



Materials Procurement

Request for Proposal

Uplink NTIA Project

Fish Camp and Clack

Brian Smith

Chief Executive Officer

February 26th, 2024



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INTRODUCTION, OVERVIEW, AND APPROACH

Uplink, LLC. ("Uplink") a telephone and internet service provider, is seeking materials vendors to submit responses to this materials RFP for the proposed new fiber routes as part of the Uplink Fish Camp, and Uplink Clack NTIA Grant projects.

Summary of Project:

In October of 2023 Uplink was awarded two NTIA Grant Projects for parts of Tunica County in Mississippi to provide high-speed fiber internet services. This county is located on the northwest border of the state of Mississippi. With a population of 9,696 this county is one of the smallest populated counties in Mississippi, according to the 2021 Census data. This project is designed and ready for construction to move forward and needs materials. The Uplink NTIA Projects need to be completed quickly so that the project can move forward, so that the people of Tunica County have access to fiber internet.

Uplink requests proposals from qualified vendors to respond to this RFP.

Question/Inquiry Process

All inquiries and questions related to this RFP must be directed IN WRITING via email to:

Lisa Wigington

lwigington@bbgeomatics.com

To maintain fairness to all bidders, any attempts to contact Uplink staff regarding this RFP outside this specifically provided email address will be grounds for rejection of your submission.

Proposal Requirements

1. All questions and inquiries regarding this RFP should be submitted via email to lwigington@bbgeomatics.com.
2. Questions asked after the questions deadline stated in this RFP will not be answered.
3. RFP responses will be in the form of proposals submitted via email in .pdf format to the following email address: lwigington@bbgeomatics.com.
4. A vendor may withdraw its proposal prior to the RFP response deadline. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered. Proposals will be reviewed internally and the order awarded within 10 days of the deadline.
5. Uplink reserves the right to split the material order among two or more vendors.



6. Any information released either verbally or in writing prior to the release of this RFP shall be deemed preliminary and not binding upon Uplink in any manner.
7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this RFP, Uplink expressly reserves the right to:
 - a. Conduct discussions with any or all Vendors for the purpose of clarification of proposals.
 - b. Waive, or decline to waive, any insignificant defect or informality in any proposal or proposal procedures.
 - c. Accept, reject, or negotiate any or all proposals or the terms of any proposal, or any parts thereof, for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offer.
 - d. Cancel or amend this RFP or issue other requests for proposals.
 - e. Select a vendor(s) based on Uplink's analysis and evaluation of proposals submitted. Uplink reserves the right to request presentations of proposals if Uplink feels further information is appropriate to the decision-making process.
 - f. Select no proposals at all.
 - g. Cancel an award if a vendor fails to negotiate in good faith and execute definitive written documents necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated hereby in a manner consistent with the project's timeline and within fifteen (15) days from the award date.

Closing Date

The proposals and separate non-binding cost submissions shall be emailed no later than **5:00 pm CST on March 8, 2024**. Late proposals submissions will not be accepted.

The following timetable outlines the anticipated schedule for the RFP and Contract process. The timing and the sequence of events resulting from this RFP may vary.

Event Anticipated Dates:

- **RFP Issued: February 26, 2024**
- **Proposals Due: March 8, 2024 by 5:00 pm**
- **RFP Evaluation: Proposals will be evaluated and awarded by 12:00 pm CST on March 12, 2024.**



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Response Form and Procedures

Deliverables:

- **Quote for materials listed with noted manufacturer and specifications.**
- **Expected delivery dates.**

Evaluation Criteria

The Uplink evaluation team will assess each submitted proposal and rank the proposal according to materials quoted, price and delivery dates.

General Terms and Conditions

An award resulting from this RFP is automatically canceled if federal funds under NTIA are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support the contract's commencement or continuation of performance.

Compliance with Laws

The Vendor must, in performance of work under the contract, fully comply with all applicable federal, state, or local laws, rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Engineering Agreement and applicable guidelines. Any subletting or subcontracting by the Vendor subjects subcontractors to these same provisions.

Materials must meet the Buy American Requirement under NTIA.



