

Tender for MI Vegetation Management Workshop Q&A 27 May 2021

Will there be a set number of hours per month/ week, or just supply and demand? Depends on the season, currently 8.5 hours a day, 5 days a week, this will change with the changing seasons. It's important for us to know if your setting yourself up for a baseline over the next 12 months, employing extra labour etc, so we can utilise that labour on other tasks. If your costs are efficient, we will work with you on this. Downtime for wet weather events - if you are assigning a Fulltime person to this contract, we will have that discussion up front so we can then assign that person to other works.

There are no weekend rates listed in the tender schedules- will there be weekend work? If you are open to working weekends, which we are open to, depending on the season, price this as a separate rate in your schedule of rates, when submitting your tender response.

Tilling / Discing / Levelling - what do you mean by this? This wording came from alternate methods to slashing, and where slashing may not be able to be used, for example on total fire ban days.

We are looking at doing some trials on these methods, but it is not likely to be baseline activity for this coming year. If you are set up to do slashing, or discing but not tilling, please specify this in your tender submission. Tilling could be any form of cutting implement.

Are you only accepting hourly rates for plant? Yes, for a conforming tender, we require all rates to be submitted as hourly rates. If you want to also provide alternate rates, include those also in as additional information, but you must provide a conforming tender on the Tender Form provided.

Will site inspections be offered prior to tender? Site inspections are available prior to work beginning, in discussion period with the successful tenderer, but site inspections may not be available during the tender period.

How will the work be organised, particularly sites, when there is a lot of distance in between? The work will be broken up into reaches for one lateral, in one work order, with details of the reaches attached.

Will we have a time frame for those reaches, of when you want it completed? Yes, in the works management system, that is the work order we issue. If this time frame can't be met, this will be open to discussion and negotiation.

Does the work order specify the method you need? It will specify Slashing, Chemical Application, etc. For Slashing, it will be up to you what method you use to do this. For spraying, we will be more specific around these details, including what chemical to spray. There will be determining factors such as time frame for all methods

For spraying, how are you determining what needs to be sprayed, width etc. The tender mentions size / width of equipment? This will vary for site to site, we may have a larger easement for some sites than others. This is another reason we didn't use fixed cost jobs and went hourly with the rates we have requested

The tender mentions third party impacts, damage to customers equipment on channel banks etc, that the contractor is responsible for this? Yes, this is the nature of a principal contractor, and this is the way the contract will be structured, as a principal contractor arrangement. You will need to work out how to do this safely to avoid third party impacts.

Tender for MI Vegetation Management Workshop Q&A 27 May 2021

How often are work orders issued (daily, weekly etc)? Daily, as defects come in. The work orders will be prioritised, this doesn't mean they have to be responded to daily.

PTO measurements - if they are running up and down after a job is complete, how do you pick that up? We can see total PTO usage per job, we can trend it and look across a number of jobs. If someone is trying to run up further kms to make a few extra dollars, this will be picked up. The contractor is trusted by MI and is expected to work within our company culture and values. If we thought we were not getting value for money, this would be a conversation with the contractor around this. If the contractor wanted a copy of the data, we would also be able to provide this.

What is the downtime to get the PTO equipment fitted? Usually a couple of hours unless there is something cumbersome about the particular equipment. Even if newer equipment has its own tracking equipment fitted, we will still fit MI equipment for tracking, including on sprayers.

Mobilisation and Demobilisation - if you are stopped for a long period, untangling wires, clearing rocks etc, does this default back to the labour rate? Correct. You need to ensure you are allowing for these contingencies in your pricing submission

Does the same apply to transporting from site to site? We need to work out a percentage of our costs and allocate this into our hourly rate? Correct

Traffic control - how is this working? This as stipulated by the RMS. Make yourself aware of and familiar with the RMS rules, in preparing your traffic management plan. Rate for traffic control should be submitted in the Tender schedule

If it's a 12 months contract, how does the monetary side of that work - if partway through, MI works out they won't have enough funds to continue for the rest of the period? If there is a reduction in work, it is likely to be based on breaches of key issues around the contract, not lack of funding by MI. Weed management is a year round effort, but we will not offer a larger magnitude of work than we can actually provide. Wet weather events are an exception to this, and as already mentioned we can have discussions around what to do in this case. We want to have good working relationships under this contract, and do not want to run our contractors into the ground. We want all parties to be working in a reasonable manner.

In relation to a 45-day tender period - will the tenderer get an idea of the amount of work in that period? We need that time to understand the tenders, assess and work out how those fit into the company's goals and with our own in-house capabilities.

The data used for planning these 12 months, is that from the previous 12 months? As you have already mentioned the data collected over this 12 month contract will be used to plan the 12 months after? We want to move away from time and materials tenders in the future, so whilst we are collecting data, we don't have all this data for this coming 12 months. Much of this exercise over the next 12 months is to do good work and collect the data and use this to help plan for future years.