

NOTICE TO SUPPLIERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: The Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer) invites sealed Proposals for LIQUID POLYMER FOR SLUDGE THICKENING

Sealed proposals for RFP # 8527 to provide:
LIQUID POLYMER FOR SLUDGE THICKENING
For Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer)

Proposals will be received at:

SacSewer – EchoWater Resource Recovery Facility
8521 Laguna Station Road
Elk Grove, CA 95758, until
3:00 p.m. March 4, 2026

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING

A **MANDATORY** Pre-Proposal Meeting will be held on **February 18, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. PST** at the Sacramento Area Sewer District, 8521 Laguna Station Road, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Attendance is Mandatory. Proposals will not be accepted unless at least one representative from the Proposer's company attends in person.

Pre-Proposal Meeting attendees must e-mail Tamblynn Stewart at stewartt@sacsewer.com with attendee names to RSVP prior to the meeting. This information is required to provide access at the Treatment Plant's security gate.

To be publicly opened and declared aloud by SacSewer representatives. Any Supplier who wishes its proposal to be considered is responsible for making certain that its proposal is delivered to said Purchasing Office.

Proposal shall be addressed to:

Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer)
Contract and Purchasing Services
8521 Laguna Station Road
Elk Grove, CA 95758

Attn: RFP # 8527

Detailed proposal request document **RFP # 8527** can be obtained by contacting SacSewer

<https://www.SacSewer.com/business-opportunities/>

SacSewer reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and waive any irregularity in Proposals received.

KEY ACTION DATES

RFP Advertised:	February 4, 2026
Mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting	February 18, 2026 11:00 a.m. PST Sacramento Area Sewer District 8521 Laguna Station Road Elk Grove, CA 95758
Question Deadline:	February 25, 2026
Proposal Due Date:	March 4, 2026 by 3:00 p.m.
Polymer Jar Test:	March 17, 2026 through March 19, 2026
Performance Test:	March 31, 2026 through April 9, 2026
Results Review:	April 16, 2026
Submit Bids:	April 22, 2026
Intent to Award:	April 29, 2026
Insurance Due:	May 13, 2026
Sign Contracts:	May 20, 2026
Delivery of Product:	June 3, 2026

INTRODUCTION

Invitation – The Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer) invites Responses which offer to provide the services identified on the Cover Sheet.

Definitions – We intend to express our expectations clearly, and they are to be legally interpreted in our favor. Certain words are used throughout this document.

We/Us/Our are terms which refer to SacSewer, a duly organized public entity. They may also be used as pronouns for various subsets of the County organization, including, as the context will indicate:

EchoWater Facility – EchoWater Resource Recovery Facility

District – Sacramento Area Sewer District

SacSewer – Sacramento Area Sewer District

You/Your are terms which refer to businesses having some sort of relationship to or with us. The term may apply differently as the context will indicate. For instance, “you” as a Contractor will have different obligations than “you” as a Proposer or Supplier will have:

Supplier – A business entity which may provide the subject goods and/or services.

Proposer – A business entity submitting a Response to this request for proposal (RFP). Suppliers which may express interest in this RFP, but which do not submit a Response, have no obligations with respect to the proposal requirements.

Contractor – The Proposer(s) who’s Response to this RFP is found by Purchasing to meet the needs of the SacSewer. Contractor will be selected for award and will enter into a contract for provision of the good and/or services described in the RFP.

Subcontractor – A company that enters into a business relationship with the Contractor. The Contractor may seek to place employees of the Subcontractor for the services described in the RFP.

Contractor’s Employee – All persons who can be offered to provide the services described in the RFP. All employees of the Contractor and the Subcontractor must be covered by the insurance programs normally provided to persons employed by a company (ex: Worker’s Comp, SDI, etc.).

Request For Proposal (RFP) – This entire document, including attachments.

Response – The written, signed and sealed document submitted according to the RFP instructions. Response does not include any verbal or documentary interaction you may have with us apart from submittal of a formal response. Verbal interactions will not be binding on SacSewer or Contractor(s) with respect to requirements stated within this RFP or resulting contractual obligations.

RFP Clarification – Questions regarding this RFP should be directed in writing to the Issuing Officer specified on the cover page. Answers citing the question, but not identifying the questioner, will be distributed simultaneously to all known prospective Proposers via email. Oral answers provided by SacSewer or its agents shall not be binding.

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL – March 4, 2026, by 3:00 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR BID SUBMITTAL – April 22, 2026, by 3:00 p.m.

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING – All prospective suppliers are required to attend the mandatory pre-proposal meeting. Proposals from any supplier unable to attend the pre-proposal meeting will be rejected. The pre-proposal meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. PST on February 18, 2026, Sacramento Area Sewer District, located at 8521 Laguna Station Rd., Elk Grove CA 95758.

RFP Amendment – If it becomes evident that this RFP must be amended, we will issue a formal written amendment to all known prospective Proposers.

Proposer Response and Responsibility – We expect you to be thoroughly familiar with all specifications and requirements of this RFP. Your failure or omission to examine any relevant form, article, site or document will not relieve you from any obligation regarding this RFP. By submitting a Response, you are presumed to concur with all terms, conditions and specifications of this RFP unless you have specifically raised objection. Objections we consider excessive or affecting vital terms may reduce or eliminate your prospects for award.

Award – Award will be made to the Proposer whose offer provides the greatest value to SacSewer from the standpoint of suitability to purpose, quality, service, previous experience, price, life cycle cost, ability to deliver, or for any other reason deemed to be in the best interest of SacSewer. The result will not be determined by price alone. However, price does matter, and we will be seeking the least costly outcome that meets our needs as we interpret them. SacSewer staff may conduct a site visit to evaluate product quality.

Proposal Term – SacSewer desires to award a contract for three (3) years with the options of two (2) one-year extensions. Any extension shall be at SacSewer's option, subject to the same specifications, terms and conditions, and agreement between SacSewer and the Supplier.

Proposal Execution – This RFP and the Supplier's Response will be made part of any resultant Contract and will be incorporated in the Contract as set forth.

Precedence – In the event of contradictions or conflicts between the provisions of the documents comprising the Contract, they will be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

- 1) The provisions of the Contract (as it may be amended);
- 2) The provisions of the RFP (as it may be supplemented);
- 3) The provisions of the Contractor's Response (as it may be clarified);

Issuing Officer – The issuing officer and mailing address to send Proposals, questions, and all other correspondence concerning the RFP is:

Tamblynn Stewart
Senior Contract Service Officer
8521 Laguna Station Road
Elk Grove, CA 95758
(916) 875-9014 stewartt@SacSewer.com

Supplier Examination of this RFP/Questions – Supplier shall examine carefully the entire RFP and any addenda thereto, and all related materials and data referenced in the RFP or otherwise available and shall become fully aware of the system needs through discussion and visits with SacSewer. If Suppliers discover an ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other errors in the RFP, they shall notify the Issuing Officer of such error in writing and request modification of the document. Modifications shall be made by addenda.

Suppliers requiring clarification of the intent or content of this RFP or on procedural matters regarding the proposal process may request clarification by contacting the Issuing Officer.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS – Proposals should be prepared in such a way as to provide a straightforward, concise delineation of capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Extensive binding, colored displays, promotional materials, etc., are not necessary or desired. Emphasis should be concentrated on conformance and clarity of content.

Proposals shall be completed in all respects as indicated. A Proposal may be rejected if it is conditional or incomplete, or it contains irregularities of any kind.

Proposals which contain false or misleading statements, or which provide references which do not support an attribute or capability of the proposed system may be rejected. If, in the opinion of SacSewer, such information was intended to mislead SacSewer in its evaluation of the Proposal and the attribute, condition or capability as a requirement of the RFP, the proposal shall be rejected.

The proposal must be signed by an individual who is authorized to bind the proposing firm contractually. The signature should indicate the title or position that the individual holds in the firm. Firms who sign their contracts with the name of the firm must provide the name of the corporate officer for signature validation by SacSewer. All unsigned Proposals shall be rejected.

Information provided in this proposal:

- Cover Page (page 1)
- Notice to Suppliers
- Key Action Dates
- Introduction
- General Conditions
- Terms and Conditions
- Background
- Testing and Selection Process
- Evaluation and Award Matrix
- Scope of Work
- Specifications
- Final Bid Information/Cost Response Page
- Vendor Questionnaire
- Vendor Chemical Production and Delivery Capabilities and Performance Record
- SacSewer Insurance Requirements
- Proposer's Statement Regarding Insurance Coverage
- Customer References
- Exception Response Page
- Non-collusion Declaration
- APPENDIX A: Polymer Test Results Template

Proposal Response – Interested Proposers must complete and return the following pages/sections by the closing date and time shown on the cover page to be considered:

- Cover Page with authorized signature
- Questionnaire with Customer References
- Vendor Chemical Production and Delivery Capabilities and Performance Record
- Chemical Safety Data Sheet
- Proposer's Statement Regarding Insurance Coverage
- Exception Response Page
- Non-collusion Declaration
- Three (3) copies of Proposal and mark the original as the “Original” or “Master Copy”

Note: SacSewer will not accept proposals by way of facsimile transmission or e-mail. Proposals must be signed and received in a sealed envelope. Refer to instructions on the cover page.

