The US Department of the Interior (DOI) has released a draft request for proposals (RFP) for a multiple-award, indefinite-delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract to provide cloud hosting services for the DOI: Foundation Cloud Hosting Services 2 (FCHS 2). Questions on the draft were due on April 27th, so if you missed that deadline be sure to watch SAM.gov for a posting of answers. You have time since the final RFP is not expected to be released until August of this year.

FCHS 2 is a massive cloud services contract

The contract has a potential value of $10 billion over 10 years and will provide cloud services to support a wide range of DOI applications and workloads. These include:

* Provisioning and managing cloud environments
* Securing cloud environments
* Providing disaster recovery and business continuity services
* Providing support for a wide range of cloud-based applications

The DOI is looking for contractors with expertise in cloud hosting services and a strong track record in information security and regulatory compliance. The government is also putting a high priority on small business participation and is seeking bidders who have a substantive commitment to working with small businesses.

The DOI will use a two-phase process with the first phase being a down-select based upon an up to 10-minute video that provides introductions and addresses four qualification questions. Based upon the draft RFP those questions are:

1. What is your company's experience with cloud hosting services?

2. What is your company's track record in information security and regulatory compliance?

3. What is your company's commitment to small business participation?

4. Why are you the best qualified to win the FCHS 2 contract?

The DOI will select a number of offerors to move on to Phase 2. Those selected will be required to submit a formal proposal. The DOI will select the winners based on the information submitted in Phase 1 and Phase 2. Right now the anticipated award date is no earlier than February of 2024 with somewhere between three and five awards anticipated.

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That’s it for this episode. As always suggestions, critiques, and comments can be sent to me at [ken.blair@fedprops.com](mailto:ken.blair@fedprops.com). Or give me a call at 301-859-0316.

Thanks for listening.