



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Invitation for Bid #: 3000012793

Title: Sorbent for The University of Carolina at Chapel Hill Cogeneration

Date Issued: 05/28/2026

Submit Written Questions: 06/17/2026 at 1:00PM EST

Bid Opening Date: 07/07/2026

At 01:00 PM EST

Direct all inquiries concerning this IFB to:

Marcy Moore

MRO Category Manager

Email: Mmrowlan@unc.edu



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Invitation for Bids

3000012793

For internal State agency processing, including tabulation of bids, provide your company's eVP (Electronic Vendor Portal) Number. Pursuant to G.S. 132-1.10(b) this identification number shall not be released to the public. **This page will be removed and shredded, or otherwise kept confidential**, before the procurement file is made available for public inspection.

**This page shall be filled out and returned with your bid.
Failure to do so shall be sufficient cause to reject your bid.**

Vendor Name

Vendor eVP #

Note: For a contract to be awarded to you, your company (you) must be a North Carolina registered vendor in good standing. You must enter the vendor number assigned through eVP (Electronic Vendor Portal). If you do not have a vendor number, register at <https://vendor.ncgov.com/vendor/login>

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Refer <u>ALL</u> Inquiries regarding this IFB to: Marcy Moore	Invitation for Bids # 3000012793
	Bids will be publicly opened: 07/07/2026 at 1:00PM
Using Agency: University of Chapel Hill	Commodity No. and Description: Sorbent requirements and specifications
Requisition No.: 1001147114	

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73926451928?pwd=bol1BfkmqJPXixnBTrSmUnU7XruuKx.1>

EXECUTION

In compliance with this Invitation for Bids (IFB), and subject to all the conditions herein, the undersigned Vendor offers and agrees to furnish and deliver any or all items upon which prices are bid, at the prices set opposite each item within the time specified herein.

By executing this bid, the undersigned Vendor understands that false certification is a Class I felony and certifies that:

- this bid is submitted competitively and without collusion (G.S. 143-54),
- that none of its officers, directors, or owners of an unincorporated business entity has been convicted of any violations of Chapter 78A of the General Statutes, the Securities Act of 1933, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (G.S. 143-59.2), and
- it is not an ineligible Vendor as set forth in G.S. 143-59.1.

Furthermore, by executing this bid, the undersigned certifies to the best of Vendor’s knowledge and belief, that:

- it and its principals are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal or State department or agency.

As required by G.S. 143-48.5, the undersigned Vendor certifies that it, and each of its sub-Contractors for any Contract awarded as a result of this IFB, complies with the requirements of Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the NC General Statutes, including the requirement for each employer with more than 25 employees in North Carolina to verify the work authorization of its employees through the federal E-Verify system.

As required by Executive Order 24 (2017), the undersigned vendor certifies will comply with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment and that it does not and will not discriminate, harass, or retaliate against any employee in connection with performance of any Contract arising from this solicitation.

G.S. 133-32 and Executive Order 24 (2009) prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee associated with the preparing plans, specifications, estimates for public Contract; or awarding or administering public Contracts; or inspecting or supervising delivery of the public Contract of any gift from anyone with a Contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of this bid response to the IFB, the undersigned certifies, for Vendor’s entire organization and its employees or agents, that Vendor are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees or agents of Vendor’s organization.

By executing this bid, Vendor certifies that it has read and agreed to the **INSTRUCTION TO VENDORS** and the **NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS incorporated herein**. These documents can be accessed from the ATTACHMENTS page within this document.

Failure to execute/sign bid prior to submittal may render bid invalid and it MAY BE REJECTED. Late bids cannot be accepted.

COMPLETE/FORMAL NAME OF VENDOR:		
STREET ADDRESS:	P.O. BOX:	ZIP:
CITY & STATE & ZIP:	TELEPHONE NUMBER:	TOLL FREE TEL. NO:
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE (SEE INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS ITEM #21):		
PRINT NAME & TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING ON BEHALF OF VENDOR:	FAX NUMBER:	
VENDOR’S AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:	DATE:	E-MAIL:

Bid Number: 65-3000012793

Vendor: _____

VALIDITY PERIOD

Offer shall be valid for at least sixty (60) days from date of bid opening, unless otherwise stated here: _____ days, or if extended by mutual agreement of the parties. Any withdrawal of this offer shall be made in writing, effective upon receipt by the agency issuing this IFB.

BID ACCEPTANCE

If your bid is accepted, all provisions of this IFB, along with the written results of any negotiations, shall constitute the written agreement between the parties ("Contract"). THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS are incorporated herein and shall apply. Depending upon the Goods or Services being offered, other terms and conditions may apply, as mutually agreed.

FOR STATE USE ONLY: Offer accepted and Contract awarded this ____ day of _____, 20____, as indicated on the attached certification, by _____
(Authorized Representative of University of Chapel Hill)

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1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Sorbent requirements for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Cogeneration Facility.

For the purposes of this document, sorbent is the material used in the circulating fluidized bed boilers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Cogeneration Facility to capture sulfur in the fuel, thereby reducing the sulfur dioxide emissions from the stack. Certain limestone and other calcium carbonate products are typically acceptable provided they meet the physical and chemical specifications included herein.

Requested Sorbent is #20 Dolomite. Dolomite is generally dolomitic stone that has nearly equal percentages of calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) and magnesium carbonate (MgCO₃), with both being in the 40-50% range.

This agreement shall be binding on both parties for a three (3) year period beginning on the date of the contract award.

1.1 CONTRACT TERM

This section intentionally omitted

2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 INVITATION FOR BID DOCUMENT

The IFB is comprised of the base IFB document, any attachments, and any addenda released before Contract award, which are incorporated herein by reference.

2.2 E-PROCUREMENT FEE

This section intentionally omitted.

2.3 NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING IFB TERMS AND CONDITIONS

It shall be the Vendor’s responsibility to read the Instructions to Vendors, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill General Terms and Conditions, all relevant exhibits and attachments, and any other components made a part of this IFB and comply with all requirements and specifications herein. Vendors also are responsible for obtaining and complying with all Addenda and other changes that may be issued in connection with this IFB.

