

## SPECIAL PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES Request for Proposals

This RFP is available on the Internet at:

<https://sandbranchdevelopmentwatersupplycorporation5147.yahoosites.com/>

Submittal Deadline: A qualifications statement must be filed with the WSC via Email sent to Mark Pearson, Communities Unlimited, [mark.pearson@communitiesu.org](mailto:mark.pearson@communitiesu.org) by: 5:00 PM, November 30, 2020. Minimum Qualifications and Selection Criteria: the WSC will evaluate the proposals to determine which firm has the best qualifications.

### Intent of Proposal

Sandbranch Development and Water Supply Corp. (WSC) requests the submission of qualifications statements, which will lead to the possible award of a contract to provide legal services for a project involving the construction of a safe drinking water retail public water system and clean water retail public sanitary sewer system for the WSC's proposed service area, generally known as the community of Sandbranch, in Dallas County, Texas, a historically black, disadvantaged, social justice community.

### Scope of Services

Professional services are expected to include the following:

- Negotiating services contracts for a wholesale treated water supply and wastewater treatment;
- Negotiating services contracts with an operator of the WSC's retail public water and wastewater systems;
- Advising on Waters of the United States (WOTUS) and floodplains issues as they may affect the WSC's service area;
- Consulting with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) in relation to the WSC's grant funding sources;
- Consulting with the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development (USDA-RD) to coordinate intended future utility infrastructure financing;
- Assisting in preparing other documents required of a water supply corporation in the planning, acquisition, and design phase of a water and sewer utility construction project;
- Attending regular and special meetings of the WSC board of directors, as needed.

### Statement of Qualifications

1. The firm/individual selected must possess a Juris Doctorate degree from an accredited law school by the American Bar Association, a license to practice law in the State of Texas, and be a member in good standing with the Texas Bar.

2. Identify personnel to be assigned responsibility for administering the account (provide resume and location for the individual representatives that the firm will assign to the account).
3. Describe the experience of the firm in providing the professional services listed above.
4. Additional services - describe any other service or experience of the firm, which you deem beneficial, in providing these professional legal services to the WSC.
5. Attach a copy of services contract proposed by your firm without fee information.

#### Additional Information

Legal Counsel is expected to negotiate an agreement for services that is acceptable to the WSC. If an acceptable contract cannot be negotiated, the WSC may formally end negotiations and begin negotiating with the next highest qualified person or firm. This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the TWDB. Any contract or contracts awarded under this RFQ are expected to be funded by a grant 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.

This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, which includes EPA-approved fair share goals toward procurement of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) businesses. EPA rules require that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to M/WBEs through demonstration of the six affirmative steps. For more details of the DBE Program and the current, applicable fair share goals, please visit [www.twdb.texas.gov/DBE](http://www.twdb.texas.gov/DBE). The WSC is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Small, minority, and women-owned business enterprises are encouraged to submit proposals.