



# catawba county

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## **ADDENDUM NO. 1**

Issue Date: March 16, 2026

Request for Qualifications

RFQ 26-1011

To: All Potential Respondents

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is modified as set forth in this Addendum No. 1. The original RFQ documents and any previously issued addenda remain in full force and effect, except as modified by this Addendum, which is hereby made part of the RFQ. Respondents shall take this Addendum into consideration when preparing and submitting its proposal response. Catawba County is issuing this Addendum to make RFQ clarifications.

### Clarifications:

1. QUESTION: Would Catawba County kindly provide a 2-week extension (to April 7, 2026)?

ANSWER: The County does not intend to make changes to the RFQ schedule.

2. QUESTION: Can the County elaborate on monitoring well access? Can wells be reached by truck or by foot only? Is there an opportunity to provide mowing access to the wells?

ANSWER: All wells are accessible by vehicle or ATV. Mowing will be done before sampling events.

3. QUESTION: What are the hours of operational access?

ANSWER: Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

4. QUESTION: Can the County please confirm the number of samples/wells at each landfill that will require PFAS testing?

ANSWER: Not known at this time. Assume all wells will have to be tested for PFAS. This will be evaluated each year and added to the scope of work as needed.

5. QUESTION: The sampling plan does not specify how investigation derived waste (e.g., purge water) will be addressed. Would the contractor be responsible for disposing off investigation derived waste (e.g., purge water)?

ANSWER: Purged water can be disposed of on site.

6. QUESTION: RFQ mentions “PFOS and PFOA sampling will be included in semi-annual events”. However, PFAS workplan for the site states “... include analyses for all constituents in EPA Method 1633”. Should all PFAS measured using EPA Method 1633 be reported to the County, or only PFOA/PFOS?

ANSWER: Yes, all PFAS.

7. QUESTION: How will the selected firm access previous data for trend analyses?

ANSWER: Historical records are on site.

8. QUESTION: Should sample collection follow the order listed in RFQ Appendix 1’s Appendix D- Water Quality Monitoring Plan for Blackburn Resource Recovery Facility under section 4.2.4 (1. Total Metals, 2. Dissolved Metals, 3. Volatile Organic Compounds), or the order listed under RFQ Appendix 2’s Water Quality Monitoring Plan Newton Landfill under section 3.1.2 (1. Volatile Organics, 2. Extractable Organics, Petroleum Hydrocarbons, and Aggregated Organics, 3. Total Metals, 4. Nonmetallic Inorganics, 5. Physical and Aggregate Properties)? Should the analytes be sampled in different orders at each site as written in the WQPs?

ANSWER: This will be discussed at the kickoff meeting.

9. QUESTION: Can we purge and sample with a disposable bailer which we would provide each time? RFQ Appendix I PDF, page 29, describes well purging procedure using a reusable, decontaminated Teflon bailer as well as disposable bailers.

ANSWER: Yes, disposable bailers can be used.

10. QUESTION: RFQ Page 5 indicates Appendix I for all wells, but PDF page 31 calls for Appendix II for wells in Unit 1: “The samples taken from each well associated with Unit 1 will be analyzed for the constituents listed in 40 CFR Part 258, Appendix II once per year.” Will the County please provide the missing construction details or confirm whether Unit 1 wells need to be samples for Appendix I or Appendix II analytes?

ANSWER: All well construction information will be provided at the kickoff meeting.

11. QUESTION: RFQ Appendix 1- Water Quality Monitoring Plan is missing well construction information in Table 3-1 (PDF, page 24) for some Blackburn Groundwater Monitoring Wells that were selected for sampling in the RFQ (MWs-24, -37, -38, -39A, -40, -41, -42A, -42C, -43). Will the County please provide the missing construction details or confirm where they can be found?

ANSWER: All well construction information will be provided at the kickoff meeting.

12. QUESTION: Some Blackburn Groundwater Monitoring Wells that were selected for sampling in the RFQ have a different name than those listed in the RFQ Appendix 1- Water Quality Monitoring Plan, Table 3-1. For example, monitoring wells MW-12R, MW-31R, MW-33R are listed as MW-12, MW-31, MW-33. It is likely that these are replacement wells, but can the contractor assume the well construction is similar?

ANSWER: Yes, this will be discussed at the kickoff meeting.

13. QUESTION: Is the contractor able to select well purge method for sampling considering bailing and low flow methods mentioned in the Water Quality Monitoring Plan?

ANSWER: Yes.

14. QUESTION: The wells listed on the RFQ, Page 6, and on RFQ Appendix 2- Updated Water Quality Monitoring Plan (PDF, page 79) are slightly different. Will the County please clarify?

ANSWER: Water Quality Plan will supersede.

15. QUESTION: Table 1 of RFQ Appendix 2- Updated Water Quality Plan (PDF, Page 91) is missing well construction information for monitoring wells OW-1 and OW-3 listed in RFQ, page 6, for sampling. Will the County please provide the missing construction details or confirm where they can be found?

ANSWER: This will be provided at the kickoff meeting.

16. QUESTION: Will the County please confirm the planned PFAS QA/QC samples, including field blanks, equipment blanks, trip blanks, and duplicates?

ANSWER: Not at this time.

17. QUESTION: Are inactive wells MW-6, MW-8, MW-12 suitable for PFAS sampling?

ANSWER: Yes.

18. QUESTION: Where exactly will SW-3 be located downstream of SW-2?

ANSWER: This will be provided at the kickoff meeting.

19. QUESTION: The Scope of Services mentions that "Maintaining a historic database..." will be part of the Scope of Services. Can you confirm the desired database system for this project or for continuity with current database efforts?

ANSWER: In the past, the County has used spreadsheets for this. This will be discussed during the kickoff meeting.

20. QUESTION: Please confirm the required analysis for the surface water sampling points at the Blackburn facility (Samples SW-1, SW-3, U-1, U-2, U-3, SW-4 and SW-5). The Sampling and Analysis Plan provided in the RFQ references analysis for Appendix I parameters only, in addition to the RFQ-requested PFOA and PFOS analyses.

ANSWER: This will be discussed at the kickoff meeting with the selected firm.

21. QUESTION: The provided Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the Bethany Church Road (Newton) Landfill facility requires statistical analyses as part of the data evaluation effort (Section 5.0). Please confirm the selected contractor will have access to historical raw data from previous consultants for the Bethany Church Road facility for cost control considerations. Also, please confirm that statistical analysis of facility environmental data for the Blackburn facility will not be required.

ANSWER: This will be discussed at the kickoff meeting,

22. QUESTION: We understand that PFOA and PFOS analysis are included in the semi-annual sampling events in both groundwater and surface water samples. Please confirm that the samples will be analyzed by EPA Method 1633A (as amended), consistent with the requirements in the 2023 NCDEQ Memorandums.

ANSWER: County will ask Firm to follow the EPA methods recommended at the time of sampling. This will be discussed at the kickoff meeting.

23. QUESTION: Would it be appropriate to review the monitoring work plans and the most recent associated reports for each landfill to identify potential opportunities to optimize sampling requirements or provide feedback on observed data trends? For example, it appears that volumetric purging is being performed in lieu of low-flow sampling, which, based on our experience, can influence sampling results.

ANSWER: Not at this time; however, this can be discussed at the kickoff meeting if your firm is selected.

24. QUESTION: In addition, our review of documents available through DEQ's Laserfiche repository suggests that PFAS assessment activities for each landfill were approved in February. Could you please confirm whether that is the case?

ANSWER: Yes, work plans have been approved and are being implemented.

This Addendum consists of 4 pages in total.

**END OF ADDENDUM**