

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR
UTILITY CONSULTING SERVICES

Long Island Power Authority
333 Earle Ovington Boulevard
Uniondale, New York 11553

March 11, 2009



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	QUESTIONNAIRE	

The Long Island Power Authority (“Authority”) hereby solicits proposals from experienced consulting firms and individuals (hereinafter referred to as “firms”) in response to this Request For Proposals (“RFP”) to provide as-needed utility consulting services to the Authority and its subsidiary, LIPA (collectively referred to as “LIPA”). Proposers with expertise in various areas, such as engineering, energy efficiency and renewables, marketing, customer service, economics and finance may submit proposals to provide consulting services for some, all or portions of the categories of services defined in Section IV. Scope of Services, of this RFP. LIPA may select one or more firms to provide some, all or portions of the requested services.

I. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Issuance of RFP	March 11, 2009
Deadline for Submission of Questions	March 25, 2009
Submission of Notice of Intent to Propose	March 31, 2009
Proposal Due Date	April 7, 2009 by 3:00p.m.
Interviews (if desired)	Dates to be Determined

Any questions regarding this RFP should be submitted in writing and faxed to Mr. Michael Standridge, Director of Corporate Contracts & Procurement at (516) 719-9812 on or before **March 25, 2009**. Responses to any questions received will be posted on LIPA’s website at www.lipower.org as they are received. No other communication of questions and answers will be made.

Firms interested in submitting a proposal in response to this RFP should fax a Notice of Intent to Propose to the attention of Mr. Michael Hervey, Vice President of Operations at (516) 719-9818 on or before **March 31, 2009**. Such notice should contain the Proposer’s name, address, phone number, e-mail address, contact person, and the scope(s) of services that will be proposed. Submission of a Notice of Intent is not a pre-requisite for submitting a proposal.

Ten (10) copies of your proposal and a CD ROM of your proposal in either Microsoft Word or PDF format are due no later than **3:00 p.m. on April 7, 2009**, in a sealed package or packages. LIPA will not consider proposals received after this deadline. All proposals should be delivered to:

Long Island Power Authority
333 Earle Ovington Boulevard, Suite 403
Uniondale, NY 11553
Attention: Michael Hervey, Vice President of Operations

Proposals received after the Proposal Due Date will not be considered, nor will faxed or e-mailed proposals, whenever received. **Failure to submit a proposal on time will not be waived by LIPA under any circumstances (e.g., traffic conditions, mail or courier failure, etc.).**

LIPA may conduct interviews of those proposers found to be the most qualified to provide the required services. If interviews are conducted, the Proposers selected for an interview will be notified in advance of the interview date(s).

Other than as provide for in this RFP, any contact with LIPA Board members, staff or LIPA consultants during the pendency of this RFP may be grounds for disqualification from the RFP process.

Pursuant to State Finance Law sections 139-j and 139-k, this RFP includes and imposes certain restrictions on communications between the Authority and Proposers during the procurement process. A Proposer is restricted from making contacts (i.e., an oral, written or electronic communications which a reasonable person would infer as an attempt to unduly influence the award, denial, or amendment of a contract) from issuance of the RFP through final award and approval of the resulting Procurement Contract by the Authority and the Office of the State Comptroller (“restricted period”) to any Authority staff or Trustee (or consultants) other than as designated herein, unless it is a contact that is included among certain statutory exemptions as set forth in State Finance Law sections 139-j(3) (a). The Authority’s designated staff for this RFP, as of the date hereof, is Michael Hervey, Vice President of Operations, (516) 719-9862; Michael Standridge, Director of Corporate Contracts and Procurement, (516) 719-8620; Bill Funk, Contract Specialist, (516) 719-9235; Mr. Dan Zaweski, Assistant Vice President of Energy Efficiency and Distributed Generation, (516) 719-9886; Mr. Jim Parmelee, Executive Director of Power Markets, (516) 719-9803 and Mr. Frank Savin, Director of Strategic Planning, (516) 719-7519. Please use Mr. Standridge as the primary point of contact. Authority staff and Trustees (and consultants) are also required to obtain certain information when contacted during the restricted period and make a determination of the responsibility of the Proposer pursuant to statutory provisions. Certain findings of non-responsibility can result in rejection for contract award, and in the event of two findings within a 4 year period, the Proposer is debarred from obtaining governmental Procurement Contracts. Further information about these requirements can be found in the Authority’s Guidelines Regarding Procurement Lobbying which is posted on the Authority’s web site for this RFP.

