

## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

### **High-Speed Movable Arbor Rip Saw**

#### **New River Hardwoods, Inc.**

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

**RFP Number:** NRH-RIPSAW-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 proposals from qualified manufacturers and equipment suppliers for the purchase, installation, and commissioning of a high-speed movable arbor rip saw for hardwood lumber production. This procurement is conducted in compliance with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture’s Forestry, Agriculture, and Rural Markets (FARM) Cost Share Grant Program. All qualified vendors are encouraged to submit proposals.

## **2. Project Overview**

NRH seeks to upgrade its ripping operations with a high-speed movable arbor rip saw capable of improving throughput, precision, recovery yield, and production efficiency. The system will optimize lumber ripping patterns, reduce waste, and enhance product consistency for value-added hardwood products. This RFP is issued to meet FARM program requirements and ensure competitive, transparent procurement.

## **3. Scope of Work**

The selected vendor shall provide the following equipment, installation, and support services:

- **A. Equipment**

A new, industrial-grade high-speed movable arbor rip saw meeting or exceeding the following minimum specifications:

- Movable Arbor Configuration: Minimum of four (4) movable saws with automated programmable positioning
- Feed Speed: Minimum 200–500 FPM
- Saw Arbor Motor Power: 75–125 HP (vendor to specify)

- Infeed System: Laser or camera-guided scanning system preferred
- Automatic board measuring and optimization system
- Multiple-blade configuration with on-the-fly pattern changes
- Kerf width: Vendor must specify
- Safety Standards: ANSI/OSHA compliant full safety guarding and emergency stop systems
- Control System: Touchscreen HMI with recipe storage and real-time monitoring
- Dust Collection Requirements: Vendor to specify CFM
- Power Requirements: Vendor to specify total electrical load
- Equipment must be new and not refurbished

- B. Installation & Commissioning

- Delivery to New River Hardwoods, Inc.
- Complete installation, alignment, and electrical/mechanical connections
- Start-up, calibration, optimization, and performance testing
- Operator and maintenance training for NRH personnel
- Full documentation including manuals and schematics
- All installation and commissioning must be completed no later than August 31, 2026

#### **4. Vendor Qualifications**

Vendors must demonstrate proven experience with high-speed ripping systems in hardwood mill applications. Proposals must include company background, similar installations, at least two (2) client references, confirmation of equipment being new, and ability to deliver and install within the project timeline.

#### **5. Proposal Requirements**

Proposals must include:

1. Detailed technical specifications of proposed equipment
2. Itemized pricing for equipment, delivery, installation, and training
3. Delivery and installation schedule
4. Warranty documentation
5. Service and support plan
6. Required state or federal procurement forms

All proposals must remain valid for 60 days from submission.

#### **6. Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Compliance with minimum specifications
- Total cost of ownership
- Vendor experience and references
- After-sales support and warranty
- Delivery and installation timeline
- Overall value to NRH

## **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 system or emailed to the procurement contact listed above. Late submissions will not be accepted.

## **9. Additional Conditions**

NRH is not responsible for costs associated with proposal preparation. The company reserves the right to reject any proposal, modify or cancel the RFP, or award the contract in whole or in part. All actions will comply with FARM grant procurement requirements.

## **10. Contact Information**

Procurement Office

New River Hardwoods, Inc.

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

Phone: 423-727-4019 ext. 113