

BRUNSWICK COUNTY
REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS

**211 Water Treatment Plant
Sludge Removal
(Drinking Water)**

ISSUE DATE: **February 17, 2026**

DUE DATE: **March 17, 2026**

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Brunswick County is soliciting sealed proposals for removal and disposal of lime residuals generated at the Brunswick County 211 Water Treatment Plant located at 4305 Southport-Supply Road SE, Southport, NC 28461 (the “WTP”).

Lime residuals are a byproduct of the lime softening process utilized in the production of potable water and have been concentrated through settling ponds and drying beds. These residuals are typically a 50-75% cake solid and have been classified as “Beneficial Fill” by the NC Division of Waste Management Environmental Compliance Branch.

Estimated Quantities Generated:

May-September	~480 cubic yards (300-350 tons) per month
October-April	~340 cubic yards (200-250 tons) per month

2. SCOPE OF WORK

Brunswick County has established the following objectives for this project. Any changes to the specifications or Scope of Work will be made in the form of an Addendum to this Request for Proposals and will be supplied to all known prospective contractors and posted on the Brunswick County website. Notwithstanding the foregoing, contractors will be responsible for ensuring that they have all addenda. Brunswick County may negotiate and refine the final Scope of Work with the selected contractor. Brunswick County reserves the right to negotiate additional services with the selected contractor at any time after the initial contract award.

- 2.1 Brunswick County reserves the right to negotiate and refine the final scope of work with the selected contractor.
- 2.2 The selected contractor will remove and dispose of residuals from the WTP site such that stockpiles at the WTP will remain at or below one drying bed’s worth of sludge (approximately 450 tons) so as not to hamper WTP operations.
- 2.3 The County will provide loading services during regular business hours of 7:00 am ET until 3:30 pm ET Monday through Friday with the exception of County holidays and closures due to inclement weather.
- 2.4 Hauling operations shall be scheduled with the Water Treatment Plant Superintendent.
- 2.5 Each truck shall have an empty container/trailer for each load of residuals to be hauled.
- 2.6 Billing for hauled material will be based on actual cubic yards of material removed from the WTP site regardless of weight. County WTP staff shall provide signed documentation (tickets) each day indicating the number of loads and total sludge volume transferred each day. The contractor shall submit copies of load tickets with monthly invoices.
- 2.7 Quantities denoted herein are estimates only for bidding purposes and shall not obligate the County in any way. Actual amounts will be different than the estimate.

There shall be no guaranteed minimums or maximums under the awarded contract. The contractor is responsible for disposal in accordance with all county, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations.

3. SITE VISIT

A site visit is highly recommended prior to submitting a proposal for the work. In order to schedule a site visit, contact Jeremy Sexton at 910.253.2488. Site visits must be completed by March 6, 2026.

4. SCHEDULE

Lime residuals shall be hauled no less than monthly and no more frequently than weekly. There may be limitations on when the work may be performed based on operational needs of the facility.

5. PROPOSAL DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All **sealed** proposals must be received by Brunswick County no later than March 17, 2026, at 3:00 PM ET. Sealed proposals must include the following:

- The proposal title and due date and time.
- A cover letter/letter of intent on contractor's letterhead, signed by an authorized representative of contractor, expressly agreeing to Brunswick County's terms and conditions contained in this Request for Proposals and its attachments.
- The contractor's name or company name, address, and telephone number.
- The name, address, and telephone number of company representatives with the authority to answer questions or provide clarification regarding the proposal's contents.
- A list of key personnel to be assigned to perform the services and each person's qualifications. Personnel should possess relevant and diverse knowledge and expertise in their respective fields.
- The names of any and all subcontractors expected to perform services in connection with the project and their qualifications. Include the estimated percentage of work that each subcontractor is expected to perform. **Brunswick County reserves the right to accept or reject any proposed subcontractor.**
- A detailed Form of Proposal in substantially the form attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- A full description of services and processes that will be implemented and ongoing to complete the project in the most efficient, timely and comprehensive manner. The description should include a detailed implementation plan and project schedule outlining the primary tasks, estimated hours, responsibility, major deliverables, and timing, including an estimated start date. Additional project deliverables are set forth below.
- Any assistance requirements from Brunswick County.

- A detailed company description and history, including the areas of expertise related to the project.
- A reference list of at least three (3) current projects or projects completed within the past twenty-four (24) months for projects of similar size and scope, including the name and telephone number of a contact person for each reference listed.
- Certificate of Insurance as evidence that contractor meets the County's Minimum Insurance Requirements attached hereto.