If Vendors have questions or issues, or exceptions regarding any component within this IFB, those must be submitted as questions in accordance with the instructions in the BID QUESTIONS Section. If the University determines that any changes will be made as a result of the questions asked, then such decisions will be communicated in the form of an IFB addendum. The University may also elect to leave open the possibility for later negotiation of specific provisions of the Contract that have been addressed during the question-and-answer period, prior to contract award.

Other than through this process or negotiation under 01 NCAC 05B.0503, the State rejects and will not be required to evaluate or consider any additional or modified terms and conditions submitted with Vendor’s bid. This applies to any language appearing in or attached to the document as part of the Vendor’s bid that purport to vary any terms and conditions or Vendors’ instructions herein or to render the bid non-binding or subject to further negotiation. Vendor’s bid shall constitute a firm offer that shall be held open for the period required herein (“Validity Period” above).

The University may exercise its discretion to consider Vendor proposed modifications. By execution and delivery of this IFB Response, the Vendor agrees that any additional or modified terms and conditions, whether submitted purposely or inadvertently, shall have no force or effect, and will be disregarded unless expressly agreed upon through negotiations

and incorporated by way of a Best and Final Offer (BAFO). Noncompliance with, or any attempt to alter or delete, this paragraph shall constitute sufficient grounds to reject Vendor’s bid as nonresponsive.

2.4 IFB SCHEDULE

The table below shows the *intended* schedule for this IFB. The State will make every effort to adhere to this schedule.

Event	Responsibility	Date and Time
Issue IFB	University	05/28/2026
Hold Pre-Bid Conference/Site Visit	University	06/15/2026 at 1:00PM EST
Submit Written Questions	Vendor	06/17/2026 at 1:00PM EST
Provide Responses to Questions	University	ASAP
Submit Bids	Vendor	07/07/2026 at 1:00PM EST
Contract Award	University	ASAP
Contract Effective Date	University	ASAP

2.5 PRE-BID CONFERENCE

Pre-Bid Conference

Date: 06/15/2026

Time: 1:00PM Eastern Time

Location: 575 W. Cameron Ave.

2nd Floor Conference Room

Chapel Hill, NC, 27514

Contact #: 919-995-3415

Instructions: It shall be **MANDATORY** that a representative from each Vendor be present for a pre-bid site visit. Attendees must arrive promptly All attendees must sign in upon arrival and clearly indicate each prospective Vendor represented on the sign in sheet. **LATE ARRIVALS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SIGN IN OR PARTICIPATE IN THE SITE VISIT NOR SHALL THEIR BID BE CONSIDERED.** Once the sign-in process is complete, all other persons wishing to attend may do so to the extent that space and circumstances allow.

FAILURE TO ATTEND THE MANDATORY SITE VISIT SHALL RESULT IN VENDOR’S BID BEING DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND NOT CONSIDERED FOR AWARD.

The purpose of this visit is for all prospective Vendors to apprise themselves of the conditions and requirements which will affect the performance of the work called for by this IFB. Vendors must stay for the duration of the site visit. No allowances will be made for unreported conditions that a prudent Vendor would recognize as affecting the work called for or implied by this IFB.

Vendors are cautioned that any information released to attendees during the site visit, other than that involving the physical aspects of the facility referenced above, and which conflicts with, supersedes, or adds to requirements in this IFB, must be confirmed by written addendum before it can be considered to be a part of this IFB and any resulting contract.

2.6 BID QUESTIONS

Upon review of the IFB documents, Vendors may have questions to clarify or interpret the IFB in order to submit the best bid possible. To accommodate the Bid Questions process, Vendors shall submit any such questions by the “Submit Written Questions” date and time provided in the IFB SCHEDULE Section above, unless modified by Addendum.

Written questions shall be e-mailed to *mmrowlan@unc.edu* by the date and time specified above. Vendors will enter “IFB - 3000012793: Questions” as the subject for the email. Question submittals will include a reference to the applicable IFB section and be submitted in a format shown below:

Reference	Vendor Question
IFB Section, Page Number	Vendor question ...?

Questions received prior to the submission deadline date, the University's response, and any additional terms deemed necessary by the University will be posted in the form of an addendum to *the electronic Vendor Portal (eVP)*, <https://evp.nc.gov>, and shall become an Addendum to this IFB. No information, instruction or advice provided orally or informally by any University personnel, whether made in response to a question or otherwise in connection with this IFB, shall be considered authoritative or binding. Vendors shall rely *only* on written material contained in an Addendum to this IFB.

2.7 BID SUBMITTAL

IMPORTANT NOTE: This is an absolute requirement. Vendor shall bear the risk of late submission due to unintended or unanticipated delay. It is the Vendor's sole responsibility to ensure its bid has been received as described in this IFB by the specified time and date of opening. The date and time of receipt will be marked on each bid when received. Any bid or portion thereof received after the bid submission deadline will be rejected.

If applicable to this IFB and using eVP, all proposal responses shall be submitted electronically via the electronic Vendor Portal (eVP). Additional information can be found at the eVP updates for Vendors link: <https://eprocurement.nc.gov/news-events/evp-updates-vendors>.

Failure to submit a bid in strict accordance with these instructions shall constitute sufficient cause to reject a Vendor's bid(s). Vendors are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to upload bids.

Critical updated information may be included in Addenda to this IFB. It is important that all Vendors responding on this IFB periodically check the State's eVP website for any Addenda that may be issued prior to the bid opening date. All Vendors shall be deemed to have read and understood all information in this IFB and all Addenda thereto.

