



**Second Amendment to
Request for Proposals
NGWSGP Technical Advisory and Administrative Assistance Service**

This Second Amendment to the NGWSGP Technical Advisory and Administrative Assistance Service Request for Proposals amends the following sections of the RFP:

1. Title (Proposals Due Date).
2. Section III, Deadlines (amended as shown in redline below).
3. Section V, Background (amended as shown in redline below).
4. Section VII, Scope of Work (rewritten and replaced in its entirety to better define core activities under each task).

All other provisions of the RFP remain unchanged.

Vendors must submit their responses as provided in Section IX of the RFP which is re-stated at the end of this Second Amendment.

The amendments are as follows:

1. Title:

**Request for Proposals
NGWSGP Technical Advisory and Administrative Assistance Service
Proposals Due: ~~3.27.2023~~ July 20, 2023 3PM ET**

2. Section III:

III DEADLINES

All proposals in response to this RFP must be submitted to and received by CPB in accordance with the instructions herein on or before 3:00 PM Eastern Time (“ET”) on the due date indicated below. It is the sole responsibility of vendors to ensure that their proposals are received on time.

All questions related to this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Maciej Ochman, Director, Media Technology & Service Strategies, at mochman@cpb.org. The questions and CPB’s

responses will be posted on CPB’s website without attribution. CPB is not responsible for responding to any inquiry, substantive or otherwise, received after the inquiry deadline for questions provided below.

ACTIVITY	DATE
RFP release date	January 25, 2023
<u>RFP First amendment release date</u>	<u>February 21, 2023</u>
Pre-proposal Conference period	February 01 – March 01, 2023
Last date for submission of written questions	March 3 <u>July 6</u> , 2023 11:59PM ET
Last date for responses to written questions and pre-proposal request for additional questions and comments	March 17 <u>July 13</u> , 2023
Last day to request access to CPB’s Grants Management System	March 20 <u>July 17</u> , 2023 3PM ET
<u>Best and Final</u> proposal submission due	March 27 <u>July 20</u> , 2023 3PM ET
Selection of proposal(s) for negotiations by	April 14 <u>August 7</u> , 2023

3. Section V:

I. BACKGROUND

In September 2022, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) awarded CPB the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”)/ Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (“IPAWS”) Next Generation Warning System (“NGWS”) Grant to extend the reach and quality of IPAWS alerts. The NGWS Grant Program (“NGWSGP”) will enable CPB to issue subgrants to public television and radio stations (both “subgrantees”) for the purchase, installation, and training on equipment that will allow IPAWS alerts to be distributed over public television and radio broadcasts using

advanced technologies that enable additional critical information to be provided in the transmission. The NGWSGP will enable broadcasters serving rural and underserved communities to acquire this potentially life-saving technology when cost concerns might otherwise discourage or delay adoption. Television and radio broadcasters may leverage NGWSGP funding to upgrade to the Advanced Television Systems Committee broadcast standard (“ATSC 3.0”) or HD Radio technology that will allow them to use modern alert and warning technology to reach a greater audience over multiple types of communication devices and incorporate multimedia in alert and warning messaging.

The objective of the NGWSGP is to provide a public alert and warning system that provides timely and effective warnings using the latest broadcast technology standards, especially in rural, tribal, and underserved communities with limited broadcast services.

To support this objective, CPB will award subgrants to fund equipment purchases, installation, and training. This equipment will improve the stations’ resilience and security and improve their ability to transmit emergency alerts and warnings to the public – including people with access and functional needs, people with limited-English proficiency, and people in underserved geographic locations, including tribal and remote rural areas. Public broadcast stations often serve a much larger role in providing critical emergency information in these areas than in others with greater concentrations of broadcasters.

~~Specifically, the NGWSGP’s goals are to:~~

- ~~a) Enhance capacity of local broadcast stations to receive, broadcast, and redistribute emergency alert messages from the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System using IPAWS’ Common Alerting Protocol (CAP);~~
- ~~b) Implement upgrades to the NEXTGEN TV ATSC3 broadcast standard;~~
- ~~c) Enhance technology infrastructure to enable local public broadcast stations to launch new, enhanced broadcast services that improve and expand the distribution of public alerts and warnings; and~~
- ~~d) Expand the delivery and distribution of emergency alert messages from IPAWS to fill gaps in delivery to people in underserved areas.~~

CPB intends to issue subgrants to entities that meet the definition of “public broadcasting entity” as defined in 47 U.S.C. §397(11).

