## PURCHASE ANNOUNCEMENT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

DATE: June 21, 2011

## USDA CANNED BONED CHICKEN PURCHASE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) today announced plans to purchase canned chicken for school lunch and domestic food nutrition assistance programs. Offers will be invited pursuant to the AMS Master Solicitation for Commodity Procurements dated April 2011, for canned chicken in the following forms:

12.5 oz (354 g) cans (100094) - Twelve and one-half ounces (354 g) of commodity must be packaged in a 401 x 204 size metal can and packed 48 cans in each fiberboard shipping container. A purchase unit will consist of 1,000 shipping containers totaling 37,500 pounds (17,030 kg).

50 oz (1.42 kg) cans (100877) - Fifty ounces (1.42 kg) of commodity must be packaged in a 404 x 700 size metal can and packed 12 cans in each fiberboard shipping container. A purchase unit will consist of 1,000 shipping containers totaling 37,500 pounds (17,030 kg).

All offers must be submitted electronically through the Web-Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) website at

<u>http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=WBSCM</u>. Offers submitted by any means other than WBSCM will be considered nonresponsive.

A Solicitation will be issued in the near future for deliveries from July 16 through December 31, 2011. Offers to sell these products must be received not later than the date specified on the Solicitation. Vendors are strongly encouraged to login to the WBSCM system as early as possible to place their bid as this process has changed significantly with the new system. Solicitations are issued twice yearly. A separate program will be announced for commercial canned boned chicken in 12.5 oz. cans under a request for proposals.

There are some important changes to this year's program as Commodity Specifications were reviewed and revised and with the implementation of WBSCM. The Specifications for commodity products have been revised to include the requirement that shipping containers bear nutrition facts, ingredients, and allergen statements to comply with the Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act (FALCPA). New UPC codes have been assigned to the different commodities as well. Offerors are urged to carefully review these new labeling requirements. Also, implementation of WBSCM brings about new terminology and procedures for bidding on

Solicitations, shipment and delivery, and invoicing, which have been included in the revised Specifications.

Under the food defense requirements, all non-conformances listed in the audit report must be addressed in writing to the Contracting Officer and Auditor within 14 calendar days of the audit. If the auditor receives an unacceptable corrective action response, the company will have an additional 7 days to respond to the non-conformance. Plans must have been audited on or after March 1, 2011.

With the implementation of WBSCM, offerors are urged to carefully read all applicable terms and conditions of the AMS Master Solicitation for Commodity Procurements dated April 2011; the Qualification Requirements for Prospective Contractors Selling Commodities to USDA dated March 2011; the Commodity Specification for Canned Boned Poultry dated May 2011; and the entire Solicitation.

Inquiries may be made by telephoning (202) 720-4517 or addressing the Contracting Officer; USDA/AMS Commodity Procurement Division; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 3932-S, Mail Stop 0256; Washington, DC 20250-0256. An electronic version of this Program Announcement can be obtained through the World Wide Web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at: <a href="http://www.ams.usda.gov/commoditypurchasing">http://www.ams.usda.gov/commoditypurchasing</a>.

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