2.8 BID CONTENTS

Vendors shall populate all attachments of this IFB that require the Vendor to provide information and include an authorized signature where requested. Failure to provide all required items, or Vendor's submission of incomplete items, may result in the University rejecting Vendor's bid, in the University's sole discretion

Vendor IFB responses shall include the following items and attachments, which shall be arranged in the following order:

- a) Cover Letter, which must contain all of the following; (i) a statement that confirms that the Vendor has read the IFB in its entirety, including all links, and all Addenda released in conjunction with the IFB; (ii) a statement that the Vendor agrees to perform in accordance with the scope of work, requirements, and specifications contained herein; and (iii) Vendor's agreement to comply with all instructions, terms and conditions, and attachments.
- b) Title Page: Include the company name, address, phone number and authorized representative along with the Bid Number.
- c) Completed and signed version of EXECUTION PAGES, along with the body of the IFB.
- d) Signed receipt pages of any addenda released in conjunction with this IFB, if required to be returned.
- e) Completed version of ATTACHMENT A: PRICING
- f) Completed version of ATTACHMENT D: HUB SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION
- g) Completed version of ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM
- h) Completed version of ATTACHMENT F: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR
- i) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
- j) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT H: VENDOR REQUEST FOR EO50 PRICE-MATCHING, if applicable

2.9 ALTERNATE BIDS

Unless provided otherwise in this IFB, Vendor may submit alternate bids for comparable Goods, various methods or levels of Service(s), or that propose different options. Alternate bids must specifically identify the IFB requirements and advantage(s) addressed by the alternate bid. Any alternate bid, in addition to the marking described above, must be clearly marked with the legend: "Alternate Bid # ___ [for 'name of Vendor']". Each bid must be for a specific set of Goods and Services and must include specific pricing. If a Vendor chooses to respond with various offerings, each must be offered with a separate price and be contained in a separate bid. Each bid must be complete and independent of other bids offered.

2.10 DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

Relevant definitions for this IFB are provided in 01 NCAC 05A .0112 and in the Instructions to Vendors referenced below which are incorporated herein by this reference.

3.0 METHOD OF AWARD AND BID EVALUATION PROCESS

3.1 METHOD OF AWARD

North Carolina G.S. 143-52 provides a general list of criteria the University shall use to award contracts, as supplemented by the additional criteria herein. The Goods or Services being procured shall dictate the application and order of criteria; however, all award decisions shall be in the University's best interest.

All responsive bids will be reviewed, and award or awards will be based on the responsive bid(s) offering the lowest price that meets the specifications to include any required verifications set out herein such as but not limited to past performance, references, and financial documents.

While the intent of this IFB is to award a Contract(s) to a single Vendor for all line items the University reserves the right to make separate awards to different Vendors for one or more line items, to not award one or more line items or to cancel this IFB in its entirety without awarding a Contract, if it is considered to be most advantageous to the University to do so.

If a Vendor selected for award is determined by the University to be a non-resident of North Carolina, all responsive bids will be reviewed to determine if any of them were submitted by a North Carolina resident Vendor who requested an opportunity to match the price of the winning bid, pursuant to Executive Order #50 and G.S. 143-59 (for more information, please refer to ATTACHMENT H: VENDOR REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE ORDER #50 PRICE MATCHING. If such bid(s) are identified, the University will then determine whether any such bid falls within the price-match range, and, if so, make a Contract award in accordance with the process that implements G.S. 143-59 and Executive Order #50.

The University reserves the right to waive any minor informality or technicality in bids received.

3.2 CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS DURING EVALUATION

While this IFB is under evaluation, the responding Vendor, including any subcontractors and suppliers, is prohibited from engaging in conversations intended to influence the outcome of the evaluation. See the Paragraph 29 of the Instructions To Vendors entitled COMMUNICATIONS BY VENDORS.

Each Vendor submitting a bid to this IFB, including its employees, agents, subcontractors, suppliers, subsidiaries and affiliates, is prohibited from having any communications with any person inside or outside the using agency; issuing agency; other government agency office or body (including the purchaser named above, any department secretary, agency head, members of the General Assembly and Governor's office); or private entity, if the communication refers to the content of Vendor's bid or qualifications, the content of another Vendor's proposal, another Vendor's qualifications or ability to perform a resulting contract, and/or the transmittal of any other communication of information that could be reasonably considered to have the effect of directly or indirectly influencing the evaluation of proposals, the award of a contract, or both.

Any Vendor not in compliance with this provision shall be disqualified from evaluation and award. A Vendor's proposal may be disqualified if its subcontractor and/or supplier engage in any of the foregoing communications during the time that the

procurement is active (*i.e.*, the issuance date of the procurement until the date of contract award or cancellation of the procurement). Only those discussions, communications or transmittals of information authorized or initiated by the issuing agency for this IFB or inquiries directed to the purchaser named in this IFB regarding requirements of the IFB (prior to proposal submission) or the status of the award (after submission) are excepted from this provision.

3.3 BID EVALUATION PROCESS

Only responsive submissions will be evaluated.

The University will conduct an evaluation of responsive Bids, as follows:

Bids will be received according to the method stated in the Bid Submittal section above.

All bids must be received by the issuing agency not later than the date and time specified in the IFB SCHEDULE Section above, unless modified by Addendum. Vendors are cautioned that this is a request for offers, not an offer or request to contract, and the University reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all offers at any time if such rejection is deemed to be in the best interest of the University.

At the date and time provided in the IFB SCHEDULE Section above, unless modified by Addendum, the bids from each responding Vendor will be opened publicly and all offers (except those that have been previously withdrawn, or voided bids) will be tabulated. The tabulation shall be made public at the time it is created. When negotiations after receipt of bids is authorized pursuant to G.S. 143-49 and 01 NCAC 05B.0503, only the names of offerors and the Goods and Services offered shall be tabulated at the time of opening. If negotiation is anticipated, cost and price shall become available for public inspection at the time of the award. Interested parties are cautioned that these costs and their components are subject to further evaluation for completeness and correctness and therefore may not be an exact indicator of a Vendor's pricing position.

At their option, the evaluators may request oral presentations or discussions with any or all Vendors for clarification or to amplify the materials presented in any part of the bid. Vendors are cautioned, however, that the evaluators are not required to request presentations or other clarification—and often do not. Therefore, all bids should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the Vendor. Prices bid cannot be altered or modified as part of a clarification.

Bids will generally be evaluated, based on completeness, content, cost and responsibility of the Vendor to supply the requested Goods and Services. Specific evaluation criteria are listed in Section 3.1 METHOD OF AWARD.

Upon completion of the evaluation process, the University will make Award(s) based on the evaluation and post the award(s) to the State's eVP website under the IFB number for this solicitation. Award of a Contract to one Vendor does not mean that the other bids lacked merit, but that, all factors considered, the selected bid was deemed most advantageous and represented the best value to the University.