Uplink, LLC			
Bill of Materials			
BIP - Fish Camp and Clack Projects			
RUS Description	RUS Codes	Total for RFP	Material Description
Buried fiber optic cable 24 count micro inside duct	BFO24MI	140,000	24-FIBER MINIXTEND® GEL-FILLED CABLE 1.4 MM W/ BINDERLESS FASTACCESS® TECH SMF-28® ULTRA MAX: 0.34/0.34/0.22, TYPICAL: 0.32/0.32/0.18 DB/KM G652.D/G657.A1 12F/TUBE PRINT IN FT Corning
Buried fiber optic cable 96 count micro inside duct	BFO96MI	120,000	96-FIBER MINIXTEND® GEL-FILLED CABLE 1.4 MM W/ BINDERLESS FASTACCESS® TECH SMF-28® ULTRA MAX: 0.34/0.34/0.22, TYPICAL: 0.32/0.32/0.18 DB/KM G652.D/G657.A1 12F/TUBE PRINT IN FT Corning
Aerial fiber optic cable 24 count micro	CO 96M	20,000	96-FIBER MINIXTEND® GEL-FILLED CABLE Armored Corning
Underground Pipe Assembly Unit - Quantity 2 with inside diameter of .46"	BM60(2)(1.25")	45,000	FUTUREPATH Regular (Std. bundle) with Orange HDPE - 0.070-in Sheath, 2way x 16/12 mm Ribbed Microducts, 1 Ripcord, Qty 1 - #20 Copper wire, ADDD2075, Steel Reel 66 x 42 wide, STANDARD PRINT, 5000 Feet CONTAINS: 2-way HDPE 16/12 mm Ribbed Microducts Blue & Orange, - Duraline
Underground Pipe Assembly Unit - Quantity 3 with inside diameter of .46"	BM60(3)(1.25")	125,000	FUTUREPATH Regular (Std. bundle) with Orange HDPE - 0.050-in Sheath, 3way x 16/12 mm Ribbed Microducts, 2 Ripcords, Qty 1 - #20 Copper wire, ADDD1736, Steel Reel 96 x 42 wide, STANDARD PRINT, 5000 Feet CONTAINS: 3-way HDPE 16/12 mm Ribbed Microducts Blue, Green & Orange - Duraline
Addition of Pre-connectorized 4-port Multiport terminal assembly unit 50'	BM51(4)50'	106	EVOLV(TM) STUBBED TERMINAL NON-CONNECTORIZED, 4 PORT PUSHLOK(TM) APC, SINGLE-MODE (OS2),SST-DROP™ TONEABLE, 50 FEET, BULK PACKAGING - Corning
Addition of Pre-connectorized 8-port Multiport terminal assembly unit 50'	BM51(8)50'	44	EVOLV(TM) STUBBED TERMINAL NON-CONNECTORIZED, 8 PORT PUSHLOK(TM) APC, SINGLE-MODE (OS2), SST-DROP™ DIELECTRIC, 50 FEET, BULK PACKAGING - Corning
Addition of Pre-connectorized 4-port Multiport terminal assembly unit 250'	BM51(4)250'	29	EVOLV(TM) STUBBED TERMINAL NON-CONNECTORIZED, 4 PORT PUSHLOK(TM) APC, SINGLE-MODE (OS2),SST-DROP™ DIELECTRIC, 250 FEET, BULK PACKAGING - Corning
Addition of Pre-connectorized 8-port Multiport terminal assembly unit 250'	BM51(8)250'	32	EVOLV(TM) STUBBED TERMINAL NON-CONNECTORIZED, 8 PORT PUSHLOK(TM) APC, SINGLE-MODE (OS2),SST-DROP™ DIELECTRIC, 250 FEET, INDIVIDUAL PACKAGING - Corning
Addition of Pre-connectorized 4-port Multiport terminal assembly unit 500'	BM51(4)500'	10	EVOLV(TM) STUBBED TERMINAL NON-CONNECTORIZED, 4 PORT PUSHLOK(TM) APC, SINGLE-MODE (OS2),SST-DROP™ DIELECTRIC, 500 FEET, BULK PACKAGING - Corning
Addition of Pre-connectorized 8-port Multiport terminal assembly unit 500'	BM51(8)500'	8	EVOLV(TM) STUBBED TERMINAL NON-CONNECTORIZED, 8 PORT PUSHLOK(TM) APC, SINGLE-MODE (OS2), SST-DROP™ DIELECTRIC, 500 FEET, INDIVIDUAL PACKAGING - Corning
Addition of Pre-connectorized 4-port Multiport terminal assembly unit 1000'	BM51(4)1000'	2	EVOLV(TM) STUBBED TERMINAL NON-CONNECTORIZED, 4 PORT PUSHLOK(TM) APC, SINGLE-MODE (OS2),SST-DROP(TM) DIELECTRIC, 1000 FEET, BULK PACKAGING - Corning
Warning Sign Assembly Unit	BM53F	144	MARKER WARNING POLYDOME ORANGE WITH BLACK
A 5/8 inch x 8 foot (16 mm X 2.4 m) ground rod.	BM-2(5/8"x8")	127	Ground Rod, 5/8" Dia, 8' Length, 10 Mil Plating, Copper-Bonded, Pointed
Ground wire assembly for bonding aerial cable	PM2A	53	Ground Rod Clamp, 1/2" to 5/8" Rod Dia, Acorn
Buried handhole for fiber optic systems with dimensions of 19 x 14 x 12"	BHF(19x14x12)	150	Ground wire assembly for bonding aerial cable
