

Connecticut Maritime Foundation, Inc.  
PO Box 188, Stonington, Connecticut 06378

### **Request for Proposal**

The Connecticut Maritime Foundation, Inc. (CMF) is seeking proposals from qualified firms to serve as technical consultant on CMF's behalf to oversee the replacement of propulsion engines with newer certified propulsion engines and related equipment in multiple fleets. This RFP is issued as part of the following US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program:

EPA Diesel Emissions Reduction Program (DERA)

Award #: DE96270624-0

#### **Project Title: Multi-Fleet Vessel Engine Replacement Project**

Please submit an electronic copy ONLY in pdf format to CMF at [ctmaritime@msn.com](mailto:ctmaritime@msn.com)

Proposals must be received on or before 5:00 pm on November 12, 2024 via email to CMF at [ctmaritime@msn.com](mailto:ctmaritime@msn.com). Award will be finalized on or before November 15, 2024. All engine replacement activities must be completed by September 30, 2026, although project monitoring and annual reporting will continue through December 31, 2026.

CMF will evaluate responses to the RFP based on the specifications and selection criteria described herein.

## **Background**

Reducing emissions from diesel engines is one of the most important air-quality challenges facing the country. In 2009, nationwide diesel emissions from mobile sources alone accounted for approximately 300,000 tons of directly emitted Fine Particulate matter (PM2.5) and 6.4 million tons of Nitrogen Oxide (NOx), which contributed to the formation of ozone and additional fine particles. These emissions come from the approximately 11 million engines in the existing diesel fleet. Even with more stringent heavy-duty highway and non-road engine standards taking effect over the next decade, millions of diesel engines already in use will continue to emit large amounts of nitrogen oxides, particulate matter and air toxics, which contribute to serious public health problems, including asthma, lung cancer, and various other cardiac and respiratory diseases. These problems result in thousands of premature deaths, millions of lost workdays, and numerous other negative health impacts every year.

The Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Program authorizes EPA to offer funding assistance to eligible entities on a competitive basis to reduce emissions from diesel engines. Specific information on these funded projects can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/dera/national>

The CMF is a nonprofit 501-c-3 organization that has the promotion of marine transportation and environmental awareness as one of its principal purposes within the northeast coast region.

## **Project Description**

CMF received a grant through the DERA program to replace existing uncontrolled, Tier 0, Tier 1 and Tier 2 propulsion engines and auxiliary generator set engines across multiple partner fleet vessels as well as related equipment necessary to accomplish the project. Outputs include integration of 26 Tier 3 and 2 Tier 4 certified propulsion engines and 6 Tier 3 powered auxiliary generator sets, development of fleet-specific air quality management plans and inventories, and EPA required reporting.

The five partner organizations that serve a diverse population within New York are:

**Fire Island Ferries:** Fire Island Ferries operates year-round and seasonal ferry service between Bayshore, NY and eight communities on Fire Island as well as water taxi service between 11 of 17 communities of Fire Island.

**Sayville Ferry:** Sayville Ferry operates year-round between Sayville, NY and the Fire Island Pines community of Fire Island, NY.

**New York Cruise Lines:** New York Cruise Lines is an industry-leading maritime sightseeing, entertainment, dining and transportation company.

**Hudson River Cruises:** For over 35 years, Hudson River Cruises has provided passengers with a first-hand view of the historic shoreline from the decks of the Rip Van Winkle II.

**Dann Marine Towing:** Dann Marine Towing is a tugboat company with a base of marine operations in Chesapeake City, MD.

## Scope of Work

This Request for Proposal (RFP) seeks a consultant to assist with the technical aspects of the Tugboat Engine Replacement Project. The successful applicant will provide technical project management to oversee the re-powering of the project. Task and deliverables will include:

1. Interaction with personnel from the five project partners, including marine architect service providers, to obtain the required information for procuring the new engines and auxiliary generator sets, and associated equipment;
2. Creation of specifications for the new engines, generator sets, and associated equipment;
3. Management of competitive procurement activities for engines, generating sets, and associated equipment, consistent with federal grant funds subject to the “Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-Profit Organizations (40CFR 30)”, including writing RFPs, identifying bid evaluations criteria, evaluating engine and installation services vendor bids, and providing technical expertise and recommendations to CMF and Dann Marine Towing on final vendor selection;
4. Vendor oversight throughout the engine and associated equipment manufacture, delivery, installation, and commissioning process; and
5. Assisting CMF with compiling and documenting the technical information needed for quarterly, annual, and final project reporting to EPA.