LIPA will not provide reimbursement for any costs or expenses incurred in connection with this RFP, including the costs of preparing and submitting a response, providing any additional information or attending an interview. All material that is submitted in response to this RFP will become the sole property of LIPA. LIPA expressly reserves the right to utilize any and all ideas submitted in the proposals received unless covered by legal patent or proprietary rights which must be clearly noted in the proposal submitted in response to the RFP. See also RFP Section V.C.2.

II. CONTRACT PERIOD

The term of the contract will be for a period of five (5) years. LIPA at any time, in its sole discretion, may terminate the contract, or postpone or delay all or any part of the contract, upon written notice.

III. BACKGROUND

The Long Island Power Authority is a corporate municipal instrumentality of the State of New York. The Authority was created by State legislation enacted in 1986, referred to as the “Long Island Power Authority Act” or “LIPA Act” (Public Authorities Law, Sections 1020 et seq.). In 1998, the Authority acquired pursuant to an Agreement and Plan of Merger (“Merger Agreement”), all of the outstanding common stock of LILCO, which then became a wholly owned subsidiary of the Authority. The Authority, through its subsidiary, LIPA, provides electric service to approximately 1.1 million customers in its service area, comprising the counties of Nassau and Suffolk, and a small portion of Queens County known as the Rockaways.

The Authority has entered into three principal Operating Agreements with subsidiaries of National Grid (formerly KeySpan Energy): a Management Services Agreement to provide day-to-day management of the transmission and distribution system owned by LIPA in accordance with policies established by LIPA; an Energy Management Agreement to provide fuel management and system power supply services to LIPA; and a Power Supply Agreement to sell to LIPA all of the capacity and, to the extent LIPA requests, the energy from National Grid’s current generating facilities located on Long Island. Further information on LIPA projects including LIPA’s Energy Efficiency Programs can be found on LIPA’s website at www.lipower.org.

IV. SCOPE OF SERVICES

LIPA expects from time-to-time to have need for technical assistance in a number of areas, as specified below. While LIPA has highly competent staff with experience in many of these areas, LIPA seeks to augment existing capabilities, and draw upon the resources of outside consulting services on an as-needed basis. The firm, or firms selected, would have demonstrable qualifications to provide consulting services in some, all or portions of the following areas:

1. Power Markets –Provide consulting services for generation and transmission resource planning; planning, technical assistance and advice related to LIPA’s interactions with the NY Independent System Operator (NYISO); engineering and related technical assistance associated with LIPA’s energy trading activities.

2. Transmission and Distribution Planning Services – Provide consulting services for Transmission System planning analysis including load flow, reactive power, short circuit and stability analysis and optimization; probabilistic and spatial load forecasting for system, load areas and circuits; probabilistic performance modeling and planning; evaluation of special protection systems; evaluation of High Voltage DC Systems, FACTS devices, dynamic voltage support devices and other high voltage solid state control systems; evaluation of Superconductor and high phase order transmission systems; development and implementation of software tools for near real-time analysis and integration of planning and operational tools to support both operation and planning, including optimization and “what-if” analysis, and short and long term planning and optimization; integration of system transmission, distribution, and substation models, simulators, analytical tools and data; development and implementation of software tools, methodologies and data for risk, performance, prioritization, cost benefits and other analysis near real-time and long term optimization and performance and risk monitoring and management.
3. Generation and Resource Planning, Analysis and Development – Provide engineering, technical and financial consulting services related to the planning, analysis, development and selection of generation and other power supply resources, including, but not limited to: assistance in the negotiation of contracts with independent power producers; project management oversight; and evaluation of resource alternatives.
4. Distributed Generation- Provide project specific engineering, technical and financial consulting services related to various distributed generation projects utilizing both traditional and novel renewable resource technologies, including photovoltaic, wind and other solutions and their optimum integration with existing resources, power system, and power market. Services are to include, but not be limited to, project management oversight, resource evaluation, technologies and options evaluations, contract negotiation support and general engineering support (including the provision of Professional Engineering work and related certifications).
5. Retail Services – Provide consulting services in the areas of:
 - a) support for procurement of contract services related to all functional areas of responsibility for Retail Services, including customer service, sales and marketing, market research and regulatory rates and pricing, as well as contract transition support.
 - b) retail rates and pricing including all elements of load research, analysis and forecasting, competitive analyses and market development, tariff administration and development, regulatory policy development and implementation

