

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
COBB COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

BID OPENING DATE: MARCH 22, 2012

Cobb County will receive Sealed Bids before 12:00 NOON, March 22, 2012 in the Cobb County Purchasing Department, 1772 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA 30008 for:

**SEALED BID # 12-5648
ANNUAL CONTRACT
PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF CAUSTIC SODA
COBB COUNTY WATER SYSTEM**

No bids will be accepted after the 12:00 noon deadline.

Bids are opened at 2:00 p.m. at Cobb County Purchasing Department, 1772 County Services Parkway, 2nd Floor, Bid/Meeting Room, Marietta, GA 30008

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after date of bid opening, unless otherwise specified in the bid documents. Cobb County will consider the competency and responsibility of bidders in making the award. Cobb County reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities and technicalities, to reject portions of the bids, and to award contracts in a manner consistent with the County and the laws governing the State of Georgia.

The Georgia Security and Immigration Compliance Act Affidavit form must be submitted with all bid packages involving the “performance of physical services” in order to be considered.

This solicitation and any addenda are available for download in PDF format on the Cobb County Purchasing website. www.purchasing.cobbcountyga.gov

Advertise: March 9, 16, 2012



COBB COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

1772 County Services Parkway
Marietta, Georgia 30008-4012
(770) 528-8400 / FAX (770) 528-1154
Email: purchasing@cobbcounty.org
www.purchasing.cobbcountyga.gov

IMPORTANT NOTICE – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!

ALL bids **MUST** be received at the Cobb County Purchasing Department.

BIDS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 12:00 (NOON) ON BID OPENING DAY

Any bid received later than 12:00 (noon) will not be accepted. The County accepts no responsibility for delays in the mail. Bids are to be mailed or delivered to:

**COBB COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
1772 COUNTY SERVICES PARKWAY
MARIETTA, GA 30008-4012**

**All bid prices shall be submitted on the Bid Form included in the bid/proposal.
Any revisions made on the outside of the envelope WILL NOT be considered.**

PLEASE CHECK bid specifications and advertisement for document requirements.

Documents/Forms listed below **MUST** be submitted when required.

Omission of these documents / forms will cause your bid/proposal to be declared **NON-RESPONSIVE**.

- **BID SUBMITTAL FORM**
 - ▶ *Official Signature is required on this form guaranteeing the quotation.*
- **CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT and AGREEMENT - Exhibit A (NOT REQUIRED)**
 - ▶ *Affidavit **MUST** be signed, notarized and submitted with any bid requiring the performance of physical services. If the affidavit is not submitted at the time of the bid, bid will be determined non-responsive and will be disqualified.*
- **BID BOND (NOT REQUIRED)**

If your firm is classified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) please complete Exhibit B with bid response. A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is generally defined as a Female, Black American, Hispanic American and any other minority owned business.

All vendors are required to submit the ORIGINAL AND AT LEAST one (1) duplicated copy of any bid submitted to Cobb County. Please refer to your bid specifications to determine if more than one (1) copy is required. Non-submission of a duplicate copy may disqualify your bid/proposal.

A “**SEALED BID LABEL**” has been enclosed to affix to your bid. This label **MUST** be affixed to the outside of the envelope or package, **even if it is a “NO BID” response**. Failure to attach the label may result in your bid being opened in error or not routed to the proper location for consideration. No bid will be accepted after the date and time specified.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



BID SUBMITTAL FORM

SUBMIT BID/PROPOSAL TO:
COBB COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
1772 COUNTY SERVICES PARKWAY
MARIETTA, GA 30008-4012

BID/PROJECT NUMBER: 12-5648
ANNUAL CONTRACT
PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF CAUSTIC SODA
COBB COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

DELIVERY DEADLINE: MARCH 22, 2012 BEFORE 12:00 (NOON) EST
(NO BIDS/PROPOSALS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE).

BID OPENING DATE: MARCH 22, 2012 @ 2:00 P.M. IN THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT BID ROOM.

BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS INFORMATION:

Company name: _____

Contact name: _____

Company address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone number: _____ Fax number: _____

NAME AND OFFICIAL TITLE OF OFFICER GUARANTEEING THIS QUOTATION:

(PLEASE PRINT/TYPE) NAME TITLE

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER ABOVE: _____
(SIGNATURE)

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

BIDDER WILL INDICATE TIME PAYMENT DISCOUNT: _____

BIDDER SHALL INDICATE MAXIMUM DELIVERY DATE: _____

Bids received after the date and time indicated will not be considered. Cobb County reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, to reject portions of the bid, to waive technicalities and to award contracts in a manner consistent with the county and the laws governing the state of Georgia.