CPB estimates that there are 547 potentially eligible NGWSGP subrecipients, of which 29% are television stations and 71% are radio stations. Over half of the estimated eligible stations are rural. It is estimated that 1% of the television stations and 20% of the radio stations are owned or operated by underserved communities such as Federally Recognized Tribes, Minorities, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

4. Section VII, Scope of Work, is replaced in its entirety with the following:

VII SCOPE OF WORK

The goals of the Next Generation Warning System Grant Program (NGWSGP), as detailed in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Notice of Funding Opportunity DHS-22-IPAWS-138-00-001, are to:

- a) Enhance the capacity of local broadcast stations to receive, broadcast, and redistribute emergency alert messages from the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System using IPAWS' Common Alerting Protocol (CAP);
- b) Implement upgrades to the NEXTGEN TV ATSC 3.0 broadcast standard;
- c) Enhance technology infrastructure to enable local public broadcast stations to launch new, enhanced broadcast services that improve and expand the distribution of public alerts and warnings; and
- d) Expand the delivery and distribution of emergency alert messages from IPAWS to fill gaps in delivery to people in underserved areas.

The Vendor will work with CPB to create a Station Technical Application, Equipment Evaluation, and a Procurement Process intended to leverage volume discounted prices, encourage standardization of deployed equipment, support the adoption of future technology solutions, and improve efficiencies by pairing the appropriate equipment to the stations' needs. Many applicants for NGWSGP subgrants may lack the resources to successfully apply for and implement NGWSGP funding in compliance with federal rules, including but not limited to procurement rules at 2 C.F.R. Part 200. The Vendor is expected to assist those applicants as necessary and as described in this Scope of Work.

To fulfill the requirements of this RFP, Vendors must perform one or more of the three tasks described in this Scope of Work in accordance with the requirements included in DHS Grant No. EMW-2022-OS-0001 awarded to CPB on September 29, 2022, and in accordance with CPB's NGWSGP Procurement Policy. Those tasks include, without limitation, the core activities described under each as follows:

Task 1: Assist with creating the NGWSGP Request for Applications and other related work.

- A. CPB is in the process of developing the NGWSGP Request for Applications ("RFA") and expects to release it in the summer of 2023. CPB anticipates that the RFA will focus on the applicant's eligibility criteria for the funding priorities. It will not address applicants' current or future equipment needs which will be part of the "Technical Assistance and Support"

services described in Task 2 and in Paragraph B below. As requested, Vendor will support CPB in preparing and providing information about the RFA. This work may include the following or other similar services.

1. Assist CPB with creating the eligibility requirements for each funding priority in the table below.
2. Provide recommendations on ways to enhance the RFA.
3. Recommend procedures for applicants to follow when applying to the RFA.
4. Provide CPB with recommendations for the RFA’s scoring criteria consistent with the funding priorities listed below.
5. Contribute to an online education hub maintained by CPB for RFA applicants and/or those interested in applying to the RFA, including FAQ’s.
6. Participate with CPB in informational webinars about the NGWSGP, which will not be limited to the application process, but include post award project management and compliance.
7. Conduct additional outreach to encourage full participation, including emailing potential applicants.
8. If requested by CPB, assist applicants in obtaining information necessary to apply for a subgrant, such as documentation of their existing coverage areas, populations served and other information that CPB needs to assess the funding priority criteria.

Funding Priorities		
Priority 1	Tribal/Minority /Rural stations serving underserved communities (TV and Radio)	Age of equipment to be replaced/new equipment to serve resilience purpose
		Improved public safety/alerting service to be offered
		Dedicated project management at the station and timeline for completing work
		Geographic area special risk factors (e.g., hurricane, tornado, wildfire, and predominant languages as a barrier)
Priority 2	Small stations (TV and Radio)	Age of equipment to be replaced/new equipment to serve resilience purpose
		Improved public safety/alerting service to be offered
		Dedicated project management at the station and timeline for completing work
		Geographic area special risk factors (e.g., hurricane, tornado, wildfire, and predominant languages as a barrier)
Priority 3	Other TV and Radio Stations	Age of equipment to be replaced/new equipment to serve resilience purpose
		Improved public safety/alerting service to be offered
		Dedicated project management at the station and timeline for completing work

		Partnerships with local/regional/state emergency management officials
		Geographic area special risk factors (e.g., hurricane, tornado, wildfire, and predominant languages as a barrier)

