



UCAR

UNIVERSITY CORPORATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

UCAR Contracts
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DATE: October 20, 2014

Subject: Request for Information (RFI)
Request for Comments/Input on Draft Technical Specifications Document for
NWSC-2 Computing Platform

The University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) anticipates a procurement commencing in calendar year 2015 for a significant supercomputing platform to be known NWSC-2. NWSC-2 will be deployed at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) facility in Cheyenne Wyoming, known as the NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputer Center (NWSC).

We request that you submit comments and/or provide input pertaining to the NWSC-2 Draft Technical Specifications document. UCAR will not issue responses to comments/input received as a result of this RFI.

This RFI should not be construed as a Request for Proposal (RFP) and no offers are to be submitted at this time. The target date for issuance of an RFP is April 1, 2015.

Comments/input submitted in response to this RFI:

- should focus on the clarity of our Draft Technical Specifications document, functional descriptions, options, available technology, benchmarking approach, schedule, and any other areas you deem to be relevant;
- should provide your rationale for proposed changes or additions to a Technical Specifications Document that would be issued with any RFP;
- will not be shared with others unless they are incorporated into the anticipated RFP;
- may or may not be incorporated into the anticipated RFP.

Comments/input submitted in response to this RFI should be received:

- no later than 4:00 PM Mountain Standard Time on Friday, December 19, 2014;
- within an editable document attached to an email addressed to Alison Propes, UCAR Contract Administrator (apropes@ucar.edu), and copied to the following other project personnel:
 - Shawn Strande (sstrande@ucar.edu)
 - Tom Engel (engel@ucar.edu)

This RFI also provides companies the opportunity to register interest in receiving any forthcoming RFP for the NWSC-2 Computing Platform. It is anticipated any RFP will be issued via email. To register interest in receiving the RFP, please complete the Registration of Interest Form attached with this letter and return a copy of it to me via email as soon as your company determines whether it is interested in submitting a proposal, but no later than the date stated above as the target date for issuing the RFP.

UCAR reserves the right to discontinue plans to procure the NWSC-2 Computing Platform with no responsibility to interested parties. UCAR will not be responsible for costs incurred by companies that respond to this RFI or to any subsequent RFP, and will not reimburse companies for such costs.

Best regards,



Alison Propes
Senior Contract
Administrator
University Corporation for
Atmospheric Research

Enclosures as stated

**REGISTRATION of INTEREST
in SUBMITTING a PROPOSAL
for
NWSC-2 COMPUTING
PLATFORM**

To: University Corporation for
Atmospheric Research
Attn: Alison Propes
P.O. Box 3000
Boulder, Colorado 80307

From: _____ (Company Name)

_____ (Primary Contact)
_____ (Phone / Fax / Email)
_____ (Secondary Contact)
_____ (Phone / Fax / Email)

We are in receipt of the NWSC-2 Draft Technical Specifications Document. (Check appropriate box below and provide information requested.)

We do not intend to submit a proposal (state reasons as appropriate; no RFP will be sent):

We plan to submit a proposal once we receive an RFP.

(Signature)

Date: _____

Title: _____