The purpose of this amendment is to answer questions posed by a potential offeror. The questions and answers are as follows:

1. The machining bed is specified as greater than or equal to 4 feet but less than or equal to 8 feet. A 4 ft. x 4 ft. bed would meet this requirement. Can NRL tell us the maximum substrate size that it wants to machine? Is it 4 ft. x 8 ft.?

Section 2.6 of the Specifications covers the machining bed size requirements. The 4 ft. x 4 ft. bed would meet these requirements as would a 4 ft. x 8 ft. bed. NRL does not have a specific maximum substrate size that it wants to machine.

2. NRL's requirement for a system foot print is 10 ft. x 15 ft. Does this include an area for the operator and the control panel? Does it include doors open configuration?

Section 2.5 of the Specifications states that the machine must be able to operate, including workpiece loading into the machine, in an approximate 15 foot by 10 foot space. Therefore, space for operator and control panel(s) and space for any machine doors that have to open for materials loading, machine servicing, etc. must be included in the 15 foot by 10 foot floor space limitation.

3. Regarding autofocus capability, is this capability meant to adjust on the fly, or is it only after part loading, prior to the start of actual machining?

Per Section 2.4 of the Specifications, the autofocus capability may be either adjustable on the fly or after work piece loading prior to the start of actual machining.

4. NRL's Specifications describe a vacuum hold down fixture to support and locate the part during cutting. How does NRL conceive of cutting through substrates with a vacuum hold down chuck under the part? The Specifications also discuss work piece forms. How does NRL conceive that these work piece forms will interface with the vacuum chuck during actual cutting?

Section 2.2 of the Specifications covers work piece forms. Section 2.6 of the Specifications covers the vacuum suction requirement for the machining bed. All work piece forms will have at least one planar face that can interface with the machining bed. Most of the work piece materials are expected to be sheet like, with two large parallel planar faces. It is expected that the machining bed, with its vacuum hold down capability, will be capable of operating with laser radiation on its surface without impairing its intended function.