



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
HOUSATONIC RAILROAD COMPANY, INC.**

BERKSHIRE MAINLINE TIE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

2025 RAIL FREIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (RFIP)

MATERIALS

Proposals Due: Friday, April 24, 2026, no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time.

Proposal Submission.

All submitted proposals must be either be provided electronically, or delivered by mail, by the deadline date and time stated above, to:

Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc.
Attn.: Tim Boncek, Project Engineer
P.O. Box 1146
Canaan, CT 06018
Email: t.boncek@hrrc.com
Cc: p.rodriquez@hrrc.com

General Instructions for Bidder Questions.

It is the responsibility of each Bidder to examine the entire Request for Proposals and to seek clarification by submitting any and all questions concerning this RFP to Tim Boncek at the above address. Any answers to questions will be provided to all bidders. Additional information obtained by other means will not be valid.

Purpose and Background.

Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc. (HRRC) seeks proposals (also referred to as “bids” or “responses” herein) to provide the goods or services as defined above in Bid Form A of this document. This document provides instructions for submitting proposals, the procedure by which the Bidder(s) will be selected, and the contractual terms which will govern the relationship between HRRC and the awarded Bidder(s). Following Bidder selection and upon reaching mutual agreement, HRRC and the selected Bidder will enter into a contract, in the form of an HRRC Purchase Order.

For this competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process, HRRC is acting pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Connecticut Department of Transportation in the administration of a grant under the

State of Connecticut DOT Rail Freight Infrastructure Program and is subject to the additional reporting requirements of that program. Award of the bid is contingent upon availability of funds.

Issuance of this RFP does not commit HRRC to issue an award or to pay expenses incurred by a Bidder in the preparation of a response to this RFP. This includes attendance at personal interviews or other meetings and software or system demonstrations, where applicable.

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SECTION I PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS.

1. **Description of Goods and / or Services.** The description of the goods and/or services sought by HRRC under this RFP is outlined in Bid Form A.

2. **Bid Contents Requirements.** In addition to the cost, delivery, and other information required, all bids should contain the following information as attachments:

- a. Bid Form A (Appendix A);
- b. Bidder Information (Appendix B).

3. **Submitting a Proposal.**

a. **Bids Due:** Bids must be received no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the date shown on Page 1 of this RFP. Bids received after the 10:00 a.m. deadline will not be accepted.

b. **Request for Information:** Requests for Information (RFI's) must be received by **Friday April 17, 2026**. RFI's may be submitted electronically to Tim Boncek via email to t.boncek@hrrc.com.

c. **Submission Instructions:** Bidders must submit their bids either electronically via email, or delivered by mail, to:

Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc.,
Attn: Tim Boncek, Project Engineer,
P.O. Box 1146
Canaan, CT 06018

c. **Withdrawal of a Proposal:** Bidders are permitted to withdraw their own Proposals up until the Due Date and Time for receipt of Proposals.

d. **Attachments:** Any electronic documents submitted must be in MS Word, MS Excel, or Adobe Portable Document (.pdf) format. Vendors are encouraged to submit supporting documentation that aids HRRC in understanding how the bid conforms to the requirements.

e. **Vendor Specifications:** Unless otherwise stated in this RFP, limited specification will be required upon submission of a bid in response to this RFP. However, a Bidder's response should include an affirmative statement that the bid complies with all requirements of this RFP, unless the Bidder specifically addresses how the bid differs from the specifications, and why the differences should be deemed acceptable by HRRC.

4. General Instructions.

a. Bidder must submit a proposal that covers the goods or services and term of the contract, including any option renewal.

b. Proposal shall include the costs necessary for Bidder to fully comply with the contract terms and conditions and RFP requirements.

c. Failure to provide the requested information may result in the exclusion of the proposal from consideration, at the discretion of HRRC.

d. No costs related to the preparation of the proposal for this RFP or related to the negotiation of the contract with HRRC may be included in the proposal.

e. This material is exempt from the payment of federal, state and local taxes on articles not for resale. Please provide proposals that do not include these taxes. An exemption certificate can be furnished at the point of contract finalization.

f. Bidder is not required to bid for all goods or services requested in this RFP. Bidder may submit a proposal for all, some, or any combination of the goods and services requested.

5. Additional Provisions.

a. Railroad Standards – Contractor or Supplier agrees that this project will comply with all applicable FRA, American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA), American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and/or Association of American Railroads (AAR) standards, as applicable.

b. The RFP and the selected Bidder's bid, including all appendices or attachments, may be incorporated in the final contract (Purchase Order).

c. HRRC, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to recognize and waive minor informalities and irregularities found in bids received in response to this RFP.