Bid Response – Interested bidders must complete and return the following pages/sections by the closing date and time shown on the cover page to be considered:

- Final Bid Information/Cost Response Page (page 27)
- Three (3) copies of Bid and mark the original as the “Original” or “Master Copy”

ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION OF PROPOSALS – The District Purchasing Manager reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all Proposals, or any part thereof;
- Waive any informality in the Proposal;
- Accept the Proposal that is in the best interest of SacSewer.

Protests – After receipt of SacSewer’s Intent to Award notice, any proposer who has questions or concerns should immediately contact the Issuing Officer for discussion. Any proposer who believes that they have grounds for a protest must submit a written protest on company letterhead within three (3) business days after the Intent to Award letter has been sent out. Any protest letter must state the specific grounds for protest and the actions being requested of SacSewer. **No protest received after 4 p.m. on the 3rd business day shall be accepted.**

If any SacSewer holidays fall within the three-business day protest response period, the protest acceptance period will be extended by the number of holidays. For example, if the Intent to Award notice is issued on a Friday, a protest must be received by the following Wednesday at 4 p.m. Should the Monday before the deadline be a holiday, the protest must instead be received by that following Thursday at 4 p.m.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. **BID/QUOTE/PROPOSAL/GENERAL CONDITIONS:** All of the terms and conditions of the bid, quote, or proposal against which this purchase document is applied, are hereby incorporated.
2. **SALES TAX NOT INCLUDED:** Unless otherwise definitely specified, the unit prices do not include California sales and use tax or Sacramento County sales and use tax.
3. **CASH DISCOUNTS:** In connection with any cash discount specified on this quote, time will be computed from the date of complete delivery of the supplies or equipment as specified, or from date correct invoices are received in SacSewer Auditor's Office if the latter date is later than the date of delivery. For the purpose of earning the discount, payment is deemed to be made on the date of mailing of SacSewer warrant or check.
4. **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** As a condition of accepting a purchase order from SacSewer, the Supplier certifies that their business entity is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended.
5. **HOLD HARMLESS:** The Supplier shall hold SacSewer, the County, their respective governing Boards, officers, directors, officials, employees, and authorized volunteers and agents harmless from liability of any nature or kind because of use of any copyrighted, or uncopyrighted composition, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, articles or appliances furnished or used under this order, and agrees to defend, at their own expense, any and all actions brought against SacSewer or themselves because of the unauthorized use of such articles.
6. **DEFAULT BY SUPPLIER:** In case of default by Supplier, SacSewer may procure the articles or services from other sources and may deduct from any monies due, or that may thereafter become due to the Supplier, the difference between the price named in the contract or purchase order and actual cost thereof to SacSewer. Prices paid by SacSewer shall be considered the prevailing market price at the time such purchase is made. Periods of performance may be extended if the facts as to the cause of delay justify such extension in the opinion of SacSewer Purchasing Manager.
7. **RIGHT TO AUDIT:** SacSewer reserves the right to verify, by examination of Supplier's records, all invoiced amounts when firm prices are not set forth in the purchase agreement.
8. **ASSIGNMENT:**(a) This award is not assignable by supplier either in whole or in part, without the prior written approval of SacSewer Purchasing Manager. (b) In submitting a quote to a public purchasing body, the quoter offers and agrees that if the quote is accepted, it will assign to the purchasing body all rights, title, and interest in and to all causes of action it may have under Section 4 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. Sec. 15) & the Cartwright Act (Chapter 2 [commencing with Section 16700] of part 2 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code), arising from the purchases of goods, materials, or services by the quoter for sale to the purchasing body pursuant to the quote. Such assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the purchasing body tenders final payment to the quoter.
9. **APPLICABILITY TO HEIRS:** Time is of the essence of each and all the provisions of this agreement and, subject to the limitations of Paragraph 8, the provisions of this agreement shall extend to and be

binding upon and inure to the benefits of the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the respective parties hereto.

- 10. F.E.T. EXEMPTION:** SacSewer is exempted from payment of Federal Excise Tax. No federal tax shall be included in price.
- 11. CHARGES NOT INCLUDED ON FACE NOT ACCEPTABLE:** No charge will be accepted for packing, boxing, or cartage, except as specified in the Intent to Award notice. Freight collect shipments will not be accepted. Merchandise will not be accepted if payment is to be made at the time of delivery.
- 12. TITLE:** Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, title to and risk of loss on all items shipped by seller to buyer shall pass to the buyer upon buyer's inspection and acceptance of such items at buyer's building after product passes the hose connection flange on the polymer storage tanks.
- 13. CHANGES WITHOUT NOTICE PROHIBITED:** No changes in price, quantity or merchandise will be recognized by SacSewer without written notice of acceptance thereof prior to shipment.
- 14. ALL UNDERSTANDINGS IN WRITING:** It is mutually understood and agreed that no alteration or variation of terms of this award shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto, and that no oral understandings or agreements not incorporated herein, and no alterations or variations of the terms hereof unless made in writing between the parties hereto shall be binding on any of the parties hereto.
- 15. FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither Contractor nor SacSewer shall be liable or responsible for delays or failures in performance resulting from events beyond the reasonable control of such party and without fault or negligence of such party. Such events shall include but not be limited to acts of God, strikes, lockouts, riots, acts of war, epidemics, acts of government, fire, power failures, nuclear accidents, earthquakes, unusually severe weather, acts of terrorism, or other disasters, whether or not similar to the foregoing, and acts or omissions or failure to cooperate of the other party or third parties (except as otherwise specifically provided herein).
- 16. INVOICING:** Upon submission of itemized invoices, in duplicate, payment shall be made of the prices stipulated herein for supplies delivered and accepted or services rendered and accepted, less deductions, if any, as herein provided. Payment on partial deliveries may be made whenever amounts due so warrant or when requested by the supplier and approved by the Purchasing Manager.
- 17. SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** Buyer's standard terms and conditions shall govern any contract awarded. If, after award of contract, supplier provides additional terms or conditions, they shall be considered void. To the extent not otherwise stated in the contract, the California Commercial code shall apply.
- 18. SCERS POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT POLICY**
 - A. Any employee of, or contractor retained by, Contractor who is retired from Sacramento County service is subject to SCERS Post Retirement Employment Policy and must adhere to limitations on post-retirement service, including a 180-day waiting period before working for the County or SacSewer and a 960-hour per calendar year cap when working for the County or SacSewer.

- B. Upon execution of this Agreement, Contractor shall report to SacSewer in writing, the names of current and future employees who will provide services under this Agreement, that are retired from Sacramento County employment.
- C. Contractor must report to SacSewer in writing on a semi-annual basis (January 5th and July 5th of each calendar year), the names of employees retired from Sacramento County employment providing services under this Agreement, and hours those employees have worked during the applicable reporting period. Contractor shall submit reports to SDASCERSReporting@sacsewer.com.
- D. Contractor shall not assign employees to provide services under this Agreement in violation of SCERS Post Retirement Employment Policy.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Valid offer: Proposals received are an irrevocable offer and shall be valid for ninety (90) days following the closing date for receipt of Proposals.

Changes to Proposal: SacSewer retains the right to negotiate changes in a Proposal by any offeror, and to reject any or all Proposals if none of the submissions are responsive to its needs.

Notification of Price Change: the three contract years and the following contract extension years will have a fixed 1 year/12 month price. The price for the contract years and contract extension years can be negotiated prior to the start of each new contract year. A ninety (90) day notification must be provided prior to a change in price for the contract extension years.

Public Record: All Proposals become the property of SacSewer. Accepted Proposals and any subsequent award become public records. Proprietary material must be clearly marked as such. Pricing and service elements of the successful Proposal will not be considered proprietary information.

Terms of sale: Terms of sale may include a cash discount; however, a minimum of “Net 30 days” will be required for this RFP/award.

F.O.B. point: The F.O.B. point shall be F.O.B. Destination (SacSewer facilities).

Licenses and permits: Supplier shall obtain and keep in effect at all times during the duration of the contract, any licenses and permits necessary for the Supplier’s operations. All such costs shall be at the Supplier’s expense.

