

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION

Solicitation Number W9127S-04-R-0010
Pulaski County Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge
Murray Lock and Dam, Little Rock, Arkansas

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE
June 8, 2004
9:00 a.m. to 9:35 a.m.
700 West Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas

SPEAKERS:

MARGARET MOREHEAD
SANDRA EASTER
HELEN McCULLOUGH

PROJECT MANAGER
CHIEF CONTRACTING DIVISION
CONTRACTING SPECIALIST

LARRY RIVES

COMPUTER OPERATOR

PAMELA ST. CLAIR

COURT REPORTER

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MS. MOREHEAD: Good morning, everybody. I would
3 like to thank you, first of all, for taking the time
4 to come here today. We are very, very excited about
5 this project. This is a project that is unusual for
6 the Corps of Engineers because it is a *Support for*
7 *Others* project. That means there is no Corps of
8 Engineers funding in it. The funding comes entirely
9 from other agencies. And we are excited to have the
10 opportunity to work with the community. And we have
11 got a great number of people in the community that
12 are indeed excited about this project.

13 Today we have invited not only prospective
14 offerors, but also other agencies. Do we have
15 anybody from any of the other agencies present today?

16 (No response.)

17 MS. MOREHEAD: Game and Fish? Possibly Arkansas
18 Health Department?

19 (No response.)

20 MS. MOREHEAD: Okay. That being the case, I
21 guess I have got no one to introduce from those other
22 agencies. I would like to introduce the
23 representatives of our sponsor.

24 Sherman Smith, would you please stand?

25 (Mr. Smith stands.)

1 MS. MOREHEAD: Sherman is the County Engineer
2 and the Chief of Public Works?

3 MR. SMITH: Yes.

4 MS. MOREHEAD: And Barbara Richard, who is the
5 Chief of the Road and Bridge Department for Pulaski
6 County -- Pulaski County, Arkansas is our project
7 sponsor.

8 I would also like to take the time now to
9 introduce our Corps of Engineers' participants.
10 Before I do that, I would like to also mention that
11 we have a court reporter present, and that whenever
12 anyone gets up and speaks, if that happens, I would
13 like you to speak up very, very loudly and face the
14 court reporter so that she can capture whatever it is
15 that you have to say.

16 Next I would like to introduce our Corps of
17 Engineers' team members. Let's start from the right
18 side -- (pointing) -- left side of the room and go
19 around.

20 Janet?

21 MS. HOLMES: My name is Janet Holmes, and I will
22 be the Contracting Officer on this project.

23 (Woman enters room.)

24 LEE FERGUSON: I'm sorry, just one second. Is
25 there a Charlotte Lee in this room?

1 MS. MOREHEAD: Is there a Charlotte Lee in this
2 room?

3 (No response.)

4 MS. MOREHEAD: Apparently not.

5 (Ms. Ferguson exits room.)

6 MR. OBERLE: I am Bob Oberle, and I am the
7 design coordinator for the project.

8 MR. WINTERS: I am Larry Winters, Structural
9 Engineer.

10 MR. CARTER: I am DeJuan Carter. I will be the
11 Project Engineer.

12 MS. McCULLOUGH: Helen McCullough. I am the
13 Contract Specialist on this project.

14 MR. PFEIFER: Jim Pfeifer. I will be working
15 with Margaret, the Project Manager.

16 MR. COLLEY: I am Royce Colley. I work for the
17 Russellville Office that manages the Lock.

18 MR. BALGAVY: I am John Balgavy. I am the
19 Resident Engineer of the Air Force Base.

20 MR. SEWELL: I am Jim Sewell. I will be in
21 Quality Assurance.

22 MR. ROGERS: (Inaudible.)

23 MS. MOREHEAD: That was R.E. Rogers, district
24 counsel, who just introduced himself. He is
25 suffering from a little sore throat right now.

