



---

**354-RFB-25-08 Request for Bids for  
Powder Activated Carbon  
ADDENDUM 2 (February 6, 2025)**

Please note that this addendum is to amend the specification and answer questions submitted during the "RFB Questions" open period. All other terms and conditions given in the RFB are in full force and effect.

**SPECIFICATION UPDATE**

Section 3 of the specification is amended as follows:

**3. MATERIAL CERTIFICATION**

An affidavit from the manufacturer or vendor must be submitted with their bid, certifying MATERIALS submitted for this bid is in strict compliance to all applicable requirements of these specifications, including the MATERIALS submitted for consideration is domestically produced primary product from domestic raw materials.

- a. Failure to submit proper certification may result in rejection of bid.
- b. The person(s) authorized to certify the affidavit of compliance for the bidder shall be as stated in the Request for Bid Submittal form (Page 1).
- c. A certified independent laboratory report, including data on perfluorinated compounds, must accompany all bids submitted for consideration.
- d. The affidavit of compliance tender documents shall accompany each delivery.
- e. ~~If a carbon submitted for this bid includes blended materials from non-domestic sources, then the bidder shall submit an affidavit that describes the materials for manufacture and certifies that the non-domestic constituent meets strict quality control measures and will not impact or vary the quality of material supplied to the Town or impact the availability of product supplied throughout the contract period.~~
  - i. ~~The Town reserves the right to reject any bid submitted that contains materials blended from non-domestic sources.~~

**QUESTION & ANSWER**

- 1) Q: Can I please get a copy of the previous bid tabulation for the Powder Activated Carbon?

A: Please see attached bid tabulation.

---

**TOWN of CARY**

316 North Academy Street • Cary, NC 27513 • PO Box 8005 • Cary, NC 27512-8005  
tel 919-469-4030 • fax 919-460-4935 • [www.townofcary.org](http://www.townofcary.org)

2) Q: What is your current pricing?

A: The price that was agreed upon at the last contract extension was \$1.10 per pound. The Town is temporarily sourcing carbon at \$1.49 per pound until the new bid is awarded.

3) Q: How many samples is a manufacturer able to send with the bid for testing?

A: There is not a set limit for the number of samples. Each bid must include a minimum of one sample per product.

4) Q: Section Minimum Specifications, Number 3 subset c.

*"A certified independent laboratory report, including data on perfluorinated compounds, must accompany all bids submitted for consideration."*

Is the Town requiring a certificate that the proposed carbon does NOT include perfluorinated compounds? If so, is there a comprehensive list of compounds that is a focus?

A: The Town does not require a certificate stating that the proposed carbon does not include perfluorinated compounds. The bidder must provide a lab report from a certified lab accredited to do PFAS tested using a validated method such as EPA 1633. EPA 1633 is named only as an example; other validated methods are allowable. The report must name the method used for analysis and the results for each analyte that is detectable using the method. At a minimum, results **must** include data for PFOA, PFOS, GenX, PFHxS, PFNA, and PFBS. The Town reserves the right to reject products that are shown to contain detectable levels of any PFAS compounds.

5) Q: Section 2. Material Specification subset e.

*"MATERIALS submitted for this bid shall be domestically produced primary product from domestic raw materials, **without exception**. All MATERIALS furnished by the successful bidder throughout the contract period shall be domestically produced primary product from domestic raw materials, **without exception**."*

Section 3 subsection e states non-domestic sources can be submitted but the town reserves the right to reject any bid.

Is it the Town's intent the product is manufactured with 100% domestic raw materials AND 100% domestically produced?

A: Yes, the Town's intent is for a product manufactured with 100% domestic raw materials AND 100% domestic production without exception. This addendum removes Section 3, Subsection e. (See Page 1).

6) Q: Performance Evaluation: Subsection C. *"Bidder shall submit technical information demonstrating the performance of their product"*

What technical information is the city requesting, in detail, the manufacturer can provide to satisfy this requirement.

A: The Town requests documentation that the product can perform as specified. Examples of acceptable documentation include, but are not limited to, lab reports showing removal percentages of organic compounds and/or reports from studies that evaluated the performance of the specific product.

7) Q: How much PAC has been used in the last 12 months?

A: The Town used approximately 1.5 million pounds of carbon between January 2024 and January 2025.

8) Q: Are you able to take a standard full truckload per delivery?

A: Yes

9) Q: Can more than one product be submitted for bid and consideration.

A: Yes. Each product must be submitted on a separate, signed bid form. Forms may be submitted together as a single packet in the bid portal. A sample must be provided for each product bid.

10) Q: Are the exceptions that must be submitted by January 30<sup>th</sup> just exceptions to the specs and product itself, or does that include ANY exceptions, such as terms and conditions of the contract?

A: The intention of the bid document was that all types of exceptions must be submitted by the due date for questions on the RFB. This was extended to February 5 in Addendum 1. Any exceptions taken to the specifications and/or Terms and Conditions must also be noted in the proper spot on the bid form. The Town does not guarantee acceptance of exceptions and reserves the right, at its discretion, to reject bids containing exceptions.