Health and safety: The Supplier shall plan and conduct the work in a manner that will safeguard all persons from injury and shall take all precautions as required by Cal-OSHA (California-Occupational Safety and Health Administration) and the General Industry Safety Orders for health and safety.

Hazardous materials: All materials subject to the requirements of the California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Article 110, Section 5194 must be identified.

Safety data sheet: It is required by law that all hazardous materials be accompanied with a “safety data sheet” (SDS) at time of delivery (if applicable).

Work on SacSewer premises: Except for those risks inherent in the work to be performed by the Supplier, SacSewer agrees to provide the Supplier and its employees a safe working environment for any work in the performance of this contract that must be undertaken on premises owned or leased by SacSewer. While the Supplier’s employees are on SacSewer’s premises, the Supplier shall maintain strict work discipline and effect its work in compliance with governmental laws or regulations pertaining to occupational safety and health. Supplier shall not enter SacSewer premises to start work without making prior arrangements.

Standards of conduct: The Supplier shall be responsible for maintaining satisfactory standards of employee competency, conduct, appearance, and integrity, and shall be responsible for taking such disciplinary action with respect to his/her employees as may be necessary. In addition, the Supplier and crew shall always be courteous, cooperative, and professional toward SacSewer representative and the public in the course of their

work. All assignments and problems shall be handled promptly and professionally to the satisfaction of SacSewer.

Public safety: The Supplier shall erect such warning and directional signs as may be necessary for public safety.

Protection of property: The Supplier shall take every precaution to protect all public and private property during the performance of this contract. Any damage to existing facility or property caused by the Supplier's personnel or equipment will be promptly repaired by SacSewer to the condition existing before the damage occurred, and the Supplier and/or the Supplier's surety shall fully reimburse SacSewer for all expenses, including the cost of labor.

Correspondence: The Supplier shall respond to all inquiries and complaints in an expeditious manner. Correspondence shall be conducted on the Supplier's official stationery. The Senior Contract Services Officer shall receive a copy of all correspondence.

Termination upon Unsatisfactory Performance: Whenever, in the opinion of SacSewer, the said service is not satisfactory, Supplier shall be advised of the reasons in writing. If Supplier fails to immediately correct the unsatisfactory condition(s), SacSewer may declare the contract in default, terminate the contract, and contract with another. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, SacSewer shall have no obligation to give Supplier more than two (2) notices of unsatisfactory performance during the contract period. If Supplier fails to perform the services pursuant to the contract, Supplier and/or surety may be held liable and may be assessed any and all costs for the re-procurement of the contracted services.

Timely reporting of incidents: The Supplier shall immediately report any on-the-job incident (e.g. spills, equipment failure, injuries, etc.) to the SacSewer representative. At the earliest available time following the incident, the Supplier shall prepare and submit a written report to the SacSewer representative, fully documenting the incident including any subsequent documentation related to spill cleanup and disposal (e.g. lab analytics, waste profiles, disposal receipts, etc.).

Right to terminate: Either party may terminate this agreement, without cause, by notice from the terminating party to the other party specifying the effective date of termination, which date shall be at least thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of notice by the non-terminating party.

Recycling: SacSewer in recognition of concerns for the depletion of natural resources, dwindling landfill space, and the ecological effect of wastes in the environment, encourages the use of recycled, recyclable and reusable products and materials. Hence, consideration will be given for product(s) that contain recycled material or have the potential of being recycled, if the availability, fitness, quality, purpose and price of the recycled product(s) is otherwise equal to or better than, virgin products.

Changes in work: Should SacSewer, at any time during the progress of said work, request any alterations, deviations, additions, or omissions from the said agreement, specifications, or plans, it shall be at liberty to do so. And the same shall in no way affect or make void the agreement but will be added to or deducted from the amount of said agreement price as the case may be, by a fair and reasonable valuation subject to the mutual agreement of the parties.

Unrestricted quantities: SacSewer is not limited to purchase all of its requirements from any contract resulting from this RFP/award.

Subcontracting: The performance of the work may not be subcontracted except upon consent of SacSewer; and, no such subcontracting will be permitted if it would relieve the original Supplier or their surety of their responsibilities under the agreement.

Non-recognition of Subcontractors: No Subcontractor will be recognized as such, and all persons engaged in the work under the blanket order will be considered as employees of the Supplier, and their work shall be subject to all provisions of the blanket order. SacSewer and its representatives will deal only with the Supplier, who shall be responsible for the proper execution of the work.

Dismissal of unsatisfactory employees: If any person employed by the Supplier or any Subcontractor fails or refuses to carry out the directions of the SacSewer representative, or is, in the opinion of the SacSewer representative, incompetent, unfaithful, intemperate, or disorderly; or uses threatening or abusive language to any person at the facility; or if otherwise unsatisfactory, they shall be removed from the work immediately, and shall not again be employed on the work except upon consent of the SacSewer representative.

Drug-free Workplace: In submitting a Request for Quotation/Bid/Proposal, Supplier certifies that its place of business provides a drug-free workplace and has:

1. Published a "Drug-free Workplace" statement notifying employees that the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance or other unlawful drug or alcohol is prohibited in the Supplier's workplace and specified the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition.
2. Established a Drug-free Awareness Program to inform employees about:
 - a. The dangers of drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace.
 - b. The Supplier's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace.
 - c. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance program.
 - d. Penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug and alcohol abuse violations occurring in the workplace.
3. Notified employees that as a condition of employment, employees will be expected to abide by terms of the statement and be given an individual copy of the Supplier's "Drug-free Workplace" statement.

Liability of District officials: Neither SacSewer, its officers, employees, agents, nor representatives shall be responsible for any liability arising in the performance of the contract. For instance, the Supplier may elect to store their equipment, materials, and supplies at the job site (upon obtaining permission), but does so at their own risk.

Indemnification: To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Sacramento Area Sewer District, and the County of Sacramento, their respective governing Boards, officers, directors, officials, employees, and authorized volunteers and agents, (collectively "Indemnified Parties") from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, losses, liabilities, damages, and all expenses and costs incidental thereto (collectively "Claims") including cost of defense, settlement, arbitration, and reasonable attorneys' fees, resulting from injuries to or death of persons, including but not limited to employees of either Party hereto, and damage to or destruction of property or loss of use thereof, including but not limited to the

property of either Party hereto, arising out of, pertaining to, or resulting from the acts or omissions of the Contractor, its officers, employees, or agents, or the acts or omissions of anyone else directly or indirectly acting on behalf of the Contractor, or for which the Contractor is legally liable under law regardless of whether caused in part by an Indemnified Party. Contractor shall not be liable for any Claims arising from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of an Indemnified Party where such indemnification would be invalid under Section 2782 of the Civil Code.

This indemnity shall not be limited by the types and amounts of insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Contractor or the Contractor's Subcontractors.

Contractor shall require all subcontractors of any tier to enter into written agreements containing indemnity obligations consistent with those imposed on Contractor under this Agreement. Such agreements shall require subcontractors to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the District and Contractor and their respective officers, officials, employees, and agents from and against all claims arising out of or related to the subcontractor's work, to the fullest extent permitted by law. Contractor shall remain fully responsible for subcontractor performance and for ensuring these indemnity obligations are enforceable

Nothing in this Indemnity shall be construed to create any duty to, any standard of care with reference to, or any liability or obligation, contractual or otherwise, to any third party.

The provisions of this Indemnity shall survive the expiration or termination of the Agreement.

Nondiscrimination: The Supplier shall not discriminate in the provision of services because of color, race, creed, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or physical or mental handicap in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. Section 2000d), the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. Section 12131 et seq.), and all other applicable laws and regulations requiring no discrimination.

Proof of Qualification: The Proposer may be required before the award of any contract to show to the complete satisfaction of SacSewer that it has the necessary licenses, permits, equipment, facilities, experience, ability, capacity, skill and financial resources to provide the services specified herein in a satisfactory manner. The Proposer may be required to give a history and references to satisfy SacSewer regarding the Proposer's qualifications. SacSewer may make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of a Proposer to furnish the required services, and the Proposer will furnish to SacSewer all such information and data for this purpose as SacSewer may request. SacSewer also reserves the right to conduct a background inquiry of each Proposer, which may include the collection of appropriate criminal history information, contractual and business associations and practices, employment histories, and reputation in the business community. By submitting a proposal to SacSewer, the Proposer consents to any such inquiries and investigations and agrees to make available to SacSewer such books and records as SacSewer deems necessary to conduct the inquiry.

Non-assignment: Supplier shall neither assign nor subcontract any of the services required under this contract without prior written consent of SacSewer.

