



CHEROKEE COUNTY

110 Railroad Avenue
Gaffney, South Carolina 29340
Phone : (864) 902-2299
Email : abi.reid@cherokeecountysc.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Proposal # 2025-24

FOR

County Timber Clearing/Thinning and Sale Landfill Tracts

Issued on: Thursday, March 27th, 2025

Due Date: Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. EST

Administered by: Abi Reid, Administrative Specialist

INTRODUCTION and INTENT of RFP:

Notice to Vendors

Sealed proposals will be received by Cherokee County from experienced, qualified vendors who specialize in Timber for the following:

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2025-24 County Timber Clearing/Thinning and Sale Landfill Tracts

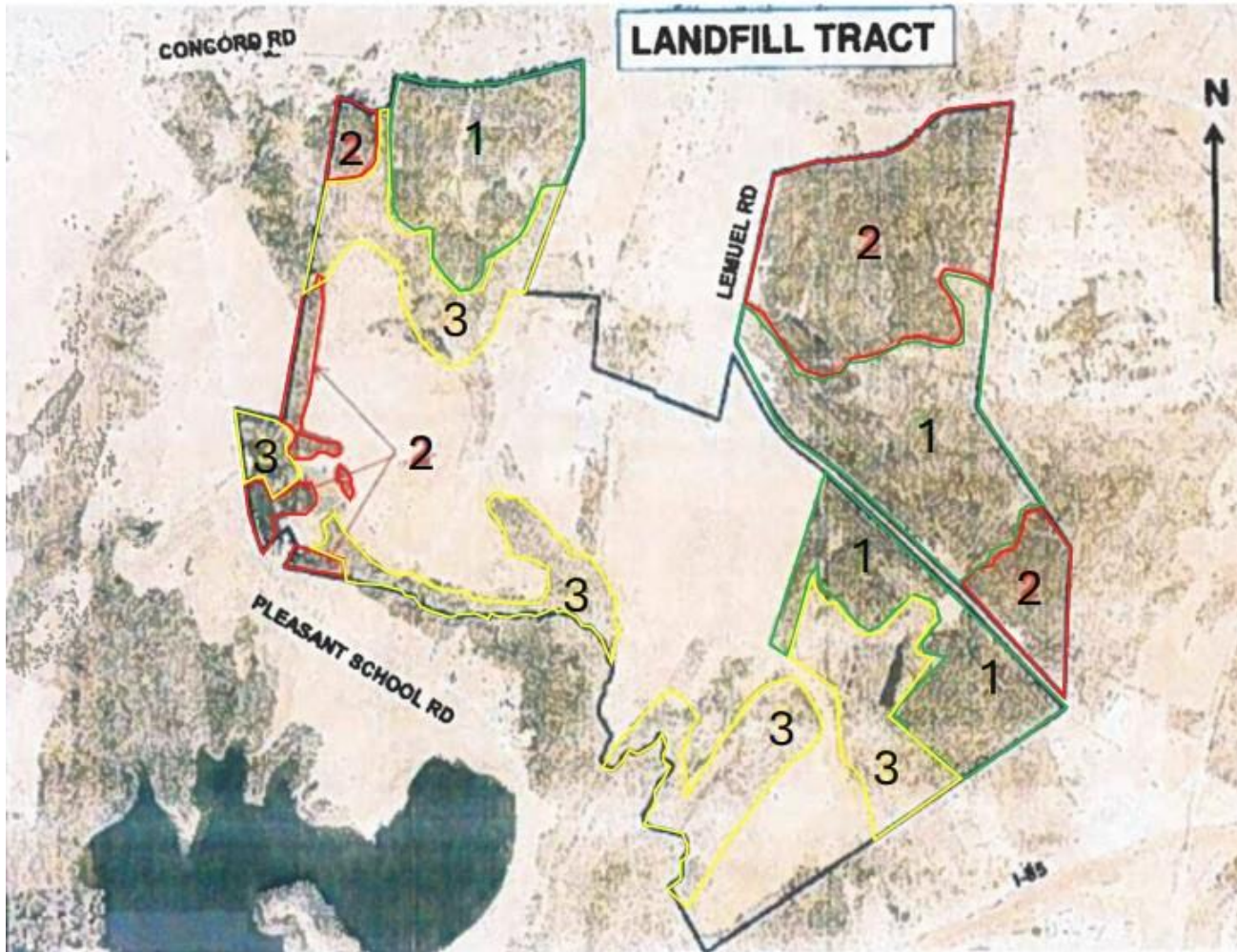
Proposals will be accepted until **Tuesday, April 29th, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.** at the Administration Office in the Cherokee County Administration Building, 110 Railroad Avenue, 2nd Floor, Gaffney, South Carolina 29340. Complete specifications and instructions are attached herewith.