1 Jim? Oh, you have already introduced yourself?
2 I'm sorry.

3 Peggy?

4 MS. PAULSON: I am Peggy Paulson, Safety Officer
5 for the Army Corps of Engineers here in Little Rock.

6 MS. MOREHEAD: And I would also like to
7 introduce a special guest: Terry Johnson, who is the
8 Lead Engineer for Garver and Garver.

9 And just walking in the back of the room right
10 now is --

11 MS. DALTON: Jennifer Dalton.

12 MS. MOREHEAD: Thank you, Jennifer, for the
13 introduction. She is with Office of Counsel.

14 I would like to, next, review the website. I am
15 sure that many of you that have received the
16 Presolicitation Notice might have noticed that across
17 the top there was an address for the website.

18 (Mr. Rives keys in website and it appears on
19 screen.)

20 MS. MOREHEAD: This is the project website. And
21 if you scroll down and look at the schedule area, you
22 can get a link directly to the solicitation. And I
23 would like to go back right now, though, and talk
24 about some other things on the website. Let's scroll
25 to the top.

1 (Mr. Rives complies.)

2 MS. MOREHEAD: Someone asked about downloading a
3 copy of that picture, which was an artist rendering
4 at a very, very early stage of design. The bridge
5 will actually look somewhat different than that. You
6 can right click your mouse and make a copy of that
7 picture to your hard drive, if you have any need for
8 that.

9 Another thing that I would like to call your
10 attention to, if you click on "Links," at one point
11 recently we had a link to the River Trails
12 Organization. This morning I found out that the
13 project cost estimate had been published against our
14 cautions on that particular website. We have talked
15 to our Office of Counsel and the concern is that some
16 of you might have looked at this website because we
17 have published it extensively, and you might have
18 access to what the information is on that particular
19 cost estimate. Others of you that have not browsed
20 this website might not know what that cost estimate
21 is. So what I am going to do right now is I am going
22 to take you all to that website so that you all have
23 equal footing, so that you all have the same
24 information.

25 MR. SMITH: We were notified earlier that has

1 been removed.

2 MS. MOREHEAD: Okay. At any rate, this is the
3 number that is out there: 9.7 million. And any of
4 you guys that would love to beat it, the more you
5 beat it, the happier it makes me. I apologize that
6 this happened. It is not our normal way of doing
7 business.

8 I would like to next talk about the bridge.
9 Let's go back to the project website and to the
10 solicitation.

11 (Mr. Rives complies.)

12 MS. MOREHEAD: You can view a list of plan
13 holders. The list of plan holders is broken down
14 either down into prime contractors, subcontractors,
15 plan holders, etc. You can also pull the
16 specifications and the plans directly off the
17 Internet. In order to pull the specifications off
18 the Internet, you need Adobe Acrobat Reader. That is
19 a free reader. And if you scroll to the top of this
20 website, right up here, there is a little blank that
21 says "viewers." From this link, you can download
22 MaxView and you can download a recent edition of
23 Adobe Acrobat. There are a few other softwares out
24 there, but there are none that you will specifically
25 need to view the solicitation.

1 I am not going to really get into the
2 specifications right now. That is pretty voluminous.
3 I would like to just show you a few of the plan
4 sheets. So let's go to the plan sheets.

5 To give you an overview of this bridge, go to
6 Sheet 1-1. There is a total of 650 linear feet,
7 roughly, of mechanically stabilized earth wall, both
8 on the north and south Bank. This drawing right here
9 shows that wall on the south Bank. There is another
10 thing I would like to draw your attention to, and
11 this is something we are extremely sensitive about.
12 There is a cemetery that was discovered. We thought
13 we knew where it was. When we got into the process
14 of designing, we found that the government, although
15 we had tried to avoid acquiring this cemetery,
16 actually acquired a portion of it. There are graves
17 there. It is hallowed ground. We ask that you
18 respect it, and if you are lucky enough to be the
19 winning offeror on this project, we want you to take
20 every precaution to protect this hallowed ground.