- c) product development, marketing, market research, and business/marketing plan development, and best practice review.
 - d) pole attachment services including wireline attachment policies and practices, and wireless attachments policy, technology and pricing;
 - e) customer service management and technology including but not limited to all levels of call center management, full data exchange and connectivity, billing system development and implementation, payment processing, collections, and revenue protection, credit risk profiling and credit policies;
 - f) information system and data management services related to all aspects of customer management and billing including support for an overall system architecture strategy, the development and implementation of CRM initiatives, knowledge of various aspects of Siebel program platforms, ability to develop and deliver work flow management design for complex tracking and reporting systems, knowledge of large utility Customer Information Systems to aid in evaluation, due diligence and assessment strategies and to support LIPA long term goal for data independence (transportability of data), and smart grid strategies (Intelligrid/ CIM compliance).
6. Transmission and Distribution Services – Provide engineering and technical consulting services for LIPA's transmission and distribution system, including asset management, value analysis, planning, design criteria, planning criteria, probabilistic risk assessment, assets and system condition and performance monitoring, life cycle cost management, system losses reduction, design standards, design, construction methods, maintenance programs, and construction, engineering and technical services related to transmission development, including integration of new renewable power and clean generation technology and optimization with existing T&D, T&D best practices assessments and studies, development and evaluation of new system and asset design and operation technologies. Provide supplemental T&D management services and staff augmentation, as required, to supplement the day-to-day management of the T&D system.
7. Financial Support Services – Provide consulting services with respect to information and engineering reports required to support the various financing needs of LIPA. In addition, LIPA may require support for its various reports, such as the Biennial Report required for banks/bondholders. Assistance may also be required in the preparation and design of engineering projections, models, and evaluations of specific LIPA projects, as well as assistance with the annual preparation and regular updated/scenarios of LIPA's budget and financial projections.
8. Contractual Support – Provide consulting services to LIPA on various aspects of the interpretation, monitoring, and enforcement of the contracts that LIPA has with its manager and other parties. Provide consulting services in support

of procurements for generation, transmission, distribution and related utility projects.

9. Efficiency and Renewables - Provide programmatic consulting services in the areas of energy efficiency, direct load control, renewable power and clean generation technology. Services will focus on all aspects of each area including but not limited to engineering evaluation, technical analysis, process and flow logic, programmatic planning and development, concept development and evaluation, market assessment and analysis, marketing and outreach planning support, cost analysis, economic evaluations, load and savings impact evaluations and the development/identification of specialized business tools and models (which may be digital) necessary to support such activities.

Working with Selected Firms

The utility consulting services solicited in this RFP will be provided on an as-needed basis as required by LIPA. Selection and award of a contract as a result of this RFP does not guarantee firms any work over the term of the contract.

Depending on the requirement, LIPA may elect to award a specific project with or without competition from firms awarded contracts in the specific project scope. Firms that are invited to propose on a project will be required to provide documentation specified in a project scope document or work description, and labor cost estimates including proposed hours (by activity or sub-activity) for each category of labor proposed for the project. LIPA will be billed for projects on either a Time & Material (T&M) basis (not to exceed) or on a fixed price basis. Payment may be contingent upon achieving project milestones or deliverables. LIPA will evaluate project proposals and award project work to the firm(s) that best satisfy the evaluation criteria for the project. Work on any LIPA project shall not commence until authorized in writing by LIPA. LIPA reserves the right to negotiate a lower project price and labor rates for individual projects.

Use of Third Parties

For the purposes of this RFP a sub-consultant is defined as a business entity contracting with a Firm to perform part of the Firm's project scope. Except for sub-consultants identified in its contract resulting from this RFP, the use of sub-consultants is subject to LIPA's prior written authorization. In any and all cases, the Firm using sub-consultants bears the responsibility and liability for subcontractors with regard to equal employment regulations, legal and tax liability, unemployment and worker's compensation taxes and sub-consultants' compensation and compliance with project requirements.

V. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

The following is a list of the information to be provided in the Proposal. A proposal that does not include all the information requested below may be deemed non-responsive and subject to rejection. **Proposals should respond to all areas listed below, in the order listed, and conclude with a separate section on cost.**

A. Management and Qualifications

In setting forth its qualifications, each Proposer shall provide, in concise but adequate detail, the information requested below, as appropriate. Responses should be limited to 30 single-sided pages (not including resumes) and shall be prepared on 8 ½ x 11-inch paper using at least 12-point type with standard margins. Each Proposer is requested to provide a copy of its Affirmative Action Policy as an appendix to its proposal. This appendix will not count against the page limit restriction.

Cover Letter

A cover letter, which shall be considered an integral part of the proposal, shall be bound with the proposal and signed by the individual or individuals authorized to bind the Proposer contractually. In signing the cover letter, the Proposer agrees to be bound by the terms of this RFP and its submission hereunder for 180 days. The cover letter shall contain a statement that the Proposer's work for the Authority will not create any conflict of interest. If your firm believes that a conflict may arise, the nature of the conflict should be described – see section V.A.8.

1. Identify each scope of work in Section IV of this RFP by name and number that your firm is proposing to provide services for and specifically describe the area(s) of the scope of work that your firm is proposing to provide services for. For each scope of work proposed, identify whether your firm has experience in all areas of the scope of work as described in Section IV of the RFP. For each area of service proposed, provide the name, address, telephone number and contact person(s) of at least three references for whom you have provided similar service to.
2. State the names and titles of the individuals who would be assigned to LIPA's account, describe the expected services to be provided by each such individual, including identifying which scope of work area(s) they could provide service for, and identify any and all professional licenses and/or certifications they hold. Provide their resumes (including years of employment in your firm and total years of experience) in an appendix to the proposal that will not count against the proposal page limit, and describe their anticipated commitments to other clients during the next 12

months. Identify the manager in charge of the LIPA account and describe the manager's duties with respect to responsibility for the work performed by your firm. . If Engineering Services are proposed, identify all consultants who hold a Professional Engineer's license that is valid in the State of New York and who would be qualified to provide P.E. stamped drawings, if required.

3. Describe your firm's depth of staff and availability of resources to provide consulting services in the scope of work area(s) proposed. Detail the number of staff in your firm by professional and administrative classification.
4. Provide a brief description of your firm and its ownership structure. Also include any significant developments, or organization, ownership or financial structure changes that have occurred in the last three years, or that you anticipate in the future.
5. Describe any scope of work area(s) in which you feel your firm has special expertise and experience and describe the nature of that special expertise and experience. Explain how you think that this may be of benefit to LIPA.
6. For each scope of work area(s) proposed describe the previous experience and expertise of the firm in providing the proposed consulting services to LIPA or other clients in the electric utility industry and with public power authorities, investor-owned electric companies, other utilities, municipalities and any other pertinent clients, including independent power producers, natural gas suppliers or transmission companies. State the nature of that experience and the name of each such client.
7. Identify any sub-consultants that may be utilized as part of your firm's proposed team. Provide comparable information as requested above in items (1) through (6) for the proposed sub-consultants. Clearly identify what scope of work area(s) any proposed sub-consultants would potentially provide service for.
8. Identify the nature of any potential conflict of interest your firm or any proposed sub-consultants might have in providing consulting services under this RFP to LIPA.
 - (a) State whether your firm has ever represented LILCO or Brooklyn Union Gas Company and in what capacity. Also state whether your firm has ever represented or currently represents National Grid, MarketSpan or KeySpan Energy, or any of its subsidiaries, and in what capacity. Additionally, state whether your firm represents any publicly owned or investor-owned electric utility, independent power

producer, natural gas supplier, or transmission companies. If so, state the name of each such client and the nature of your representation.

- (b) Discuss fully any conflicts of interest, actual or potential, which might arise in connection with your firm's involvement with LIPA. If your firm believes that a conflict of interest might arise, please describe how such conflict would be resolved.
- (c) State whether your firm represents any party that is or may be adverse to LIPA.

Each firm must certify in writing that its representation of LIPA will not create any conflict of interest involving that firm.

- 9. Discuss any past or present civil or criminal legal investigations, pertinent litigation and/or regulatory action involving your firm or any of its employees that could impact your role or ability to serve as a consultant to LIPA. If none, include a statement that there are no past or present civil or criminal legal investigations, or pertinent litigation and or regulatory actions that could impact your firm's ability to serve in the required capacity.