Contractors shall provide documentation sufficient to clearly demonstrate that their company meets or exceeds the requirements set forth in this Request for Proposals. Failure to provide such documentation may result in the proposal being deemed non-responsive.

In addition to the foregoing, Brunswick County reserves the right to request financial information for any contractor, in order to support the viability of the contractor.

Those interested should submit one (1) hard copy of the proposal. Proposals may only be mailed or hand delivered to the following:

Mail: Trent Murphy
P.O. Box 249
Bolivia, NC 28462

Hand Delivery: Trent Murphy
250 Grey Water Road
Supply, NC 28462

Sealed proposals must be received no later than March 17, 2026, at 3:00 PM ET, at which time they will be opened publicly and read aloud at 250 Grey Water Road Supply, NC 28462. Proposals must be in a sealed envelope and must be marked "SEALED PROPOSAL – 211 WTP SLUDGE REMOVAL." Proposals not sealed and so marked will not be considered. Brunswick County will not be responsible for the failure of any mail or delivery service to deliver a proposal prior to the stated date and time. Regardless of the manner of submission, any proposal received after the stated date and time will not be considered. Incomplete proposals or proposals inconsistent with the required format may be disqualified from consideration.

6. EXPENSES

Brunswick County will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the contractor in submitting a proposal or for any other activities associated with this procurement. Further, Brunswick County reserves the right to cancel the work described herein prior to issuance and acceptance of any contractual agreement even if the Board of Commissioners has formally accepted the recommendation.

7. RIGHT TO SUBMITTED PROPOSALS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

All written correspondence, proposals and supporting documents received by Brunswick County in connection with this Request for Proposals will become the property of Brunswick County. Brunswick County reserves the right to use any ideas in a proposal or supporting documents regardless of whether the proposal is selected.

8. QUESTIONS/ADDENDA

Questions or requests for further information regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing to the attention of Trent Murphy at trent.murphy@brunswickcountync.gov no later than March 9, 2026, at 3:00 PM ET. A copy of all questions, further clarifications and answers will be made in the form of an Addendum to this Request for Proposals and will be provided to all known contractors and posted on the County’s website. Notwithstanding the foregoing, contractors will be responsible for ensuring that they have all addenda.

Contractors are expressly prohibited from contacting any Brunswick County official or employee regarding this Request for Proposals, except in the manner noted in this section. A violation of this provision is grounds for the immediate disqualification of the contractor.

9. FORM OF AGREEMENT

In addition to the terms and conditions contained in this Request for Proposals, by submitting a proposal, contractor, if selected, agrees to enter into and be bound by the provisions of a Services Agreement substantially the form attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. To the extent that any of the terms of this Request for Proposals and the terms of the Services Agreement conflict, the terms of the Services Agreement shall prevail. No work shall commence until an agreement has been fully executed by the parties. Unless otherwise approved by Brunswick County, the contractor must begin performing services within thirty (30) days after an agreement is signed.

10. INSURANCE

Contractor, and any of its approved subcontractors, must procure and maintain in full force and effect during the term of any agreement with Brunswick County, or the renewal of any agreement with Brunswick County, the insurance coverage set forth in the Minimum Insurance Requirements attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

In the event contractor, or any of its approved subcontractors, fails to maintain insurance as outlined herein, Brunswick County may, at its option, obtain the required insurance at the expense of the contractor.

11. PROPOSAL CONDITIONS

11.1 Submission of a proposal indicates explicit acceptance by the contractor of the terms and conditions contained in this Request for Proposals and any attachments hereto. Brunswick County reserves the right to reject, without prejudice or explanation, any, or all proposals. Brunswick County reserves the right to waive informalities or to amend the specifications of this Request for Proposals and request new proposals at any time prior to the award of a contract. All decisions of Brunswick County shall be final and binding.

11.2 The contractor shall supply the following:

- A single point of contact through proposal acceptance. Brunswick County will communicate solely through this contact regarding all issues relating to the proposal through acceptance.
- A single Project Manager, after acceptance, dedicated and available for the entire duration of the project. The Project Manager may only be replaced upon approval by, or at the request of Brunswick County. At a minimum, the contractor's Project Manager shall be responsible for oversight and management of the Scope of Work as outlined above.

12. CONSIDERATION OF WITHDRAWAL AND/OR REJECTION OF PROPOSAL

12.1 Withdrawal

After submission, no proposal may be withdrawn by the contractor for a period of ninety (90) days following the opening date. Until that time, the proposal will remain firm and irrevocable and any required bond will be forfeited.