21 The bridge itself will have a 14-foot clear
22 width. It will be constructed with single column
23 piers. It will also have provisions for two 36-inch
24 steel water lines in the future.

25 Let's go to Sheet No. 1-4.

1 (Mr. Rives complies.)

2 MS. MOREHEAD: You can see that the vertical
3 clearance will be 65-feet from the upper pool, from
4 the 2 percent flow line to the low superstructure.
5 That 2 percent flow line is equivalent to a 50-year
6 flood. Single column piers will be -- let's go to
7 Sheet No. 1-2.

8 (Mr. Rives complies.)

9 MS. MOREHEAD: Single column piers will be
10 constructed on the existing dam spillway structure on
11 the north and south approaches to the dam. One pier
12 will be constructed with concrete shaft drilled
13 through the sloping downstream face of the dam non-
14 overflow monolith. The single column piers on the
15 approaches to the dam will be supported on drilled
16 shafts constructed in the powerhouse tailrace and --
17 and this is where the alternatives come in -- on
18 either drilled shafts or piles with the pile cap on
19 land-based piers.

20 The areas on the north and south areas of the
21 dam include parklands and residential areas. The
22 South Bank is an area of very affluent homes and
23 landowners. There are parks on both sides. The
24 river trails are expanding constantly. Last I heard,
25 we were up to about 25 miles of trails. And

1 eventually these trails will enable a person to, if
2 they wanted to, walk or bicycle all the way to
3 Oklahoma.

4 There are trails on both sides. There is a lot
5 of fishing activity. There is a fishing ramp right
6 here. Wait a second. I am not seeing it. We are
7 just going to have to take a look at it when we get
8 out in the field. But there is extensive
9 recreational area.

10 This is the North Little Rock Hydroelectric
11 Plant Powerhouse right here. There is some access
12 through the Powerhouse into the parking lot. I am
13 seeing that we probably need to look at another sheet
14 right now. Let's go to Sheet 1-3.

15 (Mr. Rives complies.)

16 MS. MOREHEAD: Here is the Powerhouse right
17 here. Parking lot here, which is accessed through
18 the Powerhouse, and also parking and recreation areas
19 here. In order to minimize the impact on recreation,
20 our staging area has been relocated. We are not
21 going to use this to the extent we originally
22 envisioned. There will be an additional staging area
23 over here, which is shown on the plans.

24 Let's take a look at Sheet 1-7 Staging Areas.

25 (Mr. Rives complies.)

1 (A dark image appears on the screen, with no
2 discernible details.)

3 MS. MOREHEAD: This takes a lot of imagination.

4 (The resolution of the image improves.)

5 MS. MOREHEAD: Thank you, Larry. This is one of
6 the staging areas on the north side of the river.

7 And there is also another staging area on the south
8 side of the river just shortly before the entrance to
9 the Lock and Dam. Then it is due south.

10 MR. RIVES: We are off the map.

11 MS. MOREHEAD: Take your bar on the right-hand
12 side and drag it to the bottom.

13 MR. RIVES: Here we go.

14 MS. MOREHEAD: Okay. This is the staging area
15 on the south side of the river. We have tried to
16 minimize our impact on the parks for compliance with
17 Section 4(f) of the Federal Highway Administration
18 Regulations.

19 That is about as much detail as I am going to
20 get into today. I do want you to be aware of the
21 extreme sensitivity to the public because it is an
22 area that is highly frequented -- you know, there are
23 fishermen, boaters, bicyclists. Probably when you
24 are out there at the site today, you will get to see
25 the extent of the recreation that goes on. And bear

1 in mind that it is early in the summer and it is just
2 a weekday.

3 Next I would like to talk a little bit about the
4 tour. After the presentations are done this morning,
5 we will all reassemble at Murray Lock and Dam. Does
6 everybody know how to get there?

7 (Chorus of no's.)

