June 25, 2026

REFERENCE: 632-24-105 Conduct Ductbank Survey at Northport VA Medical Center

Subject: Request for Information

RE: Mr. Charlie Augustin

1.) Are there any known abandoned MV electrical feeders? Will the Contractor be expected to classify active and abandoned feeders if so?

The contractor is to identify active and abandoned feeders.

2.) If Mandheling shows an obstructed or compromised conduit, will the Contractor be expected to investigate further with other means such as CCTV?

The contractor is to provide a full report on the conduits. The method of investigation is contractor's methods and means.

3.) Please clarify the intended level of assessment for existing grounding and bonding systems. Is the evaluation limited to visual observations, or are continuity testing and/or ground resistance measurements anticipated?

See page 2 paragraph 4 of SOW. The method of investigation is the contractor's method and means.

4.) Please identify any VA-specific requirements for traffic control measures that will be required to access and inspect manholes located within roadways and parking lots; i.e. P10,P19?

It is the contractors responsibility to install work site warning barriers. Traffic controls are to be coordinated with the COR.

5.) P17 was not identified at the site map location. Has it been relocated?

Manhole P17 is located in the Southwest corner of Building 12 and is shown on hi resolution PDF which will be provided with this RFI.

6.) If they exist, can the following be provided: Electrical safety policy for energized manhole entry, Any existing medium-voltage work procedures including minimum arc-rated clothing requirements, Arc-flash study of the medium-voltage distribution system. The energized system the Contractor is exposed to is expected to be shielded conductors and enclosed splices. If NFPA 70E doesn't mandate PPE in a certain situation does VA work policy?

Please see below for question six detail response.

7.) Is the Contractor allowed to disturb cable coverings like wrap and tape for cable identification? Yes the contractor can disturb cable coverings as per contractor methods and means.

Question 6 detail response.

Electrical Safety Policy for energized manhole entry

your safety department should have a confined space policy- this would be just the requirements for entering a manhole in general, whether sewer, electrical or really any type of confined space. Your safety department should have requirements for permit required and non permit required confined spaces. An electrical manhole would certainly be a permit required confined space.

For a policy for specifically entering energized electrical manholes- you may or may not have that. In all likelihood you won't have a policy. In such a scenario, the contractor safety procedures (and NFPA 70E) would dictate. You should still have a policy for energized electrical work however- that being a permit procedure for somebody to do energized work. The framework of the permit requirement is in the electrical directive but is mostly dictated by NFPA 70E.

Any Existing medium voltage work procedures including minimum arc rated clothing requirements

Similar to above, you probably don't have this if you don't have qualified staff to do medium voltage electrical work. So this would fall back on the contractors safety plan and NFPA 70E.

Arc Flash Study

Mike R should have the most up to date arc flash study that was done by NEI a couple years ago.

Does VA work policy-mandate PPE if not in NFPA 70E

NFPA 70E establishes minimum requirements for PPE. But your facility policy might require more than the minimum PPE- like maybe you require electricians to wear arc resistant clothing, leather shoes, hard hats, etc…just to do their regular job so it would be impossible to answer this unless they outlined the scenario or type of work where no PPE is mandated by NFPA 70E compared with your own dress policy for electricians.