12.2 Rejection

A proposal may be rejected if the contractor fails to:

- Submit the proposal in the format specified.
- Supply the minimum information requested.
- Submit all addenda, addenda responses and templates.
- Submit the proposal by the date and time required.
- Submit a cost proposal with unbundled, detailed, and itemized pricing.
- Provide truthful and accurate information in the proposal.

12.3 No Acceptance

Brunswick County reserves the exclusive right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any informalities or technical defects in proposals, and to accept any proposal deemed most favorable to Brunswick County.

12.4 Competency of Contractor

Brunswick County shall make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the contractor to perform the work, and/or provide the services required by this Request for Proposals. Upon request by Brunswick County, the contractor shall furnish satisfactory evidence that it has the necessary facilities, ability, and financial resources to fulfill the specifications and conditions of the proposal.

13. AWARD

Brunswick County reserves the right to award a contract, based on initial proposals received from contractors, without discussion and without conducting further negotiations. Brunswick County may also, in its sole discretion, initiate further discussions with contractors that it deems to fall within a competitive range. Award shall be made to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder unless otherwise specified. Brunswick County shall not be deemed to have finally selected a contractor until a contract has been successfully negotiated and signed by both parties. If awarded, the initial term of the contract is intended to be one (1) year with two (2) successive options to renew for one (1) year each. Each renewal option is to be exercised automatically, subject to the allowable escalation for an annual CPI increase as set forth herein.

14. NON-DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

Contractor and its agents shall treat all data and information associated with this Request for Proposals, including, without limitation, the Request for Proposals, all reports, recommendations, specifications, and other data as confidential. Contractor and its agents shall not disclose or communicate any information to a third party or use such information in advertising, propaganda and/or in another job or jobs, unless prior written consent is obtained from Brunswick County.

15. NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC RECORDS

All proposals received by Brunswick County shall be considered public information subject to lawful disclosure under North Carolina Public Records Law. Any proposal material deemed by the contractor to constitute either proprietary or trade secret material shall be designated as such, and each page or section of a page containing such material shall be so marked by the contractor. In addition, it shall be the sole responsibility of the contractor to demonstrate to a court of competent jurisdiction that their designation is proper. Brunswick County shall not make public any material determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be proprietary or trade secret. Contractor hereby agrees to

indemnify and hold Brunswick County harmless from any and all claims, suits, damages, penalties, or expenses arising out of contractor's proprietary or trade secret designation.

16. AMENDMENTS/CHANGE ORDERS

After a project is awarded to a contractor and the parties enter into a formal agreement, a written amendment or change order will be required for any changes to the scope of the project.

17. CERTIFICATION

Contractor hereby certifies that it has carefully examined this Request for Proposals and all attachments hereto, including, without limitation, the Form of Agreement. Contractor further certifies that it understands and accepts all terms and conditions contained in the Request for Proposals, including, without limitation, the Form of Agreement, and the scope of work, and that it has knowledge and expertise to complete the project. By submitting a proposal, contractor further certifies that its proposal is fair in all respects and without collusion or fraud.

FORM OF AGREEMENT

NORTH CAROLINA

SERVICES AGREEMENT

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

THIS SERVICES AGREEMENT (hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement”) is made and entered into by and between Brunswick County, a body politic and corporate of the State of North Carolina, (hereinafter referred to as the “County”), party of the first part, and {Vendor Name}, (hereinafter referred to as the “Provider”), party of the second part.

WITNESSETH:

1. SERVICES; FEES

The services to be performed under this Agreement (hereinafter referred to collectively as “Services”) and the agreed upon fees for said Services are set forth on Exhibit “A” attached hereto.

Any exhibits or attachments referenced herein are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement. Any conflict between the language in an exhibit or attachment and the main body of this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of the main body of this Agreement.

