

Anaconda facility proposed

State wants more information on corrections program bids

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ANACONDA — State officials are asking for more information from two companies that submitted bids to run a corrections program, one of which is proposing a new facility outside of Anaconda.

The state Department of Corrections has requested clarification from Community, Counseling and Correctional Services of Butte and Two Rivers Authority of Hardin on bids the companies made to run the START Program, a news release said.

Specifically, the department asked Two Rivers to clarify or provide additional information about its financial stability, rate estimate, ability to accept inmates within two months of being awarded the contract and other points.

From CCCS, the department has asked for clarification on the daily rate the company would charge to house state offenders.

The companies must respond to the request by Oct. 20.

The program, which CCCS operates on the Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs campus, houses male inmates who have violated the terms of their probations. The state is looking for a new location for the program as the current building is slated for demolition.

CCCS, which employs 37 people at the existing START Program, has proposed to build a new \$13.5 million facility at Montana Highways 48 and 243, just east of Anaconda. Additional jobs are expected if the bid is accepted.

CCCS officials could not be reached for comment Friday.

Two Rivers Authority would use an existing Hardin facility to house the START Program.