

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
3345 B Thrasher Road
White Cloud, KS 66094
(785) 595-3258



WATER RIGHTS PLANNING

Introduction

The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska (ITKN) is seeking proposals from qualified teams, organizations, and businesses to provide comprehensive and robust water planning services on the ITKN Reservation.

Background

The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska (ITKN) is a federally recognized Indian Tribe whose offices are located on its reservation in North East Kansas and South East Nebraska. The ITKN is governed by the Executive Committee, an elected council chosen by the ITKN General Council which is composed of all eligible members of the Iowa Tribe. The General Council Meeting is a quarterly meeting of which tribal business is conducted and decisions are made by the voting members of the Tribe.

The ITKN has a Land and Water Department that is responsible for water quality, and we are taking steps to expand the capacity of the Department to better understand the action steps to take to enhance clean water access and water sovereignty. This scope of work requires immediate and fast-paced timelines for successful completion of the scope of work to achieve this incredibly comprehensive and robust planning strategy.

Scope of Work

Selected vendor will provide a brief action plan for successful completion of each task included below:

1. Develop and implement a targeted water quality monitoring effort to expand the Tribe's baseline understanding of existing surface water conditions to include establishing defensible baseline conditions relevant to a proposed bio-polypropylene plastic facility and natural gas power generation facility being considered outside the Reservation;
2. Compile available information to improve the Tribe's understanding of groundwater resources within and potentially surrounding the Reservation including groundwater mapping and quantification;
3. Evaluate whether additional water rights interests should be investigated beyond the boundaries of the current Reservation based upon relevant treaties, historical land interests, unceded territories, and other information that may influence the geographic extent or basis of potential Tribal water claims; and
4. Prepare a Water Rights Negotiation Action Plan establishing practical next steps for advancing the Tribe's interests through coordination and negotiation.

Proposal Submission Guidelines

Proposals must include the following components:

1. Qualifications

- a. Give a brief description of your organization including background, personnel and other resources, and experience with projects of a similar scope; and
 - b. Describe and provide evidence of relevant certifications.
2. Deliverables
 - a. Proposed brief action plan for successful completion of each task outlined in the scope of work above
3. Cost Proposal
 - a. Cost proposals should include:
 - i. Estimated Costs for the complete scope of work
 - ii. Proposed payment terms (i.e. hourly, monthly, per deliverable, etc.)

Selection Process

- The ITKN Executive Committee and Project Team will evaluate all proposals based on the following criteria:
 - Qualifications and past experience of the vendor
 - The quality of services being provided
 - The cost of services being provided
 - Preference for Tribal and Native-owned businesses

Submission Deadline

- Completed submissions must be received by ITKN staff no later than **5:00pm CT on Tuesday, September 8th 2026**.
- Submissions should be submitted electronically (email)
- Please direct all submissions and inquiries to:
Misty Slater
ITKN Chairwoman
chair@iowas.org
(785) 595-3258