April 5, 2013

Dear [Redacted],

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [Our File #: SNL-006-2013].

On March 8, 2013, Service NL received your request for access to the following records:

"I wish to obtain information concerning the recent awarding of a contract to Momeau Shepell to conduct a medical audit representing a sample of current and former mine workers in Labrador West as the result of silica dust exposure.

This scope of work was announced in a press release by Service NL on February 25, 2013.

In particular I am requesting the tender notice for this contract, any associated tender documents, expression of interests, requests for proposals and any correspondence either written or electronic from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador or any agents of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador."

I am pleased to inform you that your request for access to these records has been granted.

In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the appropriate copies have been enclosed.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Susanna Duke at susannaduke@gov.nl.ca or 709-729-2544.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DAVID NORMAN
Deputy Minister
Service NL

Enclosure
News Releases
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador - Canada

Government Services
November 26, 2010

Request for Proposals Issued for Medical Audit of Labrador West Mines

The Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Department of Government Services continues monitoring the effects of silica dust exposure at mining properties in Labrador West with a Request for Proposals (RFP) to conduct a medical x-ray audit involving the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOCC) and Wabush Mines.

"Over the last 30 years, there have been numerous studies and measures put in place for silica dust management to reduce the instances of silicosis in the workforce at both IOCC and Wabush Mines," said the Honourable Harry Harding, Minister of Government Services. "Silicosis has a latency period of in excess of 20 years so this is the right time to conduct a medical x-ray audit to determine if dust control measures implemented at both properties are working."

Measures to date include a preventive maintenance program for ventilation systems which is monitored by Occupational Health and Safety and the establishment of a tripartite Labrador West steering committee comprised of representatives from IOCC, Wabush Mines, the United Steelworkers Union and Occupational Health and Safety. In 2006, the Provincial Government established the Silica Code of Practice which outlines precautionary measures to safely work around silica dust. Section nine of the Code requires a health surveillance program for employees at IOCC and Wabush Mines employed in a dust-exposure operation. This program is ongoing.

The RFP will require that the successful proponent:

- read, interpret, and report chest X-ray findings from a group of current and former employees at both IOCC and Wabush Mines (Scully); this will include new X-rays as well as a review of older, previously interpreted X-rays;
- verify that the existing silica related health surveillance programs at both properties are in conformance with established health surveillance protocols;
- review existing protocols to ensure that the hazard communication process results in workers being fully informed and given the necessary information and tools for subsequent follow-up; and,
- prepare an information package for workers involved in the screening process, and physicians responsible for assessing and treating workers with pneumoconiosis (i.e. sub-clinical vs. clinical stages).

"The Occupational Health and Safety Branch is committed to decreasing the incidents of occupational disease in this province," said Minister Harding. "The information we will learn from this audit will be transferrable to other mining properties thereby enhancing the education and awareness for workers and medical professions about occupational disease."

Silica dust is a common by-product of mining and can cause silicosis, a type of pneumoconiosis which causes thickening and stiffening of the lungs.

The terms of reference are available at www.gov.nl.ca/gs/ohs.
Media contact:
Vanessa Colman-Sadd
Director of Communications
Department of Government Services
709-729-4860, 682-6593
vanessacolmansadd@gov.nl.ca

2010 11 26 1:00 p.m.
Proposal packages including six (6) hard copies will be received up to 2:00 PM Newfoundland time, January 31, 2011 to:

Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Government Services
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Occupational Health and Safety Division
15 Dundee Avenue
Mount Pearl, NL, A1N4R6
Attention: Mr. Gerald Rowe, Manager, Occupational Health
Fax: 709-729-3445
Email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca

Late submissions will not be accepted.
Terms of Reference

Medical Audit – Mining properties

Newfoundland and Labrador

Background

Iron ore surface mining has been carried out by two companies, the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOCC) and Wabush Mines (Scully), in Labrador West since the early 1960s in strata containing about 25% quartz. In the mid 1970s silicosis began to be diagnosed in the work forces.