The University reserves the right to negotiate with one or more Vendors, or to reject all original offers and negotiate with one or more sources of supply that may be capable of satisfying the requirement, and in either case to require Vendor to submit a Best and Final Offer (BAFO) based on discussions and negotiations with the University.

3.4 PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Vendor shall complete ATTACHMENT F: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR. In addition to any other evaluation criteria identified in this IFB, the University may also consider, for purposes of evaluating proposed or actual contract performance outside of the United States, how that performance may affect the following factors to ensure that any award will be in the best interest of the University:

- a) Total cost to the University
- b) Level of quality provided by the Vendor
- c) Process and performance capability across multiple jurisdictions
- d) Protection of the University's information and intellectual property

- e) Availability of pertinent skills
- f) Ability to understand the University's business requirements and internal operational culture
- g) Particular risk factors such as the security of the University's information technology
- h) Relations with citizens and employees
- i) Contract enforcement jurisdictional issues

3.5 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES

This IFB serves two functions: (1) to advise potential Vendors of the parameters of the solution being sought by the University; and (2) to provide (together with other specified documents) the terms of the Contract resulting from this procurement. The use of phrases such as "shall," "must," and "requirements" are intended to create enforceable contract conditions. In determining whether bids should be evaluated or rejected, the University will take into consideration the degree to which Vendors have proposed or failed to propose solutions that will satisfy the University's needs as described in the IFB. Except as specifically stated in the IFB, no one requirement shall automatically disqualify a Vendor from consideration. However, failure to comply with any single requirement may result in the University exercising its discretion to reject a bid in its entirety.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS

This Section lists the requirements related to this IFB. By submitting a bid, the Vendor agrees to meet all stated requirements in this Section, as well as any other specifications, requirements, and terms and conditions stated in this IFB. If a Vendor is unclear about a requirement or specification or believes a change in a requirement would allow for the University to receive a better bid, the Vendor is encouraged to submit these items in the form of a question during the question and answer period in accordance with the Bid Questions Section above.

4.1 PRICING

Bid price shall constitute the total cost to the University for delivery fully assembled and ready for use, including all applicable charges for shipping, delivery, handling, administrative and other similar fees. Complete ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM and include in Vendor's response.

4.2 ESTIMATED QUANTITIES

This section is intentionally omitted.

4.3 PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

SUITABILITY FOR INTENDED USE

Vendors are requested to offer only items directly complying with the specifications herein or comparable items which will provide the equivalent capabilities, features and diversity called for herein. The University reserves the right to evaluate all bids for suitability for the required use and to award the one best meeting requirements and considered to be in the University's best interest.

4.4 TRANSPORTATION AND IDENTIFICATION

The Vendor shall deliver Free-On-Board (FOB) Destination to any requested location within the State of North Carolina with all transportation costs and fees included in the total bid price.

When an order is placed using a purchase order, the purchase order number shall be shown on all packages and shipping manifests to ensure proper identification and payment of invoices. If an order is placed without using a purchase order, such as via phone, the Buyer's name shall be show on all packages. A complete packing list shall accompany each shipment. Vendors shall not ship any products until they have received an order.

4.5 DELIVERY

The University has a very limited onsite storage capacity for sorbent of approximately 800 tons. The sorbent vendor must be dynamic in managing the supply chain and must be able to maintain relatively constant and evenly paced deliveries by rail.

The vendor must manage sufficient railcars in rotation to ensure that full cars are always available in Durham NC to be dispatched to UNC.

The sorbent vendor must be able to deliver by truck in emergencies, and to dispatch truck shipments within 48 hours upon request.

All primary shipments of sorbent to UNC shall be by rail. Shipping by truck is only allowed when emergencies related to rail shipments occur, such as UNC not being able to utilize its rail unloading system, track outages, or similar items. The vendor must confer with UNC ahead of time and obtain permission to ship by truck and concurrence on the nature of the emergency.

UNC may also request shipment by truck on other rare occasions outside of emergencies. Those situations will be communicated in advance to the vendor. In the rare occurrence that UNC requests shipment by truck, UNC will pay the truck shipping rate established by this contract.

If the vendor wishes to ship by truck in non-emergency conditions, UNC may grant this request with prior approval for small quantities and short durations, but the vendor will be required to match rail shipping costs during such situations. The granting of such requests is solely at the discretion of the University.

The trucks shall be totally enclosed tanker type and shall be equipped with a compressor and hose suitable to pneumatically convey the material into the sorbent truck unloading system at the Cogeneration Facility. Trucks shall have their own on-board compression system for transport. The hose connection at the Cogeneration Facility is a standard 4 – inch female fitting (male fitting is required on the truck). Two trucks can be unloaded simultaneously.

Railcar type is required to be totally enclosed, bottom dump of weather-tight construction to keep sorbent dry until delivery. The railcar will generally be of the type shown in Figure 1 below. Each hopper must have brackets welded to the outlet to receive the mounting of temporary vibrators to aid in material removal. A picture of such brackets is shown in Figure 2 below.

PLEASE SEE SORBENT AGREEMENT SPECIFICATIONS FOR MORE DETIALS

4.6 AUTHORIZED RESELLER

This section is intentionally omitted

4.7 WARRANTY

Manufacturer’s standard warranty shall apply. Vendors shall include a copy of the manufacturer’s standard warranty with the bid response.

Vendor warrants that all equipment furnished under this IFB will be newly manufactured, of good material and workmanship. The warranty will apply from date equipment is put into operation for a minimum period of twelve (12) months or the length of the manufacturer’s warranty, whichever is longer. Such warranty shall cover the cost of all defective parts replacement, labor, freight, and technicians’ travel at no additional cost to the University, or as specified by the Purchasing Agency herein. To the extent not superseded by the terms of this paragraph, manufacturer’s warranty terms shall apply. Vendor’s warranty shall be at least the level of coverage provided for its comparable customers.

