

## **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)**

### **Thickener System Repairs and Improvements (CIP SH03 / SH04) (Project No. WF2893)**

Design and Engineering Services - City of Yakima Wastewater Treatment Plant

The City of Yakima is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from architectural/engineering firms to provide design services and construction phase services for repairs and improvements to the WWTP Thickener System (WAS thickening via DAFT with polymer/feed systems, thickened sludge pumping, and related process controls).

SOQs shall be limited to Twenty-five (25) pages front and shall include the following information: key personnel, familiarity with City of Yakima and/or other similar municipalities, familiarity with City of Yakima standards, firm experience must demonstrate having delivered design and construction-phase services at municipal WWTPs operating at a comparable "normal operations" scale to the Yakima WWTP (average day flow), including coordination with plant operations to maintain continuous treatment and solids handling during construction., and ability to meet schedule, and past performance/references. Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated on a competitive basis using the above criteria. The City will score the received Statements of Qualifications and may conduct interviews.

SOQs shall be received by 2:00 P.M., March 3, 2026, by email to Walt Hansen City of Yakima Chief Utility Project Manager at [Walter.Hansen@yakimawa.gov](mailto:Walter.Hansen@yakimawa.gov).

The City of Yakima, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Qualified disadvantaged, minority, and women-owned consultants are encouraged to respond. The City of Yakima is an equal opportunity employer.

Questions may be directed by e-mail to Walter Hansen, City of Yakima Utility Project Manager at [wal-ter.hansen@yakimawa.gov](mailto:walter.hansen@yakimawa.gov) or at 509-249-6813



**A/E Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**

Thickening System Repairs and Improvements (CIP SH03 / SH04)  
Design and Engineering Services

**Subject:** Request for Qualifications (Project # WF2893) – Thickening System Repairs and Improvements. Response Requested by March 3, 2026: 3:00 PM

Hello,

**Solicitation / Purpose:**

The City of Yakima seeks Statements of Qualifications from qualified architectural/engineering firms with demonstrated experience in municipal wastewater solids handling and sludge thickening systems to provide complete Design Services and Construction Phase Services for repairs and improvements to the Thickening System at the Yakima Wastewater Treatment Plant. The selected firm shall deliver bid-ready Plans, Specifications, and Engineer's Estimate (PS&E) and provide construction-phase support (including on-site services as required) to facilitate safe, operable sequencing and maintain continuous WWTP operations.

**Anticipated Schedule:**

It is anticipated that this work will begin in May 18, 2026 and end on April, 2028.

**Project Description:**

The Thickening System provides waste activated sludge (WAS) thickening and includes a dissolved air flotation thickener (DAFT) with associated polymer/feed systems, thickened sludge pumping, and process/controls interfaces within the Solids Handling facilities. The City intends to implement primarily in-kind replacements to address reliability, operability, and maintenance issues (including DAFT mechanism and drive components), and to develop improvements that provide operational redundancy and reduce the risk of long-duration thickening outages, while maintaining plant operations during construction.

**Scope of Services (Major Elements of Work):**

Major elements of work include, but are not limited to:

Project management, coordination, and site meetings with City staff; development of a project schedule.

Field verification of existing conditions, equipment condition, piping, electrical, instrumentation, and interfaces; identification of constraints for construction and plant operations.

Development of a basis of design and design criteria; evaluation of sequencing/outage requirements to maintain continuous treatment and solids handling.

Design of repairs and/or in-kind replacement of DAFT mechanism components, including drive unit replacement and recoating/rehabilitation of submerged and corrosion-prone elements as appropriate.



## Wastewater / Stormwater Division

2220 E. Viola  
Yakima, WA 98901

Evaluation of thickening redundancy alternatives and development of a recommended approach consistent with City priorities and operational constraints (e.g., mechanical thickening such as a rotary drum thickener).

Design of mechanical thickening improvements (as applicable), including equipment selection, siting/layout within the Solids Handling area, and integration with existing WAS feed/thickened sludge systems.

Design of demolition, removal, and/or modifications to existing equipment that conflicts with the selected improvements (including any required modifications to the existing backup centrifuge installation).

Design of associated piping, valves, pumps, polymer system interfaces, drains, and secondary containment as required; verification of limits and tie-ins.

Design of electrical power, motor controls, instrumentation, and SCADA/telemetry integration; coordination with City standards and existing control architecture.

Preparation of plans, specifications, and engineer's estimate suitable for public bidding; support for permitting/agency coordination as applicable.

Bid phase services, including responses to bidder questions and preparation of addenda.

Construction Phase Services, including submittal/shop drawing review, RFIs/clarifications, on-site support during construction (including attendance at construction meetings as requested and on-site inspection/observations to verify conformance with the Contract Documents), startup/commissioning assistance, operator training support as needed, and record drawing support.

The chosen architect/engineer will demonstrate they have personnel available to perform this work that have significant experience with similar projects.

### **Minimum Qualifications (Pass/Fail):**

Operationally Comparable WWTP Solids Handling/Thickening Experience: The Prime Consultant must demonstrate having delivered design and construction-phase services at municipal WWTPs operating at a comparable "normal operations" scale to the Yakima WWTP (average day flow), including coordination with plant operations to maintain continuous treatment and solids handling during construction. Provide at least two (2) projects within the past ten (10) years involving sludge thickening (DAFT, gravity belt, rotary drum, centrifuge thickening, or similar) with references.

### **Submittal Requirements:**

If you are interested in performing this work, please submit one (1) electronic PDF of your Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) by 2:00 PM, March 3, 2026. Please limit the SOQ to a maximum of Twenty-five (25) single pages (8.5" x 11"), including the names of the Principal in Charge and Project Manager for this project.

SOQ Content (include, at minimum):

Cover letter identifying the Prime Consultant and key subconsultants (if any).

Principal in Charge and Project Manager (names, roles, and availability).

Relevant project experience (include the two minimum-qualification projects).



## Wastewater / Stormwater Division

2220 E. Viola  
Yakima, WA 98901

Understanding and approach (including sequencing/outage coordination and Construction Phase Services approach, including on-site support).

References (contact name, title, phone, and email).

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

Submittals will be evaluated and ranked based on the following criteria:

Key personnel qualifications and relevant experience – 30 points

Available staff to perform in timely fashion – 15 points

Past performance on similar tasks / references – 25 points

Understanding and approach – 30 points

### **Non-Mandatory Site Visit February 17 2026, 11:00 AM**

### **Submission Instructions:**

Email/submit the SOQ PDF to [Walter.Hansen@yakimawa.gov](mailto:Walter.Hansen@yakimawa.gov) with the subject line: "SOQ – Thickening System Repairs and Improvements – RFQ/Project No. WF2893.

Submittals received after 2:00 PM, March 3, 2026 may be deemed non-responsive.

### **Questions:**

If you have any questions, please contact me at (509) 249-6813 or [Walter.Hansen@yakimawa.gov](mailto:Walter.Hansen@yakimawa.gov).

Sincerely,

**Walter Hansen**  
**Chief Utility Project Manager**  
**Wastewater / Stormwater Division**  
City of Yakima,  
2220 E. Viola  
Yakima, WA 98901