In the early 1980s, a multi-million dollar study was carried out in Labrador West to assess the adverse health effects of silica exposure at these two iron ore mines. The original Labrador West Dust Study (LWDS) included but was not limited to ambient air studies in the plants and community, engineering/dust control studies in plants, and health surveillance studies of workers. The study concluded in 1982 that there were 43 workers at IOCC and 14 workers at Scully Mines who had pneumoconiosis.

As a result of this study a Silica Code of Practice enforceable by the NL Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations was introduced in 1984.

In the early to mid 1990s a three phase audit was undertaken by Government: a medical audit, an industrial hygiene dust audit, and a silica hazard awareness training audit. The study proposed a follow-up medical audit.

In 2000, Government representatives met with stakeholders of IOCC and Scully to discuss the type and extent of follow-up required. It was suggested and agreed to complete a phase 1 LWDS to determine the need for and extent of follow-up action by an external agency above and beyond the company’s existing dust surveillance, dust management and health surveillance programs.

The Phase 1 work was completed by McMaster University and a final report was generated in March, 2002 and distributed to stakeholders. A summary of the Phase 1 findings relevant to this RFP are as follows:

1. True risk of silicosis and pneumoconiosis from previous studies may be an underestimate mainly because of the fact that silicosis rarely occurs among people earlier than 20 years from start of exposure.
2. An epidemiologic study (dose-response) similar to the 1982 LWDS, could be performed but not advised. Instead a study based on the reading of x-rays would provide the necessary information at much lower cost and is the recommended study option.
3. Need to ensure retired workers are followed up post-employment. Future studies should also take this into consideration.
4. Need to re-focus efforts regarding dust hazard awareness training.
5. Need to revise Silica Code and ensure consistent enforcement.

The Silica Code was revised in consultation with stakeholders around 2004 and is currently in force at both properties. Section 9 of the Code deals with health surveillance requirements.
Recognizing the importance of dust control management, the Department of Government Services, Occupational Health and Safety Division, commissioned a ventilation audit by Canmet, Natural Resources Canada, approximately around 2005 in both properties to review dust control initiatives. A number of recommendations arose from this review and these were communicated to both workplaces.

The current workforce at IOCC and Scully deemed to be employed in a dust exposure operation are participating in a silica related medical surveillance program as required by the Silica Code of Practice.

The Department, soliciting stakeholder input, has agreed to move forward to undertake a medical review as suggested in the McMaster phase 1 report. This medical assessment approach has resulted in the development of the attached Request for Proposal.
Request for Proposal
Medical Audit - Mining Properties

Department of Government Services
November 2010
Introduction

The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Branch of the Department of Government Services, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador invite proposals from interested parties to conduct a medical audit of two mining properties in Labrador. The proposal would outline costs, methodology and personnel together with achievable start and completion dates required to complete the project specifically outlined herein.

Background

Iron Ore mining has been carried out in Labrador West by the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOCC) and Wabush Mines since the early 1960s. Silicosis, a type of pneumoconiosis, was initially diagnosed in the mining workforce in the mid 1970s. A study conducted in the early 1980s concluded that silicosis was present in 43 workers at IOCC and 14 workers at Wabush Mines. In the 1990s audits were completed in the areas of dust sampling programs, medical X-rays, and silica awareness training. In 2000, the OHS Branch, union and mine management representatives agreed for an external agency to complete a Phase 1 study to determine the need and extent of follow up action above and beyond existing dust management programs.

The Phase 1 study was completed by McMaster University in 2002. The report included the conclusion that the true risk of silicosis and pneumoconiosis from previous studies may be an underestimate as it rarely occurs earlier than 20 year from start of exposure. It was not deemed necessary for a full epidemiological study to be performed as it was in a 1982 Labrador West Dust Study. The study recommended a study based on reading X-rays would provide the necessary information concerning the extent of the problem.

A tripartite Labrador West Dust Study (LWDS) Phase 2 Steering Committee including representatives from IOCC, Wabush Mines (Scully), the United Steelworkers Union and the OHS Branch of the Department of Government Services was established in 2009 and will continue to oversee the various phases of the LWDS.

Objective

The objective of this consulting service is to act upon the recommendations contained in a report generated by McMaster University in 2002 and listed in the terms of reference section of this document.

