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Date: September 11, 2026

To: Prospective Consultant

From: Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District

RE: Request for Proposal – Design of a Dike Structure Near Nickerson, NE

The Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District (LENRD) is accepting proposals for the following project:

Full design and permitting for a dike structure near Nickerson, NE as part of the NRCS WFPO program.

Deadline: October 5th, 2026 @ 12:00 PM Central Time

Contact: Curt Becker, Assistant General Manager
Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District
1508 Square Turn Blvd., Norfolk, NE 68701

Prospective consulting firms may approach this project in any manner they see fit, provided that the core components of this request for proposals are met. Consulting firms may form teaming arrangements, but the submission must come from a single firm. Project Information, scope of work, and submission requirements are detailed below.

The anticipated scope of services may include, but is not limited to: project management; detailed geotechnical evaluation; field investigations; environmental services; permitting support; preparation of 60%, 90%, and final design submittals; construction plans and specifications; cost estimating; coordination with NRCS; and other services necessary to complete the final design of a dike structure near Nickerson, NE.

Project Objective:

The LENRD is seeking an engineering firm to fully design and obtain necessary permits for a flood reduction dike structure near Nickerson, NE. A planning level design has been completed as part of the Maple Creek Watershed Plan using the USDA-NRCS WFPO program.

Project Background:

The Lower Elkhorn NRD entered into an agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service(NRCS) to develop a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Maple Creek Watershed in Stanton, Platte, Cuming, Colfax and Dodge Counties, Nebraska under the USDA-NRCS Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program.

Houston Engineering completed the Watershed Plan-EA and identified the preferred alternative. The selected alternative was developed to meet current USDA-NRCS design standards. The preferred alternative included projects that protected the City of Clarkson and the Village of Nickerson. This request for proposal only includes the professional engineering services for the dike structure near the Village of Nickerson. This request for proposal does not include the levee improvements for the Clarkson Levee. Contact Curt Becker with the Lower Elkhorn NRD to obtain a copy of the Maple Creek Watershed Plan/Environmental Assessment.

Scope of Work:

The LENRD is seeking firms with qualifications to complete the full design, develop bid documents and obtain necessary permits for a dike structure near the Village of Nickerson, NE in accordance with any requirements of the USDA-NRCS WFPO program. The selected consultant shall provide all engineering, environmental, geotechnical, survey, permitting, and design services necessary to complete final design and secure the applicable required USDA-NRCS design approval.

All work shall comply with applicable NRCS policy documents, manuals, technical releases, design notes, and current engineering standards. NRCS Policy documents will include the General Manual (GM), National Engineering Manual (NEM), National Operations and Maintenance Manual (NOMM), and the National Watershed Program Manual (NWM). NRCS Technical Material will include all the sections in, but not limited to, the National Engineering Handbook (NEH), National Handbook of Conservation Practices (NHCP), Technical Releases (TR), and Design Technical Notes (DN). The contractor shall be responsible for all research and utilization of all applicable documents, current industry standards, technical guidelines, and references, and most current updates or editions. NRCS policy and technical documents can be found at:

<http://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/>.

The Lower Elkhorn NRD includes the option to amend a design phase contract to include construction phase services if/when construction phase funding is made available, with the selected professional engineering firm.

Submittal Requirements:

Proposals will be accepted until 12:00 PM Central Time on October 5th, 2026. Electronic submittals greater than 10 MB may not be submitted via email. Late proposals will not be eligible for consideration. The following shall be included in the submission:

Statement of Qualifications (Not to exceed 2 single sided pages):

1. Firm name, address, telephone number
2. Years established and former names
3. Type of services particularly qualified to perform
4. Names of principals and states in which they are registered
5. Names of key personnel to be utilized, experience of each and length of service with the firm
6. Maximum number of the staff at any one time
7. Outside consultants and associates that might be employed
8. List of similar completed projects for which the firm was the principal professional
9. Similar current projects of the firm and estimated costs of each
10. History of professional negligence claims made against the firm during the past five years

Proposal for this project including the following items (Not to exceed 5 single sided pages):

- Statement Expressing Interest in the Project
- Project Understanding
- Proposed Project Approach
- Related Experience
- Workload / Willingness and Capability to Meet Time Requirements
- Conflict of Interest Statement
- Description of Insurance
- Proposed Project Schedule
- Other Relevant Information

Terms/Selection:

Proposals will be reviewed, and the award made to the proposal giving consideration which shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Firms that display a strong project understanding;
- b. Firms which have sufficient professional manpower to meet project schedule;
- c. Firms with a sound performance record for meeting time and budget requirements;
- d. Firms which possess project experience and management ability;
- e. Recent, current and projected workload with the District;
- f. Any other specialized qualification which the firms might possess to benefit the project.

All selection criteria will be considered, but project understanding will have more weight than any other selection criteria component.

This RFP for consulting services is a qualifications-based selection process. The price for consulting services shall be negotiated during the scoping process and should not be included in the proposal. Estimates of probable cost of alternatives included in the proposal may be listed in the proposal. All consulting firms, submitting proposals, must be available to initiate work upon notice to proceed.

Expenses for developing and presenting qualifications shall be the entire responsibility of the Bidder and shall not be chargeable to the requesting entity. All supporting documentation and manuals submitted with these qualifications will become the property of the LENRD, unless requested by the Bidder, in writing, at the time of the submission, and agreed to, in writing, by the LENRD. The selection committee may select a firm from the proposals submitted or may request additional information from a firm or firms.

Accept/Reject Proposals:

The LENRD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, wholly or in part; to waive technicalities, irregularities, and omissions; to make the award in a manner deemed to be in the best interest of the District; and to correct any award erroneously made because of a clerical error on the part of the District.

No Obligation:

This RFP in no manner obligates the LENRD to the eventual purchase of any products or services described, implied, or which may be proposed, until confirmed by written agreement, and may be terminated by the District without penalty or obligation at any time prior to the signing of an agreement.

Questions and Contact Information:

For questions regarding the information contained in this RFP call or email:

Curt Becker, LENRD Assistant General Manager

cbecker@lenrd.org

402-371-7313

Submissions will be accepted until 12:00 PM Central Time on October 5, 2026:

Attn: Curt Becker, Assistant General Manager

Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District

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cbecker@lenrd.org