Given the nature of the business conducted by these vessels, the timeframe for this work to be completed is of foremost importance. Engine and equipment procurement RFPs must be issued as soon as possible after the award of this RFP for the engines and equipment to be delivered, and installation must be completed no later than September 30, 2026.

## Qualifications

The successful applicant must demonstrate expertise in the following areas:

- Experience overseeing engine retrofit /re-power projects of the size and scope described above;
- Experience with technical consulting or management of federal DERA and/or diesel re-power projects;
- Specific experience re-powering marine vessels;
- Experience in procurement of marine engine and engine installation services; and
- Experience working on projects in the Northeast region.

## Proposal Format

Proposals should be submitted electronically in pdf format; attachments should be less than 5 MB total. Applicants should dedicate no more than 10 numbered pages to their proposal. This page limit does not include cover letter, budget, letters of support, or resumes. The proposal should include:

1. **Cover Letter** - A cover letter should accompany the proposal and include the bidder's name, mailing and physical address (if different), primary point of contact, telephone and email addresses, and reference to the bidder's website or past work, if relevant.
2. **Applicant Information** - Information regarding the applicant (included in the page count) should include, at a minimum:
  - Information regarding the qualifications and experience of those engaged in carrying out the responsibilities under this award, including references and contact information.
  - Documentation of experience on specific projects, when the projects were conducted and completed, and the project outcomes, including references and contact information.
  - Applicants should provide their firm's DUNS number (or documentation that the applicant has applied for a DUNS number) and indicate whether applicant's firm is currently or has previously been designated as an Excluded Party in terms of eligibility to receive federal grants.
    - Up to 5 pages of resumes and letters of support may be included as attachments and will not be included in the overall page count.

***The successful applicant must certify that it is eligible to receive federal funds and familiar with and prepared to meet all requirements under CMF's contract with the EPA for this project.***

*Minority/Women/Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE/DBE) are encouraged to submit responses directly. Proposals with greater than 5 percent MBE, WBE and/or DBE firms will be rated more favorably. Any claim of MBE/WBE/DBE content must include supporting documentation.*

3. **Approach** - The proposal will:
  - Include a description of how the applicant will approach the scope of work outlined above;
  - Clearly address how the applicant meets the qualifications described above;
  - Include a detailed timeline showing how the project will be executed and completed by the applicant;

4. **Budget** – Applicants shall provide a budget, broken out by the scope of services listed above, and a succinct narrative justifying the cost of materials, travel, staffing (by person assigned and hourly bill rate), and other relevant costs. Hourly rates should reflect all direct and indirect charges.

### **Criteria for Selection**

CMF will consider the following factors in evaluating and scoring submitted proposals:

1. Soundness of proposal, including clarity, completeness, and quality of approach (up to 20 points);
2. The proposer's prior experience and demonstrated expertise, as outlined in the above Qualifications section (up to 35 points);
3. The capacity of the proposer, including that of the specific staff assigned to the project, to fulfill the responsibilities described in the above Scope of Work and to complete the project in the timeframe described above (up to 25 points);
4. Total cost of proposed technical consultants' services (up to 10 points); and

MBE/WBE/DBE content (up to 10 points)

CMF may investigate the qualifications of any applicant under consideration, require confirmation of information furnished by applicant, request additional information, and/or require additional evidence of qualifications to perform the work described in the RFP.

CMF is not obligated to award a contract to any firm responding to this RFP. If CMF determines, in its sole discretion, that none of the proposals is sufficient for successful completion of the project, CMF reserves the right to reissue this RFP for the same purpose.

CMF does not consider the contents of any proposal to be proprietary or confidential. As such, CMF reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to disclose or withhold from disclosure the contents of any proposal submitted in response to this RFP.