The report of a problem does not presuppose that every call must result in an “on-site” visit for service/repair. The Vendor and/or service sub-contractor shall utilize best efforts to resolve problems in a timely fashion by using acceptable servicing methods to include, but not limited to, verbal problem analysis and remote diagnosis. The warranty requirement does not impose any additional duty on the University to make other than normal and good faith problem resolution efforts or expenditures of time. Vendor shall be responsible for compliance with warranty terms by any third-party service provider. Vendor shall provide contact information for warranty service provider, below.

Vendor is authorized by manufacturer to repair equipment offered during the warranty period? YES NO

Will the Vendor provide warranty service? YES NO, a manufacturer-authorized third party will perform

warranty service.

Contact information for warranty service provider:

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

Contact Person (name): _____

Contact Person (phone number): _____

Contact Person (email): _____

4.8 MAINTENANCE OPTION

This section is intentionally removed.

4.9 SAMPLES

SAMPLE

Samples are not required prior to bid opening date; however, samples may be required at a later time. If so requested, Vendor agrees to furnish samples of items offered at no expense to the University. Samples must be received within 10 consecutive calendar days after request is made by the University. Failure to comply with this requirement shall be a sufficient basis for rejection of the bid without further consideration.

4.10 HUB PARTICIPATION

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute G.S. 143-48, it is State policy to encourage and promote the use of small, minority, physically handicapped, and women contractors in purchasing Goods and Services. As such, this IFB will serve to identify those Vendors that are minority owned or have a strategic plan to support the State’s Historically Underutilized Business program by meeting or exceeding the goal of 10% utilization of diverse firms as 1st or 2nd tier subcontractors. Vendor shall complete ATTACHMENT D: HUB SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION.

4.11 REFERENCES

Vendors shall provide at least three (3) references, using ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM, for which your company has supplied the exact model of equipment offered. The University *may* contact these users to determine quality level of the offered equipment; as well as, but not limited to user satisfaction with Vendor performance. Information obtained *may* be considered in the evaluation of the bid.

4.12 VENDOR’S REPRESENTATIONS

If the bid results in an award, Vendor agrees that it will not enter any agreement with a third party that may abridge any rights of the University under the Contract. If any Services, deliverables, functions, or responsibilities not specifically described in this solicitation are required for Vendor’s proper performance, provision and delivery of the Service and deliverables under a resulting Contract, or are an inherent part of or necessary sub-task included within such service, they will be deemed to be implied by and included within the scope of the contract to the same extent and in the same manner as if specifically described in the Contract. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, Vendor will furnish all of its own necessary management, supervision, labor, facilities, furniture, computer and telecommunications equipment, software, supplies and materials necessary for the Vendor to provide and deliver the Services and/or other Deliverables.

4.13 FINANCIAL STABILITY

As a condition of contract award, the Vendor must certify that it has the financial capacity to perform and to continue to perform its obligations under the Contract; that Vendor has no constructive or actual knowledge of an actual or potential legal

proceeding being brought against Vendor that could materially adversely affect performance of this Contract; and that entering into this Contract is not prohibited by any contract, or order by any court of competent jurisdiction

Each Vendor shall certify it is financially stable by completing the ATTACHMENT G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION. The University is requiring this certification to minimize potential performance issues from contracting with a Vendor that is financially unstable. This Certification shall be deemed continuing, and from the date of the Certification to the expiration of the Contract, the Vendor shall notify the University within thirty (30) days of any occurrence or condition that materially alters the truth of any statement made in this Certification.

4.14 AGENCY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS MODIFICATION

This section is intentionally omitted. Please see standard Terms and Conditions attached.

4.15 NC COVID-19 VACCINATION AND TESTING REQUIREMENT

This section is intentionally omitted.

4.16 FEDERAL COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

This section is intentionally omitted.

4.17 LOBBYING ACTIVITY CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL GRANTS

This section is intentionally omitted

5.0 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

5.1 SPECIFICATIONS

Sorbent is a mission-critical component required for operating the UNC Cogeneration Facility. As such, the vendor supplying sorbent to UNC must be in regular business operations to produce and sell at least two times the amount of sorbent per year of similar type that UNC is estimating as its need under this contract. The vendor must demonstrate that for the past two years in a row, that the proposed mine has produced and sold at least 40,000 tons per year of sorbent of a similar type, sizing, and dryness as UNC is requesting to customers in the US. And, that the mine has been able to deliver at least 4,000 tons per month in peak seasons.

Quantities shown in this document are estimates only and are submitted merely as a guide. It shall be understood and agreed that the University may purchase more or less than the estimated quantities during the contract period and the University is not obligated to purchase in excess of its actual requirements.

The anticipated annual sorbent usage is **estimated** to be 20,000 tons per year for the life of this contract.

The usage rate for sorbent at the UNC Cogeneration Facility is heavily tied to weather. In very general terms the Facility can consume as little as 600 tons per month in the summer and as much as 3,000 tons per month in the winter.

UNC purchases sorbent by weight, not volume. The vendor must be able to provide a certified weight for each load shipped to UNC for billing purposes. The weight may be provided by the vendor's own scales and certified weight ticket or may be provided by a third party with certified scales. Any costs associated with third party weighing are borne by the vendor.

Orders will be issued by the University specifying the amount of tonnage it expects to use each week. The Cogeneration Facility will maintain close communications with the vendor for the purposes of forecasting as far out as reasonably possible. Shipments must be made each week by the vendor to meet the demand and ensure that cars are continuously arriving in Durham, NC, for further delivery to the University in Chapel Hill, NC. University requested changes in weekly amounts, whether increased or decreased, must be made immediately. This quantity can be adjusted throughout the contract period. It is understood and agreed that orders will be shipped from the mine at the established contract price in effect on date of shipment. Delays in deliveries will not be permitted to cause a price disadvantage to the University.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SORBENT AGREEMENT SPECIFICATIONS FOR MORE DETIAL

5.2 CERTIFICATION AND SAFETY LABELS

All manufactured items and/or fabricated assemblies subject to operation under pressure, operation by connection to an electric source, or operation involving a connection to a manufactured, natural, or LP gas source shall be constructed and approved in a manner acceptable to the appropriate state inspector which customarily requires the label or re-examination listing or identification marking of the appropriate safety standard organization; such as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for pressure vessels; the Underwriters Laboratories and /or National Electrical Manufacturers' Association for electrically operated assemblies; or the American Gas Association for gas operated assemblies, where such approvals of listings have been established for the type of device offered and furnished. Further, all items furnished shall meet all requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), and state and federal requirements relating to clean air and water pollution.