The successful proponent will be responsible for:

1. Radiologist(s) to read, interpret, and report chest X-ray findings from a group of current and former employees at both IOCC and Wabush Mines (Scully); this will include new X-rays as well as a review of older, previously interpreted X-rays;
2. Verification that the existing silica related health surveillance programs (i.e. X-rays, pulmonary lung function [P_L,F], medicals, etc.) at both properties are in conformance with established health surveillance protocols;

3. A review of the existing protocols for dealing with workers who are informed of the abnormal X-rays to ensure that the hazard communication process results in workers being fully informed and given the necessary information and tools for subsequent follow-up;

4. The preparation of an information package for workers involved in the screening process, and physicians responsible for assessing and treating workers with pneumoconiosis (i.e. sub-clinical vs. clinical stages).

**Project Scope**

A strategy for executing the noted items within the Introduction section must be included in the proposal.

1. The strategy for reading X-rays for evaluating silicosis shall consider:

   - The number of radiologists to be used and the qualifications of each one pertaining to evaluating silicosis (e.g. ILO NIOSH B reader);
   - A hazard communication strategy for notifying prospective participants of the study and what is being asked of them;
   - A strategy for locating former workers and retirees, and in the case of deceased workers, their surviving next of kin;
   - A strategy for obtaining consent from current and former workers, or surviving next of kin in the case of deceased workers, and a means of collecting X-rays for all current workers, former workers and retirees;
   - That medical confidentiality issues have to be addressed;
   - Timeframes from the date an X-ray was taken to when it must be read for study purposes;
   - A strategy for determining whether all retirees and former workers are to be included or whether criteria should be established for targeting select groups;
   - The approach/method used for reading (and/or re-reading) X-rays either independently and/or via a panel;
   - A strategy for confirming medical diagnoses where X-ray findings are suggestive or inconclusive;
   - Quality control (QC) provisions;
   - The method of reporting medical findings back to workers as well as what they should do with that information in the case of abnormal readings;
   - The determination of X-ray requirements for radiologists (i.e. most recent only or baseline as well), consider logistics of accessing X-rays located at the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission (WHSCC)/family physicians. New X-rays will be required for those individuals who do not have current X-rays;
• A strategy for analyzing all data collected to estimate pneumoconiosis for both mining properties.

II. While it is understood that both the unions and companies will cooperate in terms of providing records of personnel for the purposes of identifying candidates, the successful proponent will be responsible for all aspects of tracking down and communicating with participants.

III. A strategy must be submitted outlining the analysis of data for all those determined to have abnormal X-rays in terms of, but not limited to, such items as:

• mean and overall age range;
• distribution of length of time elapsed between first dust exposure and the most recent X-ray available for review;
• distribution by gender and job class;
• smokers versus non-smokers.

IV. For any individual scoring greater than or equal to 1/0 in previous phases of the Labrador West Dust Study, the following information was used:

• Total number of years of silica dust exposure at IOCC, Wabush or any other mining property;
• Age of worker;
• Job history;
• Dust exposure history;
• Length of time since first and last exposure;
• Date of first detection.

The suitability of this information and any other relevant information shall be assessed.

V. The consultant shall submit a strategy for determining the number of participants required to ensure a statistically reliable study.

VI. Silica related health surveillance program review:

• Assess the suitability of types of tests &/or questionnaires used for assessing silica related disease (i.e. P.L.F, X-ray, medical, occupational history);
• Consider relevant standards, protocols, equipment as well as QC methods for X-rays and pulmonary functioning testing as well as competency of personnel involved;
• Assess communication linkage between X-ray radiologist (W/ ISCC) and family/company doctor and patient;
• Assess suitability of documentation control (confidentiality etc.).
Summary of Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RFP Distribution Date:</td>
<td>November 30, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written notification of intent to respond to the RFP:</td>
<td>December 10, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for Submission of Questions with respect to the RFP:</td>
<td>December 10, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses to Questions:</td>
<td>January 4, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal Submissions:</td>
<td>January 31, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Award Date:</td>
<td>February 28, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Start Date:</td>
<td>March 31, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Project Updates:</td>
<td>TBD by submission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project End Date:</td>
<td>TBD by submission</td>
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Proposal Evaluations

The proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relevant experience and qualifications</th>
<th>30%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Methodology and work plan (work quality)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project costs</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge and understanding of project scope and objectives</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of medical issues specific to mining properties</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The lowest cost, highest ranking or any proposal not necessarily accepted. The Department may cancel the RFP without costs to Government.
Specific Service Requirements

The Department will require a written proposal that outlines cost, methodology and personnel that will be assigned including their qualifications. We will also need to consider start and completion dates for site visits and completion of reports. The successful proponent will need to outline any additional information they feel is necessary to complete the project. As previously discussed, there are a number of logistical issues that will need to be addressed such as:

- Administrative process for obtaining all required X-rays including identifying and contacting workers, former workers and retirees;
- Actual process of acquiring and reading X-rays (radiologists);
- Notification to workers of individual results;
- Information required to be tracked or obtained for workers identified as existing or new cases;
- Other than current and retired workers criteria will need to be developed for identifying high risk former employees.

General Service Requirements

The project being awarded is subject to a contract approved by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The successful proponent will be required to adhere to the confidentiality requirements of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador which will be outlined in the contract. Should it be deemed necessary that the contract extend beyond one fiscal year the extension is subject to available funding. The proponent is responsible for all costs associated with the submission, including travel associated with any presentations or meetings if required. Awarding of the project may be subject to meeting with committee and senior officials of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Submission Requirements

As stated above a tripartite Steering Committee from the Unions, Mining Properties and Government has been established to oversee the LWDS follow-up. The point of contact representing that committee and the Occupational Health and Safety Division will be Industrial Hygienist Danika Drover (709-729-3130) email DanikaDrover@gov.nl.ca. In addition Senior Industrial Hygienist Nancy Housnell (709-729-4450) email nhousnell@gov.nl.ca and Occupational Health Manager Gerald Rowe (709-729-5861) email geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca will be contacts for liaising in respect of the project. Questions respecting the RFP must be submitted in writing to Gerald Rowe no later than 10 days after the RFP distribution date and will be responded to in writing within 35 days of the RFP distribution date.
Proposal packages including six (6) hard copies will be received up to 2:00 PM Newfoundland time, January 31, 2011 to:

Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Government Services
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Occupational Health and Safety Division
15 Dundee Avenue
Mount Pearl, NL, A1N4R6
Attention: Mr. Gerald Rowe, Manager, Occupational Health
Fax: 709-729-3445
Email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca

Late submissions will not be accepted.
Hi Trudy

As discussed, the attached has to be put on the Dept website.

Thanks
Gerald

Gerald M. Rowe, B. Tech, CRSP
Manager, Occupational Health
Occupational Health and Safety Division
Department of Government Services
15 Dundee Ave
Mt Pearl, NL
A1N 4R6
telephone 709-729-4455  709-729-5661
fax 709-729-3445
email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca
Rowe, Gerald

From: Rowe, Gerald
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:36 AM
To: Hann, Brenda
Cc: Hounsell, Nancy. Drover, Danika
Subject: FW: Request for Proposal attached
Attachments: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL.ppt

Hi Brenda

The ad for the request fort proposal is attached. We want it placed in the Western Star, the Evening Telegram and across Canada in the Globe and Mail.

Pauline Heath (6018) of GPA informed me that we need a requisition in Oracle to do this.

Thanks

Gerald

Gerald M. Rowe, B.Tech, CRSP
Manager, Occupational Health
Occupational Health and Safety Division
Department of Government Services
15 Dundee Ave
Mt Pearl, NL
A1N4R6
telephone 709-729-4455 709-729-5861
fax 709-729-3445
email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca

From: Gover, Gloria
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2010 8:14 AM
To: Rowe, Gerald
Subject: Request for Proposal attached - I will bring you a hard copy

Gloria Gover
Clerk Typist III
Occupational Health and Safety Division
Department of Government Services
729-4455
Rowe, Gerald

From: Rowe, Gerald
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 3:29 PM
To: Coiman-Sadd, Vanessa
Cc: Clarke, Heather
Subject: FW: Request for Proposal
Attachments: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL.ppt

Hi Vanessa

I spoke to GPA and they suggest that we run the ad in the Globe and Mail across the Country as well as the Western Star and the Evening Telegram.