Cherokee County is seeking proposals for the purpose of clearing and thinning, as well as the sale of timber on the property that it owns at Lemuel Rd and Concord Rd.

The County will be selling this timber to the contractor as a per unit sale. The contractor will be responsible for the costs associated with proper clearing/thinning/harvesting of the trees as indicated on the attached tract map, and the contractor will provide a per ton price based on the type of timber extracted from the site to be paid for in tonnage. All timber and associated debris are to be extracted from the tract regardless of eligibility for sale within the line items for bid. The ground shall maintain an appropriate amount of covering for sediment control purposes. The contractor will be responsible for ensuring proper signage is placed on the adjacent roadways during operations and that sediment and debris are not tracked onto the adjacent roadways during operations. The contractor will be responsible for the cost of all labor, materials, and measures such as BMPs necessary during the process of completing this project per state/federal erosion control and forestry standards. The time period to complete this project is 1 year from contract execution. The property can be walked and scouted at any time prior to the bid deadline. Please notify Abi Reid that you will be on the property prior to going by email abi.reid@cherokeecountysc.com.

Proposal documents may be obtained from Abi Reid by email abi.reid@cherokeecountysc.com. Proposals shall be submitted on the form furnished and shall be submitted in a sealed envelope identifying the company name, the RFP title, the RFP number, and the RFP due date on the face of the envelope.

Submission of a proposal signifies the Contractor's agreement that its proposal and the content thereof are valid and will become part of the contract that is negotiated between Cherokee County and the successful Business. All prices submitted with the proposal shall remain in effect for the contract period.



Sections labeled with 1:

+/- 107 acres

Last thinning was 2021/2022.

Description: These are well-stocked loblolly pine stands of sawtimber-sized trees which are 25 to 30 years old, with an average DBH of 12 to 14 inches. Due to 2021/2022 thinning, there may be several smaller loblolly pine within these areas. The

Cherokee County is wanting final harvest of all trees within sections labeled with 1.

Sections labeled with 2:

+/- 79 acres

Last thinning was 2021/2022.

Description: These are well-stocked loblolly pine stands of pulpwood sized trees, which are 20 years old, with an average DBH of 8 to 10 inches. Stand densities are light to moderate.

Cherokee County is wanting to remove density further in areas required by removing every third row and some of the more undesirable trees within the rows which remain.

Sections labeled with 3:

+/- 87 acres

Last thinning was 2021/2022

Description: These stands of mixed hardwoods contain some scattered loblolly pines of sawtimber size.

Cherokee County is wanting to clearcut trees within sections labeled with 3.

GENERAL CONDITIONS and FINANCIAL PROVISIONS:

CHEROKEE COUNTY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COUNTY, ANY AND ALL BIDS OR PROPOSALS SUBMITTED.

PRICING: The company warrants that the pricing stated herein shall remain firm for a period of one (1) year from the first day of the contract period. Pricing shall include all charges that may be imposed in fulfilling the terms of the contract. A maximum of 5% per year during the second and third year will be accepted.

PAYMENT TERMS: Payment terms are NET 30 days following receipt of the correct invoice. Invoices must be submitted to:

Cherokee County
Attn: Accounts Payable
110 Railroad Avenue
Gaffney, South Carolina 29340

Cherokee County is responsible for all payments to the Company under this contract.

CHANGES: Cherokee County shall have the right, at any time, to alter the specifications to meet increased or decreased needs. If any such changes cause an increase or decrease in the cost or the time required for the performance, or otherwise affects any other provision of this agreement, an equitable adjustment shall be made, and this agreement shall be modified in writing accordingly.