Buried handhole for fiber optic systems with dimensions of 30 x 17 x 24"	BHF(30x17x24)	164	Buried handhole for fiber optic systems with dimensions of 19"x14"x12"
10" handhole	BHF(10")	17	Buried handhole for fiber optic systems with dimensions 17"x30"x24", Unit, C/P, 1730-24-T22, PLATES INSTALLED, Hex
Locate Wire placement	BM100	20	Unit, H/P, 1212-12-T22, PLATE INSTALLED, Hex, w/EMS
Snow Shoe	PM60	10	Conduit already has locate wire - NO BID
Splice Case (Small)	BPEO SIZE 0	212	Snow Shoe
Splice Case (Medium)	BPEO SIZE 1.5	30	BPEO Size 0 equipped with 4 Trays, 4 Single Cable Entries ECAM and 1 Double Cable entry for Mid Span - Corning
Fusion splice	HO-1	3,037	BPEO Size 1.5 equipped with 12 splicing trays, 4 single ECAM, 1 Double ECAM and 1 Pole/Wall/Manhole bracket - Corning
Connect Splitter Pigtail	HO-4(1x32)	29	SMOUV Splice Heat Shrink Protective Sleeve, 61mm, pack of 100 pcs, SM0UV-1120-01
Down Guy	PE1-2 (Down Guy)	3	BPEO 5 mm Tray equipped with 1 splitter 1x32 Bare Fiber (provision for 8 splices) - Corning
Screw Anchor	PF3-3 (Anchor)	3	Down Guy
			Screw Anchor

Worksheet Attached for your convenience.



Attachment C

Assurances: *Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under [41 CFR Part 60](#), all contracts that meet the definition of “federally assisted construction contract” in [41 CFR Part 60-1.3](#) must include the equal opportunity clause provided under [41 CFR 60-1.4\(b\)](#), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity” ([30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp.](#), p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, “Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and implementing regulations at [41 CFR part 60](#), “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”*

Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act ([40 U.S.C. 3701-3708](#)). Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with [40 U.S.C. 3702](#) and [3704](#), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations ([29 CFR Part 5](#)). Under [40 U.S.C. 3702](#) of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of [40 U.S.C. 3704](#) are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Clean Air Act ([42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q](#).) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act ([33 U.S.C. 1251-1387](#)), as amended - Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act ([42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q](#)) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended ([33 U.S.C. 1251-1387](#)). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689) - A contract award (see [2 CFR 180.220](#)) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at [2 CFR 180](#) that implement Executive Orders 12549 ([3 CFR part 1986 Comp.](#), p. 189) and 12689 ([3 CFR part 1989 Comp.](#), p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment ([31 U.S.C. 1352](#)) - Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by [31 U.S.C. 1352](#). Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood



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hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205)

Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components of potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq).

Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protections Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients of a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.