

**Des Moines Public Schools  
RFP6992 Boiler & Cooling Tower Water Treatment Services  
Inquiries & Responses**

**Q1. “In the most recent inspections of the cooling tower and boiler systems, has there been evidence of corrosion, rust or scale?”**

A1. Some evidence of scale and/or corrosion in some systems, but not a global situation.

**Q2. “Is the District satisfied in how the program has been running or would they like to see changes?”**

A2. The District is satisfied with the service that it has received. Going forward, the District would like to develop a more comprehensive program focusing on continuous improvement.

**Q3. “Regarding Corrosion Coupon Studies – are we to supply corrosion coupon racks and do corrosion coupon studies for all systems in all buildings or just for the cooling tower systems? Providing corrosion coupon racks and corrosion coupons for all of the closed and geothermal systems would significantly increase your costs and would provide little significant information.”**

A3. The District would be open to other suggestions to keep cost down. We also would like to be able to get a baseline of our potential issues. Please be specific in proposals if changes are suggested.

**Q4. “Regarding Current Treatment Products - there is significant product inventory in numerous buildings throughout the school district, do you want these products used up before starting with new products? If the existing products are not used in the systems, they become hazardous waste which would need to be disposed of properly.”**

A4. The District would work with selected vendor to see if chemicals would be usable going forward. If not the District would handle disposal.

**Q5. “Regarding Legionella Testing - the legionella operating limit you have requested is 1/2 the CDC actionable level of 20 CFU. The tested level of legionella also depends of if only live bacteria or both living and dead bacteria are counted. I would like to know if you want to stay with the 10 CFU number and if that number counts only living bacteria?”**

A5. The District would like to follow the CDC action levels.

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**Q6. “All of the systems that we looked at the controllers were pass code protected and so we were not able to see what the feed schedules were or the feed timers. Can someone tell us what the Biocide feed timers are generally (days that each product feeds, and run time)? I realize that it may be different at each facility but if we could get a general idea that could be helpful.”**

A6. Feed schedules and timers are different at each facility.

**Q7. “Can you provide an expectation for the time you would like for the rep to spend (days per month) dedicated to testing and working with the closed loops in the district? With 85 plus loops it could consume a lot of time and we just want to have a better understanding as to the expectation.”**

A7. Initially we would like to have the vendor evaluate each closed loop and determine a corrective action plan as needed. Please include an initial evaluation in the bid proposal and biannually after that. Any specific needs will be handled as a T and M project.

**Q8. “Is the water treatment vendor responsible for glycol feeders and maintaining DowFrost system levels?”**

A8. The District will handle this item.

**Q9. “Could the district please circulate the MSDS and feed and control limits for all water treatment products that are currently being used in all systems?”**

A9. The district is in the process of gathering all of the MSDS.

**Q10. “Who is Des Moines Schools' current water treatment vendor? Quality Blending? Or, Innovational Concepts?”**

A10. Quality Blending.

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**Q11. “What is the scope and magnitude of the Water Treatment Vendor's responsibility for subcontracting mechanical system work? Listed below is a short list of mechanical projects that are related to water treatment. Please advise as to which are covered under the scope of the future contract...”**

**-Fixing pre-existing water softeners, and providing salt, and salt replenishment**

**-Pump seal and impeller replacement and installation**

**-Modulating loop actuator replacement and installation**

**-Cooling tower fill replacement, installation and cleaning**

**-Cooling tower basin and strainer cleaning**

**-Maintaining electrical outlets that system controllers are plugged into**

**-Drip pan tablet replacement**

**-Steam trap replacement and installation**

**A11.** The District has a staff of electricians, Plumbers and Fitters that would most typically handle these items. In the event we could not handle a specific need we have a mechanical contractor under contact we would use. We would expect the vendor to help identify needs and repairs would be handled outside of water treatment contract.