Q. Two vendors noted the Intel 6248R’s 205w TDP and the incompatibility of some of their dense GPU and CPU chassis.
   A. Vendors are encouraged to bid those air cooled dense solutions with alternative CPU’s such as 6240R, 8260 or 6248.

Q. Are chassis with front IO ports acceptable?
   A. Chassis with front IO ports are not our preference. They might be acceptable if there is adequate cable clearance to the front door.

Q. Confirming that every system be diskless.
   A. Yes, all CPU and GPU compute nodes will be diskless.

Q. Are there other equipment in the C1-3 racks that are using power? If so, how much and where are they?
   A. As described on page 10 of the RFP, racks C2 and C3 are open, each with 30 kW of power and cooling. C1 has space for the storage from 18U to 30U and 7.5 kW of available power and cooling.

Q. Do you need boot drives? If so, please specify.
   A. No

Q. Do you need scratch drives? If so, please specify.
   A. No

Q. Where are the head node(s) and login node(s)?
   A. They are not included in the RFP since this is an addition to our existing cluster.

Q. Who will install the systems?
   A. UH ITS personnel.

Q. Who will run the acceptance tests?
   A. UH ITS personnel.

Q. Are you responsible for connecting the 25GbE nodes to the 100GbE switch?
   A. Yes, UH ITS personnel will install 25GbE that we have purchased separately.

Q. Will you accept existing previously agreed terms or contract vehicles in lieu of the Agreement for Services referenced in Sections 1.19 and 4.6 and the attached General Conditions for Services Agreements?
   A. RCUH will consider and accept other terms if it is in the best interest of RCUH to do so. However, RCUH reserves the right, pursuant to Section 1.15 of the RFP, to disqualify such proposals at our discretion.
Q. Is the 575K pre or post tax?
The $575k should include all costs and taxes.

Q. Given the testing timeline requirement, is UH flexible toward component and manufacturer potential timeline delays?
   A. The delivery and testing timeline will be negotiated as part of agreeing on a contract with the top bidder.

Q. Are you able to give any verbal answers prior to your formal response of May 5th?
   A. No.

Q. Since a GPU node usually requires a minimum of CPU usage, would an 8 GPU node be a better use of resources than a 4 GPU node?
   A. I am not sure this is actually a suitable question for the RFP, but I will comment. The workload on the UH cluster is diverse. The scheduler is configured so that users must specify the resources their jobs need including CPU cores, GPUs and memory. The relative merits of one 8 GPU node versus two GPU nodes depends on the workload. For instance if one considers workloads where the GPU jobs require little CPU and there are a high number of single core CPU only jobs, two 4 GPU nodes would be roughly equivalent to one 8 GPU node plus one CPU only node.

Q. Would RCUH consider 3x 8-GPU nodes as an alternative to 6x 4-GPU nodes?
   A. Yes.

Q. There is no mention of admin or service nodes. Do you need to add admin or service nodes?
   A. No. Adequate management and login nodes exist in order to integrate the nodes purchased with this RFP into the existing cluster.

Q. Are these new nodes part of an existing cluster or are they going to be part of a new cluster install?
   A. These new nodes will be integrated into an existing heterogeneous cluster.

Q. What management applications are you using for node management (iLO) and cluster management (HPCM)?
   A. xCAT, IPMI, PXEboot

Q. The Acceptance Criteria section, p.12, does not appear to have any specific metrics to meet. Will you measure performance against the other nodes or do you expect to meet some minimum performance numbers for each test?
   A. The performance of sets of like nodes will be compared to see if there are any outliers. We hope to identify and characterize outliers prior to putting the new equipment into production.