The enclosed (or attached) bid is in response to Bid Number 12-5648; is a firm offer, **as defined by section O.C.G.A. (s) 11-2-205 of the code of Georgia (Georgia laws 1962 pages 156-178)**, by the undersigned bidder. This offer shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 60 days calendar days from the bid opening date, as set forth in this invitation to bid unless otherwise specified in the bid documents.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - - BID QUOTES MUST INCLUDE INSIDE DELIVERY CHARGES

Advertise Dates: March 9, 16, 2012

SEALED BID LABEL

SEALED BID ENCLOSED

DELIVER TO:
COBB COUNTY PURCHASING
1772 County Services Parkway
Marietta, GA 30008-4012

SEALED BID # 12-5648 DATE: MARCH 22, 2012

BIDS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 12:00 NOON

DESCRIPTION: Annual Contract
Purchase and Delivery of Caustic Soda

PLEASE ATTACH LABEL TO OUTSIDE OF BID PACKAGE



Cobb County...Expect the Best!

"STATEMENT OF NO BID"

COBB COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
1772 COUNTY SERVICES PARKWAY
MARIETTA, GA 30008

TO ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS:

Because of the many requests to be placed on our vendors' list, we are continuously updating the list. While we want to include all bona fide vendors, we do not want to mail bids to those vendors who may no longer be interested in participating in our bidding process.

If you do not choose to respond to the attached Invitation to Bid/Request for Proposal, please fill out the form below indicating whether or not you want to be retained on our current vendor list.

Vendors who do not respond in any way (by either submitting a bid or by returning this form) over a period of one year may be removed from the current vendor list.

Vendors who do not wish to bid often return the entire bid package, sometimes at considerable postage expense. Returning the entire bid package is not necessary. Simply return this form.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Cobb County Purchasing Department

**"STATEMENT OF NO BID"
SEALED BID NUMBER 12-5648
ANNUAL CONTRACT
PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF CAUSTIC SODA
COBB COUNTY WATER SYSTEM**

If you do not wish to respond to the attached Invitation to Bid/Request for Proposal, please complete this form and mail/fax to: **Cobb County Purchasing Department, Attention: Sealed Bid Department, 1772 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA. Fax # 770-528-1154**

I do not wish to submit a bid/proposal on this solicitation.

I wish to be retained on the vendor list for this commodity or service: Yes _____ No _____

Please PRINT the following:

Company

Representative

You are invited to list reasons for your decision not to bid: _____



Cobb County...Expect the Best!

INVITATION TO BID

**SEALED BID # 12-5648
ANNUAL CONTRACT
PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF CAUSTIC SODA
COBB COUNTY WATER SYSTEM**

BID OPENING DATE: MARCH 22, 2012

BIDS ARE RECEIVED IN THE
COBB COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
1772 COUNTY SERVICES PARKWAY
MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30008
BEFORE 12:00 (NOON) BY THE BID OPENING DATE

BIDS WILL BE OPENED IN THE COBB COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
BID/MEETING ROOM AT 2:00 P.M.

**VENDORS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL AND 1 COPY OF BID
(UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN BID SPECIFICATIONS)**

N.I.G.P. COMMODITY CODE: 88578

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

REPRESENTATIVE: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL _____

NOTE: The Cobb County Purchasing Department will not be responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the content of any Cobb County Invitation to Bid or Request for Proposal or subsequent addenda thereto received from a source other than the Cobb County Purchasing Department.

Invitation to Bid
Annual Contract - Purchase and Delivery of Caustic Soda
Cobb County Water System
Sealed Bid #12-5648

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Cobb County Water System is seeking to enter into a contract with a qualified vendor for the Purchase and Delivery of Caustic Soda.

Bids are due to the Cobb County Purchasing Department located at 1772 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA 30008, before 12:00 (Noon) on **March 22, 2012**. Late bids will not be accepted.

Please submit an original and one (1) copy to:
Cobb County Purchasing Department
1772 County Services Parkway
Marietta, GA 30008

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Delivery must be received by vendor within 72 hours after order has been placed.
1. Delivery quantities:
 - a. Truckload quantities must be delivered in 5,000-gallon tank truckloads.
 - b. Less-Than-Truckload quantities may be delivered in tote bins, or palletized fifty-five (55) gallon metal drums (minimum 4 drums per pallet).
3. Vendor must submit with bid package a manufacturer's product bulletin and a material safety data sheet for product they will supply.
4. Vendor shall be responsible for proper labeling of all bulk storage tanks for product supplied by vendor, in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations.
5. Vendor shall provide all necessary tools, equipment, hoses, air compressor, fittings, etc. to offload product.
6. Vendor shall be responsible for the safe delivery of product into the bulk storage tanks. Vendor will be responsible for proper clean up and disposal of material spilled.
7. Vendor shall pay for analysis of a grab sample from bulk storage tank(s) by an independent lab as requested by facility superintendent. Failure to meet

specifications can result in immediate forfeiture of contract.

