

Kaiser Permanente

Contact: Kathy Gerwig, Resource Conservation Officer, Kathy.Gerwig@kp.org

Language from Kaiser Permanente's RFPs for national contracts:

1.1 RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Protection of the earth's environment is essential for healthy communities. KP is committed to improving environmental quality by enhancing policies, programs, and practices for all of our business activities. Toward this purpose, KP has initiated a national Resource Conservation program. The goals are to minimize waste, prevent pollution, conserve natural resources, reduce costs, and model environmental protection practices within the health care industry. KP's resource conservation activities include:

▲ Demonstrating a preference for products that cause the least amount of environmental harm during manufacturing, use, and disposal.

▲ Partnering with suppliers who demonstrate a commitment to environmental quality through their business practices.

▲ Collaborating with distributors, manufacturers, and suppliers in designing/refining products to minimize environmental impact while maintaining quality and cost effectiveness.

▲ Source reduction.

▲ Packaging reduction.

▲ Purchasing recycled products with high post-consumer content, recyclable, and reusable products.

▲ Conserving energy and water use.

▲ Enhancing awareness among staff, members, and the public about resource conservation, and the linkage to public health.

KP will be using environmental criteria in its selection of suppliers. Bidders are encouraged to provide detailed information about how they have mitigated their impact on the environment, and to consider value-added services that support KP's commitment to environmental protection.

Please include responses to the following:

1.1.1 Describe your firm's internal policies, practices and procedures that mitigate environmental harm, and support sustainable practices.

1.1.2 Provide information about ways in which your firm prevents pollution. Examples include:

▲ distributing/manufacturing products that cause the least amount of harm to the environment during their manufacturing, use, and disposal (e.g., chlorine-free paper, non-chlorinated plastics, non-toxic solvents and dyes, mercury-free products, sustainably harvested woods).

▲ reducing air emissions by managing transportation (e.g., fleets that operate on alternative fuels).

▲ conserving energy through efficient lighting, energy-conserving equipment and machinery, using

renewable energy sources.

▲ conserving water by reducing consumption and recycling.

1.1.3 Specify how packaging will be minimized, including programs to use returnable, refillable, reusable, biodegradable and/or recycled packaging; reusing pallets; etc.

1.1.4 How will your firm reduce paper resulting from transactions (e.g., electronic data transfer systems, paperless reporting and troubleshooting systems)

1.1.5 Provide information about other ways your firm reduces solid waste. Examples include:

▲ reuse and recycling programs for your products.

▲ use of post-consumer content in products

▲ recyclable products that are properly labeled with standard recycling codes

1.1.6 [For distributors only] Describe ways in which your firm can work with manufacturers to help KP achieve its environmental goals.

1.1.7 [For manufacturers only] Describe ways in which your firm can work with distributors to help KP achieve its environmental goals.

1.1.8 Provide any other information that will help KP assess your firm's commitment to the environment.

1.2 MERCURY REDUCTION

Kaiser Permanente is committed to minimizing the amount of mercury utilized in its operations, and desires to avoid the acquisition of products that contain mercury whenever feasible alternatives exist that do not compromise patient care.

Supplier shall represent and warrant in the purchase agreement and with the submission of this Proposal that the products proposed to be furnished under any Agreement do not contain mercury, except as identified and listed in an exhibit to this Proposal. Supplier shall specify the amount of mercury contained in any products listed in this exhibit and indicate in the Proposal if a feasible mercury-free alternative is available.