- B. Provide subrecipients with the Technical Assistance and Support detailed in Task 2, including but not limited to the following:
1. Creating a list of needed equipment and software;
 2. Developing a scope of work for any required equipment installation and integration and the Vendor or its representative shall act as the subrecipient’s project manager and ensure that there are conceptual level system and final as-built drawings provided to the subrecipients and CPB for each installation;
 3. Creating a detailed line-item breakdown of each subrecipient’s project costs in Excel, including any contingency for Environmental and Historic Preservation Review (“EHPR”) mediation;
 4. Assist subrecipients in completing and filing all required Federal compliance forms (lobbying, COI, Etc.) associated with the NGWSGP funding;
 5. Assist subrecipients with satisfying all applicable provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, Environmental and Historic Preservation (“EHP”) and local and state requirements.
 6. For NGWSGP projects that do not receive an EHP exemption, assist subrecipients with the mediation process.
- C. Provide grant management support to the subrecipients, including the following or other similar work:
1. Support in complying with the terms of their NGWSGP funding award;
 2. Equipment acquisition, installation, and integration consistent with the terms of the NGWSGP funding award; and
 3. Assist with scheduling and coordinating training sessions to enable the subrecipients to operate and maintain the equipment.
- D. Support CPB by producing schedules and technical reports for reporting to FEMA, including but not limited to the following:
1. Prepare materials documenting the project’s progress and closeout:
 - i. Provide periodic status reports to CPB throughout the term of the contract, describing all project activities performed including a description of completed tasks and quantities, and the reasons for any delays and recommendations on how to address the same;

- ii. Provide periodic status reports to CPB on all subrecipients that the Vendor is assisting;
 - iii. Provide data to CPB on subgrantees CAP protocol implementation;
 - iv. Provide detailed signal coverage data to CPB for each subrecipient prior to and after implementing the equipment funded by NGWSGP;
 - v. Provide other documentation and data pertaining to the project when requested.
 - 2. Respond to requests for information from CPB or FEMA.
 - 3. Attend periodic meetings with CPB and FEMA to provide updates on the project.
- E. Support subrecipients' and CPB's project close-out and assist CPB in complying with federal records retention requirements. The work may include the following or other similar services.
- 1. Assist subrecipients in submitting the required compliance documents from award to close-out of the project to FEMA;
 - 2. Assist CPB in obtaining and measuring FEMA grant performance measures, including but not limited to calculating the:
 - i. percentage increase in public television stations that are capable of broadcasting IPAWS alerts;
 - ii. percentage increase in public radio stations that are capable of broadcasting IPAWS alerts;
 - iii. number of broadcast entities that used NGWSGP funds to replace emergency generators that were at or near their lifecycle; and
 - iv. number of public broadcasting staff members trained in ATSC 3.0 technology (or related digital broadcast technologies) and station resilience using NGWSGP funds.

Task 2: Conduct subrecipients' air chain and resilience-related equipment needs assessments, evaluate their effectiveness after implementation, and provide technical expertise to CPB:

A. As requested, Vendor will work with the subrecipients to conduct an air chain-related equipment needs assessment. CPB anticipates that most if not all Priority 1 subrecipients will require such assistance. The work may include the following or other similar services.

- 1. Evaluate subrecipients' air chain infrastructure to identify:
 - i. Whether the existing air chain is capable of receiving, broadcasting, and redistributing emergency alert messages from Integrated Public Alert & Warning System using Common Alerting Protocol ("CAP");

- ii. Necessary enhancements to enable subgrantee to receive, broadcast, and redistribute emergency alert messages from Integrated Public Alert & Warning System using CAP;
 - iii. Whether the installed NGWSGP-funded equipment installed enables subrecipients to receive, broadcast, and redistribute emergency alert messages from Integrated Public Alert & Warning System using CAP;
 - iv. New equipment that each subrecipient needs to fulfill NGWSGP's goals a) through d); In addition, this equipment must also enhance the each subrecipient's ability to meet those goals which the Vendor must document and report this information to CPB; and
 - v. Any prohibited telecommunications equipment that must be replaced.
2. In collaboration with CPB, create and maintain a centralized Excel spread sheet to maintain subrecipients' air chain related equipment data collected in Paragraphs i-vi above.
 3. If needed, conduct CPB-pre-approved on-site visits within the United States and its Territories, including tribal lands, to complete the air chain equipment needs assessment (Task 2.A), the resilience-related equipment needs assessment (Task 2.B), and any other required assessment, e.g. assessments of local geography, demographics, transmission, power, and communications systems, etc. which relate to all NGWSGP goals.

