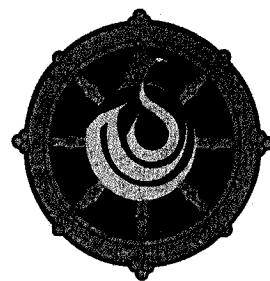




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Bhutan Power Corporation Limited
(An ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Certified Company)

Distribution Construction Department
Distribution Services
Thimphu: Bhutan



PRE-BID MINUTES OF MEETING
for
OCB No.: BPC/DS/DCD/ADB/AREPP/Package1
October 20, 2022

A. Members Present

The pre-bid meeting was conducted virtually through by vedioconference on Google Meet as per the Bid Data Sheet, ITB 7.4 of the bidding document. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Drukchu Dorji, General Manager (GM), Distribution Construction Department, Bhutan Power Corporation Limited (BPC) and the following members were present:

1. Mr. Leonardo Lupano, Team Leader, Consultant.
2. Mr. Erik Koenen, Procurement Specialist, Consultant.
3. Mr. Marco Cony, Electricity Distribution & PV Connection Specialist, Consultant.
4. Mr. Alexis Chatry, Project Manager, Consultant
5. Ms. Kelzang Yudon, Associate Engineer, DCD, BPC.

B. Welcome and Introduction

The meeting was formally opened by General Manager following the introduction of the consultants. All intending bidders were virtually invited and admitted to the meeting room as they joined. The Bidder's representative from the following Companies were present for the pre-bid meeting.

SL#	Company
1.	Surya International Enterprise Private Limited, India
2.	Bhutan Traders, Bhutan
3.	Shorefield Sendirian Berhad, Malaysia
4.	JB Solar Solutions, Bhutan
5.	Pyelbar Lokchey Private LTD, Bhutan
6.	Sai Trading Partner, Bhutan
7.	Progressive Research & Consultancy Services, Bhutan
8.	Tashicell, Bhutan
9.	Icon Power Solution Pvt. Ltd,India
10.	Bhutan Engineering Power Company, Bhutan
11.	Nawang builders pvt Ltd., Bhutan
12.	Agni Green Power Limited, India
13.	Nepal Ekarat Engineering Pvt. Ltd., Nepal



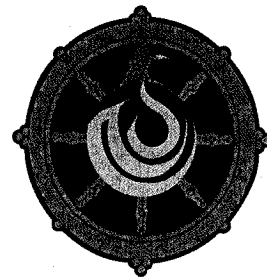
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C. Clarifications and Responses

The clarifications received were presented, discussed and clarified as follows:

SL#	Clarifications received from Bidders	BPC's Reposponse to clarifications
1	If we need to submit the Bid Security from the local bank of Bhutan or Bid Security from the bidder country is applicable.	The bid security can be submitted from a reputable source from an eligible country as described in Section 5 (Eligible Countries). It was also inform to refer Section I, Clause 21.3.
2	What are the Taxes that will be implemented by the Bhutan Government?	Customs Duty, Sales Tax shall be applicable on imports from countries other than India. Only Sales Tax shall be applicable for imports from India. However, TDS is applicable for all. It was also informed to refer Section II, ITB 18.4 (a) (i).
3	In the case of Joint Venture has not been legally constituted at the time of bidding. If we could make the Bid Security in any one partner's name or we need to enter the name of all the JV Members even though the Bid Security is issued by any one member.	The bid security of a Joint Venture shall be in the name of the Joint Venture that submits the Bid. If the Joint Venture has not been legally constituted at the time of bidding, the bid security shall be in the name of any or all of the Joint Venture partners. It was also informed to refer Section I, Clause 21.8.
4	Kindly assure us for the security of Bidder's Financial Bid in the form of Hard Copy and Electronic copy	The electronic copy of the financial bid should be submitted in the hard copy of the financial envelope through USB stick without password protection. It was also informed to refer Section II, ITB 22.1
5	Is it in the scope of Bidder to provide the Net Meter/Bidirectional Meter?	It was informed that the Net Meter/Bidirectional Meter is not in the scope of the contractor
6	Are there any Designs and Drawings for Mounting Structure?	It was informed that the design and drawing are in the scope of Contractor
7	GCC Clause 14, it has been stated that the taxes and duties will be borne by the contractor but in ITB 18.4(a)(i) it has been stated that the tax and duties shall be exempted and will be reimbursed. Please clarify which point to follow.	It was informed that Section II, ITB 18.4 (a) (i) of Bid Data Sheet shall govern.



