

To: Whom It May Concern
From: Nikki Andrade, Business Manager and Michelle Resendes, Director of Operations
Re: Bid 25-01 School Bus Transportation - Bidder's Questions
Date: January 10, 2025

1. **Question:** Would Minuteman consider extending the bid deadline by 2 weeks?

Answer: No

2. **Question:** Is Minuteman planning to apply for the EPA Clean School Bus Program for electric school bus funding, the due date of which has been extended to January 14th, 2025? If so, we'd encourage Minuteman to apply itself or with a neutral third party to ensure the awarded contractor can integrate the funds with their service. We see electric buses as appropriate for at least 5 of the routes listed in the IFB.

Answer: No

3. **Question:** Would Minuteman consider allowing multiple contractors to service the fleet? I expect a contractor with existing local operations in Lancaster/Bolton and Needham/Dover could provide better service and better pricing if the routes were bid by blocks.

Answer: No

4. **Question:** Would Minuteman consider striking the requirement under Section 20.2 for a Responsible Bidder to "have at least 2 current or former public school transportation contracts with at least 10 vehicles per contract"? This requirement artificially constrains competition from otherwise responsible bidders, especially local small businesses that have a history of providing excellent service at reasonable rates.

Answer: No