

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Rutherford County/Municipalities Joint Sewer Study



**Rutherford County
Town of Rutherfordton
Town of Forest City
Town of Lake Lure
Town of Spindale**

PURPOSE

Rutherford County is requesting statements of qualifications from qualified engineering firms for services associated with the evaluation of consolidation of multiple sewer collection and treatment systems throughout the county.

Firms interested in being considered for this work should submit their statement of qualifications to:

Odom Engineering, PLLC
David Odom, P.E.
152 East Main Street
Forest City, NC 28043

For consideration, seven copies of the response to this request for qualifications must be submitted to the Odom Engineering by 5pm July 26, 2013. Any questions regarding this RFQ should be directed via email to davidodom@odomengineering.com.

BACKGROUND

Rutherford County has eight Towns within its boundaries. Three Towns each own and operate their respective Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and another owns and operates two WWTPs (and owns an additional WWTP not currently in operation that was formerly owned by an industry). Two of the other Towns have a sanitary collection system and pump or flow to a sister Town's collection system and WWTP. There is also a Sanitary District that owns and operates its own WWTP.

The dramatic reduction in the textile industry that occurred in Rutherford County, beginning in the 1990's and continuing until the last few years resulted in a dramatic reduction sewer flows to the various WWTP's. Many of the WWTP's need extensive upgrades to meet current treatment requirements. Rutherford County has joined with these Towns to fund a Joint Sewer Study to evaluate the best long term strategies for providing sewer service within the County and Towns.

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS CONTENT

The statement of qualifications should not exceed 15 pages, excluding the cover and two pages allotted for a cover letter. At a minimum, the statement of qualifications should include the following information:

1. Qualifications of the staff that will assigned to the project. The project manager and other key team members should be clearly identified. If subcontractors are to be used for any portion of the work, they should be identified and their qualifications included.

2. Experience with sewer master planning, particularly projects involving multiple government entities. The statement should include contact information for projects that were similar in size and scope.
3. A brief description of the project approach to be used by the firm.
4. A list of five client references.

PROPOSED DELIVERABLES FOR RUTHERFORD COUNTY/MUNICIPALITIES JOINT SEWER STUDY

1. Develop a composite GIS map of each sewer system including all sewer lines, force mains, pump stations and Wastewater Treatment Plants.
2. Develop a summary of average daily flows, peak daily flows and peak hour flows for each sewer collection system for the past 24 months.
3. Identify sewer flows for drainage basins within each sewer system with flows to each pump station.
4. Using existing studies and data, determine the volume of Inflow & Infiltration in each system. Identify projects to reduce Inflow & Infiltration, particularly where future system interconnects may occur. The existing studies will be provided to the consultant by Odom Engineering, PLLC and will include some or all of the reports previously funded by the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center shown on the following page.
5. Evaluate the possible consolidation of sewer treatment systems and abandonment of inefficient Wastewater Treatment Plants. This evaluation should describe all improvements necessary for consolidation (including necessary upgrades to the receiving system) along with cost estimates. It should also include cost estimates and associated with plant abandonment and how best to handle NPDES permits. The following alternatives should be explored:
 - a. Lake Lure to Rutherfordton
 - b. Rutherfordton to Spindale
 - c. Spindale to Rutherfordton
 - d. Spindale to Forest City
 - e. Spindale and Rutherfordton to Forest City
 - f. Cliffside Sanitary District to Forest City (Second Broad River WWTP)
 - g. Cliffside Sanitary District to Forest City (Riverstone WWTP)
 - h. Cliffside Sanitary District to Forest City (Dan River WWTP)
6. Evaluate the consolidation of collection system operations where possible with shared resources. Identify the most practical management system for the consolidation of the various sewer collection systems including but not limited to inter-local agreements, independent authority, consolidation into one of the current systems. This evaluation should consider current and proposed legislation regarding utility management systems.
7. Analyze areas within the County needing domestic sewer service. This analysis will utilize input from the municipalities, the County, and Isothermal Planning and Development.

8. Analyze areas within the County needing sewer service for economic development. This analysis should be completed in close consultation with the Rutherford County Economic Development Commission.
9. Build a utility financial model for all proposed projects. Specifically this should address the phased interconnection and consolidation of sewer treatment systems. This model will show expected capital project costs, operating costs, revenues and debt financing. The model will be used to determine and demonstrate the financial feasibility of consolidation and to show multi-year cash flows as municipal systems are interconnected in phases. The model should also provide the likely impacts on sewer rates.