2. TERM OF AGREEMENT; TERMINATION

(1) *Term.* The initial term of this Agreement begins on [_____] (the “Effective Date”) and continues in effect for one (1) year (the “Initial Term”), unless sooner terminated as provided herein. The Initial Term shall be followed by two (2) successive options to renew for one (1) year each (each a “Renewal Term”). Each Renewal Term shall be exercised automatically, subject to the CPI annual cost escalation allowance set forth in Exhibit “A,” unless either party gives notice of its intent not to renew at least sixty (60) days prior to the end of the then current term. The Initial Term and any Renewal Term shall be referred to collectively herein as the “Term.” **No work may commence under this Agreement until the Agreement has been fully executed by both parties.**

(2) *Termination.* The County may terminate this Agreement at any time without cause by giving sixty (60) days’ written notice to the Provider. As soon as practicable after receipt of a written notice of termination without cause, the Provider shall submit a statement to the County showing in detail the work performed under this Agreement through the effective date of termination. The County may terminate this Agreement for cause by giving written notice of a breach of the Agreement. The Provider shall have fifteen (15) days to cure the breach following receipt of the notification. Failure to cure the breach within the fifteen (15) days shall result in the immediate termination of the Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the County may terminate this Agreement immediately and without notice to the Provider if the Provider becomes insolvent, makes or has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, is the subject

of proceedings in voluntary or involuntary bankruptcy instituted on behalf of or against the Provider, or has a receiver or trustee appointed for substantially all of its property, or if the Provider allows any final judgment to stand against it unsatisfied for a period of forty-eight (48) hours.

3. NONAPPROPRIATION

If the Board of County Commissioners does not appropriate the funding needed by the County to make payments under this Agreement for a given fiscal year, the County will not be obligated to pay amounts due beyond the end of the last fiscal year for which funds were appropriated. In such event, the County will promptly notify the Provider of the non-appropriation, and this Agreement will be terminated at the end of the last fiscal year for which funds were appropriated. No act or omission by the County which is attributable to non-appropriation of funds shall constitute a breach of or default under this Agreement.

4. COMPENSATION

The County agrees to pay fees as specified in Exhibit "A" or as set out above for the Services satisfactorily performed in accordance with this Agreement. Unless otherwise specified, the Provider shall submit monthly invoices to the County and include detail of all Services delivered or performed under the terms of this Agreement. The County shall pay all undisputed and properly completed invoices within thirty (30) days of receipt. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the County will not pay late fees on any charges under this Agreement. If the County disputes any portion of the charges on any invoice received from the Provider, the County shall inform the Provider in writing of the disputed charges. Once the dispute has been resolved, the Provider shall re-invoice the County for the previously disputed charges, and, per any resolution between the County and the Provider, the County shall pay those charges in full at that time. No advance payment shall be made for the Services to be performed by the Provider under this Agreement.

5. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

Both the County and the Provider agree that the Provider shall act as an independent contractor and shall not represent itself as an agent or employee of the County for any purpose in the performance of its duties under this Agreement. The Provider represents that it has or will secure, at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the Services under this Agreement. Accordingly, the Provider shall be responsible for payment of all federal, state, and local taxes arising out of its activities in accordance with this Agreement, including, without limitation, federal and state income tax, social security tax, unemployment insurance taxes and any other taxes or business license fees as required. The Provider shall not be entitled to participate in any plans, arrangements, or distributions by the County pertaining to or in connection with any pension, stock, bonus, profit sharing, or other benefit extended to County employees.

In the event the Internal Revenue Service should determine that the Provider is, according to Internal Revenue Service guidelines, an employee subject to withholding and social security contributions, then the Provider hereby acknowledges that all payments hereunder are gross

payments, and the Provider is responsible for all income taxes and social security payments thereon.

6. PROVIDER REPRESENTATIONS

- (1) The Provider is a duly organized entity or corporation qualified to do business and in good standing under the laws of the State of North Carolina;
- (2) The Provider has all requisite corporate power and authority to execute, deliver and perform its obligations under this Agreement;
- (3) No approval, authorization, or consent of any governmental or regulatory authority is required to be obtained or made by it in order for the Provider to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement;
- (4) In connection with the Provider's obligations under this Agreement, it shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations and shall obtain all applicable permits and licenses;
- (5) The Provider shall not violate any agreement with any third party by entering into or performing the Services under this Agreement;
- (6) The Provider will perform all Services in conformity with the specifications and requirements of this Agreement;
- (7) The Services provided by the Provider under this Agreement will not violate, infringe, or misappropriate any patent, copyright, trademark, or trade secret rights of any third party, or any other third-party rights (including, without limitation, non-compete agreements);
- (8) The Provider shall exercise reasonable care and diligence when performing the Services hereunder and will ensure that it adheres to the highest generally accepted standards in the industry when performing said Services;
- (9) The Provider acknowledges that if any specific licenses, certifications, or related credentials are required in its performance of the Services, it will ensure that such credentials remain current and active and not in a state of suspension or revocation; and
- (10) The Provider shall ensure that whenever its employees or agents are on County property, they will strictly abide by all instructions and directions issued by the County with respect to rules, regulations, policies, and security procedures applicable to work on the County's premises. Such rules, regulations, policies, and security procedures shall include, but not be limited to: (i) not possessing any controlled substances; (ii) smoking only in designated smoking areas, if any; and (iii) not possessing weapons, except for weapons possessed by law enforcement officials.

