MEPNN Supplier Scouting Opportunity Synopsis

Section 1: General Information

Scouting Number	2026-651
Item to be Scouted	Contract Manufacturer for Proprietary Chicken Chip
Days to be scouted	30
Response Due By	12/18/2026
Description	A client has developed a clean label, high-protein chicken chip snack made primarily from chicken and a small amount of dry ingredients. They are looking for a US-based contract manufacturing partner to produce the product under

Section 2: Technical Information

Type of supplier being sought	Contract manufacturer
Reason	New product start up
Describe the manufacturing processes (elaborate to provide as much detail as possible)	Unlike conventional jerky or sausage products, our product is a thin, crunchy chicken snack. Ideally, they are looking for a facility with grinding, mixing, freezing, sausage forming or molding, slicing, oven baking, seasoning, and packaging capabilities. Seeking an inspected contract manufacturing partner capable of producing our proprietary Chicken Chip. They are open to exploring alternative manufacturing processes as well as any extra machinery needed. This is a hybrid meat/starch snack (approximately 70% poultry) that involves a specific thermal and mechanical process. The product is baked and requires specialized sheeting and thermal-processing machinery (we are prepared to share full process details upon execution of an NDA). Regarding packaging, we have a strong preference for facilities with in-house Form-Fill-Seal (FFS) capabilities.
Provide dimensions / size / tolerances / performance specifications for the item	Planning to manufacture 3-4 different flavors, each available in two package sizes: 100g and 50g. The bags will use standard packaging materials and will be nitrogen flushed and sealed, with silica gel desiccant packets included.
List required materials needed to make the product, including materials of product components	Chicken Breast, starch, almond flower, salt, baking powder, flavoring yeast
Are there applicable certification requirements?	Yes
Details	USDA certification (preferably USDA Organic) and FDA compliance for ready-to-eat chicken products.
Are there applicable regulations?	Yes
Details	Needs to be compliant with USDA and FDA regulations
Are there any other stndards, requirements, etc.?	No
Additional Technical Comments	

Section 4: Business Information

Estimated potential business volume	Aim to begin production by the end of March 2027 (Q1) or sooner if possible. For the first production run, targeting a total of 20,000 bags of 50g if possible, and can start at lower numbers if it's not possible to start from this number. Also, it is worth noting that we are looking for a partner with the capacity to scale significantly, with a potential monthly volume of five times more in 12 months, if possible.
Estimated target price / unit cost information (if unavailable explain)	$1.50 per pound of finished product.
When is it needed by?	As soon as possible
Describe packaging requirements	Individual items, grouped together in a cardboard for distribution. Verity pack: 4 flavors 50g group together in a branded box.
Where will this item be shipped?	Throughout the United States

Additional Comments

Is there other information you would like to include?	