

2024 TLE Bid Process Q&A

- 1. Q: Do I need to include a cashier's check or money order with my bid?**
A: NO, TLE Lease Office will present all the bids and tribal member bids for approval from TLE Board of Directors on February 13th. Upon approval of your bid proposal, TLE will notify you by Award Letter and BIA will contact you immediately for contract signature, payment and bond requirements.
- 2. Q: Are tribal members allowed to complete proposals?**
A: Tribal members can propose the continuation of leases that they currently lease, that will expire on February 2024. Proposals can be accepted by continuing Tribal member Lessee writing "Current Tribal Member Operator Bid" on the bid sheet line for Tract# and "Tribal Member Bid Proposal" on the Envelope. Proposal forms are also available to fill out in-person at TLE.
If a tribal member is placing a new bid on a new tract of interest, write "Sealed Bid" on separate envelope and return to TLE on or before Friday, January 26, 2024 @ 5PM. For additional questions, contact, Lisa, Erin or Wes in the Lease Office.
- 3. Q: What is the CREP Program and if I fill out the Green CREP Sheet, am I signed up in the program?**
A: If you fill out the information CREP Form in Bid Packet, TLE will contact you and schedule a time to discuss the program with USDA NRCS and FSA. You are not automatically signed up; you will express your interest only. CREP is a no-competitive program with USDA and will assist with water, fencing, and other improvements at no-cost to the Lessee. For more information check out: <https://www.farmers.gov/sites/default/files/documents/farmersgov-tribal-crep-faqs.pdf>
- 4. Q: Why did the bid rates increase and how were they calculated?**
A: Tribal Lease Rates at TLE increased to the Pre-Covid Rates that match and equal BIA Minimum bid rates required for Todd, Mellette, Tripp, Lyman and Gregory Counties. Non-tribal member rates were increased by the same % tribal member rates increased. Rates were increased to match BIA rates and adjusted to local county averages based on USDA and SDSU Extension Research values.
- 5. Q: Which forms in the bid packet do I fill out?**
A: If you are the current Operator on the Tract: complete the removable improvements form to list and receipt any water, fence, etc. improvements you intend to remove if you do not retain the lease. Also list any cover-crops you have planted.
Fill out the Farm Management Plan to explain crop rotation or plans for planting grains and/or alfalfa. Give a general summary of your operation and how you intend to manage the tract of interest.

If you will have “outside cattle” on the Tract you are bidding on, list your brands and your partner’s as well on the Grazing Form or Pasture Authorization (if attached.)

Fill out the USDA CREP sheet if you want more information on the sign-up process and program benefits to your operation.

Please complete all forms to the best of your ability and call the Lease Office for additional questions.

6. Q: How many years are leases planned to be awarded for?

A: Lease term will be 5-years unless otherwise noted on your bid sheet/proposal.

7. Q: How will I know if I got the bid?

A: TLE Lease Office will notify you via CERTIFIED MAIL. At that time, you will be instructed to follow up with BIA for contract signature, payment and bond/bank letter of credit. Board Meeting for bid and proposal approvals will be on February 13, 2024.

REMINDERS:

1. Write “Sealed Bid” on your envelope when you mail to TLE if a sealed bid.
2. Write “Tribal Member Proposal” on envelope if proposing to continue operating Tract(s) currently contracted to you (tribal members only).
3. Bids/Proposals must be received at TLE Office in Rosebud, SD on or before Friday, January 26, 2024.
4. No check or payment is required “up-front” however, bid honestly with intent to bond and make complete payment upon award. If you are unable to complete your bid awarded, it may affect your future bids to be honored.
5. Write clear and legibly, Tribal members attach proof of tribal enrollment.
6. Please make sure we have your current mailing address.

Thank you for your interest in Leasing Rosebud Sioux Tribal Land
Contact TLE Lease Office @ 605-747-2371, lisac@rsttle.com or ErinB@rsttle.com