7. DAMAGE TO EQUIPMENT, FACILITIES, PROPERTY OR DATA

The Provider shall be solely responsible for any damage to or loss of the County's equipment, facilities, property, and/or data arising out of the negligent or willful act or omission of the Provider or its subcontractors. In the event that the Provider causes damage to the County's equipment or facilities, the Provider shall, at its own expense, promptly repair or replace such damaged items to restore them to the same level of functionality that they possessed prior to such damage.

8. NON-ENDORSEMENT AND PUBLICITY

The County is not endorsing the Provider or its Services, and the Provider is not permitted to reference this Agreement or the County in any manner without the prior written consent of the County. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties agree that the Provider may list the County as a reference in response to requests for proposals and may identify the County as a customer in presentations to potential customers.

9. NON-EXCLUSIVITY

The Provider acknowledges that the County is not obligated to contract solely with the Provider for the Services covered under this Agreement.

10. DIVESTMENT FROM COMPANIES THAT BOYCOTT ISRAEL

The Provider hereby certifies that it has not been designated by the North Carolina State Treasurer as a company engaged in the boycott of Israel pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 147-86.80 *et seq.*

11. DEBARMENT

The Provider hereby certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this Agreement by any governmental department or agency. The Provider must notify the County within thirty (30) days if debarred by any governmental entity during this Agreement.

12. INDEMNIFICATION

The Provider shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officers, officials, agents and employees from and against all actions, liability, claims, suits, damages, costs or expenses of any kind which may be brought or made against the County or which the County must pay and incur arising out of or relating to any and all claims, liens, demands, obligations, actions, proceedings or causes of action of every kind in connection with or arising out of this Agreement and/or the performance hereof that are due in part or in the entirety of the Provider, its employees or agents. The Provider further agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, defend, and dispose of same at its sole cost and expense. The Provider shall be fully responsible to the County for the acts and omissions of its subcontractors and of persons either directly or indirectly employed by it. This Section shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

13. INSURANCE

The Provider shall procure and maintain in full force and effect at all times and at its sole cost and expense Commercial General Liability, Commercial Automobile Liability, Professional Liability and Workers' Compensation insurance, if applicable, and any additional insurance as may be required by the County with limits acceptable to the County. All insurance policies (with the exception of Workers' Compensation, if applicable, and Professional Liability) shall be endorsed, specifically or generally, to include the County as an additional insured and as a certificate holder. The Provider shall furnish a Certificate of Insurance from a licensed insurance agent in North Carolina with a rating of A-VII or better by A.M. Best verifying the existence of any insurance coverage required by the County. The Certificate will provide for thirty (30) days' advance notice in the event of termination or cancellation of coverage. The Provider shall have no right of recovery or subrogation against the County (including its officers, agents, and employees), it being the intention of the parties that the insurance policies so affected shall protect both parties and be primary coverage for any and all losses covered by the aforementioned insurance.

14. WORKERS' COMPENSATION

To the extent required by law, the Provider shall comply with the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Act and shall provide for the payment of workers' compensation to its employees in the manner and to the extent required by such Act. In the event the Provider is excluded from the requirements of such Act and does not voluntarily carry workers' compensation coverage, the Provider shall carry or cause its employees to carry adequate medical/accident insurance to cover any injuries sustained by its employees or agents while fulfilling the Provider's obligations under this Agreement.

The Provider agrees to furnish the County proof of compliance with said Act or adequate medical/ accident insurance coverage upon request.

15. REMEDIES

- (1) *Right to Cover.* If the Provider fails to meet any completion date or resolution time set forth, due to no fault of the County, the County may take any of the following actions with or without terminating this Agreement, and in addition to, and without limiting, any other remedies it may have:
 - i. Employ such means as it may deem advisable and appropriate to perform itself or obtain the Services from a third party until the matter is resolved and the Provider is again able to resume performance under this Agreement; and
 - ii. Deduct any and all expenses incurred by the County in obtaining or performing the Services from any money then due or to become due the Provider and, should the County's cost of obtaining or performing the Services exceed the amount due the Provider, collect the amount due from the Provider.