In addition to our site we can post it on the GPA website. For that we need to contact Wendy Spurrell, Vicky O’Leary, Sandra Brennan or Wanda Barrow.

Gerald

Gerald M. Rowe, B. Tech, CRSP
Manager, Occupational Health
Occupational Health and Safety Division
Department of Government Services
15 Dundee Avenue, Mount Pearl, NL, A1N 4R6
Telephone: 709-729-4455, 709-729-5861
Fax: 709-729-3445
email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca

3/11/2013
Rowe, Gerald

From: Rowe, Gerald
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 4:17 PM
To: Colman-Sadd, Vanessa
Cc: Clarke, Heather
Subject: RE: Request for Proposal

Vanessa

The next available weekend editions of the Evening Telegram and the Western Star and the next available Globe and Mail.

Gerald

Gerald M. Rowe, B. Tech, CRSP
Manager, Occupational Health
Occupational Health and Safety Division
Department of Government Services
15 Dundee Avenue, Mount Pearl, NL, A1N 4R6
Telephone: 709-729-4455, 709-729-5861
Fax: 709-729-3445
email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca

From: Colman-Sadd, Vanessa
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 3:53 PM
To: Rowe, Gerald
Cc: Clarke, Heather
Subject: RE: Request for Proposal

Do you know when the ad will be placed yet?

Vanessa Colman-Sadd
Director of Communications
Department of Government Services
709-729-4880 (tel)
709-729-4754 (fax)

From: Rowe, Gerald
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 3:29 PM
To: Colman-Sadd, Vanessa
Cc: Clarke, Heather
Subject: FW: Request for Proposal

Hi Vanessa

I spoke to GPA and they suggest that we run the ad in the Globe and Mail across the Country as well as the Western Star and the Evening Telegram.

In addition to our site we can post it on the GPA website. For that we need to contact Wendy Sourrell, Vicki O’Leary, Sandra Brennan or Wanda Barrow.

Gerald

Gerald M. Rowe, B. Tech, CRSP

3/11/2013
Manager, Occupational Health
Occupational Health and Safety Division
Department of Government Services
15 Dundee Avenue, Mount Pearl, NL, A1N 4R6
Telephone 709-729-4455, 709-729-5861
Fax: 709-729-3445
email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Medical Audit – Mining Properties
Newfoundland and Labrador

On behalf of the Labrador West Dust Study Steering Committee, the Occupational Health and Safety Division of the NL Department of Government Services is seeking proposals for a medical audit of two mining properties in Labrador.

Copies of the Request for Proposal may be obtained through the Divisions website at http://www.qs.gov.nl.ca/ohs or by contacting:

Manager of Occupational Health
15 Dundee Avenue,
Mount Pearl, NL, A1N 4R6
Telephone: (709) 729-5861
Fax: (709) 729-3445
Email: geraldrowe@gov.nl.ca

Proposals will be received up to 2:00 pm, Newfoundland time, January 31, 2011.

[Signature]
Newfoundland Labrador
Duke, Susanna

From: Hann, Brenda
Sent: Friday, April 05, 2013 11:45 AM
To: Duke, Susanna
Cc: Bennett, Reg
Subject: Re: Labrador West Dust Study

The advertisements for the Requests for Proposal for the Labrador West Dust Study ran in The Evening Telegram and The Western Star on Saturday November 27, 2010 and in the Globe & Mail during the week of November 29, 2010.

Brenda Hann
Administrative Officer

Service NL
Occupational Health and Safety Inspections
P.O. Box 2006
61 Riverside Drive, Suite #105
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
Tel: 709-637-2927
Fax: 709-627-2928
Email: brendahann@gov.nl.ca
Hi Kim,

The RFP "Medical Audit - Mining Properties" was posted on the GPA website dec 1, 2010 and closed on Jan 31, 2011.

Take care,
Sonya