8. Product that does not meet specifications will be removed from bulk storage tanks by vendor within twenty-four (24) hours and replaced at no additional cost to Cobb County.
9. Product that is delivered and rejected or is tested and fails to meet specifications must be replaced within 24 hours of notification. In the event that the facility may run out of product the vendor shall be required to provide a temporary feed system and product until product is replaced and system restored back to normal operation at no additional expense to Cobb County.
10. Vendor must provide technical support as described in Section II (Technical Support) and Section III (Start-up Services). Qualifications of the technical specialist must be included in bid package.
11. Cobb County reserves the right to visit the chemical production facility at the expense of the vendor.
12. Delivery to other location(s) other than those listed below will be made at the same terms and conditions hereof.
 - a) South Cobb Water Reclamation Facility
490 Lee Industrial Boulevard
Austell, Georgia 30001
 - b) Noonday Creek Water Reclamation Facility
415 Shallowford Road, N.E.
Kennesaw, Georgia 30144
 - c) Northwest Cobb Water Reclamation Facility
3740 Highway 293, N.W.
Kennesaw, Georgia 30144
 - d) R.L. Sutton Water Reclamation Facility
5175 South Atlanta Road
Smyrna, Georgia 30080

II. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

1. A registered chemical engineer shall be available to Cobb County for consultation and to assist in projects or problems related to product.
2. Technical support is an essential part of an effective chemical addition program and is an integral part of a water reclamation facilities operation. Technical support must include:
 - a. A technical specialist with documentation to support qualifications
 - b. Training as requested
 - c. Intensified services during start-up or application abnormalities
 - d. Regular service on a periodic basis (minimum of 2 hours per month or as requested by facilities superintendents)
 - e. Laboratory support
3. The purpose of technical support is to accomplish the following:
 - a. Assure effective implementation of the product supplied
 - b. Assure that potential chemical related problems can be recognized and corrected before they affect the facilities or processes
 - c. Provide a regular service visit by a service representative that will:
 - i. Review daily facility chemical addition records
 - ii. Discuss in depth any operating related questions or problems since the last service call
 - iii. Inspect any chemical feed equipment used in the application of the specified chemicals
 - iv. Check inventory and calculate proper dosing
 - v. Submit a written report on observations and make recommendations to facilities superintendents once every two months or as request by facility superintendent
 - vi. Meet with facility superintendents as requested to review the performance of chemical addition and associated processes
4. In order to keep facilities superintendents informed and to identify any areas of improvement, technical support personnel shall meet once every two (2) months with superintendents. The meetings will review results, service, control, and identify areas where additional improvements can be made. The topics will include:
 - a. A review of all service visits to the plant by service personnel during the last two months
 - b. A review of operating data
 - c. How the application for product can be improved
 - d. The latest and most advanced techniques and technology related to the product supplied and make recommendations.

III. START-UP SERVICES

1. Training seminars must be held at each location for operations and maintenance personnel in the application and control of material. The seminars will cover:
 - a. Product chemistry
 - b. Application and control methods
 - c. Testing procedures
 - d. Safe handling of material
 - e. Troubleshooting

2. Training seminars shall be conducted once per six (6) months or as requested by facility superintendents.

3. In order to ensure the most efficient and cost effective application of material, a support technician shall be available for consultation or onsite visits as requested by facility superintendent to:
 - a. Assure that the specified product is properly handled and fed
 - b. Train personnel to perform control tests, interpret data, and make necessary adjustments
 - c. Explain recent advances in technology or improvements in the industry
 - d. Discuss areas that may require additional attention
 - e. Discuss plans for the upcoming quarter.
 - f. Provide additional services are requested
 - g. Provide on-site technical assistance within 48 hours from notification.

**SPECIFICATIONS
SODIUM HYDROXIDE
Caustic Soda, Liquid**

Chemical Formula:	25% NaOH in water		50% NaOH in water
<u>Item</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Typical</u>
Specific Gravity:	> 1.25	1.27	1.53
% by weight NaOH	> 23	23 – 28%	50%
% by weight Na ₂ CO ₃	0.19% max		38.7%
% by weight Na ₂ SO ₄	0.05% max		
% by weight NaClO ₃	0.2% max		1%
Iron (Fe)	5.0 ppm		
pH		14	
Color		Clear, Opaque	

Product must be diaphragm grade.

Must meet or exceed AWWA Standards and be ANSI/NSF Standard 60 certified

Vendor must supply a Certificate of Analysis with each load including specific gravity, percent solution, percent iron.

Product that falls below typical specifications for 50 % Caustic Soda product two times or more will be considered out of specifications. General Requirement section will apply for further direction.

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

I. Contract Period:

Contract awarded as a result of bids submitted under this Sealed Bid shall extend from the date of award for a period of 12 full months.

II. Pricing:

Prices shall remain firm for the duration of the initial Contract period. Reasonable price changes based on market conditions and price/cost analysis may be made after the initial Contract period. The Contractor shall supply documentation satisfactory to Cobb County, such as: documented changes to Producers Price Indexes; Consumer Price Indexes; or a manufacturer's published notification of price change(s).

Cobb County will evaluate this information to determine if revising the pricing is considered fair and reasonable to the satisfaction of Cobb County. Requests for any such change must be received in writing by the Cobb County Purchasing Department thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the original contract term. The County may cancel the contract if the price increase request is not approved.

All price reductions at the manufacturers' or distributors' level shall be reflected in a reduction of the contract price(s) to Cobb County retroactive to the effective date of the price reduction(s).

III. Option to Extend the Term of Contract:

Contract is renewable, at the option of Cobb County Government, and upon written agreement by the vendor. However, the total duration of this contract, including the exercise of any options, shall not exceed three (3) years (basic year and two (2) one (1) year options).