B. As requested, Vendor will conduct a resilience-related equipment needs assessment for subrecipients. CPB anticipates that most if not all Priority 1 subrecipients will require such assistance. The work may include the following or other similar services.

1. Evaluate subrecipients resilience-related infrastructure to identify:
 - i. What resilience-related infrastructure is in place,
 - ii. Emergency backup generators and their condition, whether they are at or near their lifecycle,
 - iii. Additional equipment needs for resiliency (e.g., batteries, cables, adaptors, etc.).
2. In collaboration with CPB, create and maintain centralized Excel spread sheet to maintain subrecipients resilience-related equipment data collected in Paragraphs (a) i-iii above.

C. As requested, Vendor will provide technical expertise and assistance to CPB, which may include the following or other similar work:

1. Advise CPB in a timely manner of any developments that might affect the equipment, new broadcasting technology, or industry services and manufacturing that support:
 - i. Emergency alerting systems including IPAWS,
 - ii. ATSC 3.0, and
 - iii. Digital and analog radio;

2. Advise CPB in a timely manner of any Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) developments that might affect the NGWSGP and the technical assistance that Vendor provides to subrecipients.

D. As requested, Vendor will provide technical expertise and assistance to subrecipients, which may include the following or other similar work:

1. Assistance with FCC licensing as it relates to the project; and
2. Participate in and/or create and conduct subrecipient webinars on equipment and services that support IPAWS alerts and ATSC 3.0.

TASK 3: Create and manage the NGWSGP Supply Schedule:

Vendor will assist subgrantees with procurement of equipment, software, and services (collectively “equipment”). To ensure cost-effective purchasing and reduce administrative burdens for subrecipients, Vendor will conduct procurements to create a supply schedule similar to the U.S. Government’s GSA Federal Supply Schedule – Subgrantees will acquire equipment from this schedule with NGWSGP funds or CPB may acquire the equipment for them. For the supply schedule, Vendor must ensure the following:

- a. All the procurements are in accordance with **federal procurement requirements at 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (see Section VIII. Procurement Guidelines)**.
- b. Equipment on the supply schedule must mirror the equipment on FEMA’s approved list¹ created for NGWSGP.
- c. The equipment included on the supply schedule is limited to that required for subrecipients as a result of the Task 2 assessments.
- d. For any equipment that is not on FEMA’s list, the Vendor will advise CPB, and CPB will work with FEMA to have it added.
- e. Vendor will add or remove equipment from the supply schedule, depending on subrecipients’ needs.
- f. Vendor and its affiliates will have an Organizational Conflict that prohibits them from competing for or otherwise selling goods and or services related directly or indirectly to this project.

The Vendor(s) will be required to meet virtually with CPB on a regular basis as part of the technical assistance and evaluation process. At CPB’s request, the Vendor may also be required to meet at CPB’s offices during the term of the contract. As needed, the Vendor will participate

¹ FEMA maintains a list of generic equipment, software, labor, licensing, etc., that subrecipients may purchase with NGWSGP funding. It does not include manufacturers, resellers, integrators, other providers or their pricing.

in other meetings, webinars, presentations to FEMA, CPB executives and/or the CPB Board of Directors.

The Vendor shall submit, with each invoice for payment, a detailed report of work performed during that invoice period. In addition, the Vendor will provide monthly reports, by the 15th day of each month throughout the term of the contract, describing all project activities performed including a description of completed tasks and quantities. The Vendor may also be asked to provide other documentation pertaining to the services provided.

XI PROPOSAL SUBMISSION AND SELECTION

Vendors must submit their Proposals through CPB's electronic grants management system.

To gain access to the electronic grants management system, please send an email request to Mr. Maciej Ochman, Director, Media Technology & Service Strategies, at mochman@cpb.org, no later than July 17, 2023 at 3:00 PM ET. CPB will provide access to interested vendors within two business days. If your organization already has an account within CPB's electronic grants system, you must still request access to this specific RFP.

Once access is granted, vendors must upload the technical proposal and the cost proposal separately in the appropriate fields. Include the required certifications (Attachments A and B to this RFP) with the technical proposal.

The selected vendor will be notified in writing by an intent to award letter.