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS: Any and all payments to the Company shall be deemed binding only to the extent of appropriate funds for the purpose set forth in this proposal.

NON-DISCRIMINATION: The Company shall not discriminate against any individuals and will take proactive measures to assure compliance with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment, employment of people with disabilities, and concerning the treatment of all employees without regard to discrimination based upon age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability.

GOVERNING LAWS: This contract is made under and shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina.

ADVERTISING: In submitting a proposal to Cherokee County, the Company agrees not to use the results of their proposal as a part of any commercial advertising without prior approval of Cherokee County Government.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROPOSALS: In submitting a proposal, the Company agrees not to discuss or otherwise reveal the contents of the proposal to any source outside of Cherokee County Government until after the award of the contract. Companies not in compliance with the provision may, at the option of Cherokee County, be disqualified from contract award. Only discussions authorized by the issuing agency are exempt from this provision.

COST FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION: Any costs incurred by a Company in preparing or submitting proposals are the Companies' sole responsibility. Cherokee County will not reimburse any Company for any costs incurred prior to award of this contract.

TIME FOR ACCEPTANCE: Each proposal shall state that it is a firm offer which may be accepted within a period of 90 days following the submittal date, Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. Although the contract is expected to be awarded prior to that time, the 90-day period is requested to allow for unforeseen delays.

RIGHT TO SUBMITTED MATERIAL: All responses, inquiries, or correspondence relating to or in reference to this Request for Proposals, and all other reports, charts, displays, schedules, exhibits, and other documentation submitted by the Company shall become the property of Cherokee County when received.

COLLUSIVE BIDDING: The vendor's signature on the Cherokee County "Request for Proposal" is a guarantee that the prices quoted have been arrived at without collusion with other eligible Company and without effort to preclude Cherokee County Government from obtaining the lowest possible competitive price.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS: The Contractor shall not take advantage of any errors or omissions in this RFP. The Company shall promptly notify Cherokee County Government of any omissions or errors found in this document.

PROPOSAL OPENING: The proposal deadline is Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, at 10:00 A.M and opened at 3:00 P.M on Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, in the Cherokee County Council Chambers. On that date and time, the package containing the proposals from each responding Company will be publicly opened. At that time the name of the Company and the cost(s) offered will be announced. This is an open and public meeting. Interested parties may attend. However, it must be noted that these costs and their components are subject to further evaluation for completeness and correctness. Therefore, the cost(s) announced at that time may not be an exact indicator of the Companies pricing position. Neither can the assumption be made that the Company with the lowest price offered will be awarded the contract. See "**EVALUATION CRITERIA**" and "**AWARD OF RFP**" for further explanation on the components involved with the award of this contract. An award recommendation will be made at the Cherokee County Council meeting on Monday, May 5th, 2025 at 5:00pm. This award recommendation does not institute a contractual agreement with the company recommended.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Cherokee County Government, at its sole discretion, following an objective evaluation, will award this contract to the most responsible, responsive Company. The proposals will be evaluated on a "best overall value" basis including, but not limited to, completeness and content of the proposal, pricing, quality, the Company's ability to follow the specifications, the Company's ability to provide a team of skilled, trained employees, the Company's experience with similar projects and the Company's responses to "Mandatory Issues". In addition to these considerations, the evaluators may request additional information, oral presentations or discussions with any or all the responding Company's to clarify elements of their proposal or to amplify the materials presented in any part of the proposal. However, Companies are cautioned that the evaluators are not required to request clarification; therefore, all proposals should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the Company.

Cherokee County reserves the right to make independent investigations as to the qualifications of the Company. Such investigations may include contacting existing customers. Companies should keep in mind that this is a Request for Proposals and not a request to contract. Cherokee County reserves the unqualified right to accept or reject all proposals, and to waive any irregularities as may be permitted by law when it is deemed that such action will be in the best interest of Cherokee County.

REFERENCE TO OTHER DATA: Only information which is received in response to this RFP will be evaluated. Reference to information previously submitted shall not be evaluated.