Contractor not an agent: Except as SacSewer may specify in writing, Supplier shall have no authority, express or implied, to act on behalf of SacSewer in any capacity whatsoever as an agent. Supplier shall have no authority, express or implied, pursuant to this agreement to bind SacSewer to any obligation whatsoever.

Compliance with all Laws and Jurisdiction: Supplier shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances, regulations, directives, and laws. The laws of the State of California, the State in which this contract was executed, shall govern the interpretation and enforcement of this contract. The parties agree to submit any disputes arising under this contract to a court of competent jurisdiction located in Sacramento, California.

Clarification, Exception or Deviation: Each Respondent may clarify or describe any exception or deviation from the requirements as set forth herein. Each clarification, exception or deviation must be clearly identified and submitted with your Proposal response. The blank “Exception/Response Page” is provided in this RFP. If there are no clarifications, exceptions, or deviations indicated, it will be considered that none exist.

In writing: Oral communications with SacSewer employees about this Request for Proposal shall not be binding on SacSewer, and shall not excuse the Supplier from any obligation set forth herein. No modification or amendment to this Request for Proposal shall be valid unless it is set forth in writing – via a signed addendum or amendment from the Issuing Officer.

Damages: In the event Supplier fails to make scheduled deliveries previously agreed upon by both Supplier and SacSewer of Liquid Polymer, SacSewer will sustain damages. Damages to include but are not limited to; additional cost of delivered Liquid Polymer from alternate or noncontract Supplier, including delivery charges. Additional costs incurred by Supplier shall be paid by Supplier and the delivered Liquid Polymer shall be invoiced to SacSewer at the contracted price. Further, since it is extremely difficult to determine actual damages that may be sustained by SacSewer, it shall be agreed that the amount of damages to be paid by Supplier to SacSewer would be specific for each calendar day until the deliveries are restored. Such amount shall be the actual cash value agreed upon as the loss to SacSewer resulting from Supplier’s default.

Payment of Damages: In the event Supplier shall become liable for damages, SacSewer, in addition to all other remedies provided by law, shall withhold any and all payments from which would otherwise be due to Supplier determined. If the sum retained by SacSewer is not sufficient to discharge all such liabilities of Supplier, Supplier shall continue to remain liable to SacSewer until all such liabilities are satisfied in full. No failure by SacSewer to withhold any payment as specified shall in any manner be construed to constitute a waiver to any right to damages or any right to any such sum.

Integration: This contract constitutes the entire contract between SacSewer and the Supplier regarding the subject matter of the contract. Any prior agreements, whether oral or written, between SacSewer and the Supplier regarding the subject matter of this contract are hereby-terminated effective immediately upon full execution of this contract. No modification or amendment to this contract shall be valid unless it is set forth in writing and is signed by the parties hereto.

Fixed Price Deliverables: This contract consists of the delivery of specific results (a “Deliverable”) by the Supplier. Each Deliverable must be separately priced in the proposal. Invoices for partial completion of a Deliverable will not be paid. Invoices for a completed Deliverable may be submitted only after the Supplier has received written acceptance from SacSewer.

Insufficient Information: If a Supplier submits insufficient information within the proposal, such that SacSewer is unable to properly evaluate the proposal, SacSewer has the right to require additional information, as it may deem necessary after the time set for receipt of proposals.

Contract Negotiations: Upon mutual agreement with Contractor, SacSewer reserves the right to add terms and conditions during contract negotiations. These terms and conditions will be within the scope of the Request for Proposal.

Audits and Records: Upon SacSewer's request, SacSewer or its designee shall have the right at reasonable times and intervals to audit, at Supplier's premises, Supplier's appropriate records as SacSewer deems necessary to determine Supplier's compliance with legal and contractual requirements and the correctness of claims submitted by Supplier. Supplier shall maintain such records for a period of four years following termination of Agreement, and shall make them available for copying upon SacSewer's request at SacSewer's expense.

Prior Agreements: This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between SacSewer and Supplier regarding the subject matter of this Agreement. Any prior agreements, whether oral or written, between SacSewer and Supplier regarding the subject matter of this Agreement are hereby-terminated effective immediately upon full execution of this Agreement. No modification or amendment to this Agreement shall be valid unless it is set forth in writing and is signed by the parties hereto.

Independent Contractor:

1. It is understood and agreed that Supplier (including Supplier's employees) is an Independent Contractor and that no relationship of employer-employee exists between the parties hereto. Supplier's assigned personnel shall not be entitled to any benefits payable to employees of SacSewer. SacSewer is not required to make any deductions or withholdings from the compensation payable to Supplier under the provisions of this agreement; and as an Independent Contractor, Supplier hereby indemnifies and holds SacSewer harmless from any and all claims that may be made against SacSewer based upon any contention by any third party that an employer-employee relationship exists due to this agreement.
2. It is further understood and agreed by the parties hereto that Supplier in the performance of its obligation hereunder is subject to the control or direction of SacSewer as to the designation of tasks to be performed, the results to be accomplished by the services hereunder agreed to be rendered and performed, and not the means, methods, or sequence used by Supplier for accomplishing the results.
3. If, in the performance of this Agreement, any third persons are employed by CONTRACTOR, such person shall be entirely and exclusively under the direction, supervision, and control of CONTRACTOR. All terms of employment, including hours, wages, working conditions, discipline, hiring, and discharging, or any other terms of employment or requirements of law, shall be determined by CONTRACTOR, and District shall have no right or authority over such persons or the terms of such employment.
4. It is further understood and agreed that as an independent contractor and not an employee of District, neither the CONTRACTOR nor CONTRACTOR's assigned personnel shall have any entitlement as a District employee, right to act on behalf of District in any capacity whatsoever as agent, nor to bind District to any obligation whatsoever. CONTRACTOR shall not be covered by worker's compensation; nor shall CONTRACTOR be entitled to compensated sick leave, vacation leave, retirement entitlement, participation in group health, dental, life and other insurance programs, or entitled to other fringe benefits payable by the District to employees of District.

5. It is further understood and agreed that Supplier must issue W-2 and 941 Forms for income and employment tax purposes, for all of Supplier's assigned personnel under the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Responsibility of Independent Contractor: Supplier as an Independent Contractor, shall be liable and hereby expressly assumes and accepts exclusive liability as an employer under the Federal Insurance Contribution Act, the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, Federal Social Security Act, the Unemployment Compensation Act, or any other Federal or State laws or acts which in any way affect or relate to the relationship of employer and employee, and shall be liable for Social Security or Unemployment Compensation or other taxes or penalties arising or levied by reason of the employment of such persons, and shall be responsible for the collection and remittance of any taxes so levied, upon Supplier, on account of the persons employed by Supplier.

Invoicing:

For orders placed by SacSewer, e-mail a PDF copy to sasdfiscal@sacsewer.com
Or mail a hardcopy to the address below:

SACRAMENTO AREA SEWER DISTRICT
8521 LAGUNA STATION RD
ELK GROVE, CA 95758
Attn: Accounts Payable

- Each invoice shall contain a minimum of the following information: invoice number and date; remittance address; “bill to” and “ship to” addresses; purchase order (PO) number; quantities; item descriptions, unit prices and extensions; sales/use tax; and an invoice total.
- Before supplying any goods or services to SacSewer, the supplier must obtain a PO number from the ordering department. A PO is an authorized release (Purchase Order) against the contract and shall be provided in either verbal or written form. For a PO to be considered valid, it must be within the scope of this contract and be consistent with its pricing, terms and conditions. The PO number must be referenced on all documents related to the order (packing slips, invoices, etc.). Failure to obtain a PO and reference its number may result in the delay or non-payment of the invoice.
- Invoices shall be rendered in arrears.
- Invoice discrepancies shall be handled in a professional, courteous, and expeditious manner.
- In the State of California, government agencies are not allowed to pay excess interest and late charges. Per Government Codes, Section 926.10, interest shall be entitled commencing the 61st day and shall be 6 percent per annum.

