

April 8, 2021

Mr. Michael Gitter, P.E., CHMM
Chief of Operations
Racine Water & Wastewater Utilities
800 Center Street, Room 227
Racine, WI 53403

Subject: Racine Roof Replacement Project - Recommendation for Award

Dear Mr. Gitter:

Kayla has asked me to review the complaint of Jetco concerning the diameter of the tank.

Opinion: Yes the Contractor should have done field measurement especially when the Project summary stated "Approximate Diameter". The square footage of a flat roof at 80 foot diameter is 5024 and at 85 diameter 5,671 square feet. This additional material would increase from 10% to maybe 15% when the square footage of a dome is considered. If the Contractor truly did not take the field measurements and underbid this project, normally we do not recommend proceeding with the Contractor as they will be thinking they are working at a loss and the quality may suffer.

It is our recommendation that the Contractor be given the choice of completing the project as bid, or to rebid the Project, as current economic and industry issues resulted in a bid well over estimate.

In the specifications I found the diameter in one location, in the Project Summary which was the "approximate" 80 foot diameter. Unfortunately the 85 foot radius in the Technical specifications, is the curvature of the proposed roof, not the diameter of the tank. So the only diameter given was in the Project Summary as an approximate.

Joe Hoban, one of our senior Engineers calculated 85feet by measuring the circumference of the tank.

That actual field measurement was the responsibility of the Bidder:

From Instructions to Bidders

5.03 A. Bidder is required to visit the Site and conduct a thorough visual examination of the Site and adjacent areas.

B. Bidder is not required to conduct any subsurface testing, or exhaustive investigations of Site conditions.

6.02 *Express Representations and Certifications in Bid/Agreement Form*

The Bid/Agreement Form that each Bidder will submit contains express representations regarding the Bidder's examination of Project documentation, Site visit, and preparation of the Bid, and...

In the Information for Bidders, the Bidder is told they are required to visit the site and also that when they fill out the Bid/Agreement Form they will be asked to certify that they did visit.

From the Bid/Agreement Form - numbers have changes as irrelevant paragraphs were dropped.

ARTICLE 6 – BIDDER’S REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

6.01 Bidder’s Representations

1. In submitting this Bid, Bidder represents the following:
 1. Bidder has examined and carefully studied the Bidding Documents, including Addenda.
 2. Bidder has visited the Site, conducted a thorough visual examination of the Site and adjacent areas, and become familiar with the general, local, and Site conditions that may affect cost, progress, and performance of the Work.
 3. Bidder has considered the information known to Bidder itself; information commonly known to contractors doing business in the locality of the Site; information and observations obtained from visits to the Site; the Bidding Documents; and the Technical Data identified in the Supplementary Conditions or by definition, with respect to the effect of such information, observations, and Technical Data on (a) the cost, progress, and performance of the Work; (b) the means, methods, techniques, sequences, and procedures of construction to be employed by Bidder, if selected as Contractor; and (c) Bidder’s (Contractor’s) safety precautions and programs.
 4. Based on the information and observations referred to in the preceding paragraph, Bidder agrees that no further examinations, investigations, explorations, tests, studies, or data are necessary for the performance of the Work at the Contract Price, within the Contract Times, and in accordance with the other terms and conditions of the Contract.
 5. Bidder has given Engineer written notice of all conflicts, errors, ambiguities, or discrepancies that Bidder has discovered in the Bidding Documents, and of discrepancies between Site conditions and the Contract Documents, and the written resolution thereof by Engineer is acceptable to Contractor.

Bidder certifies that they visited the site but in reality most Contractors do a virtual visit with Google Earth. The third location requiring a site visit is in the General Conditions. Rebidding may result in lower prices if things have stabilized. I also recommend a larger window for the repair, not a longer out of service time, but a more open start date to find the open slot in the contractor’s schedule.

For Dixon Engineering

William J. Dixon PE, Esq(MI)