



**ADDENDUM #1  
Public Works – Resource Conservation  
Automation of Fiber Line at BCRC  
RFP # 7205-21**

March 3, 2021

The attached addendum supersedes the original Information and Specifications regarding RFP # 7205-21 where it adds to, deletes from, clarifies or otherwise modifies. All other conditions and any previous addendums shall remain unchanged.

**Questions are still being accepted:**

All inquiries regarding this RFP will be submitted via email to the Boulder County Purchasing Office at [purchasing@bouldercounty.org](mailto:purchasing@bouldercounty.org) on or before 2:00 p.m. **March 12, 2021**. A response from the county to all inquiries will be posted and sent via email no later than **March 17, 2021**.

**Please do not contact any other county department or personnel with questions or for information regarding this solicitation.**

**Please note: Due to COVID-19, BIDS will only be accepted electronically by emailing [purchasing@bouldercounty.org](mailto:purchasing@bouldercounty.org).**

1. Question: Paper Quality questions:

The ISRI specification for #56 is: 3% of outthrows and 2% of prohibitives...  
Is it Boulder County's intention for the bidder to show paper quality results at true ISRI spec #56 *without* QC sorting?  
Or to make true #56 with as minimum number of QC sorters as possible?

**ANSWER: Understanding that ISRI specifications and actual mill specifications may not align in the real world, the County goal is to increase quality and related marketability of the current plant paper output being sold into (ONP #56, #58 and OCC #11) markets with less staffing. Current ONP paper grade**

audits reflect 9-10% outthrows and 1-2% prohibitives post manual QC. 2-26-21 audit= (Outthrows 9.67%, Containers 1.13%, Trash 0.56%)

The objective for the proposer is to develop a system design that can deliver a paper product that exceeds current plant produced quality for #56 and #58 grades and meet or exceed ISRI OCC #11 specifications. The target range of quality for #56/#58 grades would be as follows: 0-8% outthrows / 0-2% prohibitives prior to manual sorting.

2. Question: Can you give an brief description/explanation about how this will be measured during the acceptance test?

Ex: Will you do a series of small 200lb samples over a period of time at end of sort conveyor with no QC sorters staffed or will you do bale breaks?

**ANSWER: Per RFP guidance the County has requested that the proposer develop acceptance testing protocols to best prove proposer stated E&P expectations and overall system performance. The County may take best testing practices from all proposers to develop final approved performance protocol. The County would also expect that the ejected fractions from fiber line that are redirected to either container line or OCC line would be tested for efficiency and purity at point of optical discharge. The County will value purity over efficiency and would expect to see a percentage breakout of performance and related impact to system outputs.**

3. Question: Will there be a minimum / maximum size requirement of the outthrows and prohibitives? If so, what size?

Ex: If an outthrow or prohibitive is smaller than a specific size it will not count against the bidder during testing?

**ANSWER: The idea is that the proposer will meet product quality standards identified. As far as the County is concerned, the size of the contaminate is relative only as a function of weight.**

4. Question: Are black plastics counted as prohibitives in the paper to make ISRI #56 specification or are they excluded?

**ANSWER: YES**

5. Question: What is the penalty for the bidder not meeting true ISRI spec #56?

**ANSWER: If the results significantly deviate from the agreed-upon performance expectations, the County may withhold final payment until an acceptable remedy is realized. The County reserves the right to accept or reject**

**performance results and will consider the presence of factors that may affect results that are outside the control of the vendor.**

6. Question: “Collateral damage” questions:

What % of paper accidentally ejected by the optical sorter with the prohibitives and outthrows is allowable by Boulder County?

**ANSWER: The County expects the proposer to identify efficiency and purity expectations of the sorting equipment and related design. All efficiency and purity specifications provided should be accompanied by expected system impact.**

7. Question: When an optical sorter targets ejecting browns, what is the allowable amount of non-browns that are ejected with the brown fraction that was ejected?

**ANSWER: The County expects the proposer to meet quality standards for #11 OCC. The proposer will be measured against stated E&P expectations as well as finished product quality.**

8. Question: When an optical sorter targets ejecting prohibitives, what is the allowable amount of non-prohibitives (fiber) that are ejected with the prohibitive fraction? What % of other fibers can be with the prohibitives?