8 MS. MOREHEAD: Okay. Probably the best thing to
9 do would be, when you leave the Federal Office
10 Building, head north on Chester Street until you
11 reach Cantrell Road. Proceed west on Cantrell Road,
12 and I don't know the mileage, but let me give you
13 some landmarks. There will be a Riverdale Shopping
14 area, a Harvest Foods, and an Office Depot, and a few
15 other stores, and perhaps a bank. Shortly after
16 that, there will be a turnoff to the right. That
17 will be Rebsamen Park Road. Follow that. It will
18 bear to the left and will follow along the river.
19 There will be a golf course and bicycle paths on each
20 side of Rebsamen Park Road. Proceed to the very end
21 of Rebsamen Park Road. There will be a gated area at
22 Murray Lock and Dam. And we will have the gates open
23 and you can park at the gated area.

24 Here is where Rebsamen Park Road and the --

25 MR. RIVES: There is a gatehouse at the end.

1 MS. MOREHEAD: It doesn't show up on this, but
2 that is the location.

3 MR. RIVES: Here is the location right here,
4 Margaret.

5 (Map appears on the screen.)

6 MS. MOREHEAD: Okay.

7 MR. RIVES: That is Gatehouse Bend right there.

8 MS. MOREHEAD: That is the turnoff to Overlook
9 Drive. This is actually the road into the Lock and
10 Dam.

11 MR. PFEIFER: Margaret, if anybody has any
12 doubts about getting there, they can see me after the
13 meeting and kind of caravan.

14 MS. MOREHEAD: That sounds wonderful. Thank you
15 for that generous offer, Jim.

16 MR. OBERLE: Margaret?

17 MS. MOREHEAD: Yes?

18 MR. OBERLE: I think you need to mention that
19 there are bid alternates in this job.

20 MS. MOREHEAD: Yes, there are. I think I
21 mentioned it briefly.

22 MR. OBERLE: And it is strictly on the
23 foundation types, whether it is all drilled shafts or
24 part drilled shafts and part pilings. But the bid
25 alternates are for the total job: Bid Alternate 1

1 and Bid Alternate 2, which would be either the whole
2 bridge built on top of drilled shafts or the whole
3 bridge built on partly drilled shafts and partly
4 pilings.

5 MS. MOREHEAD: Thank you for that clarification.
6 I believe that really helped.

7 COURT REPORTER: Margaret, I am sorry to
8 interrupt you, but no one is identifying themselves
9 when they are speaking. So I don't know who anyone
10 is. If you could just repeat, please identify
11 yourself before you speak.

12 MS. MOREHEAD: If you can furnish the notes to
13 me in draft form, then I can add this.

14 COURT REPORTER: Okay. Thank you.

15 MS. MOREHEAD: When we arrive at the Lock and
16 Dam, we will be broken into two groups. And we won't
17 take any questions while we are touring. If you do
18 have questions, I want you to write your questions
19 down and return them to Mrs. McCullough so that
20 everybody can benefit from the same information. And
21 we will take those questions and provide written
22 answers, if appropriate. Otherwise, if the questions
23 result in an amendment, we will just issue an
24 amendment.

25 With that, I would like to introduce our Chief

1 of Contracting Division, who is going to give you an
2 overview of this process. I would like to introduce
3 Mrs. Sandra Easter.

4 MS. EASTER: Good morning. Because the
5 proceedings will be recorded, when you stand and ask
6 a question, if you would identify yourself and your
7 firm, that would be helpful for the reporter.

8 Your primary points of contact for this
9 acquisition and for the solicitation will be Helen
10 McCullough, the Contract Specialist, and Janet
11 Holmes, the Contracting Officer. This is a best
12 value acquisition. The Corps' primary objective as
13 the contracting agent for this acquisition is to
14 satisfy the needs of the customer in terms of cost,
15 quality, and timeliness of the completed project.