- (2) *Right to Withhold Payment.* The County reserves the right to withhold any portion, or all, of a scheduled payment if the Provider fails to perform under this Agreement until such breach has been fully cured.
- (3) *Setoff.* Each party shall be entitled to set off and deduct from any amounts owed to the other party pursuant to this Agreement all damages and expenses incurred or reasonably anticipated as a result of the other party's breach of this Agreement.
- (4) *Other Remedies.* Upon breach of this Agreement, each party may seek all legal and equitable remedies to which it is entitled. The remedies set forth herein shall be deemed cumulative and not exclusive and may be exercised successively or concurrently in addition to any other available remedy.
- (5) *No Suspension.* In the event that the County disputes in good faith an allegation of breach by the Provider, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the Provider agrees that it will not terminate this Agreement or suspend or limit any Services or warranties, unless: (i) the parties agree in writing; or (ii) an order of a court of competent jurisdiction determines otherwise; provided, however, this dispute period shall be limited to ninety (90) days.

16. TAXES

The Provider shall be responsible for paying all taxes, fees, assessments, and premiums of any kind payable on its employees and operations. The Provider shall substantiate, on demand by the County, that all taxes and other charges are being properly paid.

17. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Provider shall be responsible for initiating, maintaining, and supervising all safety precautions and programs in connection with performing the Services. The Provider shall take all necessary precautions for the safety of, and shall provide the necessary protection to prevent damage, injury, or loss to all employees in connection with performing the Services and other persons who may be affected thereby.

18. COMPLIANCE WITH E-VERIFY PROGRAM

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-133.3, the Provider understands that it is a requirement of this Agreement that the Provider and its subcontractors must comply with the provisions of Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes. In doing so, the Provider agrees that, unless it is exempt by law, it shall verify the work authorization of its employees utilizing the federal E-Verify program and standards as promulgated and operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, and the Provider shall require its subcontractors to do the same. Upon request, the Provider agrees to provide the County with an affidavit of compliance or exemption.

19. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

For purposes of this Agreement, the party disclosing Confidential Information is the “Discloser,” and the party receiving Confidential Information is the “Recipient.” “Confidential Information” shall mean any nonpublic information concerning the parties’ respective businesses including, but not limited to, all tangible, intangible, visual, electronic, present or future information such as: (a) trade secrets; (b) financial information, including pricing; (c) technical information, including research, development, procedures, algorithms, data, designs and know-how; (d) business information, including operations, planning, marketing interests and products; and (e) the terms of any agreement between the parties and the discussions, negotiations and proposals related thereto. Confidential Information disclosed to the other party must be clearly identified. Written Confidential Information must be clearly marked in a conspicuous place with an appropriate legend identifying the information as “Confidential.” Confidential Information that is not written must be identified as confidential at the time of disclosure and confirmed in writing delivered to Recipient within fifteen (15) days of disclosure.

The restrictions regarding the use and disclosure of Confidential Information do not apply to information that is:

- a. in the public domain through no fault of the Recipient;
- b. within the legitimate possession of the Recipient, with no confidentiality obligations to a third party;
- c. lawfully received from a third party having rights in the information without restriction, and without notice of any restriction against its further disclosure;
- d. independently developed by the Recipient without breaching this Agreement or by parties who have not had, either directly or indirectly, access to or knowledge of the Confidential Information;
- e. disclosed with the prior written consent of the Discloser; or
- f. required to be disclosed by law, regulation or court or governmental order, specifically including requests pursuant to the Public Records Laws of North Carolina contained in Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes. In the event Recipient receives such a request, it shall notify Discloser and Discloser shall have the opportunity to defend against production of such records at Discloser’s sole expense.

20. OWNERSHIP OF WORK PRODUCT

Should the Provider’s performance under this Agreement generate documents or other work product that are specific to the Services hereunder, such documents or work product shall become the property of the County and may be used by the County on other projects without additional compensation to the Provider.

21. NO ASSIGNMENT WITHOUT CONSENT

Neither party shall assign this Agreement (or assign any right or delegate any obligation contained herein whether such assignment is of service, of payment or otherwise) without the prior written consent of the other party hereto. Any such assignment without the prior written consent of the other party hereto shall be void. An assignee shall acquire no rights, and the County shall not recognize any assignment in violation of this provision.

22. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE

This Agreement shall be governed by applicable federal law and by the laws of the State of North Carolina without regard for its choice of law provisions. All actions relating in any way to this Agreement shall be brought in the General Court of Justice of the State of North Carolina in Brunswick County or in the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Wilmington division.

23. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Should a dispute arise as to the terms of this Agreement, both parties agree that neither may initiate binding arbitration. The parties may agree to non-binding mediation of any dispute prior to the bringing of any suit or action.

24. GOVERNMENTAL IMMUNITY

The County, to the extent applicable, does not waive its governmental immunity by entering into this Agreement and fully retains all immunities and defenses provided by law with regard to any action based on this Agreement.

25. NON-WAIVER

Failure by the County at any time to require the performance by the Provider of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall in no way affect the County's right hereunder to enforce the same, nor shall any waiver by the County of any breach be held to be a waiver of any succeeding breach or a waiver of this Section.

26. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter herein. There are no other representations, understandings, or agreements between the parties with respect to such subject matter. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, negotiations, representations, and proposals, written or oral.

27. HEADINGS

The headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not define or limit any of the terms or provisions hereof.

28. SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of one or more of the phrases, sentences, clauses, or sections contained in this Agreement shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the Agreement so long as the material purposes of this Agreement can be determined and effectuated. If a provision of this Agreement is held to be unenforceable, then both parties shall be relieved of all obligations arising under such provision, but only to the extent that such provision is unenforceable, and this Agreement shall be deemed amended by modifying such provision to the extent necessary to make it enforceable while preserving its intent.

29. AMENDMENTS

No amendments or changes to this Agreement, or additional Proposals or Statements of Work, shall be valid unless in writing and signed by authorized agents of both the Provider and the County.

30. NOTICES

- (1) *Delivery of Notices.* Any notice, consent or other communication required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing, and shall be delivered in person, by U.S. mail, by overnight courier, by electronic mail or by facsimile to the intended recipient at the address set forth below.
- (2) *Effective Date of Notices.* Any notice shall be effective upon the date of receipt by the intended recipient; provided that any notice which is sent by facsimile or electronic mail shall also be simultaneously sent by mail deposited with the U.S. Postal Service or by overnight courier.
- (3) *Notice Address.* Communications that relate to any breach, default, termination, delay in performance, prevention of performance, modification, extension, amendment, or waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be sent to:

- i. For the County: Brunswick County Manager
P.O. Box 249
Bolivia, NC 28422
Fax: 910-253-2022
- ii. For the Provider: {Vendor Name}
{Vendor Address}
{Vendor City}, {Vendor State or Territory} {Vendor Zip}

31. SIGNATURES

This Agreement, together with any amendments or modifications, may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement. This Agreement may also be executed electronically. By signing electronically, the parties indicate their intent to comply with the Electronic Commerce in Government Act (N.C.G.S § 66-58.1 et seq.) and the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (N.C.G.S § 66-311 et seq.). Delivery of an executed counterpart of this Agreement by either electronic means or by facsimile shall be as effective as a manually executed counterpart.

ATTEST:

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Clerk to the Board /
Deputy Clerk to the Board

By: _____
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Date: _____

[SEAL]

{VENDOR NAME}

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

“This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.”

Aaron C. Smith, Finance Director
Brunswick County, North Carolina

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Bryan W. Batton, County Attorney /
Ryan S. King, Assistant County Attorney

Date: _____

EXHIBIT "A"
PROPOSAL/STATEMENT OF WORK/SCOPE OF SERVICES

BRUNSWICK COUNTY MINIMUM INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

At contractor's expense, contractor shall procure and maintain the following recommended lines of insurance according to the scope of work. The County may choose to elect higher or lower coverage according to the work performed. Contractors must be insured by a licensed agent in North Carolina and rated A-VII or better by A.M. Best.

- A. **COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY**
Covering all operations involved in this Agreement.
\$2,000,000 General Aggregate
\$2,000,000 Products/Completed Operations Aggregate
\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
\$1,000,000 Personal and Advertising Injury Limit
\$ 5,000 Medical Expense Limit

- B. **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**
Statutory limits covering all employees, including Employer's Liability with limits of:
\$500,000 Each Accident
\$500,000 Disease - Each Employee
\$500,000 Disease - Policy Limit

- C. **COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY**
\$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit – Any Auto

- D. **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY**
\$1,000,000 Per Occurrence

- E. **POLLUTION LIABILITY INSURANCE**
\$1,000,000 Per Occurrence

When a contractor is required to bind pollution/environmental coverage, the contractor must provide evidence of continuation or renewal of liability insurance for a period of three (3) years following termination of the agreement.

