

North Texas Groundwater Conservation District Request for Proposals from Interested Parties to Design, Develop, Implement, and Maintain a Geodatabase and Web-based Application

The North Texas Groundwater Conservation District (North Texas GCD) requests the submission by interested parties of proposals leading to the possible award of a contract for the design, development, implementation (including training) and maintenance of an online mapping application and accompanying geodatabase. Guidelines for proposals are included herein. Questions not addressed in this Request for Proposals may be submitted to Mr. Bill Mullican at bill@mullicanassociates.com no later than September 9, 2011. All questions received will be compiled along with responses and posted on the North Texas GCD website at <http://northtexasgcd.org/> no later than September 15, 2010. It is the goal of the North Texas GCD to procure professional services that will lead to the delivery of a geodatabase that will function with web-based interface capabilities including the uploading of geographic data. The North Texas GCD Geodatabase will be fully integrated and allow for routine monitoring and analysis of all planning, scientific, and regulatory activities occurring within the North Texas GCD. This will include, but not be limited to the integration of specified datasets related to monthly groundwater use with the North Texas GCD business database. A detailed schedule and timeline for project development and completion shall be included in the proposal. This schedule and timeline shall be based on a start date of October 19, 2010. The North Texas GCD Geodatabase must be operational and adequate training provided by the contractor to NTGCD staff by April 1, 2011. Deadline for submission of proposals is September 28, 2010; at 1:00 pm. Proposals are not to exceed 5 pages in length. Proposals may be submitted via mail to:

North Texas Groundwater Conservation District
114 McKinney Street
Farmersville, TX 75442

North Texas GCD Geodatabase Capabilities

The following are minimum capabilities of the North Texas GCD Geodatabase and application; however, interested parties submitting proposals are encouraged to include additional/optional functionality that will enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of data management and utilization by the North Texas GCD. Proposals to develop the North Texas GCD Geodatabase shall recognize and address the following issues and capabilities.

- It is the goal of the North Texas GCD that the majority of data necessary for the management of the district shall be collected via online forms. As part of the design and development of the North Texas GCD Geodatabase, the contractor selected will design and develop, with input from the North Texas GCD designated representative, online documentation, forms and procedures to support all permitting, monitoring, reporting, calendars, permit renewals, fee/billing and paying. Online forms will ultimately be used by current and potential groundwater users in the district for a variety of required activities. For example,

forms will be developed to allow for the online submission of applications for well registration, drilling permits, production permits, single well meter reports (monthly), multi-well meter reports (monthly), transfer of well ownership, and pumping test data and results. Proposals should be specific in how users will identify proposed well locations. It is recognized that this could be a complex programming issue, and if multiple options are proposed, then those options should be clearly described with a discussion of pros and cons, both respect to ease of use and costs. All data from these forms should be stored within the North Texas GCD Geodatabase.

- The choice of application language and development environment should take into account both ease of support and long term viability.
- All online documents and forms should have paper (PDF) equivalents that can be downloaded from the North Texas GCD website, filled out and mailed in. These “hard copies” will then be transcribed into the North Texas GCD Geodatabase by the district staff. All information from these forms shall be directly input into the North Texas GCD Geodatabase.
- There are multiple data sets containing historical information from water wells in the North Texas GCD that will be critical for the future operations of the district. For example, water well information including well location, historical water levels, water quality, and water use data is maintained and available from the Texas Water Development Board Groundwater Database and Water Use Database. Additional water well information is available from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Public Water Supply Program. In addition, information regarding oil and gas well location and completion information is available from the Texas Railroad Commission. All historical and relevant information for Collin, Cooke, and Denton counties that is currently available in a database format shall be downloaded into the North Texas GCD Geodatabase. Examples of these datasets include but are not limited to the following:
 - <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/reports/GroundWaterReports/GWDatabaseReports/Database%20in%20ASCII/Collin/weldta.txt>
 - <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/reports/GroundWaterReports/GWDatabaseReports/Database%20in%20ASCII/Collin/wlevels.txt>
 - <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/reports/GroundWaterReports/GWDatabaseReports/Database%20in%20ASCII/Collin/wquality.txt>).
- This database should be extensible as current and future requirements demand. The selection of GIS and database software should take into account both ease of support and long term viability. In the near future, water well data will be collected and input into the North Texas GCD Geodatabase by district staff.

Direct downloading of water well information by district staff in the field will be required.

- The North Texas GCD Geodatabase shall be designed so as to allow routine submission of well information collected by the North Texas GCD to the Texas Water Development Board Groundwater Database in a compatible format on an annual basis.
- The North Texas GCD shall utilize an online user account system. Given a login and password, a user may access any of the above mentioned online forms. A user may initiate or check the status of any ongoing permit process. Registration/creation of a user account will be required prior to accessing any of the online forms for application submission, data reporting, and bill paying. A water user with a valid account will need to be able to select to be notified by traditional mail and/or email of any account activity. A user may also request to be notified of new calendar events associated with the North Texas GCD.
- All data in the North Texas GCD Geodatabase should be accessible from a browser interface. In addition to being able to download the data in traditional “.TXT” file formats there should be an interactive mapping component within the browser interface where GIS data can be viewed. This should be a layered interface that allows the user to view all well sites within the North Texas GCD. A user should be able to display information on individual and groups of selected wells. From within the above mentioned user accounts a user should be able to quickly look at well information related to their account.
- The Cooke County Appraisal District, Collin County Appraisal District, and the Denton County Appraisal District individually maintain GIS layers for their respective counties delineating private and public property ownership. These map layers, including systematic updates, are available to the North Texas GCD. This information should be integrated into the North Texas Geodatabase so that:
 - Well ownership can be easily distinguished,
 - Compliance with spacing rules on future drilling permits may be established,
 - And to identify property owners that will need to be notified in the event of adjacent property owner well permit applications.

Interested parties shall include a detailed description and cost estimate of all recommended software and hardware necessary to launch and maintain the North Texas GCD Geodatabase along with options for hosting the service.

Proposal Scoring Criteria

Proposal submitted by interested parties will be evaluated based on the following criteria and weighting (points listed are maximums for individual criteria).

- Responsiveness to proposal (25 points)
- Technical approach (25 points)
- Qualifications and experience – based on project staff qualifications (i.e., education, publications) and as demonstrated through similar work products available for review by North Texas GCD reviewers. The specific location of these previous efforts shall be included in the proposal. (25 points)
- Pricing (25 points)
- Ability to innovate beyond the requirements of the contract (15 points).

Monthly progress reports will be required to the North Texas GCD outlining progress of the project. Project invoices cannot be processed without detailed description of the progress made by contracted project tasks. Each of the project tasks must be described in detail consistent with the budget description. We expect issues to be reported to the North Texas GCD contract manager as they appear.

Draft and final deliverables shall include:

- Fully operational North Texas GCD Geodatabase that contains all capabilities included in this Request for Proposals plus any additional capabilities included in the executed contract/scope of work.
- Training and user manual for North Texas GCD staff on operation and maintenance of North Texas GCD Geodatabase.
- A final report on the project detailing approach, methods, issues, and recommendations for the future (hard copy and electronic versions in both Microsoft Word 2007 format and in Adobe Acrobat 8.0 PDF compatible format).

The proposal shall not be more than 5 pages in length, excluding qualifications and experience of project staff

In the event that acceptable proposals are not submitted, the North Texas GCD retains the right to not award funds for a contract.