



Abilene Independent School District

Addendum 1

Proposal: Lease Dark Fiber Network (Proposal #003, 11-12)

Listed below are the questions (as submitted to AISD) and answers included in “blue”.

Q1. What are AISD’s plans for lighting the fiber? Does the district plan to light all of the sites at once or do you plan to light the fiber in phases? If you plan to light the fiber in phases, what is the criteria you will be using as to what sites are lit first and so on?

A1. Dark Fiber is not erate eligible until it is lit; therefore, part of the site acceptance process will be the connection of the fiber to the District’s electronics and validating connectivity and “lighting” the fiber. This process can be done when connectivity at a campus becomes available. The response should provide a calendar and project plan for implementing the network based on the providers network structure with the campus connections based on the most efficient and effective order. Because one time cost (non-recurring or Aid to construction) is restricted to the construction done on District property, this cost can be associated to that campus connectivity and billed upon acceptance. If the responder does not have recommended order of connectivity based on optimal efficiency, the district will prioritize the campuses as high schools, middle then elementary schools.

Q2. Sect 3.2.1.2 – Please define the following:

a. “Link Power Budget” and provide an example

The optical power budget in a fiber-optic communication link is the allocation of available optical power (launched into a given fiber by a given source) among various loss-producing mechanisms such as launch coupling loss, fiber attenuation, splice losses, and connector losses, in order to ensure that adequate signal strength (optical power) is available at the receiver. The optical power budget is usually specified or expressed in decibels (dB).

The amount of optical power launched into a given fiber by a given transmitter depends on the nature of its active optical source (LED or laser diode) and the type of fiber, including such parameters as core diameter and numerical aperture. Manufacturers sometimes specify an optical power budget only for a fiber that is optimum for their equipment—or specify only that their equipment will operate over a given distance, without mentioning the fiber characteristics. The district must first ascertain, from the manufacturer, the transmission losses for the type of fiber to be used, and the required signal strength for a given level of performance.

In addition to transmission loss, including those of any splices and connectors, allowance should be made for at least several dB of optical power margin losses, to compensate for component aging and to allow for future splices in the event of a severed cable.

This information is provided by the vendor in the cumulative fiber length, cumulative dB loss for 1310nm fiber and cumulative dB loss for 1550nm fiber as represented in the sample chart in 3.2.1.2. This information is required to determine the necessary electronics to light the fiber.

b. Destination Frame

Destination frame will be the naming convention agreed upon by the district and vendor in identifying the fiber termination frame provided by the vendor.

- c. No Fiber
Each fiber strand will be identified by a numeric sequence. This is required for matching fiber strands end to end. If two strands are terminated, then two fiber stand numeric identifiers will be used, ie, 09-10. If four strands are terminated, then four fiber strand numeric identifiers will be used, 67-70.
 - d. Structure
Structure represents the two locations where the fiber stands connect. CMS-NOC is the fiber structure connecting Craig Middle School and the Network Operations Center. By default, the opposite end fiber connection structure would be NOC-CMS.
- Q3. On page 10 section 23 Payment and Performance Bonds it states “Performance bonds are required on contracts of \$100,000.00 or more, and payment bonds are required on contracts of \$25,000.00 or more. Bonds are to be issued in the form required by Texas Statutes, in the amount of One Hundred Percent (100%) of the total bid.” “Bidder shall not commence work under this contract until the Performance Bond and/or Payment Bond required under this section have been obtained and submitted to the AISD Purchasing Department.
- a. Are you requiring two types of bonds for a bid that has a value of \$100,000.00 or more? Please clarify the bond requirements.
- A3. There are two types of bonds that are required and discussed on page 10 of the proposal. A performance bond is required for contracts of \$100,000 or more. A payment bond is required on contracts of \$25,000 or more. A performance bond and a payment bond should be issued based on the total cost of the “construction / installation” only. Bonds are not required for the monthly service once construction/installation is completed.
- These bonds are only required from the vendor who is awarded the contract. These bonds are not required with the proposal submittal.
- Q4. On page 25 the note “A payment and performance bond will be required for the amount of the construction and installation”
- a. This note indicates that you are requiring both a payment bond and performance bond based on the construction and installation amounts rather than 100% of the total bid. Aren’t the bond requirements on page 25 supposed to be the same as the requirements on page 10? Please clarify.
- A4. The purpose of the information included on page 10, section 23 is to provide vendors the requirements regarding payment and performance bonds. Because this contract includes construction and installation, the District will require a performance bond for a contract of \$100,000 or more and a payment bond for a contract of \$25,000 or more. A performance bond and a payment bond should be issued based on the total cost of the “construction / installation” only. Bonds are not required for the monthly service once construction/installation is completed.
- These bonds are only required from the vendor who is awarded the contract. These bonds are not required with the proposal submittal.

NOTE:
Please acknowledge receipt of this addendum by signing and dating this page and include a copy with your proposal submittal.

Signature _____ Date: _____