- d. All applicable laws, whether or not herein contained, shall be included by this reference. It shall be Bidder's responsibility to determine the applicability and requirements of any such laws to abide by them.
- e. Public agencies, private for-profit companies, and non-profit companies and institutions are invited to submit bids in response to this RFP.
- f. For the purchase of goods, HRRC and selected Bidder will decide upon a delivery date in accordance with HRRC's requirements and the terms offered in the Bidder's bid. ***Unless stated otherwise in Section 1 of this RFP, all deliveries are expected with shipping terms of "Freight on Board (FOB) – Destination."*** HRRC intends for this to mean that all goods shall be priced in the bid response to include shipping charges, if any, to HRRC's desired location. The "FOB – Destination" shipping term is also intended to mean that HRRC shall not bear any responsibility for the goods in question until HRRC takes possession of them at the destination point of delivery.
- g. In providing goods or services or performing under the contract, the successful Bidder shall act independently and not as an agent of HRRC.
- h. All responses to this RFP shall be considered to legally bind the Bidder, and if selected for award, shall contain or be considered to contain a statement that the bid and pricing contained therein will remain valid and binding for a period of at least 180 days from the date and time of the bid opening.
- i. **Buy America Requirement:** This project is NOT subject to Buy America requirements.

**SECTION II
TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR AWARD, CONTRACT PAYMENT, AND RETENTION OF
RECORDS.**

1. Proposal Evaluation and Award.

- a. The bid will be awarded at the sole discretion of HRRC and HRRC reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
- b. At the discretion of HRRC, if a Bidder's proposal is deemed to not conform to the specifications listed in the RFP, or otherwise not conform to the requirements of the RFP, then that Bidder's proposal may not be considered for award.
- c. If the specifications provided in this RFP are of a technical nature, Tim Boncek, at his discretion, may seek to use an evaluation team comprised of subject matter experts, end-users from HRRC, or Connecticut Department of Transportation representatives. In such a case, the evaluation team will judge the merits of the proposals received in accordance with the criteria defined in this RFP.
- d. In evaluating a bid submitted in response to this RFP, HRRC may consider materials provided in the bid, information obtained through interviews/presentations (if any), and internal information of previous contract history between HRRC and the Bidder (if any). HRRC also reserves the right to consider other reliable references and publicly available information in evaluating a Bidder's experience and capabilities, if needed.

e. Bid evaluation and contractor selection oversight will be provided by Connecticut DOT.

2. Contract Document.

- a. The successful Bidder will be required to execute a contract with HRRC in the form of a Purchase Order.

3. Payment and Other Provisions.

HRRC anticipates paying the selected Bidder for goods and services received, on the basis of net 60 day payment terms, upon receipt of an accurate and acceptable invoice. An invoice will be accurate and acceptable if it contains:

- Reference to the HRRC purchase order;
- Bidder's DUNS number;
- Correct pricing relative to the contract (purchase order);
- Any supporting documents, as applicable;
- And any other specific and agreed-upon requirements listed within the contract (purchase order) that results from this RFP. HRRC reserves the right to pay for goods purchased through this solicitation by any of several available means, which include but may not be limited to check or electronic funds transfer.

4. Retention of Records.

The Bidder shall retain, for at least three (3) years from the date of proposal or date of final payment, whichever is later, all electronic and paper data in its possession pertaining to the proposal. Such data shall include, but not be limited to: all accounting records, timesheets, papers, maps, photographs or other documentary materials, made, sent, or received by the Bidder in connection with goods or services in this proposal. The Bidder shall make this data available to HRRC, or Connecticut DOT or its designee, at no cost, promptly following request.

SECTION III - APPENDICES

On following pages.

**APPENDIX A
 BID FORM A
 HOUSATONIC RAILROAD COMPANY, INC.**

**BERKSHIRE MAINLINE TIE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
 NEW MILFORD - KENT, CT**

1.0 - Timber Materials

	Quantity	Unit	Unit cost	Total Cost
Ties (new)	8,000	EA		
Crossing Timbers (new)	100	EA		
Timber Crossing Surface	54	LF		
Preplating	200	EA		
Freight (via Truck)				
Alternate #1 - Freight (via Rail)				

Freight is included in my unit prices (Y/N) : _____

2.0 - Track Materials

	Quantity	Unit	Unit cost	Total Cost
136RE HH Rail (New)	320	LF		
6" Cut Spikes	550	KEGS		
Cut-Spike Plates (5 1/2" Rail Base)	54	LF		
Pandrol Plates (6" Rail Base)	200	EA		
15/16" Screw Spikes	1600	EA		
e-Clips (Standard)	400	EA		
e-Clips (Galvanized)	400	EA		
Bonded Insulated Joint Plugs	4	EA		
Freight (via Truck)				

Freight is included in my unit prices (Y/N) : _____

3.0 - Crossing Materials

	Quantity	Unit	Unit cost	Total Cost
Concrete Crossing Surface	65	LF		
Freight (via Truck)				

Freight is included in my unit prices (Y/N) : _____

4.0 - Ballast Materials

	Quantity	Unit	Unit cost	Total Cost
AREMA No. 4 (1 1/2") Ballast	2,200	TON		
Freight (via Truck)				

Freight is included in my unit prices (Y/N) : _____

**APPENDIX B
 BIDDER INFORMATION**

BERKSHIRE MAINLINE TIE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

- RFP Requirements, Terms and Conditions for RFP and Contract are hereby acknowledged.
- This bid and the pricing structure contained herein will remain firm for a period of 180 days from the date and time of the bid opening.
- No personnel currently employed by, nor consultants retained by, Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc., nor any federal agency, participated, either directly or indirectly, in any activities relating to the preparation of the Bidder's proposal.
- No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a proposal.
- The undersigned is authorized to enter into contractual obligations on behalf of the below-named organization.

