

Questions & Answers

- 1) Are the assumptions and calculations that served as the basis for sizing the receiving building and compost pad available for review by proposers?
OCRRA will provide all preliminary work products (reports, calculations, assumptions, etc...) to the selected firm. Proposers should utilize the Basis of Design Document and Conceptual Site Development Plan in developing proposals.
- 2) What is meant by an "organic cover?"
Some ASP systems utilize physical covers. An organic cover utilizes screened "overs" or finished compost in place of a physical cover.
- 3) Will the independent review report for the ASP Basis of Design Document be made available?
OCRRA will provide all preliminary work products (reports, calculations, assumptions, etc...) to the selected firm. Proposers should utilize the Basis of Design Document and Conceptual Site Development Plan in developing proposals.
- 4) Is any odor control process or strategy being employed for control of odors from (a) feedstocks which may already be odorous when they are delivered to the site, (b) the process water draining from the static piles, (c) variations from the targeted composting conditions that may result in odors from the aerated piles, and (d) the storage tank?
To manage odors, odorous feedstocks will be managed inside the receiving building and incorporated into aerated static piles within an hour of delivery. Process water will be reincorporated back into the system via the mixer (if additional moisture is required) or put into the storage tank for eventual disposal into the sanitary sewer. The pilot project has demonstrated that the static piles themselves do not create concern with respect to odors.
- 5) Was the process water sampled and analyzed during the pilot project? Will it be necessary to screen or otherwise handle solids in the process water?
No, the process water was not sampled. Perhaps it will be possible to manage solids through periodic pipe, trench and tank clean-outs.
- 6) Did the Conceptual Site Development Plan and Basis of Design consider prescreening for removal of non-compostable items?
OCRRA will reject loads that have excessive levels of contaminants and can otherwise deal with contaminants by manual removal and the air lift separator on the trommel screen.
- 7) Has a geotechnical investigation been conducted to determine whether piling or other special foundations will be required to support structures or the process water storage tank?
OCRRA is not aware of any site-specific geotechnical investigations.
- 8) Will the site require any remedial activities prior to construction?
OCRRA does not anticipate that the site will require remedial activities prior to construction.
- 9) Did the Conceptual Site Development Plan and Basis of Design consider provisions for cleaning the aeration trenches and the process water trench?
No, trench technology design will need to account for periodic cleanouts. Several vendors offer trench technologies designed specifically for ASP compost systems.

- 10) Did the Conceptual Site Development Plan and Basis of Design consider where the curing pad aeration equipment would be located and protected from truck traffic?
OCRRA plans to use the equipment from the pilot project for the curing pad aeration operations (pipe-on-grade and blowers housed in “doghouses”). Truck traffic will need to pass to the north or south of the curing pad.
- 11) Why do the selection criteria place more emphasis on expertise and experience in traditional and innovative storm water management engineering and design (item #2) than in compost site design, engineering, and development (item #4)?
OCRRA considers much of the preliminary compost site design, engineering, and development plans to be complete, whereas the stormwater design has not yet been fully conceptualized.
- 12) Will proposers be permitted to visit the site?
Yes, proposers may visit the site on Tuesday, January 31 at 11am. Please email or call Ms. Rusty Hunt to confirm your attendance. Firms that attended the Pre-Proposal Meeting were invited to visit the site immediately after the question and answer session.
- 13) Will OCCRA operate the facility?
Yes, OCRRA will continue to operate the Facility.
- 14) Is there a minimum number of vendors/suppliers that must be specified (i.e. for products such as blowers) as is required by several of the state agencies?
OCRRA requests that the selected firm identify equipment specifications. In the event that there is only one supplier or vendor, it is acceptable to specify that information.
- 15) Do OCRRA contracting procedures allow for the design and specification of proprietary equipment and processes?
Yes, in the event that the engineering firm can document that one specific technology is most appropriate, that is acceptable.
- 16) Is it OCRRA’s intent to have a blower for each bay (note work scope indicates 8 bays while the concept plan shows 6 blower locations) or would OCRRA allow use of a single blower with a controlled damper system?
OCRRA would defer to the engineering firm’s recommendations on this item, keeping in mind that while each bay may not require its own blower, it may be more operationally desirable to have multiple blowers in the event of failure.
- 17) Does OCRRA prefer manual monitoring for temperature and pile performance or automated temperature/blower control?
OCRRA prefers automated controls with manual overrides, however ultimately the cost of this type of automated system will dictate feasibility.
- 18) Will OCRRA post the pre-proposal meeting sign-in sheet along with questions asked during the meeting?
Nine attendees and seven firms (GHD, C&S, Cornerstone Environmental, O’Brien & Gere, Barton & Loguidice, CDM Smith, and a sole proprietor) attended the pre-proposal meeting. The remaining questions were those asked during the pre-proposal meeting.
- 19) What’s the status of survey data/information? Are CAD files available?
OCRRA will provide the existing CAD files to the selected firm.