5.3 DEVIATIONS

The nature of all deviations from the Specifications listed herein shall be clearly described by the Vendor. Otherwise, it will be considered that items offered by the Vendor are in strict compliance with the Specifications provided herein, and the successful Vendor shall be required to supply conforming goods. Deviations shall be explained in detail on an attached sheet. However, no implication is made or intended by the University that any deviation will be acceptable. Do not list objections to the North Carolina General Terms and Conditions in this section.

6.0 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

All Contract Administration requirements are conditioned on an award resulting from this solicitation. This information is provided for the Vendor's planning purposes

6.1 CONTRACT MANAGER AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

This section is intentionally omitted.

6.2 POST AWARD PROJECT REVIEW MEETINGS

This section is intentionally omitted.

6.3 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The University encourages the Vendor to identify opportunities to reduce the total cost the University. A continuous improvement effort consisting of various ideas to enhance business efficiencies as performance progresses.

6.4 PERIODIC STATUS REPORTS

This section is intentionally omitted.

6.5 ACCEPTANCE OF WORK

Performance of the work and delivery of Goods shall be conducted and completed at least in accordance with the Contract requirements and recognized and customarily accepted industry practices. Performance shall be considered complete when the Services or Goods are approved as acceptable by the Contract Administrator.

Acceptance of work products shall be based on the following criteria: See Scope of work.

The University shall have the obligation to notify Vendor, in writing ten (10) calendar days following completion of such work or delivery of a deliverable described in the Contract that it is not acceptable. The notice shall specify in reasonable detail the reason(s) it is unacceptable. Acceptance by the University shall not be unreasonably withheld; but may be conditioned or delayed as required for reasonable review, evaluation, installation, or testing, as applicable to the work or deliverable. Final acceptance is expressly conditioned upon completion of all applicable assessment procedures. Should the work or deliverables

fail to meet any specifications, acceptance criteria or otherwise fail to conform to the Contract, the University may exercise any and all rights hereunder, including, for Goods deliverables, such rights provided by the Uniform Commercial Code, as adopted in North Carolina.

6.6 INVOICES

Vendor shall invoice the Purchasing Agency. The standard format for invoicing shall be Single Invoices meaning that the Vendor shall provide the Purchasing Agency with an invoice for each order. Invoices shall include detailed line item information to allow Purchasing Agency to verify pricing at point of receipt matches the correct price from the original date of order. At a minimum, the following fields shall be included on all invoices:

Vendor's Billing Address, Customer Account Number, NC Contract Number, Order Date, Buyer's Order Number, Manufacturer Part Numbers, Vendor Part Numbers, Item Descriptions, Price, Quantity, and Unit of Measure.

INVOICES MAY NOT BE PAID UNTIL AN INSPECTION HAS OCCURRED AND THE GOODS ACCEPTED.

6.7 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

During the performance of the Contract, the Parties agree that it is in their mutual interest to resolve disputes informally. Any claims by the Vendor shall be submitted in writing to the University's Contract Manager for resolution. Any claims by the University shall be submitted in writing to the Vendor's Project Manager for resolution. The Parties shall agree to negotiate in good faith and use all reasonable efforts to resolve such dispute(s).

During the time the Parties are attempting to resolve any dispute, each shall proceed diligently to perform their respective duties and responsibilities under this Contract. The Parties will agree on a reasonable amount of time to resolve a dispute. If a dispute cannot be resolved between the Parties within the agreed upon period, either Party may elect to exercise any other remedies available under the Contract, or at law. This provision, when agreed in the Contract, shall not constitute an agreement by either party to mediate or arbitrate any dispute.

6.8 PRODUCT RECALL

Vendor expressly assumes full responsibility for prompt notification to the Buyer listed on the face of this IFB of any product recall in accordance with the applicable state or federal regulations. The Vendor shall support the University, as necessary, to promptly replace any such products, at no cost to the University.

6.9.1 PRICE ADJUSTMENTS

Prices proposed by the Vendor shall be firm against any increase for 60 days from the effective date of the Contract.

Price increase requests shall be submitted in writing to the Contract Lead, which shall include the reason(s) for the request and contain supporting documentation for the need. Price increases will be negotiated and agreed to by both the University and Vendor in advance of any price increase going into effect. The University is not obligated to accept pricing adjustments or increases and reserves the right to accept or reject them in part or in whole. Price de-escalation or decreases may be requested by the University at any time.

It is understood and agreed that orders will be shipped at the established Contract prices in effect on the date an order is placed. Invoicing that deviates from this provision may result in Contract to cancellation.

6.10 CONTRACT CHANGES

Contract changes, if any, over the life of the Contract shall be implemented by contract amendments agreed to in writing by the University and Vendor. Amendments to the contract can only be made through the contract administrator.

7.0 ATTACHMENTS

****IMPORTANT NOTICE****

RETURN THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS WITH YOUR RESPONSE
FOLLOW THE LINKS TO ACCESS EACH ATTACHMENT

ATTACHMENT A: PRICING

No attachment associated with this IFB. Please submit all costs including transportation on a standard company quote document with a line for "TOTAL COST TO THE UNIVERSITY".