**ANSWER: The County expects the proposer to identify this via stated E&P expectations. The County anticipates that there will be different results with different optical designs. The Proposer is expected to test the fraction in a way that measures design efficiency and purity (E&P) as well as system impact of ejection and related paper collateral damage.**

9. Question: What is Boulder County’s expectation on collateral damage (paper loss into OCC and prohibitive streams)?

**ANSWER: The County expects the proposer to meet quality standards identified for #11 OCC.**

10. Question: Can you give a brief description / explanation about how ‘collateral damage’ will be measured during the acceptance test?

**ANSWER: The County expects the proposer to identify how they will measure efficiency and purity. At a minimum the ejected fractions will be measured at or near discharge point and tested against proposers E&P expectations.**

11. Question: What is the actual requirement that bidders need to meet in terms of purity of the ejected fractions?

**ANSWER: The County is asking each proposer to identify its best system design and related E&P to meet the stated goals and objectives.**

12. Question: Will the ejected brown fraction be measured immediately after ejection on the optical sorter take away transfer conveyor?

**ANSWER: Yes, as it relates to proposer stated efficiency and purity specifications.**

13. Question: Will it be joined up with the OCC from the OCC screen and that blended material tested as a bale break and/or as a sample at the end of a OCC sort conveyor?

**ANSWER: The County expects the proposer to design the system in a way that best meets the goals and objectives identified. All E&P testing will be completed in such a way as to assure clear and defined measurement against proposer expectations.**

14. Question: What spec does the OCC need to meet at that point? (ISRI OCC #11).

**ANSWER: YES**

15. Question: Will the ejected prohibitive fraction be measured immediately after ejection on the optical sorter take away transfer conveyor?

**ANSWER: Yes**

16. Question: Will it be joined up with the other containers from the backs of your polishing screen and be blended with your container mix to be tested for % of fiber?

**ANSWER: That is a proposer design issue.**

17. Question: Since reduced purity of ejected brown can adversely affect OCC quality and price and reduced purity of ejected prohibitives can adversely affect overall container line quality and throughput...  
What is the penalty for the bidder to not meet Boulder's expectation on purity of the ejected outthrown and prohibitive streams?

**ANSWER: Same as #5 answer.**

**Submittal Instructions:**

Submittals are due at the email box only, listed below, for time and date recording on or before **2:00 p.m. Mountain Time on March 31, 2021.**

**Please note that email responses are limited to a maximum of 50MB capacity. NO ZIP FILES OR LINKS TO EXTERNAL SITES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Electronic Submittals must be received in the email box listed below. Submittals sent to any other box will NOT be forwarded or accepted. This email box is only accessed on the due date of your questions or proposals. Please use the Delivery Receipt option to verify receipt of your email. It is the sole responsibility of the proposer to ensure their documents are received before the deadline specified above. Boulder County does not accept responsibility under any circumstance for delayed or failed email or mailed submittals.**

Email [purchasing@bouldercounty.org](mailto:purchasing@bouldercounty.org); identified as **RFP # 7205-21** in the subject line.

All proposals must be received and time and date recorded at the purchasing email by the above due date and time. Sole responsibility rests with the Offeror to see that their bid is received on time at the stated location(s). Any bid received after due date and time will be returned to the bidder. No exceptions will be made.

The Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, and to accept the bid that, in the opinion of the Board, is in the best interest of the Board and of the County of Boulder, State of Colorado.



**RECEIPT OF LETTER  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

March 3, 2021

Dear Vendor:

This is an acknowledgment of receipt of Addendum #1 for RFP #7205-21, Automation of Fiber Line at BCRC.

In an effort to keep you informed, we would appreciate your acknowledgment of receipt of the preceding addendum. Please sign this acknowledgment and email it back to [purchasing@bouldercounty.org](mailto:purchasing@bouldercounty.org) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or problems with transmittal, please call us at 303-441-3525. This is also an acknowledgement that the vendor understands that **due to COVID-19, BIDS will only be accepted electronically by emailing [purchasing@bouldercounty.org](mailto:purchasing@bouldercounty.org).**

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. This information is time and date sensitive; an immediate response is requested.

Sincerely,

Boulder County Purchasing

**Signed by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Company** \_\_\_\_\_

End of Document