Cobb County General Instructions for Bidders, Terms and Conditions

I. Preparation Of Bids

Each bidder shall examine the drawings, specifications, schedule and all instructions. Failure to do so will be at the bidder's risk, as the bidder will be held accountable for their bid response.

Unit price for each quotation shall be shown and such price shall include packing unless otherwise specified, along with a total and grand total where applicable. In case of discrepancy between a unit price and extended price, the unit price will be presumed correct.

Each bidder shall furnish all information required by the bid form or document. Each bidder shall sign the bid and print or type his or her name on the schedule. The person signing the bid must initial erasures or other changes. An authorized agent of the company must sign bids.

Invitations to Bid issued by Cobb County are advertised on the Cobb County Internet site (www.purchasing.cobbcountyga.gov) and every Friday in the Cobb County legal organ, the Marietta Daily Journal.

II. Delivery

Each bidder should state the time of proposed delivery of goods or services. Words such as "immediate", "as soon as possible", etc. shall not be used. The known earliest date or the minimum number of calendar days required after receipt of order (delivery A.R.O.) shall be stated (if calendar days are used, include Saturday, Sunday and holidays in the number).

III. Explanation to Bidders

Any explanation desired by a bidder regarding the meaning or interpretation of the invitation for bids, drawings, specifications, etc. must be received **by 5:00 pm March 13, 2012** in order for a reply to reach all bidders before the close of the bid. Any information concerning an Invitation to Bid (ITB) will be furnished to all prospective bidders as an addendum if such information is necessary or if the lack of such information would be prejudicial to uninformed bidders.

Submit questions in writing to:
Cobb County Purchasing Department
1772 County Services Parkway
Marietta, GA 30008
Fax: 770-528-1154
Email: purchasing@cobbcounty.org

The written bid documents supersede any verbal or written communication between parties. Addenda are posted on the Purchasing web site: www.purchasing.cobbcountyga.gov. Receipt of addenda should be acknowledged in the bid. It is the bidder's ultimate responsibility to ensure that they have all applicable addenda prior to bid submittal.

IV. Submission of Bids

Bids shall be enclosed in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Cobb County Purchasing Department with the name of the bidder, the date and hour of opening and the invitation to bid number on the face of the envelope. Bids must be received in the Purchasing Department no later than the date and time (determined by the date/time stamp in the department) set forth in the Invitation to Bid. It is the sole responsibility of the bidder to ensure that his or her bid reaches the Purchasing Department. Telegraphic/faxed bids will not be considered. Any addenda should be enclosed in the sealed envelopes as well. Any addenda should be enclosed in the sealed envelopes as well. **All bids shall be submitted on the Bid Proposal Form. Any revisions made on the outside of the envelope will not be accepted.** The bids will be publicly opened and read at the time and place set forth in the Invitation to Bid.

Samples of items, when required, must be submitted within the time specified and, unless otherwise specified by the County, at no expense to the County. Unless otherwise specified, samples will be returned at the bidder's request and expense if items are not destroyed by testing. Items offered must meet required specifications and must be of a quality, which will adequately serve the use and purpose for which intended.

Full identification of each item bid upon, including brand name, model, catalog number, etc. must be furnished to identify exactly what the bidder is offering. The bidder must certify that items to be furnished are new and that the quality has not deteriorated so as to impair its usefulness.

If no items are bid on, the "Statement of No Bid" must be returned, with the envelope plainly marked "No Bid" including the bid number. Where more than one item is listed, any items not bid upon must be indicated "No Bid".

Unsigned bids will not be considered except in cases where bid is enclosed with other documents, which have been signed. The County will determine this.

Cobb County is exempt from federal excise tax and Georgia sales tax with regards to goods and services purchased directly by Cobb County. Suppliers and contractors are responsible for federal excise tax and sales tax, including any taxes for materials incorporated in county construction projects. Suppliers and contractors should contact the State of Georgia Sales Tax Division for additional information. Tax Exemption Certificates will be furnished upon request.

Information submitted by a bidder in the bidding process shall be subject to disclosure after the public opening in accordance with the Georgia Open Records Act. Each page of proprietary information must be identified. Entire bid may not be deemed proprietary.

V. Withdraw Bid Due To Errors

The bidder shall give notice in writing of his claim of right to withdraw his bid without penalty due to an error within two (2) business days (48 hours) after the conclusion of the bid opening. Bids may be withdrawn from consideration if the price was substantially lower than the other

bids due solely to a mistake therein, provided the bid was submitted in good faith, and the mistake was a clerical mistake as opposed to a judgment mistake, and was actually due to an unintentional arithmetic error or an unintentional omission of a quantity of work, labor or material made directly in the compilation of the bid, which unintentional arithmetic or unintentional omission can be clearly shown by objective evidence drawn from inspection of original work papers, documents and materials used in the preparation of the bid sought to be withdrawn. The bidder's original work papers shall be the sole acceptable evidence of error and mistake if he elects to withdraw his bid. If a bid is withdrawn under the authority of this provision, the lowest remaining responsive bid shall be deemed to be low bid. Bid withdrawal is not automatically granted and will be allowed solely at the discretion of Cobb County.