16 We will select a qualified offeror whose offer
17 represents the best value to the government.
18 Proposals will be evaluated consistent with
19 evaluation factors described in the solicitation.
20 They will be evaluated on their content. No
21 assumptions, personal knowledge, or opinions of the
22 evaluators will enter into this process. Only
23 written material provided by you will be evaluated,
24 within the 50-page limit of the technical proposal.
25 Any information beyond the 50-page proposal will not

1 -- we will not evaluate that information.

2 The contractor selected to construct the bridge
3 must have a track record of successful performance,
4 which must demonstrate the superior ability to
5 perform this project. The government intends to
6 award this contract without conducting discussions.
7 Accordingly, each offer should contain the offeror's
8 best terms and conditions from a price and technical
9 standpoint. However, the government reserves the
10 right to conduct discussions if they later deem
11 necessary by the contracting officer.

12 A caution to each of you prospective offerors:
13 Submit your best proposal initially. That may be the
14 only opportunity that you have to submit a proposal.
15 This procurement was solicited under full and open,
16 unrestricted competition. Proposals are due at the
17 place identified in the solicitation by 4:00 p.m. on
18 Tuesday, the 29th of June. We do not intend to
19 extend the due date beyond the 29th. The award of
20 this procurement will result in a firm, fixed price
21 single contract.

22 The construction performance period is 750 days
23 from notice to proceed. There is an amendment that
24 will be forthcoming -- in the next couple of days,
25 Helen?

1 MS. McCULLOUGH: Yes.

2 MS. EASTER: That will address some corrections
3 that are needed. But again, we do not intend to
4 extend the proposal due date.

5 Are there any questions concerning that
6 information?

7 Yes? Please stand and state your name and your
8 firm.

9 MR. PRADERIO: I am Bill Praderio, Massman
10 Construction Company. So the contract time now is
11 750 days?

12 MS. EASTER: 752 days, and that is forthcoming
13 in an amendment, as well.

14 MR. PRADERIO: So there will be no different
15 calendar days for each alternate?

16 MS. McCULLOUGH: No.

17 MR. PRADERIO: Okay.

18 MS. EASTER: That will be followed up in the
19 amendment.

20 Yes?

21 MR. FRENCH: Ken French, Mobley Contractors.
22 Will those amendments be posted on the Internet or
23 will they be sent out in paper form?

24 MS. EASTER: They will be posted on the Internet
25 as well. You need to acknowledge receipt of those

1 amendments.

2 Yes?

3 MR. PFEIFER: Jim Pfeifer, the Corps of
4 Engineers. I have gone through some of these
5 evaluations, and Ms. Easter says that you will be
6 judged on the basis of your written information. I
7 would like to really emphasize to take that
8 seriously. I have seen unfortunate results of the
9 evaluations where contractors have done proposals
10 that did not explain the qualifications of some of
11 its team members that are asked in the RFP. I would
12 suggest that you get your best wordsmith to look over
13 your proposal after you have put it together, and
14 make sure it complies in all respects to the minor
15 details of the RFP. Make sure that -- normally, that
16 an otherwise excellent proposal is not downgraded by
17 a small negligence.

18 MS. EASTER: Okay. We will continue with the
19 process, if there are no further questions. Ms.
20 Helen McCullough will walk through the procurement
21 process.

22 MS. McCULLOUGH: Good morning. What I am going
23 to do is go through the process to kind of speed up
24 the acquisition process for you. A lot of the
25 information has already been provided. I want to

1 tell you right now, there is an amendment out there,
2 and this amendment was prepared to correct some
3 errors -- I mean, some clarifications in the proposal
4 process, so use the first amendment to prepare your
5 proposal.

6 This amendment tells you, for one thing, on your
7 bidding schedule, it explains that you can only bid
8 on one alternate schedule. So be mindful of that.
9 No one can bid on both schedules. There are four bid
10 items that are changed. And they are changed to add
11 the words "overburden" and they are Bid Items 48
12 through 51.

