.</p>
247			<p>Will the VA allow deviations to Buy American Act if the noted products are not available?</p>	<p>See response to #128.</p>

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248			Pertaining to the computer room relocation project documents; is there anything about fiber optic ISP connectivity or telephone systems? Are there elements outside the scope of this current bid that we need to know about? Our company sells and supports ISP connectivity and telephone systems, Wi-Fi access points, surveillance systems and all kinds of other tech related things so if there are separate RFQ's.	Nothing other than the scope of this project should be considered. GC should have reviewed and removed this question from a "soliciting" contractor.
249			What Fiber Optic cabling is required to be 100% in conduit?	Refer to contract documents. Specifically the telecommunication drawings.
250			Is a clean agent evacuation system to be installed? 26.Can the VA Infrastructure Standard for Telecommunications Spaces be provided as an amendment to the RFP?	Yes clean agent system and notification devices are required to be installed. See clean agent drawings and specification for additional details. Nearly all federal criteria can be found online for free. See link below for telecommunications standards. http://cfm.va.gov/til/telecom.asp
251			On sheet TN404, the fiber optic cables are shown on the wire basket tray. On sheet TN501, fiber duct is specified to be used. Is it the intention of the design to have fiber duct installed on top of the new wire basket tray?	No. These are for intra-mcr rack lineup cabling. To be installed as needed. Refer to RFI 110 above.
252			Addendum 01 Section 37 specifies CAT6-E. Most VA EHRM projects mandate CAT6A. Confirm if CAT6-E (older standard) is truly required for a Tier 3 facility.	CAT-6A to be used – No Substitution.

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253			<p>There is very minimal detail for Building 204 (SF 102). Further scope is necessary pertaining to the abatement/demo, room finishes (ceiling, walls, floors).</p>	<p>Any materials impacted by the work in Building 204 and Building 77 Roof, which were added to the scope after the Hazardous Materials design field inspection, have not been evaluated. Per VA records, Building 204 was constructed in 1999; due to its age, lead-based paint is not presumed present. However, this construction date does not guarantee that asbestos-containing materials are not present, thus any materials impacted by Building 204 and Building 77 roof work are considered asbestos containing until proven otherwise. These presumed asbestos-containing materials in rooms L001A and L116 would include flooring, drywall or plaster wall materials, any materials at or above the ceiling level, as well as any other building materials likely to be impacted by work in these areas. These materials shall be evaluated by a qualified asbestos inspector prior to disturbance. If any such materials are confirmed to contain regulated hazardous substances, proper abatement or management procedures shall be implemented in accordance with applicable VA specifications and federal, state, and local regulations. Contractor shall coordinate with the COR for required inspection, sampling, and clearance activities before performing any work that could disturb suspect materials. Reuse of existing wall penetrations and attachment points is suggested wherever feasible to eliminate disturbance of uncharacterized building materials.</p>
254			<p>Flooring schedule in Clean Agent and Electrical Rooms call for "SC" (specialty coating). We need the specifications for the specialty coating, please</p>	<p>Flooring is Sealed Concrete in these spaces. Use Sherwin Williams Armorseal 1000 HS equal or better, clear epoxy.</p>
255			<p>Page AE601 The Door Schedule for the Clean Agent Storage does not reflect fire rating.</p>	<p>Clean Agent Storage room door is not required to be rated.</p>

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256			Room Finish Schedule on AE601 indicates "SC" for floors in two rooms. The only definition for "SC" is on GI001, "Specialty Coating." There is no specification for this. "SC" may mean sealed concrete; however, there is no specification for this. Without knowing what to use for these rooms, there is a wide difference in material and labor costs. Please provide specifications and details on the required floor coating materials and any surface prep, testing, warranty, etc. so that bids may be level.	Flooring is Sealed Concrete in these spaces. Use Sherwin Williams Armorseal 1000 HS equal or better, clear epoxy.
257			On the Room Finish Schedule, the Flooring in 3A112A and 3A212 shows SC.	See response to question #254 from pre-bid RFIs. There is no SC called out on the schedule for finishes.
258			Also, for ceiling it shows OTS (Open to Structure above).	Correct
259			HA-101 shows flooring being removed. We need to know what flooring is going back.	Refer to room finish schedule on sheet AE601.
260			You need to have a ceiling (such as drop down ACT) for that to work. Every subcontractor who installs clean agent system told me they need a ceiling. They cannot install clean agent with exposed ceiling	<p>Nonconcur: Neither the clean agent manufacturer, or applicable codes and standards prohibit the installation of clean agent systems in rooms with exposed ceilings.</p> <p>It is the design basis that the bidder will seal the space based on the wall schedule detail of the drawing package (drawing AE101). AE confirms the design for the clean agent systems is accurate as depicted in the drawings. FG001 calls out "No unsealed openings – all penetrations and joints will be caulked. No openings connect the server room to adjacent volumes except the door which will be kept normally closed." AE101 details the requirements for the partition construction.</p>