

The Advanced Projects Office at the Tricklebank Foundation has received an overwhelming response to our Emergency Relief Constellation RFP with a large number of teams submitting questions to our office. Given the large number of questions, we decided not to provide responses to specific questions. Instead, we are issuing the following clarifications to the RFP to address the most relevant questions.

*1. Response time:*

Foundation Emergency Center (FEC) personnel will be responsible for issuing a deployment command. The 12hr and 24hr respond times are measured from the time of command.

*2. Pre-deployment in orbit:*

No communications or imaging capabilities can be station in Earth orbit prior to a deployment command being issued by FEC.

*3. Resolution:*

The 5m pixel resolution applies to all bands of interest.

*4. Availability:*

25% and 95% of capability represents a percentage of the minimum required capability.

*5. UHF Repeater:*

The function of the UHF repeaters is to provide beyond line of sight communications capability between personnel anywhere in the entire 500kmx500km coverage area.

Maximum time without repeater capability for any location in the coverage area is 120minutes.

Minimum availability of repeater is 240min/day.

Communication windows of less than 3 minutes are not considered as part of availability time.

Ground personnel in the coverage area must be informed of communications availability windows using the UHF system.

*6. Utilization of existing infrastructure:*

The system cannot utilize any government or military infrastructure. Commercial infrastructure that can be made available within the required response time may be

considered. However, the FEC prefers to utilize its own infrastructure whenever possible.

*7. Lifetime before disaster:*

Once completed the system should be available for deployment for a minimum of 5 years without major maintenance or overhaul.

*8. Reuse of the constellation after supporting a disaster:*

At this point, the Foundation is not considering uses for the system beyond support of a specific disaster.

*9. Coverage exclusions:*

The responses to the RFP are expected to provide global coverage.

*10. Imaging requirements:*

The system should be capable of imaging the complete area of coverage once a day.

The system should also be able to cover specific points of interest inside the area of coverage 3 additional times per day. The minimum area of additional coverage should be 15% of the total coverage area.

*10. Staffing and ground infrastructure:*

Responders should include ground infrastructure requirements in their proposal.

*13. Daylight clarification:*

The Foundation understands that there are geographical areas with limited winter daylight hours. However, the Foundation is still interested in deploying a system with global reach that can provide rescue personnel with multiple pictures per day. We are open to suggestions from the proposing teams as to the feasibility of such a system and how to best accomplish those tasks.