- 20) Did any representatives from the DEC visit the site during the Pilot phase? Did they have any feedback?
Yes several NYSDEC employees have visited the Amboy Site. NYSDEC is very supportive of the project.
- 21) Who is the DEC contact person for this project?
While there is not a single contact person for this project, OCRRA has worked with the NYSDEC Material Management Division in Region 7 and Albany.
- 22) What is the status of hydrogeologic analysis on the site, including soil types, and distance to groundwater and bedrock?
OCRRA is not aware of any site-specific hydrogeological analyses.
- 23) Will the selected engineering firm be expected to generate an Operations and Maintenance Manual for the operation?
OCRRA would like the selected firm to provide an O&M Manual for equipment (blowers, tank, etc...); OCRRA will ultimately prepare the site O&M Manual for operations.
- 24) Is there any information available on mass balance analysis?
Yes, that was part of the scope of work for the ASP expert review. OCRRA will provide all preliminary work products (reports, calculations, assumptions, etc...) to the selected firm. Proposers should utilize the Basis of Design Document and Conceptual Site Development Plan in developing proposals.
- 25) Does OCRRA require an ASP expert to be part of the project team or is OCRRA seeking mostly site civil/final design experience?
An ASP expert could be a valuable component to a project team. OCRRA will review all proposals in accordance with the selection criteria noted in the RFP.
- 26) Can you provide the OCRRA procurement protocol for selecting the construction contractor?
OCRRA will utilize a competitive RFP process for selection of the construction contractor, in accordance with OCRRA's purchasing policy. The RFP shall provide the evaluation/selection criteria. OCRRA will work with the selected firm to make sure that the bid documents are prepared in accordance with OCRRA's procurement protocols.
- 27) Does OCRRA have any preliminary construction estimate for the project?
OCRRA will provide all preliminary work products (reports, calculations, assumptions, preliminary cost estimates, etc...) to the selected firm. Proposers should utilize the Basis of Design Document and Conceptual Site Development Plan in developing proposals.
- 28) Does OCRRA expect to maintain its "pilot" operation during construction?
To the extent feasible, it would be advantageous to continue some site operations during construction; however, OCRRA understands that this may not be possible for all construction activities. The selected firm should consider this during the final design work, discuss it further with OCRRA, and ultimately, include recommendations for construction approach in the bid documents.
- 29) What existing equipment does OCRRA possess that will be utilized for site operations?
OCRRA will manage the peripheral equipment needs, such as loaders, mixers, grinders, shredders, etc... Much of this equipment has already been purchased and acquired.

- 30) How is stormwater currently managed on the site?
Currently, site stormwater tends to pond and will eventually evaporate. In the past, if necessary, OCRRA has pumped stormwater onto the static piles to prevent migration off site. All existing site drains have been plugged.
- 31) Is the proposed 10,000 gallon tank for leachate collection/storage?
Yes, the tank is intended for leachate/process water storage prior to discharge to the sanitary sewer.
- 32) Where is the existing 24” pump station?
OCRRA does not know at this time, however it would be part of the Camillus/Baldwinsville service area.
- 33) What type of specs does OCRRA expect for the modular trailer?
OCRRA is looking for a standard office trailer with all of the requirements specified in the Basis of Design Document (9.8). Size specifications are yet to be determined.
- 34) Does OCRRA expect the selected engineering firm to also assist with any discussions with Onondaga County Water Environment Protection for leachate management or discharge to force main?
Yes, OCRRA will rely on the selected firm to assist with discussions with Onondaga County Water Environmental Protection regarding discharge to the sanitary sewer system.
- 35) Will there be a need for employee work space in the existing building?
No, the existing building will be used solely for equipment storage.
- 36) What is the status of the site’s status with the NY State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation? Is there a letter of “no effect?”
OCRRA has received a letter from NYSOPRHP stating “no impact.”
- 37) Will the Agency interview candidate firms between February 7th and March 15th?
OCRRA does not anticipate an interview process.
- 38) What is the final use of the compost OCRRA generates?
Finished compost is marketed to residential and commercial sectors.
- 39) Is 3-phase power available on site?
The site currently has single phase power, however 3-phase power is available on the line servicing the Facility and the site previously had 3-phase power.
- 40) What level of completeness/detail does OCRRA expect for the engineering designs by June 15th?
OCRRA would like the selected firm to allocate sufficient resources to ensure that a significant piece of the final design work can be completed by mid-June, so that permit applications can be initiated at that time.
- 41) What is OCRRA’s expectation for actual on-site supervision of day to day construction?
OCRRA will determine this at a later date. The proposal only requires that firms provide an hourly rate schedule for this task.

42) Does OCRRA have a specific goal for Minority/Women Owned Business involvement?

No OCRRA does not have specific M/WBE project goals, however OCRRA encourages M/WBE participation and has made it part of the selection criteria.