



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, ID 83706-1255 • (208) 373-0502

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Toni Hardesty, Director

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

RFI 0900

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality invites you to submit a response to a Request for Information (RFI 0900) for a **Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program** including 1) Canyon County and its cities, including Kuna, Idaho and 2) Canyon County and its cities, including Kuna, Idaho and Ada County and its cities.

Request for Information responses must be received by December 1, 2009. Please return your information in a sealed envelope marked "RFI 0900 for Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program" addressed to: Marcia Todd, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 North Hilton, Boise, Idaho 83706.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality wishes to thank your organization for assisting the State in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Dave Sande, CPA
Financial Officer
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Enclosures

Request for Information

**To Parties Interested in
Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program**

RFI 0900



**Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706**

November 6, 2009

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Purpose

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is seeking information from interested vendors regarding methods to efficiently and effectively implement a vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program in accordance with Idaho Code Section 39-116B and pending rule Docket number 58-0101-0901, Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho. Please review the information on the following link for specific information regarding the legal requirements that must be satisfied under the program.

http://www.deq.idaho.gov/rules/air/58_0101_0901_proposed.cfm

DEQ intends to use the information provided to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) to implement an I/M program.

Overview

The Legislature enacted, and the Governor signed into law on April 1, 2008, Idaho Code Section 39-116B, entitled Vehicle inspection and maintenance program. It requires DEQ to enter into rulemaking to establish the minimum requirements for a vehicle inspection and maintenance program when ambient air quality concentrations in an airshed within a metropolitan statistical area are at or above 85% of a National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) and motor vehicle emissions constitute one of the top two contributing sources to the concentrations.

Based on recorded air quality monitoring data, DEQ determined that the ozone ambient concentrations in the Treasure Valley had for the past 3 years, a design value greater than 85% of the ozone NAAQS. DEQ also determined (included in this determination are Ada and Canyon counties and the respective cities only) that motor vehicle emissions constitute one of the top two emission sources contributing to the 85% design value. As a result DEQ entered into a negotiated rulemaking, and the Board of Environmental Quality adopted as pending, the rule Docket referenced above.

Per Idaho Code Section 39-116B(3), the affected counties and cities were given the option of (1) entering into a joint exercise of powers agreement with DEQ, (2) submitting an alternative motor vehicle emission control strategy that would result in emission reductions equivalent to that of an I/M program, or (3) if the affected counties and cities do not choose (1) or meet the requirements of (2) then DEQ or its designee must implement an I/M program for the area.

DEQ received various responses from the cities and counties covering all three options. Unfortunately, although the proposed alternative motor vehicle strategies submitted by several entities were commendable, they fell far short of the emission reductions predicted to result from an I/M program. Consequently, DEQ is seeking information under this request for information (RFI) to assist in developing a request for proposal (RFP) to implement the I/M program.

Currently, Ada County and its cities, excluding Kuna, implement an I/M program pursuant to a joint exercise of powers agreement. This program was established as part of a carbon monoxide attainment plan. It is anticipated that the RFP will seek a cost proposal to implement a program in Canyon County and the city of Kuna, and a second cost proposal to implement a program in Ada County. Interested vendors should understand that the I/M program being proposed may include: (1) Canyon county and its cities, and the city of Kuna, or (2) Canyon County and its cities, and the city of Kuna, and Ada County and its cities. With the information obtained during the RFI and RFP process, DEQ will discuss with Ada county and its cities the options available. Ada County and its cities may enter into a joint exercise of powers agreement with DEQ wherein they opt to implement the same I/M program as that in Canyon County. On the other hand, they may enter into a joint exercise of powers agreement wherein they opt to continue operating a program similar to that in operation now.

To fulfill the statement of purpose of Idaho Code Section 39-116B, that is to implement an I/M program in an airshed that is approaching nonattainment, it is DEQ's goal to implement as fully as possible an I/M program by the next ozone season, which begins approximately on June 1, 2010.

Agency Needs

DEQ intends to issue an RFP to identify a successful bidder interested in implementing an I/M program. At present DEQ is aware of four different types of I/M programs. These include a centralized program, where all vehicles are tested at a central location, a decentralized program, where vehicles are tested in various locations throughout the area (this is the system currently in place in Ada County), a hybrid version (incorporating elements of both a centralized and decentralized programs), and a remote sensing program, where vehicles are screened when traveling by a remote sensor. Those vehicles that do not pass the screen test are then required to undergo additional testing. This RFI requests information about these programs and any other potential suitable programs.

The contractor will be paid through the collection of inspection fees from motorists. The fee is capped by Idaho Code Section 39-116B at \$20 per vehicle. From the fee collected, which could be lower than \$20, the contractor must pay DEQ monies sufficient for DEQ to cover its administrative and oversight costs, fund a public outreach program per Idaho Code Section 39-116B(2)(g) and reimburse the Idaho department of transportation for costs associated with the registration revocation procedure described in Idaho Code Section 39-116B(4).

Response Requirements

DEQ is looking for an efficient and cost effective way to fulfill its statutory requirement to implement an I/M program. DEQ intends to use the information collected under this RFI to issue an RFP.

In responding to this RFI, please provide the following:

1. Brief summary of your business and qualifications
2. Information regarding technologies available to assist DEQ in identifying program options
3. Description of overall program and administration to operate a fully implemented I/M program
4. Description of program implementation including types, numbers and locations of testing, data collection methods, and reporting mechanisms
5. An estimated timeline for designing and implementing an I/M program

If any vendor believes their responses contain confidential information, please mark those pages accordingly. Cost information and costing models will be used for budgetary or planning purposes only, and can be marked confidential if necessary. DEQ is interested in suggestions and elements necessary to secure the best possible RFP.

Written responses and supporting information must be received by December 1, 2009.

Please send written response and supporting information to:

Marcia Todd
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Fiscal Office
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

DEQ wishes to thank respondents for assistance in this endeavor.

For more information

Potential respondents may contact Marcia Todd at the above address, by email at marcia.todd@deq.idaho.gov or by phone at (208) 373-0286 for additional information.