11) Q: What is the storage size for each location?

A: The Town has storage at both the raw water pump station and on-site at the Cary/Apex Water Treatment Facility. The two silos at the pump station hold approximately 60,000 pounds each and the two silos at the water treatment facility hold approximately 80,000 pounds each.

12) Q: What was the reason for the Town not extending with the current supplier for the final term?

A: The annual price increase requested by the vendor was greater than allowed by the terms and conditions.

13) Q: What are the primary contaminants that will be tested against?

A: Testing will include at a minimum, MIB, Geosmin, Total Organic Carbon, and perfluorinated compounds.

14) Q: Is an affidavit of compliance required with each delivery?

A: Yes

15) Q: Would we be able to have a meeting with the Town to understand their needs?

A: No, the Town is not able to meet with any potential bidders during the bid period.

16) Q: Do you use any GAC?

A: GAC is not used for treatment at this facility. The facility does use biofiltration as part of the treatment process and the biofilters have GAC as a substrate for the biological growth. It is spent GAC and expected that its capability for adsorption has been exhausted.

17) Q: Could a separate bid be submitted with a product that does not meet the 700 minimum iodine specified?

A: A product that does not meet the 700 minimum iodine may be submitted and may be evaluated; however, the Town reserves the right to reject products that do not meet the

specifications as written if, in its estimation, rejection is in the best interest of the Town. The exception must be noted on the bid form in the exceptions section. No products with less than 500 iodine will be accepted or evaluated.

18) Q: Can you provide a planholder list?

A: The NC eVP system does not have a mechanism for the Town to see or to generate a list of who has accessed the information in our bid advertisement, so a planholder list is not available.

19) Q: Is NSF 61 certification acceptable in lieu of NSF 60?

A: Yes, this is acceptable.

20) Q: Are non-US suppliers allowed to bid?

A: While suppliers not based in the United States may submit bids, any products bid must meet the requirements of the specifications. Section 2 of the specifications states that the product must be produced in the United States from raw materials sourced in the United States.

21) Q: Can you provide information on support for woman-owned businesses?

A: The Town welcomes bids and proposals from businesses that would be considered historically underutilized, such as woman-owned. We encourage such businesses to register as a historically underutilized business (HUB) with the State of NC so that they can be notified of solicitations by the Town and submit proposals as applicable.

22) Q: Can the requirement for a supplier to have been in business for a minimum of five years be waived?

A: No

23) Q: Can references from large manufacturers be submitted in lieu of references from municipal customers?

A: No. References from industrial customers may be submitted, but only in addition to the required references from municipal customers.

24) Q: How much is the estimated delivery quantity per load?

A: We typically receive one truck per delivery. The truck load is approximately 40,000 pounds.

25) Q: Will the bid be awarded based on effective price or performance based?

A: The Town will evaluate the carbon samples to determine which product can meet the Town's treatment needs at the lowest cost, based on unit price and quantity required to meet removal standards.

26) Q: To better understand the performance evaluation findings from the previous bid, could you expand on how many pounds of PAC was anticipated to be needed for a 22-million-gallon day as well as what the dosage was to achieve the PFAS reduction?

A: The performance evaluation for the previous bid was based on the Town's needs at that time. When those bids were evaluated in 2021, the Town was using 20 mg/L for treatment of PFAS, taste and odor compounds, and TOC. 22 million gallons a day was the average daily demand. PFAS reduction testing was performed for a 20 mg/L dose to align

with our treatment dosage. Results were evaluated based on percent removal and normalized to determine the cost required to meet a specific final concentration.



**TOWN of CARY**  
*North Carolina*

**BID TABULATION**  
**RFB 354-RFB-21-08 POWDERED ACTIVATED CARBON**  
**Opened: April 9, 2021 @ 2PM**

Bidders	Addendum Acknowledged	Sample Received	Memo & Affidavit Received	Product / Manufacturer	Price Per Dry Pound Bulk Delivery	Line Total (Est 1,800,000 lbs)
CarbPure Technologies, LLC	Yes	Yes	Yes	CarbPure 800F RA / ADA Carbon Solutions (Red River), LLC	\$0.95	\$1,710,000.00
CarbPure Technologies, LLC	Yes	Yes	Yes	CarbPure 800F SRA / ADA Carbon Solutions (Red River), LLC	\$1.07	\$1,926,000.00
Calgon Carbon Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	WPH 1000 / Calgon Carbon Corporation	\$0.95	\$1,710,000.00
Calgon Carbon Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	WPH / Calgon Carbon Corporation	\$0.82	\$1,476,000.00
Donau Carbon US LLC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Donau Carbon US LLC	\$0.7296	\$1,313,280.00
Cabot Norit Americas Inc.	Yes	Yes	Yes	NORIT PAC20BF / Cabot Norit Americas Inc.	\$0.85	\$1,530,000.00
Carbon Activated Corporation	Yes	Yes	Yes	AQUA NUCHAR / Ingevity Corporation	\$0.72	\$1,296,000.00