B. Cost

Proposals shall include the following:

- 1. State the rates at which the services would be provided to LIPA for the first two years of the contract. In responding to this, provide the individual hourly billing rate for each manager and professional staff proposed. Note that administrative support costs should be included in the proposed hourly billing rates for managers and professionals. Also:

For each consultant whose resume is provided in response to V. A. 2. above, provide your normal hourly billing rate and the hourly billing rate you propose to charge LIPA. Affirm that normal billing rate increases will not apply to LIPA and that the rates proposed for this engagement shall remain fixed and firm for the first two years of the contract term and that any rate increase for years three through five of the contract shall not exceed the lesser of five (5%) percent or the percent increase in the "National Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)", as published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington D.C. 20212, for each of the previous contract years (years 2, 3 and 4). The Proposer has the sole responsibility to submit to LIPA a service rate adjustment request thirty (30) days prior to the effective date

of the price increase, providing a copy of the index and other supporting documentation necessary to support the request.

Provide a discussion of all anticipated out-of-pocket expenses associated with providing consulting services. Note that LIPA expects that such expenses will be charged and reimbursed at the firm's actual out-of-pocket cost, but in no event will annual reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses exceed 10% of the total annual contract value.

2. Provide the above requested hourly billing rate information for any sub-consultants proposed by your firm. Additionally, identify whether you would mark-up the cost of sub-consultant labor. If so, please state how much you propose to mark-up the billings of any sub-consultants, and explain why it is appropriate to mark-up sub-consultant labor.
3. Each firm may propose any alternative cost structure deemed appropriate in addition to the cost structure requested above. If an alternative cost structure is proposed, explain why you feel the alternative cost structure(s) is more advantageous to LIPA. **Failure to provide the requested cost structure outlined in V (B) (1) above, may be deemed non-responsive.**
4. State any special considerations with respect to billing or payment of fees and expenses that your firm offers and that you believe would differentiate it from other Proposers and make your firm's services more cost effective for LIPA.
5. State whether LIPA is getting the lowest rates charged by your firm. If not, please explain why.

C. Other

1. Proposers must either provide a statement accepting the terms and conditions in LIPA's attached Exhibit A Standard Consulting Agreement, or must alternately identify any exceptions taken to the terms and conditions. If exceptions are taken, the Proposer must clearly identify the language that is being taken exception to and provide the suggested alternate language for each such exception. The nature and extent of exceptions, if any, taken by the Proposer to LIPA's terms and conditions will be a factor considered in evaluating proposals. Proposers that demonstrate a willingness to accept LIPA's terms and conditions will be given more favorable consideration by LIPA.
2. Proposers shall indicate in their proposals what information, if any, is proprietary and confidential. Proposers are hereby advised that LIPA is subject to the New York State Freedom of Information Law ("FOIL").

Material marked “Confidential and Proprietary” will be treated as such to the extent consistent with the obligations under FOIL, other applicable law, regulation or legal process, and will not be disclosed by the LIPA except as necessary for the evaluation of proposals.

VI. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SELECTION PROCESS

A. Proposal Evaluation Criteria

A Selection Committee consisting of LIPA staff will evaluate the proposals. The Selection Committee will make its recommendation(s) to LIPA’s Board of Trustees for approval. The Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in its evaluation, not necessarily listed in the order of importance:

1. The firm’s previous experience providing the proposed consulting services to electric utility, public power and other municipal clients.
2. The qualifications, expertise, prior experience and availability of the proposed team assigned to LIPA’s account, including expertise and experience pertinent to the services requested in the RFP.
3. The cost of consulting services and anticipated out-of-pocket expenses, including the competitiveness of the proposed hourly billing rates and any proposed discounts or other cost-effectiveness benefits. (Although proposed cost will be given significant consideration in the selection process, LIPA reserves the right to negotiate lower fees or a different fee structure than proposed.)
4. The commitment and role of the firm’s proposed manager in charge to providing quality services to LIPA and the firm’s depth of staff in the areas proposed.
5. Overall responsiveness to the requirements of the RFP, including completeness, clarity and quality of the proposal.
6. Interviews, if conducted.

The non-cost criteria listed above will be given more consideration than the cost criteria in LIPA’s evaluation of proposals.

B. Selection Process

The Selection Committee will evaluate all responsive proposals based on the criteria enumerated in Section VI (A), as referenced above. The Selection Committee may afford firms the opportunity to clarify proposals for the purpose of assuring a full understanding of their responsiveness to the RFP.

LIPA may conduct interviews of Proposers found to be most qualified to perform the services required, based upon the criteria listed in this RFP. If so, Proposers will be notified in advance of the proposed interview date.