BACKGROUND

The EchoWater Facility is a 180 MGD tertiary wastewater treatment plant that services approximately 1.6 million people in the Sacramento County and surrounding areas. Its secondary system consists of an air activated biological nutrient removal (BNR) process. The treatment plant has four gravity belt thickeners (GBTs) for thickening waste activated sludge (WAS) from the secondary process prior to sending it to anaerobic digesters. Polymer used for this process is stored in two 13,800 gal storage tanks, where a pump continuously runs to circulate the raw polymer throughout each tank. Prior to being used in the GBTs, the polymer is mixed with the treatment plant's non-potable water (WN) supply in polymer blending units (PBUs) and allowed to age for at least an hour in a separate aging tank. The polymer solution is mixed with WAS prior to feeding the GBTs through a polymer solution injection ring, followed by an adjustable venturi mixer, flocculation tank, and feed chute. Approximate performance information that pertains to the GBT process is shown below:

GBT WAS TSS Concentration:	5500 mg/L
Target TWAS (%TS):	5.5%
GBT Flow Rate Max:	900 gpm per GBT
Average GBT Solids Load Rate:	1950 lbs. per hour per GBT
Target Solids Capture Rate:	95%

Acceptable Polymer: The type of liquid polymer acceptable for testing and purchase must be an emulsion type. Only polymers which are submitted by a primary manufacturer will be considered for testing and for award of the contract. All interested polymer manufacturers must submit to the testing procedure outlined below and meet all criteria listed herein to be eligible for consideration. Polymer manufacturers can contact Riley Williams at (916) 875-4807 or williamsri@sacsewer.com for scheduling of tests or for additional information.

Testing and Selection Process

The following is a summary of the process that will be used to determine the polymer which is most cost-effective in thickening the WAS produced at the EchoWater Facility. A more detailed description can be found further in this section

1. RFP Submittal – Prospective vendors must submit a proposal in response to the RFP by the deadline to be considered further. Prospective vendors that submit a successful proposal will be notified by the District to participate in the remaining testing and selection process.
2. Manufacturer's Jar Test – The notified vendors will be scheduled to participate in a jar test. The vendor will be provided a WAS sample and space in the EchoWater laboratory to select one polymer to be used for field testing.
3. Field Performance Testing – The participating vendors will be scheduled to test the polymer from the jar test. Based on field testing, the District will determine the dose rate that was found to meet the target specified GBT performance.
4. Final Bid Submittal – The participating vendors will use the dose rate determined by the District based on the field test to submit a final bid/cost. The District will then evaluate the proposals and final bids to award the contract.

RFP Submittal

Each manufacturer will submit a complete proposal in response to the RFP. The vendor will need to submit a proposal by the closing date and time to be considered further. Specifically, the prospective vendor shall provide:

- Cover Page with authorized signature
- Questionnaire with Customer References
- Vendor Chemical Production and Delivery Capabilities and Performance Record
- Chemical Safety Data Sheet(s)
- Proposer's Statement Regarding Insurance Coverage
- Exception Response Page
- Non-collusion Declaration
- Three (3) copies of Proposal and mark the original as the "Original" or "Master Copy"

Successful proposers will be notified by the District to participate in the polymer testing and selection process. Polymer jar and field testing dates will be subsequently scheduled by the District.

Manufacturer's Jar Test

The purpose of this test is to give each manufacturer an opportunity to find a liquid polymer and dosage which they wish to submit for field performance testing. This test will allow each manufacturer to determine which one of their polymers works best on the GBT's. Manufacturers will be limited to only one type of polymer from the jar test to be used for the performance test.

The manufacturer's jar test will be performed on a sample of the WAS collected the day of the test with the approximate properties described above. The properties are approximate and should be verified by the vendor prior to beginning the jar test. The typical dilution water will also be available for the manufacturer to use. Each manufacturer will be scheduled for a half-day of jar testing at the EchoWater Facility lab. EchoWater staff will assist by providing lab space and a GBT influent sample. The test apparatus and glassware shall be provided by the polymer manufacturer. Contact Riley Williams at (916) 875-4807 or williamsri@sacsewer.com to make an appointment to visit the EchoWater Facility to run jar tests during the scheduled dates listed in the event schedule.

Field Performance Testing

Each manufacturer will submit in writing the name of the polymer to be used during the test and the polymer dosage expected to achieve 5.5% TS from the GBT process to Riley Williams at the provided e-mail. The polymer dosage must be submitted to the District at least 2 days prior to the scheduled field test. The estimated polymer dosage will be presented as lbs. of neat polymer per dry ton of WAS.

Disclaimer: The performance of the field test assumes all equipment is in good working condition and the EchoWater Facility process is performing as expected during the test. SacSewer will retain sole discretion to reschedule performance tests due to any process irregularities and/or equipment failures that could impact the results of the test.

Test Polymer

Two days prior to the scheduled test, each polymer manufacturer will provide a minimum 55-gallon supply of polymer (or sufficient supply to conduct a 5-hr test on two GBTs at 1,800 gpm) at their expense to be used for the field test. At least two days prior to the scheduled field test, each manufacturer will submit a Safety Data

Sheet (SDS), recommended dosage rate (as previously mentioned), and a certificate of analysis on the selected polymer to be used in the field test. The certificate of analysis must provide, but is not limited to, information on the polymer activity, density, and viscosity.

The test polymer supply shall be weighed by the District before and after being fully activated to verify the unit weight of the polymer. The District will also perform an activity test on each test polymer to verify the activity listed in the certificate of analysis. Manufacturers of test polymers that are found to have an activity that deviates more than 20 percent from the certificate of analysis based on District testing will be disqualified from submitting a final bid.

Field Test

This test will determine the most effective dose for sludge thickening and the polymer quantities to be used for evaluating final bid information. Each manufacturer participating in the test will have one full working day (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) to set up, test their chosen polymer on the GBTs, and clean up. They will have 2 hours at the end of the testing day to clean up and, if needed, an additional hour during normal business hours the following day. Polymer manufacturers will provide, at their expense, the test polymer (in 275-gallon tote) and personnel required for the test, and shall be responsible for removal and disposal of polymer containers. The District will provide qualified operators to assist in making the required connections and polymer solution, operate the GBTs, and assist with disconnecting the test polymer from the polymer system. The polymer blend units, aging tank, and polymer lines will be flushed with non-potable water prior to each scheduled field performance test.

The test polymer will be fed directly to the inline PBUs located in the GBT equipment gallery. The polymer will be mixed with the treatment plant's WN to a solution of 0.3% by volume before being activated and stored in a 13,000-gallon aging tank. After the polymer has been given approximately 1 hr. to cure in the tank, it will be metered to two GBT's based on a dose rate measured in lbs. of polymer/dry ton of the influent WAS flow. The target WAS flow for the duration of the test will be 900 gallons per minute per GBT (1,800 gpm total). The ratio of polymer to WAS may be adjusted at 30 min intervals during the polymer test. The ratio settings will be based on the results of the jar test for achieving the target total solids content. All other parameters of the test besides the polymer dose rate will be held constant throughout the test.

The following schedule will apply for each field test:

Delivery of Test Polymer	2 days prior to test
Setup Polymer	2 hrs.
Polymer Activation	1 hr.
Test Polymer	5 hrs.
First Stage Cleanup	2 hr.
Final Cleanup (as needed)	1 hr. (following day)

Upon conclusion of the field test, District Staff will calculate the polymer dosage rate required to achieve 5.5% TS based on the test data. The field performance testing will be on two existing GBTs (each manufacturer will be limited to one type of polymer for the performance test based on jar testing). The dosage rate, in pounds per dry ton (lbs/DT), required to meet the performance testing target of 5.5% TS will be calculated as an average across the two GBTs. The District will provide the polymer dosage rate (lbs. of neat polymer per dry ton of

WAS) to each manufacturer prior to the scheduled date for submitting final bids. The EchoWater Facility polymer dosage rate provided by the District will be final and shall be used by each manufacturer to fill out the attached Final Bid Information/Cost Response Page. Final bid information will be submitted based on cost (including freight) per pound of neat polymer.

Evaluation Criteria

The contract will be awarded to the polymer manufacturer that has the highest weighted score based on the criteria provided in the award matrix below.

Award Matrix

An evaluation team will score both the Suppliers’ Proposal and Final Bid/Cost Response, as listed in the table below. Each Supplier’s Proposal and Bid will be scored using the same criteria. The evaluation team will consist of representatives only from SacSewer.

Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points	Score
Chemical Product Cost	70	_____
Delivery Response Time	15	_____
Experience and Expertise	10	_____
References	5	_____
Total Score	100	_____

Final Selection/Contract Award:

Final selection will be based on the weighted score of the proposal evaluation matrix that includes the Final Bid Information/Cost Response page (bid submittal). The prospective vendor with the highest total score will be awarded the contract.

SCOPE OF WORK

Introduction

SacSewer seeks a contract for product with both the most responsive and responsible vendor. The goal of this contract is to acquire the best product and service value for SacSewer.

Scope

SacSewer is soliciting proposals for the following:

Product

The vendor shall supply the following chemical product:

- An emulsion-type liquid polymer effectively achieving 5.5% total solids in the GBT thickened WAS.