13 And there is a page missing from the Reps
14 (Representations) and Certs (Certifications) (Section
15 00600). And it is things like that. But the most
16 important is the bidding process or the proposal
17 process. There is some wording changes and be
18 mindful of those. And, let's see, the factors were
19 changed. Some things were added, so use this
20 amendment for your proposal process.

21 We want to point out several things on the
22 Caution to Offerors to make sure that you understand,
23 as we said, there is another amendment coming out.
24 And that amendment will change the days. So be sure
25 and acknowledge these amendments because that is

1 important to the process -- well, it might raise your
2 proposal price, so you need to acknowledge all
3 amendments.

4 And be sure to complete and return Section 00600
5 of the solicitation. And with this are some
6 attachments. Be sure and return those attachments
7 because those attachments helps us speed up the
8 process, because we don't have to call back and ask
9 for those things. So they are attached, Section
10 00600, that is your Subcontracting Plan which is one
11 of them, and that is required if you are a large
12 business.

13 The bid bond, there is an example there that
14 shows you all about the bid bond. If a bid guarantee
15 is required, which it is on this one, it is treated
16 like a late bid. So it must be in with your
17 proposal.

18 Is your bid guarantee in the proper amount? So
19 make sure all these things are noted. If your bid
20 guarantee is in the form of a bid bond, is the bond
21 properly signed by both the bidder and the surety?
22 Make sure all these things are contained in your
23 proposal. And another question that I added was
24 that, Did you bid on one alternate schedule only?
25 Because that is very important. And make sure that

1 your bid arrives on time.

2 Another thing that will be posted on the new
3 amendment is the new room number; we have moved into
4 a new office, so there will be a new entry point for
5 your bid. I think it is listed as 7214 -- Room 7214.
6 It is now Room 7018.

7 Pay attention to your factors and that is very
8 important.

9 Are there any questions?

10 (No response.)

11 MS. McCULLOUGH: We want to make sure that
12 everyone has an opportunity to have their proposal
13 looked at and evaluated throughout the process, and
14 they present it in the process that is in the
15 solicitation.

16 MR. FREYALDENHOVEN: I have got a question.
17 Philip Freyaldenhoven, Mobley Contractors.

18 MS. McCULLOUGH: Uh-huh. (Nodding head up and
19 down.)?

20 MR. FREYALDENHOVEN: On the proposal you have
21 got lump sum items and unit price items. She said it
22 was a fixed price contract. Will we be paid by
23 quantities we provide or how will that work?

24 MS. McCULLOUGH: Okay.

25 Janet?

1 MS. HOLMES: Sure. It is a firm, fixed price
2 contract. Now there are some line items that have
3 estimated quantities only. And those will be paid by
4 actual quantities.

5 MR. FREYALDENHOVEN: And then there are some
6 quantities on a lot of the concrete items that they
7 all show to be lump sum. Wonder why that is?

8 MS. HOLMES: If it is shown to be lump sum in
9 the bid schedule, then that will be the price for all
10 of that item. It won't be paid by quantity.

11 I had a couple of other things that I had
12 written down, too. The sign-in sheet, questions and
13 answers, and the minutes of this meeting will be
14 posted on the web page. So any of you desiring that
15 will probably be able to access it probably this
16 week.

17 Helen mentioned about amendments. Be sure to
18 acknowledge all amendments, because if you don't,
19 your bid could be determined non-responsive. So it
20 is very important that you do that.

21 I had a question about cameras. Are cameras
22 going to be allowed at the site visit?

23 MS. McCULLOUGH: Yes, they are allowed to take
24 pictures today.

25 MS. HOLMES: I think that is all I had.

1 MS. EASTER: And that was Janet Holmes.

2 MS. McCULLOUGH: Yes, Janet Holmes.

3 MR. PRADERIO: I have another question. My name
4 is Bill Praderio with Massman. The specifications
5 said there is no funding available for the project at
6 this time. Would you tell me what funding is
7 available for this fiscal year and the next?