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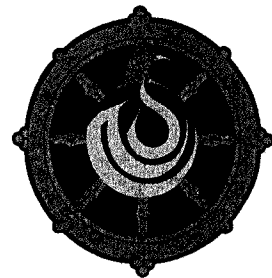
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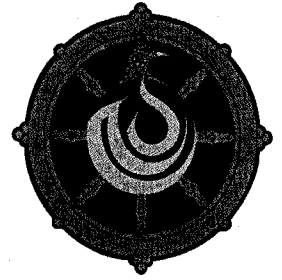


8	Kindly clarify that if it is compulsory to submit the Recommended Spare Parts along with the Bid	It was informed that the bidders must submit the Recommended Spare Parts as per Schedule 6: Recommended Spare Parts.
9	Please Clarify if the Price of Spare Parts will be taken for Evaluation or not	The bidders were informed that the Price of the Recommended Spare Parts won't be taken for evaluation and only Schedule no.5 Grand Summary will only be taken for evaluation and award
10	Please state the number of personnel required to demonstrate in each position that has been mentioned in Pg. No: 173.	The bidders was informed to refer Section 6: CVs of three Site managers are required, and one CV for each of the other positions. Candidates cannot be proposed for more than one position.
11	It has been mentioned that Defect Liability Period is 540 days or 365 days but in SCC 27 Defect Liability Period is Not Applicable. Please suggest which one to follow	It was informed that SCC 27.10 states about the extended defect liability of the critical componenets which is not applicable. Hence, the defect liability period shall be as indicated in Section 7, Clause 27.2
12	Does the change of Purlin is in the scope of Bidder or Employer?	The bidders were informed that the change of Purlin and the Switches are in the scope of Contractor
13	Does the change of Switches is in the scope of Bidder or Employer?	
14	Does the change of Shed for the rooftop is in the scope of Bidder or Employer, if the rooftop is weak?	It was informed that there won't be change in the scope since the feasibility study has been carried out thoroughly. If so required, then it will be ground mounted. Please refer Section 6, Appendix-1 for details of household.
15	Please state the distance between the house and the substation.	Information about houses has already been provided. No other data will be made available. Further, as per Section II, ITB 7.2 the bidders can also make site visit.



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16	What is the Time period given to us to complete the work? ITB 16.1(b) The period following completion of plant and services in accordance with provisions of the contract shall be ten (10) years SCC 8.2 The Time for Completion of the whole of the Facilities shall be 365 calendar days from the Effective Date as described in the Contract Agreement.	1) The Time for Completion of the whole of the Facilities shall be 365 calendar days from the Effective Date as described in the Contract Agreement. 2) The ITB 16.1(b) indicates the period during which spares parts and special tools should be available for the proper functioning of the plants.
17	Is there any CMC to be given by the contractor, or how will be paid for the spare parts after the warranty period. SCC 7.3 The Contractor agrees to supply spare parts for a period of years: ten (10) years	It was informed that there is no CMC to be given by the contractor. The spare part after the warranty period will be based on the offered rates and accordingly negotiated.
18	Kindly allow to submit the letter from Bank for Credit Line (as mentioned in Form FIN-3: Availability of Financial Resources) in Bidder's Country Currency (i.e INR)	Please submit as per the standard form provided.
19	We request you to kindly specify the exchange rates to be used in this tender as we are facing problem to get the exchange rates from the given site: https://www.rma.org.bt/	The exchange rate shall be the date of bid opening. It was also informed to refer Section II, ITB 37.1
20	Kindly clarify that the price schedule will be filled in the currency of Bidder's home country or in Employer's Country Currency or in USD. Kindly also specify the exchange rates to be consider for the price schedule as on which date.	The bidder shall quote either in the currency of Bidder's home country or any fully convertible currency. It was also informed to refer Section II, ITB 19.1 for more details
21	Incoterms CIP, so where the destination ports?	Villages (household) is the destination ports. It was also informed to refer Section 6 for details
22	Who will responsible for Customs Clearance?	Contractor is responsible for the Customs Clearance
23	Spares price include in Submission price or not? Schedule 6	Recommended Spare price (sechedule - 6) shall be submitted in the bid but shall not be included in the Grand Total (Schedule 5)