AWARD OF RFP: Cherokee County Government, at its sole discretion, following an objective evaluation, will award this contract to the most responsible, responsive Company. Price will be a major consideration but will not be the determining factor in our selection. The award of this contract will be based and granted on “**BEST VALUE.**” “**BEST VALUE**” will allow Cherokee County to consider factors beyond pricing such as whether the responsible Company is able to meet and/or exceed the required specifications. “**BEST VALUE**” will permit and reflect prudent stewardship of public funds and trust. Award of the contract to one Company does not mean that the other proposals lacked merit. Award of the contract signifies that after all factors have been considered, the selected proposal was deemed most advantageous to Cherokee County

NOTIFICATION OF AWARD: After all prerequisites and specifications have been met by the Company, the successful Company will be notified within ten (10) working days of this award. Cherokee County will notify the successful Company in writing, either by a LETTER OF AWARD or a PURCHASE ORDER or both. VERBAL NOTIFICATION OF THE AWARD OF THIS CONTRACT IS NOT CONSIDERED A RELIABLE MODE OF NOTIFICATION AND, THEREFORE, WILL NOT BE RECOGNIZED AS AN OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

TERMINATION FOR CAUSE: Cherokee County reserves the right to terminate this contract at any time for cause. The violation of any provision or condition contained in this contract, or the refusal, failure, or inability to carry out any provisions of this contract shall constitute sufficient grounds to terminate this contract for cause.

TERMINATION WITHOUT CAUSE: Cherokee County and the Company may terminate this contract without cause. Written notice of termination must be sent via certified U.S. mail no later than thirty (30) days prior to the termination date.

EMPLOYEE GUIDELINES:

DRUG POLICY: The Company certifies that it maintains a drug-free workplace environment to ensure worker safety and workplace integrity. The Company further agrees their employees shall comply with Cherokee County’s Drug-Free Workplace Policy.

EMPLOYEE GUIDELINES: The Company shall use only qualified personnel to provide the required services. The Company shall be responsible for insuring that employees abide by all rules and regulations set forth for the buildings and grounds.

SAFETY:

State and Federal Regulations: The Company shall perform all work in accordance with State and Federal safety regulations regarding work zones, work areas, equipment, vehicles, tools and supplies. The Company shall provide all necessary and required work zone protective devices and traffic channeling devices as required under State and Federal safety regulations.

Public Safety: The Company shall protect the safety and convenience of the public. The Company shall perform work as needed and necessary to protect the public from hazards.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES: Cherokee County invites and encourages participation in this Request for Proposals process by businesses owned by minorities, women, disabled, disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled.

PROPOSAL INFORMATION:

- Proposals will be received by Cherokee County by Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. Proposals may be submitted by mail or delivered in person. **NO** faxed or email proposals will be accepted. Cherokee County must receive all proposals at the following location **PRIOR** to the date and time specified. Any proposal received after the date and time prescribed shall **NOT** be considered for award and the proposal shall be returned to the Company.

Each proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to:

**Cherokee County
Attn: Abi Reid
110 Railroad Avenue
Gaffney, South Carolina 29340**

- Each sealed envelope containing a proposal must be plainly marked with the **“COMPANY’S NAME”, “RFP TITLE”, “RFP NUMBER”, and the “RFP OPENING DATE & TIME”.**
- All proposals must be submitted on the required forms. All blank spaces for bid prices must be completed in ink or typewritten. The Bid Forms must be completed, signed, and dated by an official of the company authorized to bind the firm. Unsigned proposals will not be considered. Proposals must consist of one (1) original and one (1) copy. These proposals shall be marked as such – Original and Copy.
- A conditional or qualified proposal will not be accepted.
- Prior to receiving the contract, the successful bidders will be required to submit a Certificate of Liability Insurance and a current W9 form.