ADDITIONAL INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Contractor agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Brunswick County, its officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all losses, penalties, damages, settlements, costs, charges, professional fees, or other expenses or liabilities of every kind and character arising out of or relating to any and all claims, liens, demands, obligations, actions, proceedings, or causes of action of every kind in connection with or arising out of this Agreement and/or the performance hereof that are due in part or in the entirety of Contractor, its employees or agents. Contractor further agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, defend and dispose of same at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto. The Contractor's General Liability policy shall be endorsed, specifically or generally, to include the following as Additional Insured:

BRUNSWICK COUNTY, ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES ARE INCLUDED AS ADDITIONAL INSURED UNDER CONTRACTOR'S GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE.

- B. Before commencement of any work or event, Contractor shall provide a Certificate of Insurance in satisfactory form as evidence of the insurances required above.
- C. Contractor shall have no right of recovery or subrogation against Brunswick County (including its officers, agents and employees), it being the intention of the parties that the insurance policies so affected shall protect both parties and be primary coverage for any and all losses covered by the above-described insurance.
- D. Brunswick County shall have no liability with respect to Contractor's personal property whether insured or not insured. Any deductible or self-insured retention is the sole responsibility of Contractor.
- E. All certificates of insurance must provide that the policy or policies shall not be changed or cancelled without at least thirty (30) days prior written notice.
- F. The Certificate of Insurance should note in the Description of Operations the following:
Department: _____
Contract #: _____
- G. Insurance procured by Contractor shall not reduce nor limit Contractor's contractual obligation to indemnify, hold harmless and defend Brunswick County for claims made or suits brought which result from or are in connection with the performance of this Agreement.
- H. In the event Contractor receives Notice of Cancellation of Insurance required pursuant to this Agreement, Contractor shall immediately cease performance of all services and shall provide Notice to Brunswick County's Legal/Risk Management personnel within twenty-four (24) hours.
- I. Certificate Holder shall be listed as follows:
ATTENTION: Brunswick County Risk Manager
30 Government Center Dr. NE
P.O. Box 249
Bolivia, NC 28422
- J. If Contractor is authorized to assign or subcontract any of its rights or duties hereunder and in fact does so, Contractor shall ensure that the assignee or subcontractor satisfies all requirements of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, maintenance of the required insurances coverage and provision of certificate(s) of insurance and additional insured endorsement(s), in proper form prior to commencement of services.

FORM OF PROPOSAL

Note to contractors: All costs and rates proposed are to be inclusive of all expenses and incidentals, including, without limitation, labor, materials, equipment, general overhead, field overhead, travel, per diem, food, water, and restroom and lodging facilities, as necessary to complete the scope of services outlined in this RFP for the below listed rates.

Name of Company _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____ **Email:** _____

Federal I.D. No. _____

Contract Signatory Name: _____

Contract Signatory Title: _____

Contract Signatory Email Address: _____

Contract Signatory Phone No: _____

Price for all work and conditions noted in the Request for Proposals

\$ _____ per cubic yard of lime residuals

Annual CPI Escalation Allowance

After the Initial Term of the Services Agreement, effective upon each anniversary of the Effective Date of the Services Agreement (each a “Renewal Term”), the Provider may adjust pricing pursuant to the formula for CPI increase as set forth below. Any increase must be communicated to Brunswick County in writing at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the then-current term of the Services Agreement. If the County is not given timely notice of such price increase, then the Services Agreement will automatically be extended for one (1) renewal term at the current price, and such price must remain firm for the duration of the Renewal Term. In no event may the price increase be greater than the CPI formula set forth below.

Cost escalation will be determined by the formula outlined below using the Federal Labor Statistics CPI-U for All Urban Consumers U.S. City average – All items for November of each contract year.

$$\text{Current Price per unit} \times \left[\left[\frac{\text{New CPI} - \text{Current CPI} \times 0.8}{\text{Current CPI}} \right] + 1 \right] = \text{New Cost per unit}$$

Example: \$250 X $\left[\left[\frac{251.99 - 244.96 \times 0.8}{244.96} \right] + 1 \right] = \255.74 per ton
Per ton

CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Name of Company _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____ **Fax No.** _____

E-Mail Address _____

Federal I.D. No. _____

SDBE, Minority or Woman Owned Business Enterprise _____ **Yes** _____ **No**

Proposal Submitted By: _____

(Printed Name)

(Signature)

Title: _____

Date: _____