Bidder's Organization Name:		
DUNS Number:		
Chief Executive – Name/Title:		
Tel.:	Fax:	E-mail:
Headquarters Street Address:		
Headquarters City/State/Zip:		
<i>(if different from above)</i> Lead Point of Contact for Bid – Name/Title:		
Tel.:	Fax:	E-mail:
Street Address:		
City/State/Zip:		

**APPENDIX C
MATERIALS DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS**

BERKSHIRE MAINLINE TIE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

1.0 – Timber Materials

Ties (new): Ties to be mixed hardwoods with 100 percent end plates. Ties shall be AREMA 80/20 mix. Ties shall be 8'6" long.

Crossing Timbers (new): Crossing timbers to be mixed hardwoods with 100 percent end plates. Crossing timbers shall be 7" x 9" x 10'0" long.

Timber Crossing Surface: Timber Crossing Surface shall be measured by the Linear Foot. Price shall include gauge panel, 2 flange fillers, and 2 field panels. Price shall include all lag screws.

Preplating: Supplier shall install 2 pandrol plates per tie with 3 screw spikes per plate. Hardware will be purchased by HRRC and shipped to suppliers facility.

Freight: Base bid shall include freight via Truck to New Milford, CT. HRRC or its contractor will make provisions for unloading of delivery vehicles if required.

Please specify either a Unit Price or Lump Sum for freight.

If you wish to include freight in the unit price of the ties, please indicate that on your bid.

Alternate #1: If available, please provide pricing for freight shipment via rail. Rail shipments of ties to be in low-side gondola, routed CSXT - PITTSFIELD - HRRC.

2.0 – Track Materials

136RE HH Rail: Rail shall conform to AREMA section for 136 RE. Rail shall be delivered in 80 ft lengths. Rail shall be head hardened. Rail ends shall be blank (undrilled).

Rail shall be delivered via railcar. Rail shipments of rail to be on flatcars, routed CSXT- Pittsfield, MA-HRRC. Cost of freight should be included in the unit price.

Cut Spikes: Cut spikes shall be 6" in length. Cut spikes will be supplied in 50 lbs. kegs. Cut spikes shall be new quality.

Cut-Spike Plates (5 ½" Rail Base): Tie plates shall be AREMA 14" double shoulder cut spikes plates for 5 ½" rail base width.

Pandrol Plates (6" Rail Base): Pandrol plates shall be TPL-P2-6" rolled type plates as manufactured by Pandrol or as equal. Plates shall have a 1:40 Cant. Punching pattern shall be (4) 1" round holes and (2) 1 1/16" square holes.

15/16" Screw Spikes: Screw spikes shall be 15/16" diameter. Screw spikes shall have square drive heads. Screw spikes shall new quality.

e-Clips (Standard): e-Clips shall be those manufactured by Pandrol or as equal. E-clips shall be uncoated. E-clips shall be right-handed. E-clips shall be new quality. E-clips shall be supplied in bags of 25 pieces.

e-Clips (Galvanized): e-Clips shall be those manufactured by Pandrol or as equal. E-clips shall be galvanized. E-clips shall be right-handed. E-clips shall be new quality. E-clips shall be supplied in bags of 25 pieces.

Bonded Insulated Joints (BIJ) Plugs: Bonded insulated joint plugs will be assembled from new 136RE HH rail. Finished length of bonded insulated joint plug shall be 38 ft long. Joint shall be provided at the mid-point of the plug. Insulation material shall be fiberglass. Joint shall be drilled for 6-hole joint bar 3-1/2", 6", 6" and supplied with 1" hex bolts with nuts. Plug rail ends shall be supplied blank for welding.

Freight (Truck): Base bid shall include freight via Truck to Hawleyville, CT. HRRC or its contractor will make provisions for unloading of delivery vehicles. Exclude freight for 136RE rail.

Please specify either a Unit Price or Lump Sum for freight.

If you wish to include freight in the unit price of the ties, please indicate that on your bid.

3.0 – Concrete Crossing Surface

Concrete Crossing Surface: Timber Crossing Surface shall be measured by the Linear Foot. Panels shall be 8' 1 1/2" long and anchor holes shall be located for 19 1/2" tie spacing. End deflectors will not be used in installation.

Linear Foot price shall include gauge panel and 2 field panels. Price shall include all lag screws and plugs for screw holes.

Freight: Base bid shall include freight via Truck to New Milford, CT. HRRC or its contractor will make provisions for unloading of delivery vehicles.

Please specify either a Unit Price or Lump Sum for freight.

If you wish to include freight in the unit price of the ties, please indicate that on your bid.

4.0 – Ballast Materials

Ballast Stone: Ballast stone shall meet the gradation of AREMA No. 4 (Nominal Size 1 1/2" - 3/4") or will be as-equal with the approval of the HRRC Chief Engineer. Price will be for material picked up at your quarry.

Freight: If available, include freight via Truck to North Canaan, CT, billed by the Ton.