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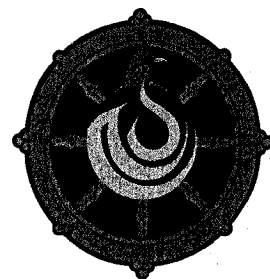
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24	<p>1. Bid Security from International Bank is acceptable or not?</p> <p>2. Do we need to follow Bid Security Template provided by Tender documents? Or Is it allow to modification or deletion of few texts in this template based on international Bank requirements?</p>	<p>1) The bid security from the banks of the eligible country as indicated in Section 5 is acceptable.</p> <p>2) The template shall be as per the tender document.</p>
25	<p>GCC 42.2 Termination for Contractor's Default, Suggest to modified this clause is Below:</p> <p>Termination for Employer's or Contractor's Default</p>	<p>It was informed that modification is not possible as it is the approved standard bidding document of ADB</p>
26	<p>What's the payment mode for International Tenderer, Is it Letter or Credits (L/C)?</p>	<p>Bidders were informed to refer Section 9, Appendix 1 as it is clearly mentioned there.</p>
27	<p>International Tenderer are responsible for Offshore parts and Local entity responsible for Onshore parts: The Employer will sign one Tri-Parties Contract with Offshore and Onshore entity. Is this model is acceptable?</p>	<p>It was informed that the employer will only sign one contract for the whole facility. The contractor shall be responsible thereafter.</p>
28	<p>The Time for Completion of the whole of the Facilities shall be 365 calendar days from the Letter of Credit (L/C) issued date.</p>	<p>The Time for Completion of the whole of the Facilities shall be 365 calendar days from the Effective date which shall be upon the fulfillment of the requirements listed in contract Agreement (Article 3) which amongst others includes the advice that the Letter of Credit is issued</p>
29	<p>19.6 The Contractor shall not subcontract (i) any part of the Works for which subcontracting is not permitted as specified below; (i) Parts of the Works for which subcontracting is not permitted: Design of Grid Connected Rooftop, Ground-mounted solar plants and project management. Suggest to allow subcontract for any parts of the works?</p>	<p>It was informed that the subcontracting for the Design of Grid Connected Rooftop, Ground-mounted solar plants and project management is not permitted.</p>



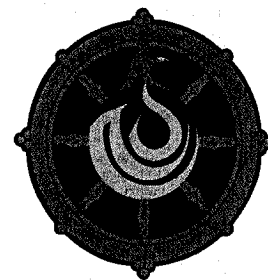
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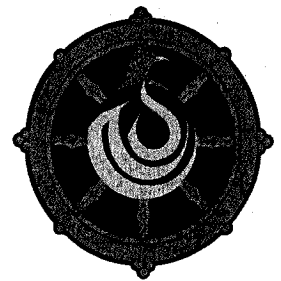
30	Since Inverter solution without LCD, will be more reliable. This solution will be more maintenance free because LCD screen is not reliable for long term usage. But can in-built inverter mobile app connectivity function to connect inverter to show all the data. Also using the app inverter commissioning can be done. So now most Inverters are without LCD, but can use mobile APP to check the parameter	Inverter without LCD are accepted provided they are capable to be monitored from mobile App.
31	Since DC combiner box have fuse, DC SPD and DC isolator inside. Inverter have already integrated DC SPD and DC isolator. And some of the inverter use multiple MPPT design, one MPPT maximum connect with 2 strings in parallel, as per IEC standard IEC 60364-9-1 5.5.1, one single MPPT can have two PV strings input then no need overcurrent protection, so fuse protection is not necessary. DC Combiner Box is not necessary for Multiple MPPT design inverter	Ok for inverter with multiple MPPT use but ensure that the inverter have overcurrent protection built-in in each entrances (DC isolator) and, at the same time, comply the IEC 60364-9-1 standard.
32	In page No 49 on Title 2.5 Organizational Environmental, Health and safety system , there is requirement of valid ISO certification or internationally recognized equivalent which should be met by all members of JV. Is it applicable if this requirement fulfill by only one JV partner (Submitted only by product provider not by installation provider)?	It was informed that in case of a JV, the submission of ISO by one JV partner is acceptable as already indicated in Section II, ITB 11.2 (k). However, in the case of subcontractors working in different sites, all the member must meet the requirements listed in Table 2.5.1 (Environmental, Health and Safety Certification) of Section III.
33	Built-in meter and data logger to monitor system performance through external computer shall be provided. Please Visit Page No 109 , inverter's specifications section.	The function for Wifi remote monitoring system is ok. However, the contractor must guarantee that it can be monitored through the application / PC



