

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

### Dust and Waste Handling System Upgrade

#### New River Hardwoods, Inc.

### FARM Cost Share Grant Procurement – State of Tennessee

**RFP Number:** NRH-DUSTSYS-2025

**Release Date:** 12/15/2025

**Proposal Due Date:** 1/15/2026

**Contact:** David Bailey

New River Hardwoods, Inc.

Email: [dbailey@newriverhardwoods.com](mailto:dbailey@newriverhardwoods.com)

Phone: 423-727-4019 ext.113

## 1. Introduction

New River Hardwoods, Inc. (“NRH”) is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified vendors and contractors for the design, supply, installation, and commissioning of an upgraded dust and waste handling system. This project is funded in part through the Tennessee Department of Agriculture’s Forestry, Agriculture, and Rural Markets (FARM) Cost Share Grant Program, and all procurement will adhere to competitive bidding and compliance standards set forth by the State of Tennessee.

## 2. Project Overview

NRH operates a hardwood manufacturing facility that produces sawdust, chips, and shavings from multiple production lines. The facility seeks to replace and expand its existing dust and waste handling system to improve efficiency, safety, and environmental performance.

Equipment	Production Rate	Material Type
High-Speed Ripsaw	5,000 board feet/hour	Fine dust and saw chips
High-Speed Moulder	3,000 board feet/hour	Shavings and dust
Wide Belt Sander	3,000 board feet/hour	Fine sanding dust

The system should be capable of continuous operation, minimizing downtime and ensuring clean, safe air and waste handling throughout production.

### 3. Scope of Work

The selected vendor shall provide all materials, equipment, and labor necessary for a complete turnkey dust and waste handling system, including design, fabrication, installation, and startup.

- A. System Design Requirements
  - Central dust collection system capable of handling combined air volumes from the rip saw, moulder, and wide belt sander
  - System must handle total capacity suitable for 11,000 board feet/hour of hardwood processing
  - Provide airflow calculations and supporting design data
  - Include ductwork, transitions, and material thicknesses rated for hardwood dust
  - Include hoods, manifolds, and branch connections for each machine
  - Incorporate spark detection, suppression, and explosion isolation per NFPA 664
  - Include dust collector, fan(s), rotary airlock, transfer blower, or mechanical conveying system as required
  - Integrate with existing plant controls
  - Specify discharge method (trailer loadout, silo, or waste bin)
- B. Installation & Commissioning
  - Delivery and offloading of all materials and components
  - Full mechanical and electrical installation
  - Testing, balancing, and commissioning of system
  - Training for NRH maintenance and operations staff
  - All installation and commissioning must be completed by August 31, 2026
- C. Documentation
  - System drawings and as-built documentation
  - Electrical and control schematics
  - Operation and maintenance manuals
  - Recommended spare parts list

### 4. Vendor Qualifications

Vendors must demonstrate experience with industrial hardwood dust collection systems. Proposals should include:

1. Company background and qualifications
2. At least two comparable installations within the past five years
3. Customer references
4. Proof of compliance with relevant codes and standards
5. Ability to meet required timelines

## 5. Proposal Requirements

Proposals must include:

1. Detailed system design and performance specifications
2. Price proposal including all materials, labor, and installation
3. Delivery and installation schedule
4. Warranty information (minimum 12 months parts and labor)
5. Maintenance and support plan
6. Any applicable Tennessee or federal procurement forms

Proposals must remain valid for 90 days after submission.

## 6. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on compliance with specifications, cost and overall value, vendor qualifications, system performance, energy efficiency, ability to meet the installation deadline (August 31, 2026), and warranty and service support.

## 7. Procurement Schedule

**RFP Issued:** December 15, 2025

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** January 15, 2026

**Estimated Award Date:** January 31, 2026

**Final Installation & Commissioning Deadline:** August 31, 2026

## 8. Submission Instructions

Proposals must be submitted electronically through the State of Tennessee GO-DBE / Bid Opportunities website or by email to the procurement contact listed above. Late proposals will not be accepted.

## 9. Additional Conditions

NRH is not responsible for costs incurred in proposal preparation. NRH reserves the right to reject or modify the RFP at any time. All actions must comply with FARM grant procurement regulations. Final contract award is subject to grant approval.

## 10. Contact Information

Procurement Office

New River Hardwoods, Inc.

Email: [dbailey@newriverhardwoods.com](mailto:dbailey@newriverhardwoods.com)

Phone: 423-727-4019 ext.113