The polymer must be from a primary manufacturer and must not include any material that would adversely affect the public water supply or typical polymer feeding equipment. Each delivery of polymer must include a certificate of analysis from either a reputable outside laboratory or the manufacturer's in-house laboratory if the latter is ISO-certified or a proven reputable laboratory. A reputable laboratory is defined as a laboratory having proven proficiency for liquid polymer testing over a minimum of 3 years. SacSewer may utilize a 3rd party lab at no cost to the supplier to ensure the chemical being provided meets the results of the associated certificate of analysis. Each delivery will also include a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) which shall include, but is not limited to, product weight, active ingredient content as a percentage of product weight, and product safety information. These sheets should be representative of the chemical used for the completed cost response page.

The awarded vendor shall provide the unit price for the solids thickening polymer offered in terms of \$/gal, and lb. of polymer. Vendors can submit unit price proposals for the product requested in the proposal sheet. Unit prices in conjunction with product performance will be evaluated by SacSewer. In addition to cost, SacSewer will consider the chemical product's performance. A chemical product's performance includes, but is not limited to:

- Chemical storage limitations
- Product safety and handling limitations
- Impact on existing and anticipated downstream wastewater treatment processes
- Potential byproduct formation
- Field testing described in prior sections

Additionally, the vendor is to provide documentation that guarantees adequate chemical surplus to meet SacSewer's current and future needs for a multiyear contract.

Service

The vendor shall provide the following services:

- Chemical Deliveries: Specified Liquid Polymer will be delivered to EchoWater Facility by the vendor.

Chemical deliveries will be made to the EchoWater Facility located at 8521 Laguna Station Road, Elk Grove, CA, 95758 by tanker truck. The polymer will be transferred from the tanker truck to the Polymer Storage tanks

through equal or less than 3” piping. The tanker trucks will need either a compressor or pump of their own to transfer the polymer. When filled to their maximum, the current facilities provide 12 months of polymer storage at average flow conditions, which would change given a new polymer dosage rate and would continue to change as the demand changes. The vendor must be capable of fully delivering chemicals to EchoWater within 14 days of being scheduled by SacSewer.

All deliveries will be made by tanker trucks confirmed to be dedicated for delivering polymer via a letter from the Supplier or each delivery of liquid polymer must be accompanied by a certificate indicating the delivery truck was washed thoroughly before it was filled with liquid polymer to be delivered to SacSewer. All delivering trucks must conform to all Federal and State specifications. Suppliers that intend to utilize the services of a third-party hauling company for some or all of their deliveries are responsible for ensuring that the hauler they have selected can and will deliver their product to SacSewer. Failure to provide this assurance via a letter from the Supplier may be cause for rejecting their bid. All bulk shipments must contain a weight ticket from a certified weigh station in addition to a shipping manifest and certificate of analysis, which will be inspected by a SacSewer representative at the time of delivery. The Supplier shall provide a replacement delivery truck and product within one week after receiving notification that the delivered truck is unacceptable. Unless approved by SacSewer in advance, no delivery can be made if a SacSewer representative is not on site. SacSewer is staffed with most of its operations staff from Monday-Friday, 7am to 2pm, but chemical delivery hours to SacSewer are flexible. The Supplier must notify SacSewer of any anticipated late deliveries at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled delivery time and date. If the Supplier is aware of potential issues that could reduce their ability to produce or deliver the quantities of chemicals SacSewer needs, the contractor must provide SacSewer as much advanced notice and warning as possible.

The Supplier, their employees, subcontractors, and/or agents must conform to the rules and regulations pertaining to safety established by the California Division of Industrial Safety, and they must adhere to all State, Federal, and Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) safety standards. Upon award of contract, the Supplier shall provide SacSewer a copy of the Supplier’s current Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP), spill response and cleanup plan, and relevant training records. Chemical delivery driver(s) shall employ site safety practices consistent with the handling of hazardous chemicals. The chemical delivery driver shall call the Plant Control Center (PCC) at 916-875-9400 when entering and exiting the facility. The chemical delivery driver shall be responsible for notifying the PCC of any reportable chemical spills.

The Supplier will be responsible for any regulatory fines or fees associated with chemical spills caused by the Supplier. The Supplier must provide safety training on the safe handling and use of the chemical and emergency procedures in the event of a leak or spill. Supplier shall ensure their drivers are trained on spill clean-up on at least an annual basis. Should a chemical spill or leak result due to negligence, faulty equipment, or inferior packaging on the part of the Supplier or their agents, the Supplier and their agents must be responsible for cleaning the spill or leakage and for bearing and cost incurred due to spill or leakage clean-up. It must be the Supplier’s responsibility to effect immediate containment, clean-up, disposal, and restoration activities in accordance with SacSewer’s requirements and any and all applicable laws and regulations. All material associated with such clean-up operations must be hauled away and lawfully disposed of at no charge to SacSewer. The property of SacSewer where the delivery is being made must not be used for such disposal. If the spill is NOT cleaned up, SacSewer will hire a certified hazardous material handling company to clean up the spill, and the costs incurred will be charged to the Supplier. Chemicals must stay in the possession of the Supplier and must not be unloaded until accepted by SacSewer. All chemicals must be delivered in accordance with Department of Transportation regulations.

SPECIFICATIONS

1. **CONTRACT AWARD:** SacSewer plans to award a contract to the most responsible, responsive contractors using the Evaluation and Award Matrix shown in this document.
2. **ESTIMATED QUANTITIES:** Quantities (or expenditures) shown are merely estimates for a typical project. SacSewer does not guarantee to purchase a minimum quantity, nor any remaining materials, tools or appliances acquired by Contractor in support of this contract.
3. **UNIT PRICES:** The unit cost (cost per pound of neat polymer) proposal shall include all other costs associated with production and delivery, i.e., packaging, transportation and unloading. Do not include sales tax in your unit cost proposal. Vendor Price Proposal shall be the total cost to SacSewer and the unit cost will remain fixed for the duration of the initial three year contract term.
4. **MINIMUM ORDER:** Contractor shall not be requiring a minimum order this RFP/award.
5. **CONFORMANCE WITH CODES, LAWS, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS:** All work and materials shall be in full accordance with all applicable codes, laws, regulations and standards. These include: National Electrical Code, State Fire Marshal, Title 24 of the California Administrative Code, Uniform Building Codes, and Uniform Plumbing Code published by the Eastern Plumbing Officials Association.
6. **CERTIFICATION OF ANALYSIS:** A certification of analysis prepared by a reputable outside laboratory or Proposer's in-house laboratory if ISO-certified or proven reputable laboratory based on previous performance requirements, shall be submitted for each Liquid Polymer delivery. This report shall contain the following:
 - Date of manufacture
 - Date of delivery
 - Shipper ID
 - Specific gravity
 - Density
 - Insoluble matter
 - Activity
 - Viscosity

No delivery will be accepted by SacSewer unless accompanied by said certification of analysis for the specific batch or lot of chemical delivered and the quality specifications listed in the bid contract documents are met. Charges of certification of analysis shall be included in the bid price. Failure to supply the required certificate shall be sufficient cause to reject the load.

At any time SacSewer may sample deliveries to ensure that they meet the specifications and are consistent with the certification of analysis.

7. **COMPETENCY OF SUPPLIERS:** Before any contract is awarded, the Contractor may be required to furnish a complete statement of financial ability and experience in performing the proposed services. In accordance with the provisions of the California Business and Professions Code and other regulations, the Contractor must have and maintain current any and all necessary licenses or certificates.

Final Bid Information / Cost Response Page
(Due by 3:00 pm, April 22, 2026)

Manufacturers who were selected to participate in the Field Tests must complete and return this page, along with page one (cover page of this RFP) by the closing date and time shown above, in order to be considered for contract award.

Note: The unit cost (cost per pound of neat polymer) proposal shall include all other costs associated with production and delivery, i.e., packaging, transportation and unloading. Do not include sales tax in your unit cost proposal.

Manufacturer: _____

Product Name & No.: _____

Product Specifications (necessary for quality control):

Viscosity: _____
CPS (Method: Brookfield LVT, 0.5% solution/distilled water, 250 C)

Percent Active Polymer Solids: _____ % by weight

Percent Total Solids: _____ % by weight

Polymer Unit Weight: _____ lbs/gallon

EchoWater Facility Polymer Dosage¹: _____ lbs neat polymer per Dry Ton of WAS

¹EchoWater Facility polymer dosage from field test given to manufacturer by SacSewer will be used on this line (See EchoWater Facility's Compiled Results from Field Test Form in Appendix A).

Total Anticipated Polymer Requirement per Year²: _____ lbs of neat polymer

²Anticipated polymer requirement for EchoWater Facility is equal to polymer dosage × 72 Dry Tons of WAS per day × 365 Days.

