<u>Responses for Questions on the RFP for Bond Counsel, Disclosure Counsel and Tax Counsel Services</u>

1. Under Section VII(A)(4) of the RFP, the deadline for submitting hard copy proposals is listed as April 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., however, under Section VII(A)(10) it is stated that the hard copies must be received no later than 5 p.m. on April 14, 2021. Please clarify as to which date is accurate.

Because the RFP listed both dates, we will accept hard copies of the responses on or before April 14, 2021 at 5:00. That being said, our preference is to receive hard copies by April 8, 2021 by 5:00 pm.

2. Also under Section VII(A)(10), the language states that one copy of the proposal and the Legal and Policy Attachments must be included within the hard copy package in Word and PDF format on a CD disk. As each of the Legal and Policy Attachments are fillable PDF documents, please confirm that these Attachments are not required to additionally be submitted as Word documents.

The Legal and Policy Attachments are not required to be submitted as Word documents.

3. For Attachment M – Evaluation and Implementation of Sustainable Principles, please expound upon and provide clarification and/or specific examples as to what "risks and opportunities" would be considered ESG Factors. Further, please expound upon and provide clarification and/or specific examples as to what constitute "sustainability issues" and "sustainability policies".

The questions set forth in Attachment M, *Evaluation and Implementation of Sustainable Principles*, seek insight into the respondent's approach to evaluating risks, which may include environmental, social and governance ("ESG") risks. The specific risks and opportunities that would be considered ESG factors depend on the nature of the services provided. For example, disclosures provided by bond, tax and disclosure counsel may include: descriptions of internal committees and/or key staff charged with overseeing sustainability issues; membership in sustainability-oriented organizations; descriptions of how a firm evaluates its carbon footprint in their offices, as well as efforts to reduce waste and energy usage; and general statements around a firm's approach to evaluating risks that impact the services they provide to their clients.

4. Could you kindly publish the responses to the 2015 Request for Proposals for Bond Counsel, Disclosure Counsel, and Tax Counsel Services?

The Office of the Treasurer declines the request to publish the responses to the 2015 Request for Proposals for Bond Counsel, Disclosure Counsel, and Tax Counsel Services.

5. Is it possible to respond to provide underwriter's counsel if also responding to provide bond, disclosure and tax counsel services?

Yes. If your firm is selected for the underwriters' counsel list, your firm may be selected to serve in that role to represent the underwriters for a bond sale. However, as you would expect, it will not be

for a State bond program for which your firm is representing the State as Bond Counsel, Disclosure Counsel, and Tax Counsel. These policies are subject to change.

6. The request contemplates submitting a copy in word and PDF on a CD. Would it be acceptable to supply this on a USB stick?

While that is not a bad idea for future RFPs, please adhere to the original RFP requirements at this time.

7. Hope this finds you well. I am preparing a response to the Bond Counsel, Disclosure Counsel, and Tax Counsel Services RFP and had a question regarding Part V of the Bidder Contract Compliance Monitoring Report. Specifically, it appears that question #2 is missing from the form provided. I tried downloading it directly from the State's website and get the same error. Could you kindly send a revised form at your earliest convenience?

The Respondent should complete the OTT form Attachment A that is referenced in the RFP.