No bidder who is permitted to withdraw a bid shall, for compensation, supply any material or labor or perform any subcontract or other work agreement for the person or firm to whom the contract is awarded or otherwise benefit, directly or indirectly, from the performance of the project for which the withdrawn bid was submitted.

VI. Testing and Inspection

Since tests may require several days for completion, the County reserves the right to use a portion of any supplies before the results of tests are determined. Cost of inspections and tests of any item, which fails to meet specifications, shall be borne by the bidder.

VII. F.O.B. Point

Unless otherwise stated in the Invitation to Bid and any resulting contract, or unless qualified by the bidder, items shall be shipped F.O.B. Destination. The seller shall retain title for the risk of transportation, including the filing for loss or damages. The invoice covering the items is not payable until items are delivered and the contract of carriage has been completed. Unless the F.O.B. clause states otherwise, the seller assumes transportation and related charges either by payment or allowance.

VIII. Patent Indemnity

The contractor guarantees to hold the County, its agents, officers, or employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind for use of any copyrighted or uncopyrighted composition, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, articles or appliances furnished or used in the performance of contract, for which the contractor is not the patentee, assignee or licensee.

IX. Insurance

Insurance requirements: Contractor shall procure and maintain for the duration of the contract, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property that may arise from or in connection with performance of the Work hereunder by the Contractor, his agents, representatives, employees, or subcontractors.

A. MINIMUM LIMITS OF INSURANCE

Contractor shall maintain limits no less than:

1. General Liability: \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence for comprehensive coverage including bodily injury, personal injury and property damage for premises/operations, products/completed operations, contractual liability, independent contractors, broad-from property damage, and underground, explosion and collapse hazard.
2. Automobile Liability: \$1,000,000 combined single limit per accident for bodily injury and property damage including all owned, hired, and non-owned.
3. Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability: Workers' Compensation limits as required by the Labor code of the State of Georgia and Employers Liability of \$100,000 per accident.
4. Umbrella Liability: \$5,000,000 combined single limits per occurrence.
5. Builders Risk Insurance, if applicable: All Risk coverage on any buildings, structure of work and material in an amount equal to 100 per cent of the value of the contract. Coverage is to cover Cobb County interest and Cobb County shall be named as Loss Payee.

B. DEDUCTIBLES AND SELF-INSURED RETENTION

Any deductibles or self-insurance retentions must be declared to and approved by the Owner. At the option of the Owner, either: The insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retentions as respects the Owner, its officers officials, and employees; or the Contractor shall procure a bond guaranteeing payment of losses related to investigations, claim administration and defense expenses.

C. OTHER INSURANCE PROVISIONS

1. General Liability, Automobile Liability, and Umbrella Liability Coverages. The Owner and its officers, officials, employees and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds as respects: liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the Contractor.

Any failure to comply with reporting provisions of the policies shall not affect coverage provided to the Owner and its officers, officials, employees and volunteers.

The Contractor is responsible for insuring its own property and equipment.

2. Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage. The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the Owner and its officers, officials, employees and volunteers for losses arising from the work performed by the Contractor for the Owner.

3. All Coverages: Each insurance policy required by this clause shall be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be changed, cancelled, suspended, terminated or non-renewed except after thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to Cobb County of said change of coverage, cancellation, suspension, termination / or non-renewal.

D. ACCEPTABILITY.

Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a Best's rating of no less than A: VII, or otherwise acceptable to the Owner.

E. VERIFICATION OF COVERAGE.

Contractor shall furnish the Owner with certificates of insurance and with original endorsements effecting coverage required by this clause. These certificates and endorsements for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificates and endorsements are to be received and approved by the Owner before any work commences. The Owner reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies at any time.

F. SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractor means one not in the employment of the Contractor who is performing all or part of the services under this Agreement under a separate contract with the Contractor.

Contractor shall include all subcontractors as an additional insured under its insurance or shall ensure that subcontractors have met the insurance requirements of this agreement. Owner may request evidence of subcontractor's insurance.

Contractor is responsible for having all subcontractors comply with all terms and conditions of the Invitation to Bid.

G. WAIVER OF SUBROGATION

Vendor shall require all insurance policies in any way related to the work and secured and maintained by Vendor to include clauses stating each underwriter shall waive all rights of recovery, under subrogation or otherwise, against Customer. Vendor shall require of subcontractors, by appropriate written agreements, similar waivers each in favor of all parties enumerated in this section.

X. Award

Award will be made to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Conditional bids are not be acceptable. The quality of articles to be supplied, their conformity with the specifications, their suitability to the requirements of the County, and the delivery terms will be taken into consideration in making the award. The County may make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the bidder to perform, and the bidder shall furnish to the County all such information and data for this purpose as the County may request. The County reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of such bidder fails to satisfy the County that such bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract. The County reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids and to waive technicalities, informalities, and minor irregularities in bids received.

The Bidder does not have the exclusive right to fill all of the County's requirements for the goods or services awarded nor will the County be obligated to purchase the estimated annual quantity or any quantity contained in the bid document.