Unit cost (cost per pound of neat polymer): _____ \$ per lb neat polymer delivered

Extended anticipated annual polymer cost³: _____ \$

³Extended anticipated annual polymer cost is equal to unit cost × total anticipated polymer requirement per year.

VENDOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Please return completed questionnaire with the cover page (page 1) of this RFP by the closing date and time shown on the cover page.

General: Proposers must respond to all information requested in this RFP. Use additional sheets as necessary. Brochures and advertisements are not considered a direct reply to the information requested and will not be accepted as such. A qualifying proposal must address all items. Incomplete proposals may be rejected.

Format: Your response to this *Vendor Questionnaire* shall be organized and submitted in the format prescribed below in order to facilitate the comparison of proposals. For example, if you are replying to 1.f., indicate 1.f. next to that reply, etc.

1. Company Profile: Your company profile shall include the following information:
 - a. Founding date (month and year)
 - b. Firm size – staff and client base (i.e., local, regional, statewide, etc.)
 - c. Firm’s vision and mission statements
 - d. Products and/or services provided
 - e. Location of the office from which the products will be provided and the staff allocation at that office
 - f. Number of accounts – Include the number of accounts managed or supported during the past 12 months in the Region or State.
 - g. Organization Chart – Include an organization chart of your firm’s management structure, tracing field operations personnel to your firm’s vice president level.
 - h. The project manager and their e-mail address, telephone, fax, and cellular numbers
 - i. Key facilities and equipment that your firm possesses to support the proposed agreement including, but not limited to, verification of where the product is manufactured
 - j. Mailing address for the contract and contract releases (CSO’s), if awarded – Include phone and fax numbers, and e-mails.
 - k. Names and phone numbers of sales representative and person at order desk
2. Qualifications of Proposer:
 - a. How long (in years) has the proposer been in the business of supplying polymer?
 - b. Is the proposer is a producer or repackager of polymer? If the proposer is a repackager:
 - i. Who is your producer?
 - ii. Is there an agreement with the producer to guarantee the pricing for the first twelve (12) months of the contract?
3. Delivery Time: State the number of days required to make delivery after receipt of order.
4. References: List three or more clients (government entities preferred) who have obtained comparable products and volumes from your firm. You may use the attached Customer References form or another method with equivalent information.
5. Business License: Include a copy of your firm’s current business license(s) with your proposal submittal.

6. Industry Affiliations and Accreditation: List your firm’s professional affiliations and accreditation. Include a copy of any applicable accreditation and/or certification with your submittal.
7. Certificate of Insurance: Supplier must have insurance meeting the minimum insurance requirements set forth herein (see *Insurance Requirements for Contractors*). Please sign, date, and return the attached Proposer Statement Regarding Insurance Coverage. Actual certification of insurance and a separate endorsement naming SacSewer as additional insured must be furnished to the Issuing Officer within fourteen (14) days after notification of award.
8. Disclose any and all judgements, pending or expected litigation, or other real or potential financial reversals that might materially affect the viability or stability of the firm, or alternatively, warrant that no such condition is known to exist.
9. A five year history beginning January 1, 2021 of any accidents or violations of Federal, State, and local laws incurred by the Proposer in any business operations in California. Include the citing agency and resolution of each violation.
10. Financial Statements:
 - a. Provide a banking reference.

 - b. Provide a credit rating and name the rating service.

Name of Proposer (Person, Firm, or Corporation)

Signature of Proposer Authorized Representative

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Date of Signing

Vendor Chemical Production and Delivery Capabilities and Performance Record

(5 page maximum)

This section of the proposal should, at a minimum, include the following information and any additional information the Proposer feels appropriate to be able to judge the Proposer's ability to meet the specifications, intended use, and special conditions referenced in the proposal.

1. **Supplier Production Capability:** Should show the storage capability the Supplier has on site, should discuss how the product is made and the time required to create the product, what the Supplier relies on to create the product, the lead time to receive that product, and how it is delivered to the Supplier. Should describe how the Supplier ensures quality of the product delivered to the end user. Should list the typical number of production days per year for the production facility. Should show the production capability to existing annual average contracted demands and peak week demands to show that the Supplier can meet SacSewer demands.
2. **Supplier Delivery Capability:** Should show the number of truck drivers, the size of the truck fleet and typical truck size and age used for the proposal. Should describe if the truck drivers are union workers and any contingency plan information related to work stoppage to ensure continued delivery of chemical. The supplier could use this section to also discuss how they would deliver the chemical to SacSewer, if they would have dedicated drivers based on the demands, multiple deliveries at one time.
3. **Supplier Performance Record:** Supplier should clearly show their safety record, record of chemical spills they or their delivery company have been responsible for, and the percentage of orders delivered within the time required in various contracts within the state of California.
4. If a Supplier is planning to add new facilities or modify existing facilities to better meet the requirements of this RFP, these proposed changes and a timeline of said changes should be provided so that the proposer can be evaluated against other proposers with existing facilities. If a Supplier has not produced or delivered Polymer, they would need to be specific on how they would meet the various specifications in the proposal.

SACSEWER INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Without limiting Contractor's indemnification, Contractor shall procure and maintain for the duration of the Agreement, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the Agreement by Contractor, its agents, representatives or employees. SacSewer shall retain the right at any time to review the coverage, form, and amount of the insurance required hereby. If in the opinion of SacSewer's Risk Manager, insurance provisions in these requirements do not provide adequate protection for SacSewer and for members of the public, SacSewer may require Contractor to obtain insurance sufficient in coverage, form and amount, at SacSewer's expense, to provide adequate protection. SacSewer's requirements shall be reasonable but shall be imposed to assure protection from and against the kind and extent of risks that exist at the time a change in insurance is required.

1. Verification of Coverage

Contractor shall furnish SacSewer with certificates evidencing coverage required below. **Copies of required endorsements must be attached to provided certificates.** SacSewer's Risk Manager may approve self-insurance programs in lieu of required policies of insurance if, in the opinion of the Risk Manager, the interests of SacSewer and the general public are adequately protected. All certificates, evidences of self-insurance, and endorsements are to be received and approved by SacSewer before performance commences. SacSewer reserves the right to require that Contractor provide complete copies of any policy of insurance including endorsements offered in compliance with these specifications.

2. Minimum Scope of Insurance

Coverage shall be at least as broad as:

GENERAL LIABILITY – Insurance Services Office's Commercial General Liability occurrence coverage form CG 0001. Including, but not limited to Premises/Operations, Products/Completed Operations, Contractual, and Personal & Advertising Injury, with neither additional exclusions nor limitations, unless approved by SacSewer's Risk Manager.

AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY – Insurance Services Office's Commercial Automobile Liability coverage form CA 00 01. Commercial Automobile Liability: auto coverage symbol "1" (any auto) for corporate/business owned vehicles. If there are no owned or leased vehicles, symbols 8 and 9 for non-owned and hired autos shall apply. Personal Lines automobile insurance shall apply if vehicles are individually owned. The Contractor's commercial automobile policy shall be specifically endorsed to include coverage for the transportation of pollutants and/or hazardous materials.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION – Statutory requirements of the State of California and Employer's Liability Insurance.

EXCESS/UMBRELLA LIABILITY INSURANCE – If any Excess or Umbrella Liability policies are used to meet the limits of liability required by this agreement, then said policies shall be "following form" of the underlying policy coverage, terms, conditions, and provisions and shall meet all of the insurance requirements stated in this document, including, but not limited to, the additional insured, contractual liability & "insured contract" definition for indemnity, occurrence, no limitation of prior work coverage, and primary & non-contributory insurance requirements stated therein. No insurance policies maintained by the Additional Insureds,

whether primary or excess, and which also apply to a loss covered hereunder, shall be called upon to contribute to a loss until the Contractor's primary and excess liability policies are exhausted.

CONTRACTOR'S POLLUTION LIABILITY (CPL) – Insurance which includes coverage arising out of the handling, remediation, cleanup or transport of hazardous materials or hazardous wastes.

TRANSPORTATION Insurance – This insurance shall be of the "all risks" type and shall include the Indemnified Parties from all insurable risks of physical loss or damage to Goods in transit until receipt at the Point of Destination. The coverage amount shall be one-hundred and ten percent of the commercial invoice value of the Goods shipped.

3. Minimum Limits of Insurance

Contractor shall maintain limits no less than:

General Liability shall be on an Occurrence basis (as opposed to Claims Made basis). Minimum limits and structure shall be:

General Aggregate:	\$5,000,000
Products Comp/Op Aggregate:	\$5,000,000
Personal & Adv. Injury:	\$2,000,000
Each Occurrence:	\$5,000,000

Commercial Automobile Liability:

- a. Corporate/Business owned vehicles including non-owned and hired, \$5,000,000 Combined Single Limit, including coverage for the transportation of pollutants and/or hazardous materials.
- b. Commercial Automobile Liability policy shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of SacSewer and the County of Sacramento, their respective governing Boards, officers, directors, officials, employees, and authorized volunteers and agents.