ATTACHMENT B: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

The Instructions to Vendors, which are incorporated herein by this reference, may be found here:

<https://www.doa.nc.gov/divisions/purchase-contract/vendor-forms>

ATTACHMENT C: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

The North Carolina General Terms and Conditions, which are incorporated herein by this reference, may be found here:

<https://finance.unc.edu/departments/purchasing/terms-products/>

ATTACHMENT D: HUB SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION

Complete and return the Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) Vendor Information form, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.doa.nc.gov/divisions/purchase-contract/vendor-forms>

ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM

Complete and return the Customer Reference Form, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.doa.nc.gov/divisions/purchase-contract/vendor-forms>

ATTACHMENT F: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR

Complete and return the Location of Workers Utilized by Vendor, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.doa.nc.gov/divisions/purchase-contract/vendor-forms>

ATTACHMENT G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

Complete, sign, and return the Certification of Financial Condition, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.doa.nc.gov/divisions/purchase-contract/vendor-forms>

ATTACHMENT H: VENDOR REQUEST FOR EO50 PRICE-MATCHING

Complete, sign, and return the Vendor Request for EO50 Price-Matching, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.doa.nc.gov/divisions/purchase-contract/vendor-forms>

***** Failure to Return the Required Attachments May Eliminate
Your Response from Further Consideration *****

Sorbent Agreement Specifications

SCOPE

1. Sorbent requirements for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Cogeneration Facility.
2. For the purposes of this document, sorbent is the material used in circulating fluidized bed boilers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Cogeneration Facility to capture sulfur in the fuel, thereby reducing the sulfur dioxide emissions from the stack. Certain limestone and other calcium carbonate products are typically acceptable provided they meet the physical and chemical specifications included herein.
3. Requested Sorbent is #20 Dolomite. Dolomite is generally dolomitic stone that has nearly equal percentages of calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) and magnesium carbonate (MgCO_3), with both being in the 40-50% range.

QUANTITY

1. Quantities shown in this document are estimates only and are submitted merely as a guide. It shall be understood and agreed that the University may purchase more or less than the estimated quantities during the contract period and the University is not obligated to purchase in excess of its actual requirements.
2. The anticipated annual sorbent usage is *estimated* to be 20,000 tons per year for the life of this contract.
3. The usage rate for sorbent at the UNC Cogeneration Facility is heavily tied to weather. In very general terms the Facility can consume as little as 600 tons per month in the summer and as much as 3,000 tons per month in the winter.
4. UNC purchases sorbent by weight, not volume. The vendor must be able to provide a certified weight for each load shipped to UNC for billing purposes. The weight may be provided by the vendor's own scales and certified weight ticket or may be provided by a third party with certified scales. Any costs associated with third party weighing are borne by the vendor.

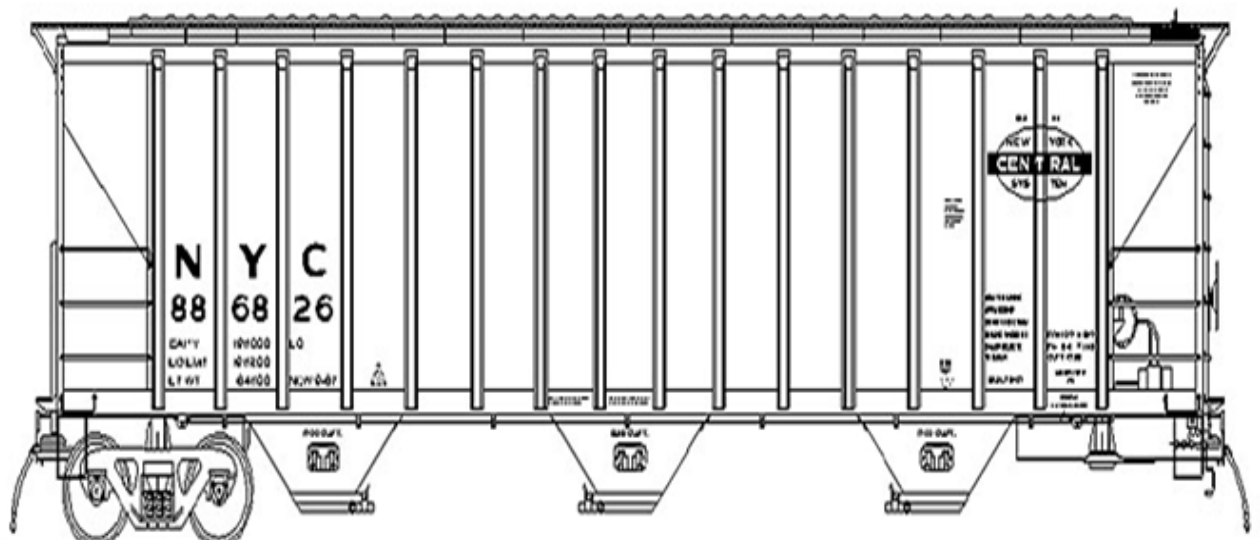
SHIPPING

1. The University has a very limited onsite storage capacity for sorbent of approximately 800 tons. The sorbent vendor must be dynamic in managing the supply chain and must be able to maintain relatively constant and evenly paced deliveries by rail. The vendor must manage sufficient railcars in rotation to ensure that full cars are always available in Durham NC to be dispatched to UNC.
2. The sorbent vendor must be able to deliver by truck in emergencies, and to dispatch truck shipments within 48 hours upon request.
3. The vendor must have the capacity to ramp the production and shipping rates up and down with the seasons, which largely dictate the usage rate for sorbent.

Sorbent Agreement Specifications

4. All primary shipments of sorbent to UNC shall be by rail. Shipping by truck is only allowed when emergencies related to rail shipments occur, such as UNC not being able to utilize its rail unloading system, track outages, or similar items. The vendor must confer with UNC ahead of time and obtain permission to ship by truck and concurrence on the nature of the emergency.
5. UNC may also request shipment by truck on other rare occasions outside of emergencies. Those situations will be communicated in advance to the vendor. In the rare occurrence that UNC requests shipment by truck, UNC will pay the truck shipping rate established by this contract.
6. If the vendor wishes to ship by truck in non-emergency conditions, UNC may grant this request with prior approval for small quantities and short durations, but the vendor will be required to match rail shipping costs during such situations. The granting of such requests is solely at the discretion of the University.
7. The University does not pay for sorbent until it arrives on our site, through the plant gates located on W. Cameron Ave, Chapel Hill, NC. The University will not consider contract offers that require payment when the product ships. The product is the responsibility of the vendor until it reaches our gates.
8. Free flowing, dry, consistent with the chemical and physical properties as defined in the bid document.
9. The trucks shall be totally enclosed with tanker type and shall be equipped with a compressor and hose suitable to pneumatically convey the material into the sorbent truck unloading system at the Cogeneration Facility. Trucks should have their own on-board compression system for transport. The hose connection at the Cogeneration Facility is a standard 4 – inch female fitting (male fitting is required on the truck). Two trucks can be unloaded simultaneously.
10. Railcar type is required to be totally enclosed, bottom dump of weather-tight construction to keep sorbent dry until delivery. The railcar will generally be of the type shown in Figure 1 below. Each hopper must have brackets welded to the outlet to receive the mounting of temporary vibrators to aid in material removal. A picture of such brackets is shown in Figure 2 below.