8 MS. McCULLOUGH: Yes, it does say that.

9 MS. EASTER: It doesn't say funding is subject
10 to availability?

11 MR. PRADERIO: It says no funds are available.

12 MS. McCULLOUGH: I will talk to Janet about
13 that.

14 MS. EASTER: Is that a mistake?

15 MS. McCULLOUGH: Yes, we have funding. That
16 will be amended. We will amend it.

17 Are there any other questions?

18 MR. SMITH: Yeah, Tom Smith, OCCI. I am a
19 little confused on your deck pour sequences. You
20 show a Placement 1 and Placement 2 in each unit, and
21 you say all of Placement 1 can be placed at the time.
22 I am used to doing bridge decks, but I am not used to
23 exactly this type of layout of your sequencing. Can
24 you explain that a little more?

25 MR. JOHNSON: Probably be better to get my

1 bridge engineer to answer that. Put that in writing,
2 and I will get him to answer the question.

3 MR. SMITH: Because they make some comment about
4 the concrete will all be placed within a unit before
5 it is setup. Does that mean finished, too? I am
6 just -- I understand what you are trying to do, but
7 it is a little unique.

8 MS. McCULLOUGH: You need to put that in
9 writing.

10 MR. JOHNSON: Let us do a response in writing.

11 MR. WILCOX: Aaron Wilcox with Jensen
12 Construction. I was wondering if you could clarify
13 how many copies of the proposal need to be submitted.
14 In one portion I thought it said four and back on
15 another page I thought it said six. If you could
16 clarify what needs to be submitted?

17 MS. McCULLOUGH: One copy and -- I'm sorry, one
18 original and five copies. Thank you for bringing
19 that out. I noticed that that was in the Caution to
20 Offerors, it said four.

21 Okay. We need to clarify that the \$9.7 million,
22 it was actually a 9.2 estimate with a .5 million
23 contingency.

24 MS. EASTER: I thought you said five million.

25 MS. McCULLOUGH: No, .5 million.

1 I have a question here about how we will go to the
2 dam. How will we go to the site visit? Jim has
3 graciously -- for those of you who don't know the
4 route, you can follow him. But when we get there,
5 they will have someone to give us the safety rules.
6 Then, after that, we will go over in groups. I think
7 they have a certain amount --

8 MS. MOREHEAD: No more than 25 or 30 to a group,
9 so we should be able to fit into two groups.

10 MS. McCULLOUGH: Yes. There will be two groups
11 going across. And we are just going across one side,
12 and those of you who want to visit the north side,
13 you can do it on your own.

14 Are there any other questions that you have
15 about the solicitation? Is everyone clear?

16 (No questions asked.)

17 MS. McCULLOUGH: Okay. Does anyone else have
18 anything to say?

19 (No response.)

20 MS. McCULLOUGH: Okay. Then we are done, and we
21 certainly appreciate your coming to respond to our
22 project in such a big number. We were afraid at
23 first that we weren't going to get any bidders, but
24 we are glad to see all of you guys this morning. So
25 we thank you for coming.

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(Meeting adjourned.)

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State of Arkansas)

County of Pulaski)

I, Pamela St. Clair, a Notary Public and Court Reporter for Pulaski County, Arkansas, certify that I recorded all of the above-captioned testimony, on June 8, 2004, in the Seventh Floor Conference Room, Federal Building, 700 West Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 9:35 a.m.; that under my personal supervision, said recording has been reduced to typewritten form, and that the foregoing pages numbered 1 through 26 constitute a true and correct transcription thereof and constitute all of the evidence heard, exhibits presented and proceedings had in said conference.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL AS SUCH COURT REPORTER on this 9th day of June 2004.

Pamela St. Clair,

Notary Public and Certified Court Reporter

L.S. Certificate No. 618