The County reserves the right to make an award as deemed in its best interest, which may include awarding a bid to a single bidder or multiple bidders; or to award the whole bid, only part of the bid, or none of the bid to single or multiple bidders, based on its sole discretion of its best interest. In case of tie bid, the award will be made as follows:

1. The bid will be awarded to the in-county vendor.
2. The bid will be awarded to the in-state vendor.
3. The bid will be awarded to the vendor with the lesser total dollar volume.

The County reserves the right to award by line item to more than one vendor. The County reserves the right to negotiate a lower price than the bid award price on any line item with the successful vendor, should the quantity required significantly exceed those on the Invitation to Bid. If the County is unable to negotiate an acceptable price, it reserves the right to rebid the item(s) involved. If after the award of the bid there is a decrease in the price of a product from the manufacturer, or a rebate, the successful bidder will pass that price decrease and/or rebate onto the County.

Time payment discounts will be considered in arriving at net prices and in award of bids. Offers of discount for payment within ten (10) days following the end of the month are preferred.

XI. Delivery Failures

Failure of a contractor to deliver within the time specified or within reasonable time as interpreted by the Purchasing Director, or failure to make replacement of rejected articles/services when so requested, immediately or as directed by the Purchasing Director, shall constitute authority for the Purchasing Director to purchase in the open market articles/services of comparable grade to replace the articles/services rejected or not delivered. On all such purchases, the contractor shall reimburse the County within a reasonable time specified by the Purchasing Director for any expense incurred in excess of contract prices, or the County shall have the right to deduct such amount from monies owed the defaulting contractor. Alternatively, the County may penalize the contractor one percent (1%) per day for a period of up to ten (10) days for each day that delivery or replacement is late. Should public necessity demand it, the County reserves the right to use or consume articles delivered which are substandard in quality, subject to an adjustment in price to be determined by the Purchasing Director.

XII. County Furnished Property

No material, labor or facilities will be furnished by the County unless so provided in the invitation to bid.

XIII. Reject And Withdraw Bids

Failure to observe any of the instructions or conditions in this invitation to bid may constitute grounds for rejection of bid.

XIV. Contract

Each bid is received with the understanding that the acceptance in writing by the County of the offer to furnish any or all commodities or services described therein shall constitute a contract between the bidder and the County which shall bind the bidder on his part to furnish and deliver the articles quoted at the prices stated in accordance with the conditions of said accepted bid. The County, on its part, may order from such contractor, except for cause beyond reasonable control, and to pay for, at the agreed prices, all articles specified and delivered. Payment terms are net thirty (30) days after receipt of invoice.

The Price and all unit prices shown shall be deemed to include all costs of Contractor's performance of the Work as set forth in the Bid Documents, including, but not limited to, the costs of labor, supervision, travel, services, materials, equipment, tools, scaffolds, hoisting, transportation, storage, insurance and taxes.

Upon receipt of a bid package, containing a Cobb County "Sample Contract" as part of the requirements, it is understood that the bidder has reviewed the documents with the understanding that Cobb County requires all agreements between the parties must be entered into via this document. If any exceptions are taken to any part, each must be stated in detail and submitted as part of the bid. If no exceptions are stated, it is assumed that the bidder fully agrees to the provisions contained in the "Sample Contract" in its entirety. The County reserves the right to make alterations to Sample contracts.

XV. Non-Collusion

By submission of a bid, the vendor certifies, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief:

- (a) The prices in the proposal have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communications, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other vendor or with any competitor.
- (b) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in the proposal have not been knowingly disclosed by the vendor prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other vendor or to any competitor.
- (c) No attempt has been made, or will be made, by the vendor to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition.

Collusions and fraud in bid preparation shall be reported to the State of Georgia Attorney General and the United States Justice Department.

XVI. Conflict of Interest, Etc.

By submission of a bid, the responding firm certifies, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief:

1. No circumstances exist which cause a Conflict of Interest in performing the services required by this ITB, and
2. That no employee of the County, nor any member thereof, not any public agency or official affected by this ITB, has any pecuniary interest in the business of the responding firm or his sub-consultant(s) has any interest that would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance related to this ITB.

By submission of a bid, the vendor certifies under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief:

- (a) The prices in the bid have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communications, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other vendor or with any competitor.
- (b) Unless other wise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in the bid have not knowingly been disclosed by the vendor prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other vendor or competitor.
- (c) No attempt has been made, or will be made, by the vendor to induce any other person, partnership or cooperation to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

For any breach or violation of this provision, the County shall have the right to terminate any related contract or agreement without liability and at its discretion to deduct from the price, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such fee, commission, percentage, gift, payment or consideration.

The successful responding firm shall require each of its sub-consultant(s) to sign a statement certifying to and agreeing to comply with the terms of the Sub-sections above.