Figure 1



Sorbent Agreement Specifications

Figure 2



PRODUCTION CAPACITY

1. Sorbent is a mission-critical component required for operating the UNC Cogeneration Facility. As such, the vendor supplying sorbent to UNC must be in regular business operations to produce and sell **at least two times the amount of sorbent per year of similar type** that UNC is estimating as its need under this contract. The vendor must demonstrate that for the past two years in a row, the proposed mine has produced and sold at least 40,000 tons per year of sorbent of a **similar type, sizing, and dryness** as UNC is requesting to customers in the US. And, that the mine has been able to deliver at least 4,000 tons per month in peak seasons.

LENGTH OF CONTRACT AND PRICING

1. This agreement shall be binding on both parties for a three (3) year period beginning on the date of the contract award.
2. Appendix A-Cost Schedule must be completed. The vendor may list each year of the contract as equal pricing, but equal pricing for each year is not required. Each year's pricing is held firm for the year that it is listed.

Sorbent Agreement Specifications

ORDERS:

1. Orders will be issued by the University specifying the amount of tonnage it expects to use each week. The Cogeneration Facility will maintain close communications with the vendor for the purposes of forecasting as far as reasonably possible. Shipments must be made each week by the vendor to meet the demand and ensure that cars are continuously arriving in Durham, NC, for further delivery to the University in Chapel Hill, NC. University requested changes in weekly amounts, whether increased or decreased, must be made immediately. This quantity can be adjusted throughout the contract period. It is understood and agreed that orders will be shipped from the mine at the established contract price in effect on date of shipment. Delays in deliveries will not be permitted to cause a price disadvantage to the University.
2. The vendor must maintain sufficient railcars in rotation to account for loading, unloading, and shipping to and from the University. There shall always be cars available locally in Durham NC for delivery to the University meeting the tonnage demand that the University has conveyed to the vendor during its regular communications to the vendor.
3. Truckloads of sorbent will be ordered in emergencies when the Cogeneration Facility is unable to utilize its railcar unloading equipment. Trucks can only be unloaded at the site between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Truckloads of sorbent must be dispatched in as little as 48 hours if requested.
4. Arranging for and transporting sorbent by rail and by truck to the Cogeneration Facility shall be the responsibility of the vendor. The University reserves the right to satisfy itself by inquiry or otherwise as to the vendor's capabilities in this regard. It is understood and agreed that the supplier will pay the railroad and trucking companies, and the transportation charges shall be included in the contract price. The University reserves the right to arrange a separate contract for the transportation of sorbent if deemed advantageous to the University.

BILLING:

1. Billing must be made to Cogeneration Systems, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill via email to INVOICES.ENERGY@energy.unc.edu. All copies of invoices and shipping notices shall show mine, trade name of sorbent, car number, routing, actual weight, purchase and contract division's certification or order number and any other pertinent information.

Appendix A- Cost Schedule

Vendor Name: _____

Year 1 Sorbent Cost:		\$/ton
Year 1 Rail Shipping Cost:		\$/ton
Year 1 Truck Shipping Cost:		\$/ton
Year 2 Sorbent Cost:		\$/ton
Year 2 Rail Shipping Cost:		\$/ton
Year 2 Truck Shipping Cost:		\$/ton
Year 3 Sorbent Cost:		\$/ton
Year 3 Rail Shipping Cost:		\$/ton
Year 3 Truck Shipping Cost:		\$/ton
**Rail Shipping Fuel Surcharge		%

1. Due to the very small volume of sorbent shipped by truck, fuel surcharges for truck shipments are not allowed to be passed through as a variable. All anticipated shipping and handling costs for shipment via truck must be included in the yearly fixed price for truck shipping costs.

2. Sorbent costs and shipping costs are fixed for each year at the values listed for each year in the above chart, with the exception of fuel surcharges for rail shipments. Rail shipment fuel surcharges may be passed through as a variable month to month providing **all** the following conditions are met:
 - a. The surcharge must be a standard recognized surcharge applied to a recognized and publically viewable railroad tariff such as the Norfolk Southern NS-8004 tariff.
 - b. The vendor must demonstrate by documentation submitted with the bid that the fuel surcharge tariff does, in fact, apply to the rail line serving his shipments to UNC. Either by public contract for the service, or by copy of the private contract. All contracts must be cited and must be current.
 - c. The vendor must demonstrate that they were actually billed any fuel surcharge. The vendor must submit invoices to UNC upon request to substantiate any charge.
 - d. If the vendor uses two rail lines to accomplish transportation to UNC, only one surcharge may be applied and passed through as a variable. And secondary charges must be incorporated as part of the fixed shipping costs.

Appendix A- Cost Schedule (continued)

- e. Fuel surcharges shall only apply to the shipping cost portion of the sorbent pricing, not the sorbent cost itself.
- f. In the chart above, if the vendor wishes to pass through a fuel surcharge, then the vendor must enter the average percentage charged for the past three calendar years on the tariff rate, along with data from those 36 months to substantiate this average.
- g. If the vendor is using a small volume public contract rate such as the Norfolk Southern Regulated Quote (NFRQ) tariff rate that does not have an associated variable fuel surcharge, then the vendor should enter 0.0% for the fuel surcharge listed in the above chart, and no fuel surcharge will be added to the bid estimate. All shipping costs must be included in the fixed annual shipping costs listed in the above chart, and variable cost cannot be added later that cause price increases to the University.
- h. If the vendor has fuel surcharges but simply wishes to pass through no variable fuel surcharge and keep all shipping costs contained within annual fixed shipping costs, then the vendor should also enter 0.0% in the chart above. Variable fuel surcharges cannot be added later.