Workers' Compensation: Statutory.

Employer's Liability: \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease.

Contractor's Pollution Liability: \$5,000,000 per claim or occurrence and aggregate

4. Deductibles and Self-Insured Retention

Any deductibles or self-insured retention that apply to any insurance required by this Agreement must be declared and accepted by SacSewer.

5. Claims Made Contractor's Pollution Liability Insurance

If professional liability coverage is written on a Claims made form:

- (1) The "Retro Date" must be shown and must be on or before the date of the Contract or the beginning of Contract performance by Contractor.

- (2) Insurance must be maintained and evidence of insurance must be provided for at least two (2) years after completion of the Contract.
- (3) If coverage is cancelled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another claims-made policy form with a "Retro Date" prior to the Contract effective date, the Contractor must purchase "extended reporting" coverage for a minimum of two (2) years after completion of the Contract.

6. Other Insurance Provisions

The insurance policies required in this Agreement are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, as applicable, the following provisions:

All Policies:

ACCEPTABILITY OF INSURERS: Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a current A.M. Best's rating of no less than **A-**; **VII.** SacSewer's Risk Manager may waive or alter this requirement, or accept self-insurance in lieu of any required policy of insurance if, in the opinion of the Risk Manager, the interests of SacSewer and the general public are adequately protected.

MAINTENANCE OF INSURANCE COVERAGE: Contractor shall maintain all insurance coverages in place at all times and provide SacSewer with evidence of each policy's renewal within ten (10) days after its anniversary date. Contractor is required by this Agreement to immediately notify SacSewer if they receive a communication from their insurance carrier or agent that any required insurance is to be canceled, non-renewed, reduced in scope or limits or otherwise materially changed. Contractor shall provide evidence that such cancelled or non-renewed or otherwise materially changed insurance has been replaced or its cancellation notice withdrawn without any interruption in coverage, scope or limits. Failure to maintain required insurance in force shall be considered a material breach of the Agreement.

7. Commercial General Liability, Contractor's Pollution Liability and Commercial Automobile Liability:

- a. **ADDITIONAL INSURED STATUS:** SacSewer and the County of Sacramento and their respective governing Boards, officers, directors, officials, employees, and authorized volunteers and agents (collectively the "Additional Insured Parties,"), are to be included as additional insureds as respects: liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of Contractor; products and completed operations of Contractor; premises owned, occupied or used by Contractor; or automobiles owned, leased, hired or borrowed by Contractor. The coverage shall contain no endorsed limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the Additional Insured Parties. Any available insurance proceeds in excess of the specified minimum coverage and limits shall be available to the Additional Insured Parties.
- b. **PRIMARY INSURANCE:** For any claims related to this agreement, Contractor's insurance coverage shall be endorsed to be primary insurance as respects the Additional Insured Parties. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Additional Insured Parties shall be excess of Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.
- c. **SEVERABILITY OF INTEREST:** Contractor's insurance shall apply separately to each insured against whom claim is made or suit is brought, except with respect to the limits of the insurer's liability.

- d. **SUBCONTRACTORS:** Contractor shall require all subcontractors of any tier to maintain insurance of the types and in amounts appropriate to the subcontractor's scope of work and consistent with the requirements of this Agreement, unless otherwise approved in writing by the District's Risk Manager. Contractor shall require that such policies name the District and Contractor as additional insureds on a primary and non-contributory basis where applicable, include waivers of subrogation in favor of the District and Contractor where applicable, and be evidenced by certificates and endorsements upon request. Contractor shall remain responsible for enforcing these requirements and shall remain fully responsible for the acts and omissions of subcontractors regardless of compliance.

8. Workers' Compensation:

WORKERS' COMPENSATION WAIVER OF SUBROGATION: The workers' compensation policy required hereunder shall be endorsed to state that the workers' compensation carrier waives its right of subrogation against SacSewer and the County of Sacramento and their respective governing Boards, officers, directors, officials, employees, and authorized volunteers and agents, which might arise by reason of payment under such policy in connection with performance under this Agreement by Contractor. Should Contractor be self-insured for workers' compensation, Contractor hereby agrees to waive its right of subrogation against SacSewer and the County of Sacramento, their respective governing Boards, officers, directors, officials, employees, and authorized volunteers and agents.

9. Notification of Claim

If any claim for damages is filed with Contractor or if any lawsuit is instituted against Contractor, that arise out of or are in any way connected with Contractor's performance under this Agreement and that in any way, directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, affect or might reasonably affect SacSewer, Contractor shall give prompt and timely notice thereof to SacSewer. Notice shall be prompt and timely if given within thirty (30) days following the date of receipt of a claim or ten (10) days following the date of service of process of a lawsuit.

PROPOSER’S STATEMENT REGARDING INSURANCE COVERAGE

To Be Submitted with Proposal

Proposer HEREBY CERTIFIES that the Proposer has reviewed and understands the insurance coverage requirements specified in the Request for Proposal No. 8527 Liquid Polymer for Sludge Thickening Contract. Should the Proposer be awarded a contract for the work, Proposer further certifies that the Proposer can meet the specified requirements for insurance, including insurance coverage of the subcontractors, and agrees to name the Sacramento Area Sewer District as Additional Insured for the work specified.

Name of Proposer (Person, Firm, or Corporation)

Signature of Proposer’s Authorized Representative

Name & Title of Authorized Representative

Date of Signing

Customer References

To be submitted with Proposal

At least three customer references are required.

Reference-1:

Account Name	
Address Line 1	
Address Line 2	
Contact Person/Title	
Phone Number	
E-mail Address	
Products and Services Provided / Year(s)	

Reference-2:

Account Name	
Address Line 1	
Address Line 2	
Contact Person/Title	
Phone Number	
E-mail Address	
Products and Services Provided / Year(s)	

Reference-3:

Account Name	
Address Line 1	
Address Line 2	
Contact Person/Title	
Phone Number	
E-mail Address	
Products and Services Provided / Year(s)	

EXCEPTION/RESPONSE PAGE

Page	Paragraph	Exception
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NON-COLLUSION DECLARATION

To Be Submitted with Proposal

The undersigned declares:

I am the _____ of _____, the party making the foregoing Proposal.

The Proposal is not made in the interest of, or on behalf of, any undisclosed person, partnership, company, association, organization, or corporation. The Proposal is genuine and not collusive or a sham. The Proposer has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other Proposer to put in a false or sham Proposal. The Proposer has not directly or indirectly colluded, conspired, connived, or agreed with any Proposer or anyone else to put in a sham Proposal, or to refrain from submitting a Proposal. The Proposer has not in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement, communication, or conference with anyone to fix the Proposal price of the Proposer or any other Proposer, or to fix any overhead, profit, or cost element of the Proposal price, or of that of any other Proposer. All statements contained in the Proposal are true. The Proposer has not, directly or indirectly, submitted his or her Proposal price or any breakdown thereof, or the contents thereof, or divulged information or data relative thereto, to any corporation, partnership, company, association, organization, bid depository, or to any member or agent thereof, to effectuate a collusive or sham Proposal, and has not paid, and will not pay, any person or entity for such purpose.

Any person executing this declaration on behalf of a Proposer that is a corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or any other entity, hereby represents that he or she has full power to execute, and does execute, this declaration on behalf of the Proposer.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration is executed on _____ [date], at _____ [city], _____ [state].

Signature _____

APPENDIX A

EchoWater Facility’s Compiled Results from Field Tests

(To be completed by EchoWater Facility staff)

Enclosed are the results of the GBT polymer field test conducted at the EchoWater Resource Recovery Facility. The EchoWater Facility polymer dosage shown below is a calculated dose rate based on field test data to achieve 5.5% TS from the GBT process.

Manufacturer	Product Name	EchoWater Facility Polymer Dosage (lbs of neat polymer per dry ton of WAS)

Notes:

The EchoWater Facility polymer dosage calculated by the District from the test data and presented in the preceding table above shall be used on the final bid information/cost response page to determine the extended anticipated annual polymer cost¹. The EchoWater Facility polymer dosage calculated by the District shall be final; no other exceptions will be made for calculating final bid costs.

Only the EchoWater Facility polymer dosage calculated and presented in this form by District Staff shall be used for final bid. The District shall be responsible for providing the information shown in this form to the respective manufacturer prior to the scheduled date for submitting bids.

¹The extended anticipated annual polymer cost shall be calculated per the final bid information/cost response page.