 

Associate Vice Chancellor Business Affairs

Q&A Addendum

RFP # 081922 – Leased Data Circuits

This document provides question and answer information pertaining to the above captioned RFP and will be updated as necessary.

**REMINDER:** It is the Respondent's responsibility to thoroughly read and examine the entire

Bid document and any addenda to the Bid.

Posted

1. Is Van Buren a correct location as listed for an ARE-ON pop?

Answer: Yes. The address for the ARE-ON Alma hut is 6803 Alma Hwy  
Van Buren, AR

1. Is it possible to use or for Mountain Home to be added to the list of ARE-ON pop’s?

Answer: Yes. The ARE-ON hut site in Mountain Home will be included in the updated Appendix I (Official Bid Price Sheet) and Appendix IV.

1. Would a supplier be able to utilize an existing MSA they already have with AERON for this project or would a new agreement be required for this bid?

Answer: Any existing in-effect MSA between a supplier and ARE-ON could be used to cover the services in the bid, if that MSA normally applies to the proposed services. Any out-of-date MSAs or with proposed services that do not normally fall under the MSA would need a new MSA agreement.

1. Will the contracting entity be University of Arkansas or ARE-ON?

Answer: ARE-ON the contracting entity used for service agreements, operating under the authority of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees. ARE-ON will be the contracting entity for these services on behalf of the individual sites.

1. Regarding Appendix III, would you be able to provide the building on the campus that you are proposing for the location of our demarc ?  What appears to be provided is the address of the campus.

Answer: The demarc building on the UA Cassatot campus is their Educational Resource Building. All other addresses in Appendix III are single building campuses.

1. Regarding: The physical circuits shall be between the endpoints specified in Appendix (III) and (IV) and an appropriate PE router(s) on the vendor’s MPLS network, with the vendor’s MPLS cloud providing connectivity between circuit endpoints. Our reading is that it is a requirement to connect the endpoints identified in Appendix III and IV with a provider edge router.  Is that the correct reading or is a possible interpretation that we would connect the endpoints identified in Appendix III and IV with our CPE device that provides the service interface or UNI ?

Answer: We do not anticipate a provider router to be located at the customer premises. A CPE device that provides a service interface or UNI is an acceptable deployment of the requested services.

1. Regarding: Each circuit shall have a logical L2VPN connection between the respective campus location and one ARE-ON POP shown in Appendix (IV).  Multiple L2VPN connections to a single ARE-ON POP shall be over the same physical circuit.  Vendors may propose connectivity to alternative ARE-ON POPs as long as all other specifications are met; in such instances, vendors must clearly state the which alternative nodes are proposed and the reason(s) for considering the alternative nodes. Does this mean that you are intending to have multiple logical circuits terminating at the same physical port at the ARE-ON POP ?

Answer: Yes. Circuits with multiple logical connections (VLANs) should not be over subscribed.

1. Regarding: All circuits shall terminate in a customer-owned and managed router.  That is, the demarcation point for all circuits shall be the Ethernet hand-off to the CPE router owned by ARE-ON (for ARE-ON POPs) or the main college campuses. Is it the expectation that the cable facility that runs between our managed device and the ARE-ON managed device be the our responsibility as the service provider?  Or should our interpretation be that the demarc is our user-to-network interface that we provide to the site in question?

Answer: The demarc is assumed to be the providers’ user-to-network interface on the providers’ CPE device. ARE-ON will provide the fiber jumper between the providers’ device interface and the ARE-ON managed equipment at each site.

1. Page 18 of the RFP states all circuits shall terminate in customer owned managed router, and Page 20 mentions providing SLA for Managed routers. Are Managed Routers required as part of this RFP?

Answer: Managed routers are not needed for this RFP. You may disregard the reference to managed routers on page 20 under “Maintenance and Technical Support”.

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9/1/2022

**APPENDIX IV: ARE-ON POPs (Updated 9-1-22)**

ARE-ON POPs – Aggregated circuit locations:

1. ARE-ON Hope POP  
   University of Arkansas Southwest Research and Extension Center  
   362 Hwy 174 NORTH  
   Hope, AR 71801  
   (AREON-HOPE)
2. ARE-ON Alma POP  
   6803 Alma Hwy  
   Van Buren, AR 72956  
   (AREON-ALMA)
3. ARE-ON Fayetteville POP

722 Discovery Way

Fayetteville AR, 72701

(AREON-FYVL)

1. ARE-ON North Little Rock POP

2809 Eanes Rd.

No. Little Rock AR, 72117

(AREON-NLRK)

1. ARE-ON Forrest City POP

1802 New Castle Road

Forrest City AR 72335

(AREON-FRCY)

1. ARE-ON Mountain Home POP

195 High Avenue

Mountain Home AR 72653

(AREON-MTHO)