- All on-site contractors, including 1099 vendors who perform work on Cherokee County property and the premises of Special Tax Districts utilizing County collected funding, are required to carry Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage. Proof of insurance (certificates) must be on file before a purchase order can be issued or work begun. Any exceptions to this requirement must be approved by the County Administrator. The requirements are as follows: Workers Comp = Statutory Limits
 Employers Liability: \$100,000 Minimum
 General Liability: \$1,000,000 Minimum
 Auto Liability: \$1,000,000 Minimum

If selling products for a building project, the general liability must include Products and Completed Operations coverage. For high-risk jobs (i.e. asbestos removal) a higher limit may be required. For businesses not required by law to obtain Worker’s Compensation Insurance, the cost of WC coverage on the part of Cherokee County may be factored into the bid/quoted price.

COMPANY INFORMATION:

- 1. Owner of the Company _____
- 2. Location of the Company _____
- 3. List the number of years in business _____
- 4. Is your business full or part-time? _____
- 5. List the number of people employed on a regular basis. _____
- 6. Do you maintain an office that is staffed during normal daily working hours?

- 7. Who is the County’s contact person in the event your firm is awarded the contract?

E-mail Address: _____

- 8. List at least four (4) references of firms (not residences) in which your company has provided services within the past two (2) years.

Company Name	Contact Name	Telephone Number



**CHEROKEE COUNTY
110 RAILROAD AVENUE
GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA 29340**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP TITLE:
**County Timber Clearing/Thinning and Sale
Landfill Tracts**

RFP NUMBER: # **2025-24**

Issue Date:
Thursday, March 26th, 2025

Purchasing Contact & Telephone
**Abi Reid
864-902-2299**

PROPOSAL DUE DATE & TIME:

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, at 10:00 A.M.

NOTE: Proposals received after the opening date and time will not be accepted.

Cherokee County Government solicits your company to submit a proposal on the above referenced project. By signing this form, the Company signifies their acceptance of all terms, conditions, and specifications set forth in this Request for Proposals. All proposals must have an authorized signature in the space provided below. Two (2) copies of your proposal must be sealed and delivered to: CHEROKEE COUNTY, Administration Office, 110 Railroad Ave, Gaffney, South Carolina, 29340 before the RFP deadline. The package containing proposals for this project must reference the "COMPANY'S NAME", "RFP TITLE", "RFP NUMBER", and the "RFP OPENING DATE & TIME". **NO** faxed or email proposals will be accepted. Cherokee County Government will not be responsible for late or lost bids by the U.S. Postal office or any other delivery services used by the Company. Proposals may not be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the bid opening unless otherwise specified.

THE FOLLOWING MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED, AND RETURNED AS PART OF YOUR PROPOSAL. PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THIS FORM, SIGNED BY AN AUTHORIZED AGENT OF THE CONTRACTOR.

COMPANY NAME:

MAILING ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

EMPLOYER’S FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

FAX NUMBER:

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPOSAL IS MADE WITHOUT PRIOR UNDERSTANDING, AGREEMENT, OR CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER CONTRACTOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL FOR THE SAME SERVICES AND IS IN ALL RESPECTS FAIR AND WITHOUT COLLUSION OR FRAUD. I AGREE TO ABIDE TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS BID AND CERTIFY THAT I AM AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THIS BID AS OR FOR THE COMPANY.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:
NAME:

TYPED OR PRINTED

TITLE: _____ DATE: _____

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2025-24

County Timber Clearing/Thinning and Sale Landfill Tracts

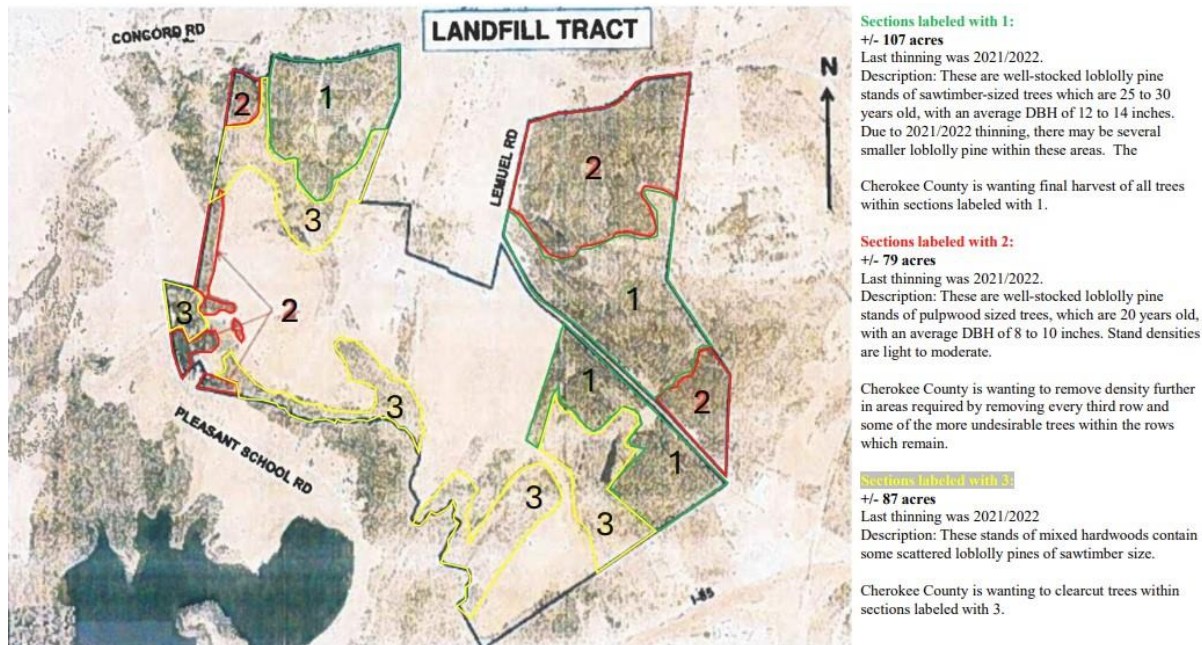
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**RFP 2025-
County Timber Clearing/Thinning and Sale
2 Tracts on Lemuel Rd. and Concord Rd., Gaffney South Carolina 29341**

Bid Sheet

Item #1	Pine Pulpwood Price-	Per Ton	\$_____
Item #2	Pine Sawtimber Price-	Per Ton	\$_____
Item # 3	Hardwood Sawtimber Price-	Per Ton	\$_____
Item # 4	White Oak Sawtimber Price -	Per Ton	\$_____
Item #5	Hardwood Pulpwood Price-	Per Ton	\$_____

NOTICE TO BIDDERS: Bids must be submitted on this form. Bids made otherwise will be subject to rejection.

Cost Proposal/Execution of Proposal

By submitting this proposal, the potential Company certifies the following:

- This proposal is signed by an authorized representative of the firm.
- The cost and availability of all materials and supplies associated with performing the services described herein have been determined and included in the proposed cost.
- All costs, direct and indirect, have been determined and included in the proposed cost.
- The potential Company has read and understands the conditions set forth in this BID and agrees to them with no exceptions. If exceptions exist, they must be listed on a separate numbered sheet
- Prior to receiving the contract, the successful bidders will be required to submit a Certificate of Liability Insurance and a current W9.

Therefore, in compliance with this Request for Proposals, and subject to all conditions herein, the undersigned offers and agrees, to perform the services in accordance with the specifications and conditions in this BID at the prices quoted, if this proposal is accepted within 90 days from the date of the opening.

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX: _____

FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL: _____

BY: _____

Signature

Typed or printed name

Title

Date

THIS PAGE MUST BE SIGNED AND INCLUDED IN YOUR PROPOSAL.



CHEROKEE COUNTY VENDOR PREFERENCE AFFIDAVIT

_____, who being duly sworn, (company name/company representative) certifies that the vender identified in this Bid Response meets all qualifications for the preference as defined in Part 8 of the Cherokee County Purchasing Policy and Procedure Ordinance, as amended.

By this written claim, Bidder requests that the preference be exercised in consideration of the award of this Bid.

BIDDER CERTIFIED THAT HE MEETS ALL QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE (CHECK ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING):

_____ 1. **CHEROKEE COUNTY VENDOR PREFERENCE**

Bidder Signature: _____

Bidder Name: _____

Position: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, _____

NOTARY PUBLIC FOR SOUTH CAROLINA

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: _____

******This page ONLY applies to vendors that are located in Cherokee County**