Prior to award of any contracts(s), the Selection Committee will conduct a vendor responsibility determination and may require eligible Proposers to answer questions and provide additional information to supplement the information provided in the Exhibit B Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire to assist the Selection Committee in making such a determination.

All Proposers will be notified in writing once a Proposer(s) has been selected.

VII. PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS AND CONDITIONS

A. Limitations

1. This RFP does not commit LIPA to award a contract, pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal, or procure or contract for services of any kind whatsoever. LIPA reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to accept or reject any or all responses to this RFP, to negotiate with any or all firms considered, or to cancel this RFP in whole or in part. LIPA reserves the right to request additional information from any or all Proposers.
2. Proposers may be requested to clarify the contents of their proposal. Other than to provide such information as may be required by LIPA, no Proposer will be allowed to alter its proposal or to add new information after the proposal due date.
3. A proposer may be required to participate in negotiations and to submit any price, technical or other revisions to its proposal which may result from such negotiations.
4. Proposers must fully execute the following forms and submit with its proposal: MacBride Fair Employment Principles, Non-Collusive Bidding

Certification, Contractor Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility forms and Contingent Fee certification located at the end of Schedule A (attached as Exhibit A) upon submission of the proposal. Proposers must also fully execute the State of New York Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire (attached as Exhibit B) for itself and any proposed sub-consultants, as well as any other forms included in the RFP, or included on LIPA's website for this RFP.

6. All material submitted in response to this RFP will become the sole property of LIPA.
7. From among the proposals received, LIPA may select one or more firms to provide utility consulting services to LIPA in each of the areas listed in Section IV of the RFP.

B. Proposal Submission.

1. A cover letter, as described in Section V.A shall be submitted
2. Non-responsive proposals include, but are not limited to, those that:
 - (a) are irregular or not in conformance with RFP requirements and instructions;
5. are conditional; or
 - (c) are not submitted on time or are submitted at any time via facsimile or e-mail.

LIPA may waive minor informalities or irregularities in a proposal that are merely a matter of form and not substance and the correction of which would not be prejudicial to other proposals. **Failure to submit a proposal on time will not be waived by LIPA under any circumstance (e.g., traffic conditions, mail or courier failure, etc.).**

3. Joint proposals will not be accepted, however, Proposers may use sub-consultants in the performance of work as set forth herein.

C. Administrative Specifications

1. All proposals must be irrevocable for 180 days and signed by an authorized officer of the firm.
2. The successful Proposer(s) must agree to provide LIPA with audit access

on request during the term of the contract and for seven years thereafter.

3. LIPA at any time, in its sole discretion, may terminate its contract with the selected firm(s), or postpone or delay all or any part of the contract, upon written notice to the selected firm(s).
4. All Proposers are obligated to update any changes in their proposal prior to the proposal due date.

D. Addenda: Errors and Omissions

If a Proposer discovers any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission or other error in this RFP, immediately notify Michael Standridge, in writing, of such error and request clarification or modification to the document.

Should LIPA find it necessary, modification to the RFP will be made by written addenda to the RFP. Such modifications will be posted on LIPA's website and given by written notice to all parties who have furnished a Notice of Intent, if after such date.

If a Proposer fails to notify LIPA of a known error or an error that reasonably should have been known prior to the final filing date for submission, the Proposer shall assume the risk. If awarded the contract, the Proposer(s) shall not be entitled to additional compensation or time by reason of the error or its late correction.

VIII. CONTRACT APPROVAL

LIPA's selection of the successful Proposer(s) must be approved by LIPA's Board of Trustees. In addition, any contracts issued pursuant to this RFP shall not be valid, effective or binding until approved by the State Comptroller and filed in his office, in accordance with Section 112 of the New York State Finance Law. No payment for services rendered can be made under the contract until such approval is obtained.

IX. DEBRIEFING OF UNSUCCESSFUL PROPOSERS

Upon written request an unsuccessful proposer may request a debriefing with LIPA staff. Debriefings will be scheduled after LIPA has provided notice of its selection of one or more successful Proposer(s).

Discussions during any such debriefing will be limited to an analysis of the proposal submitted to LIPA by the Proposer that requests the debriefing. Comparisons between proposals or evaluations of the other proposals will not be discussed. Debriefings may be conducted in person or by telephone, at LIPA's discretion.