XVII. Default

The contract may be cancelled or annulled by the Purchasing Director in whole or in part by written notice of default to the contractor upon non-performance or violation of contract terms. An award may be made to the next low responsive and responsible bidder, or articles specified may be purchased on the open market similar to those so terminated. In either event, the defaulting contractor (or his surety) shall be liable to the County for costs to the County in excess of the defaulted contract prices; provided, however, that the contractor shall continue the performance of this contract to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this clause. Failure of the contractor to deliver materials or services within the time stipulated on his bid, unless extending in writing by the Purchasing Director, shall constitute contract default.

XVIII. Disputes

Except as otherwise provided in the contract documents, any dispute concerning a question of fact arising under the contract which is not disposed of shall be decided after a hearing by the Purchasing Director, who shall reduce his/her decision to writing and mail or otherwise furnish a copy thereof to the contractor. The decision of the Purchasing Director shall be final and binding; however, the contractor shall have the right to appeal said decision to a court of competent jurisdiction.

XIX. Substitutions

Bidders offering and quoting on substitutions or who are deviating from the attached specifications shall list such deviations on a separate sheet to be submitted with their bid. The absence of such a substitution list shall indicate that the bidder has taken no exception to the specifications contained herein.

XX. Ineligible Bidders

The County may choose not to accept the bid of a bidder who is in default on the payment of taxes, licenses, or other monies due to the County. Failure to respond three (3) consecutive times for any given commodity/service may result in removal from the supplier list under that commodity/service.

XXI. Alterations of Documents

Alterations of County documents are strictly prohibited and will result in automatic disqualification of the firm's solicitation response. If there are "exceptions" or comments to any of the solicitation requirements or other language, then the firm may make notes to those areas, but may not materially alter any document language.

XXII. Termination for Convenience

The County, by written notice, may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, when it is in the County's interest. If this contract is terminated, the County shall be liable only for goods or services delivered or accepted. The County Notice of Termination may provide the contractor thirty (30) days prior notice before it becomes effective. However, at the County's sole option a termination of convenience may be effective immediately and may apply to delivery orders (if applicable) or to the contract in whole.

XXIII. Inter-governmental Agreement

Other cities and Authorities located in Cobb County will be allowed to purchase identical items at the same price and upon the same terms and conditions, pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreements entered into between the BOC and Cobb County Governmental entities listed under the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Program. These entities include the Cobb County Board of Education and Cities of Acworth, Austell,

Kennesaw, Smyrna, Marietta, and Powder Springs and the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority and the Cobb-Marietta Coliseum and Exhibit Hall Authority.

XXIV. Indemnification and Hold Harmless

By submission of a bid, the selected responding firm agrees to the fullest extent permitted by law to indemnify Cobb County and protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless Cobb County, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers from and against all claims, actions, liabilities, losses (including economic losses), or costs arising out of any actual or alleged a) bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death; or injury to or destruction of tangible property including the loss of use resulting there from; or any other damage or loss arising out of or resulting claims resulting in whole or part from any actual or alleged act or omission of the responding firm, sub-consultant, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any firm or sub-consultant; or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable in the performance of work; b) violation of any law, statute, ordinance, governmental administrative order, rule, regulation, or infringements of patent rights or other intellectual property rights by the responding firm in the performance of work; or c) liens, claims or actions made by the responding firm or other party performing the work, as approved by Cobb County. The indemnification obligations herein shall not be limited by any limitation on the amount, type of damages, compensation, or benefits payable by or for the responding firm or its sub-consultant(s), as approved by the County, under workers' compensation acts, disability benefit acts, other employee benefit acts, or any statutory bar or insurance.

XXV. Special Terms and Conditions

Should these General Terms and Conditions be in conflict with any attached Special Terms and Conditions, the Special Terms and Conditions will control.

**XXVI. Compliance with Georgia Security and Immigration Compliance Act
Contractor Affidavit and Agreement (EXHIBIT A) - Not Applicable**

XXVII. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE): The following provisions should be carefully read to determine applicability to your business.

Cobb County Government encourages the participation of all businesses in offering their services and/or products. It is the goal of Cobb County Government to fairly and competitively procure the best product at the most reasonable cost.

A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is generally defined as a Female, Black American, Hispanic American and any other minority owned business. The Federal Government has long had program in place to ensure participation of DBE vendors and suppliers. The State of Georgia has established a similar program whereby DBE firms are defined, certified and made known. This effort is managed by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). More information can be obtained from GDOT web site:

1. <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/eo-div/index.shtml>

The Cobb County Government addresses DBE business participation (frequency and dollar value) in the following ways:

2. Cobb County wishes to identify all DBE participation; both at the contractor and sub-contractor levels in the following ways.
 - a. DBE businesses are requested to identify such status at the time they register as a vendor.
 - b. DBE businesses are requested to identify themselves at the time they propose to do business. Please complete **EXHIBIT B** if applicable and return with bid submittal.
 - c. All businesses will receive with each Purchase Order an instruction sheet for use of the furnished *Cobb County Government DBE Participation Report*, **EXHIBIT C**. Businesses are requested to complete this report and submit it with each invoice for the time period billed.

2. Cobb County has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Plan in accordance with the regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (U. S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), 49 CFR Part 26.) The Cobb County Department of Transportation is the lead agency for implementing the USDOT DBE Program for the County.