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	<p>Here, we have Wi-Fi remote monitoring system. An application to be downloaded on a mobile or PC, by logging in username and password, anyone can access data from anywhere with the help of internet. If there is problem for internet access in remote area, we could provide through LAN on PC. We have inverters of high quality and issue a 10 years warranty but the feature mentioned above is replaced by Wi-Fi. Meter is available but outside the inverter.</p>	<p>with the available coverage (3G) in the different villages. On the other hand, if there is a need to install an outside device (meter) next to the inverter, this is acceptable, though it must have at least a guarantee equal to or greater than the inverter due to the adverse weather conditions that may exist.</p>
34	<p>The total load of the structure (when installed with PV modules should be less than 30kg/m². Please Visit page number No 113, mounting structure section.</p> <p>Here, we use 540 to 560 Wp, Tier-1 solar panels. Each panel weigh 28kgs to 30Kgs and dimensions is 2274mm x 1134mm x 35mm (larger than 2m²). It will be within the parameters given.</p>	<p>Ok for those PV Panels (Tier-1); However, it was informed that bidder should assess it with the relevant information on households' structure</p>
35	<p>In page No 173 on Title 8. Personnel Requirements , there is requirement of 13 to 20 years of experience of working personnel of different positions, We have our own team, well trained, confident working in harsh environments, already completed large scale projects starting from 3KW to 1MW having experience and dedication in solar industry but academic qualifications might slightly vary but not the performance. Is personnel requirements on page number 173 is mandatory? If that case, we can hire locally or from any part of the world.</p>	<p>It was informed that the personnel proposed has to meet at least the criteria as indicated in the table.</p>
36	<p>Is there Road access to 305 households? Is this asphalt road or graveled? Can we transport goods to each household?</p>	<p>Some households cannot be reached by asphalt road or graveled. Some households can only reached by foot.</p>



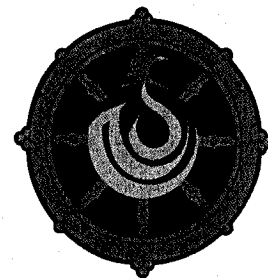
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37	Please visit page no 104, on title environmental, Health and safety Documentation, what are the information's that need to include in ethics charter , monitoring compliance with EHS commitments and official company procedures for the management. We need clarification on these titles.	A copy has to be provided of the existing in-house policies of each subject matter.
38	If the ISO 45001 Certificate of Occupational HEALTH and Safety Management System can substitute ISO 18001 or not.	It was informed that valid ISO 18001 as indicated in the bidding document and also ISO 45001 shall be accepted.
39	Provide the estimate cost of the project	USD 1,655,500.00
40	Request to reconsider the working on roof top with minimum height of 6m in locations above 2000m altitude as indicated in Section 3, Table 2.4.3 (Specific Experience Managing Environmental, Health and Safety Aspects).	Since the sites are located in the removed and high altitudes of Bhutan, the requirement was necessary since some of expert/workers may be likely to experience altitude sickness which is important from the safety Aspects.
41	Request to extend the bid submission deadline	Bid submission deadline cannot be extended as enough preparation time were given.

D. Closing of Pre-Bid Meeting

There being no further questions, BPC formally thanked the bidder representatives for their participation and wished them all the best in their bid submission. The pre bid meeting ended at 4:00pm.


(Drukchu Dorji)