



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) No. 027-003

DELIVERY OF LUBRICATING OIL FOR VRE LOCOMOTIVES

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Below are questions VRE received as of October 1, 2026, at 2:00 P.M. Eastern Time, with responses. Whenever possible, questions are presented as originally asked. Otherwise, the questions or inquiries are presented to capture the main thrust or idea.

SECTION V – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Please confirm that bid unit prices should exclude Virginia sales and use tax, and that VRE will provide its tax exemption certificate upon award.

Bid unit prices shall not include Virginia sales and use tax. VRE will provide its Tax Certificate of Exemption (ST-12) upon award of a Contract.

ATTACHMENT A – SCOPE OF WORK

2. Section 2.C states deliveries will typically be required at least once, but no more than twice, per week to each MSF. Section 2.I requires remote tank-level monitoring with delivery coordinated when levels drop below half. Is a minimum of one delivery per week to each MSF required, or may deliveries be scheduled based on VRE requests and remote monitoring levels?

The Contractor shall provide remote monitoring of Main Engine Lubricating Oil and HEP Engine Lubricating Oil levels at VRE's MSFs and shall coordinate with VRE regarding delivery of oil when levels drop below half. However, VRE reserves the right to initiate a delivery request for Main Engine Lubricating Oil and HEP Engine Lubricating Oil as needed.

All other lubricating oil products shall be delivered to VRE's MSFs in fifty-five (55) gallon drums by the Contractor in response to delivery requests initiated by VRE.

3. With respect to Section 2.H, for products delivered in 55-gallon drums (Items 3 and 4), is the Contractor responsible for removing empty drums from the MSFs? If so, how often?

The Contractor is NOT responsible for removing the empty 55-gallon drums from VRE's MSFs.

4. Section 3.A reads “zinc free (or zine, ppm cmax 10).” Please confirm the intended requirement is that the Main Engine Lubricating Oil be zinc free, with a maximum zinc content of 10 ppm.

The intended requirement is for Main Engine Lubricating Oil to be SAE 20W40, with a minimum Total Base Number (TBN) of nine (9) and a maximum TBN of thirteen (13). Zinc content shall not exceed ten (10) parts per million (ppm). The oil shall be suitable for use in EMD locomotive engines. See addendum No. 1.

5. Understanding that zinc free railroad engines oil require a *dedicated pumping system* to maintain the zinc free integrity, please confirm the approx. distance from where a delivery truck can park to the tank fill points for that product.

VRE cannot accommodate tractor-trailer (18-wheel) delivery vehicles at its MSFs. Box trucks and similar sized delivery vehicles are acceptable. VRE's lubricating oil storage tank is portable and can be relocated within the MSF to facilitate product transfer. As a result, VRE anticipates that the distance between the delivery vehicle and the tank fill point can generally be minimized to accommodate the Contractor's delivery equipment and procedures. The Contractor is responsible for providing all equipment and procedures necessary to maintain product integrity during delivery.

6. Would VRE allow the zinc free product to be delivered in fresh 275 gallon totes each time to also better ensure the zinc free status of the product from our manufacturing facility? Resulting empty totes would be removed by us as well.

Yes, deliveries in 275-gallon totes can be accommodated by VRE. However, each tote shall be clearly identified with the product name, manufacturer, product specification, and applicable lot or batch number sufficient to verify compliance with the Contract requirements. Totes shall be provided on forklift-accessible pallets or integrated bases with fork pockets and must be capable of being safely handled and relocated by VRE utilizing a forklift. Empty totes shall be either: (1) removed by the Contractor, or (2) clearly marked by the Contractor as approved for disposal by VRE. Contractor-owned totes shall be clearly marked with ownership information on the exterior of the tote. Totes shall be provided with integral secondary containment or Contractor-provided secondary containment acceptable to VRE. The Contractor shall be responsible for compliance with all applicable environmental and safety requirements associated with the delivery and storage of the product. Any proposed tote configuration shall be submitted to VRE for review and approval prior to the initial delivery by the Contractor.

7. Is there an opportunity for the supply vender to increase the zinc free railroad engine oil storage on site. For example, install a single 1,000-gallon tank at no cost during the supply contract vs having multiple totes to fill each time?

Yes. VRE will consider a Contractor-provided storage tank. The tank must remain portable, be equipped with fork pockets, and be capable of being relocated by VRE using a forklift. The tank shall be suitable for storing zinc-free locomotive engine oil and shall be clearly



identified with the product name, manufacturer, and product specification. The applicable lot or batch number for each delivery shall be provided on the delivery documentation. Contractor-owned tanks shall be clearly marked with ownership information on the exterior of the tank. The tank shall be provided with integral secondary containment or Contractor-provided secondary containment acceptable to VRE. The Contractor shall be responsible for compliance with all applicable environmental and safety requirements associated with the storage and delivery of the product. Any proposed storage equipment shall be submitted to VRE for review and approval prior to installation and the initial delivery by the Contractor.

ATTACHMENT B – REPRESENTATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS AND OTHER STATEMENTS OF BIDDERS/OFFERORS

8. The Non-Collusion Affidavit (Form F) states the affiant is “first duly sworn.” Must this affidavit be notarized for submission with the Bid?

The affidavit does not need to be notarized.

ATTACHMENT C1 – BID FORM

9. For Item 1, the “Brand Name and Product Number Offered” column is pre-filled “N/A” and the Bid Form is protected. The Bid Form notes require bidders to provide the brand name and product number offered. How should bidders identify the product offered for Item 1: in the Bid Form, in the Bid package (Tab 9), or both?

The Bid Form has been revised. See addendum No. 1.