The Plan applies only to projects which are clearly indicated by the County.

EXHIBIT B

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) IDENTIFICATION FORM

A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is generally defined as a Female, Black American, Hispanic American and any other minority owned business. If your firm is classified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), please complete this form and submit with bid response or send to:

Cobb County Purchasing Department
Attn: Purchasing Director
1772 County Services Parkway
Marietta, GA 30008
Fax: 770-528-1154
Email: purchasing@cobbcountry.org

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Certification Number: _____

Name of Organization Certification _____

This information is acquired for informational purposes only and will have no bearing on the award unless otherwise stated

Instructions for Completing Exhibit C
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
Participation Report

All Cobb County Government contractors or vendors are requested to complete a report descriptive of any DBE subcontractor involvement in work for which the government is making payment. If otherwise specified in an RFP/ITB or contract, additional reporting forms may be required as well.

The objective of this request is to assist in the identification of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) business participation with the Cobb County Government and to quantify that participation.

The Cobb County Government does not administer a DBE Certification Program. The principle certification agency for the State of Georgia is the Georgia Department of Transportation. As a Contractor/Vendor you are not responsible for verification of any DBE Certification information of your subcontractor.

***** Instructions *****

1. Contractor/Vendor is furnished the one-page *DBE Monthly Participation Report* with each Cobb County Government-issued Purchase Order.
2. Contractor/Vendor completes this report for each billing period and attaches it to the invoice to then be sent to the County department/agency receiving the service or product.
3. Upon receipt of a Contractor/Vendor invoice and DBE report, the County department/agency receiving the service or product should keep a copy of the completed DBE report for their reporting process. In order to add or verify the prime contractor is registered as a DBE vendor in AMS, the County department/agency should send a copy of the DBE report to:

Cobb County Purchasing Division
Attn.: DBE Report

A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is a firm that is under the control of someone in an ownership position (at least 51%) that:

1. Has membership in one or more of the following groups: Female, Black American, Hispanic American, Native American, Subcontinent Asian American and Asian-Pacific America. There may be other groups that may be eligible to be certified as DBE.
2. Is a U.S. citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident of the U.S.
3. Has a personal net worth which does not exceed \$750,000.
4. The business meets the Small Business Administration's size standard for a small business. Its annual gross receipts for the three previous fiscal years cannot have exceeded \$22,410,000. Depending on the type of work the business performs, other size standards may apply.
5. The business is organized as a for-profit business.
6. The business may also be DBE eligible as a certified U.S. Small Business Administration 8 (a) program.

Exhibit C
Cobb County Government Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation
Monthly Report

Contractor/Vendor: Please keep this blank report to make copies as needed. Print or type in the report, then send the completed report to the County department/agency receiving the service or product.

County Departments: Keep a copy of this completed report and use the dollar figures to input into your quarterly DBE report to the DBE Liaison (Records Management Division). If you already have a similar reporting method of gathering the dollar figures continue to use it. Send a copy of this completed report to the Purchasing Division (Attn: DBE Report) to add or verify the prime contractor is registered as a DBE vendor in AMS.

Submitted by: _____ Month Invoiced: _____
Name of Prime Contractor/Vendor **From/To:**

Cobb County Project Name: _____ Bid or P.O. Number: _____

Cobb County Department or Agency receiving service or product: _____

Description of Purchased Service/Product: _____

Full Contracted Amount: \$ _____ Payment amount requested at this time: \$ _____

1. Are YOU, the Prime Contractor a DBE business? YES _____ NO _____
2. Are YOUR subcontractors DBE vendors? YES _____ NO _____

Please provide information below for each participating DBE subcontractor(s).

DBE Subcontractor Business Name	Type Service or Product Supplied	DBE Subcontractor Business/Contact Tel. Number	Actual Dollar Value of DBE Subcontractor Participation this Reporting Month
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

Submitted by: _____
Printed Name

Title or position: _____

Date Completed: _____

Signature of Authorized Representative

**BID FORM
PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF CAUSTIC SODA
SEALED BID #12-5648**

SODIUM HYDROXIDE
25%, 50% Caustic Soda, Solution

Contact Persons:

Chemical Engineer: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____	¹ Technical Support: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Billing/Invoicing: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____	To Place Order: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Product Caustic Soda	Est. Annual Quantity	Delivery Mode	Container	² Cost per Gallon	Total \$/ Yr.
25% Solution	90,000	Truckload	Tanker Truck		
25% Solution	1,000	Less than Truckload	250 Gallon Tote or 4 x 55 gallon Drums		
				TOTAL=>	

Product Caustic Soda	Est. Annual Quantity	Delivery Mode	Container	² Cost per Gallon	Total \$/ Yr.
50% Solution	40,000	Truckload	Tanker Truck		
50% Solution	500	Less than Truckload	250 Gallon Tote or 4 x 55 gallon Drums		
				TOTAL=>	

Company

Authorized Representative

Signature

Date

¹ Attach qualifications of Technical Support Representative

² For bid purposes, bid comparisons will be based on the **Total** of the line items for each Product of the Estimated Annual Quantity times Cost per Gallon