



## **Responses to Questions Received on the Request for Proposal (RFP)**

### **Assistance with Completion and Submission of Lead and Copper Rule Revisions Service Line Inventories for a number of Orange County Agencies**

**(RFP ENG. 2023-01)**

**July 18, 2023**

- 1. Do the meetings under item 1 in the scope of work need to be in person or can they be via Zoom to keep costs down for the agency?**

**Answer:** Please budget for one in-person meeting at the beginning of the project.

- 2. The inventory that is due to DDW on October 16, 2024 is a preliminary inventory that can contain unknowns if they are still in the system. Is the expectation that there will not be any unknowns in the inventories when they are submitted or with less than a year remaining until the inventory is due are unknowns expected in the preliminary inventory?**

**Answer:** The expectation is that there may be unknowns in the inventory. However, all unknown service connections shall have entries documenting the efforts made to verify the material makeup of any unknown material service connection (outreach dates, format of outreach, etc.). DDW's expectation is the inventory shall either include information that verifies the material for a service connection to the agency system or provides documentation showing reasonable outreach efforts to the property owner to verify the pipe material. Unknowns will be placed on a list for annual notification until the material is verified.

- 3. Does MWDOC have an existing Esri or other GIS mapping software the contractor could utilize to build inventories for all participating agencies? Or would the consultant be able to leverage the agencies' Esri/GIS mapping software for the project?**

**Answer:** MWDOC has GIS shapefiles of service areas and legal boundaries of the Orange County water agencies. Additionally, individual agencies can provide data files with information on their water system and service connections.

- 4. Does MWDOC have an estimate on the potential number of lead service lines in the county? Is this information available on an agency by agency basis?**

**Answer:** No, neither MWDOC nor individual agencies have an estimate of potential number of lead service lines.

**Excerpts from Water Industry Guidance for Completing Inventory Requirements of the Federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, March 2023:**



“Under California Health and Safety Code section 116885, California water suppliers were required to complete an inventory of system-owned service lines by 2018. In practice, system-owned service lines typically were inventoried in the water system’s Geographic Information System (GIS) and/or Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS). The LCRR inventory will differ from prior practice because water suppliers with lead or GRR service lines on the utility or customer side are required to make portions of the inventory publicly available in a readily accessible format, such as an interactive map or PDF document.”

“However, on the utility side of the meter in California, there are more than 11 million service lines, and only four known to be lead are in use. There are a few thousand service lines that are of unknown material.”

“The difficulty of completing inventorying requirements in California will be to prove the absence of LSLs.”

- 5. Does MWDOC have an estimate on the potential number of galvanized requiring replacement in the county? Is this information available on an agency by agency basis?**

**Answer:** No, see above.

- 6. Given that this contract is administered by Orange County to address the needs of the 17 interested agencies, what county wide resources are available for the contractor to utilize? For example county parcel data?**

**Answer:** See answers to Q.3. The Municipal Water District of Orange County is a Special District separate and distinct from the County of Orange. County parcel data is available, but the databases which are made available through CoreLogic do not contain construction start date data. This information will have to be obtained from the individual cities and exist in multiple formats.

- 7. What is the state of the records for each agency e.g. digitized, physical drawings, linked to GIS, etc.?**

**Answer:** The state of the records will vary by agency. As stated on p. 4, 5, and 10 of the RFP, each agency will provide a summary of available records for the selected consultant to review. Prior to final agreement with each agency; MWDOC, the agency, and the consultant will meet to agree upon the level of effort for each category of service.

- 8. Each agency will provide a summary of its available records. Do county wide records exist for the contractor to review e.g. county wide plumbing codes, engineering standards, etc?**

**Answer:** No, county-wide records do not exist.

- 9. Only four known lead lines are in current use: are any of these four lead lines in the interested agencies? Have the agencies previously found lead service lines? If so, on which portion of the line? Were they replaced?**



**Answer:** The four known lead lines apply to the state of California not Orange County specifically. No lead services lines were previously found; however, as indicated above the previous inventory only looked at the system-side of the service connections.

**10. What, if anything, is known about the presence of lead pigtails, connectors, and goosenecks within the agencies??**

**Answer:** The presence of any lead piping or connections on the private property side of the meter is unclear.

**11. How much of the county's infrastructure pre-dates the State's lead ban of 1986?**

**Answer:** This information is unknown. Cities in Orange County were incorporated as far back as 1876 and the pipe material on private property side of the meter is unknown. Much of Orange County was developed between 1950s to the 1990s, with continued development through to today in certain portions of the County.

**12. Where is the meter generally located? Can the public and private side of the service line be seen when the meter box is opened?**

**Answer:** Generally, in front of the home or adjacent to a publicly accessible location. Meter boxes vary throughout the County. Portions of the County were developed as single-family "tract" homes having 2-3-foot-deep concrete meter boxes without bottoms immediately adjacent to the curb or sidewalk. Service connections at these meters are generally buried just below the surface. Other portions of the County pre-date "tract home" development and vary.

**13. What is the proposed budget for this project?**

**Answer:** The budget is dependent on the individual agency's needs and the categories of service they choose. This project is set up for multi-agencies to select from a menu of services to assist in the completion of their Service Line inventories. Each agency's situation differs.