



Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) IT Datacenter/Colocation Facilities

1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

The Canada Energy Regulator (CER) has a requirement for IT Datacenter co-location facilities to house IT equipment.

The purpose of this ACAN is to provide public notice indicating to the supplier community that the CER intends to award a short term bridge contract for datacenter services to Bell Canada/Q9 Networks Inc. to meet immediate operational needs and to allow the CER enough time to run a re-tender competitive process for the longer term datacenter services, as well as the transition after the competition contract is issued

2. Definition of the Requirement

The CER has since 2005 leveraged two geographically disparate datacenter facilities to house IT equipment. These datacenters are designated RED (day-to-day production IT needs) and WHITE (IT Disaster Recovery).

The CER currently uses these datacenters to provide the ability to physically separate production infrastructure from disaster recovery and back-up systems. Both facilities are local to the Calgary area, and physically accessible to CER staff for support/maintenance activities

3. Background

In January 2017, The CER had run a competitive solicitation process (84084-16-0223) for the WHITE (IT Disaster Recovery) datacenter services. This solicitation process resulted in the award of one contract to Rogers Communications Canada Inc.

In July 2020, the CER initiated a third request for proposal (RFP) 84084-20-0022 for RED (day-to-day production IT needs) datacenter services seeking a service provider to

- house the CER's primary, production datacenter (designated the RED datacenter) in a secure, supplier owned and operated facility,
- provide enhanced network access between the CER office location (in Calgary) and the new datacenter,
- provide network connectivity between the secondary disaster recovery datacenter (WHITE IT disaster recovery) and RED (day-to-day production IT needs) datacenter.

RFP 84084-20-0022 was unsuccessful due to a change in security requirements and did not result in the award of a contract.

This ACAN will allow the CER to continue with an existing arrangement with Bell Canada/Q9 Networks Inc., the current RED (day-to-day production IT needs) datacenter services provider



File number 84084-20-0085

Closing Date: September 14, 2020; 2:00 pm MDT

and by providing the CER the time necessary to formally compete, evaluate, award a contract, and to transition from current service provider to winning bidder. It is expected that the new RFP will be posted around October, 2020.

Considerations

CER office location, Centre 10 does not have facilities nor personnel to house or operate an IT datacenter. The CER must rely on a third party for its co-location needs.

Over the next two to five years, the CER can expect to see a large portion of its production IT services move to the public Cloud. This migration will reduce CER's dependency on a third party to house the RED datacenter.

4. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- A committed Power Demand of 10,000VA
- 10Mbps Internet, burstable to 100Mbps/Sec
- 10 GB WAN connectivity between Centre-10 and RED datacentre
- Minimum of three (3) full cabinets that meet the security requirements listed at <https://www.tpsqc-pwgsc.gc.ca/esc-src/msi-ism/index-eng.html> .
- Support for Zayo-provided WAN circuit, and Cross-connect from Zayo demarc to CER Cabinet to support CNS4 WAN connectivity
- All services must be available on October 1st, 2020.

5. Applicability of the trade agreements to the procurement

CKFTA

6. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

Bell Canada/Q9 Networks Inc. is the current service provider for the CER RED datacenter. The CER's requirement is immediate; latency involved in moving computing equipment and establishing network connectivity to the facilities of a different service provider are not consistent with the CER's immediate timeline. Transitioning from current supplier to a different provider may take between four (4) to six (6) months.

Note: This ACAN is a notice of a short-term contract that allows the CER to properly compete the full requirement by re-tender around October, 2020.

7. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

The following exception to the Government Contracts Regulations is invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) –

"only one person is capable of performing the work"

8. Period of the proposed contract or delivery date



The period of this contract is from October 1st, 2020 to March 31, 2021.

9. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the contract is \$100,000, GST extra.

10. Deliverables

The Canada Energy Regulator requires:

- A committed Power Demand of 10,000VA
- 10 Mbps Internet, burstable to 100Mbits/Sec
- 10 GB WAN connectivity between Centre-10 and RED datacenter
- Minimum of three (3) full cabinets
- Cross-connect from Zayo demark to CER Cabinet to support CNS4 wan connectivity

11. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

Bell Canada/Q9 Networks Inc.
Suite 1100, PO Box 235
100 Wellington Street West,
Toronto, ON M5K 1J3

12. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

13. Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is
September 14, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. MDT

14. Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Frances Todd, Procurement Officer
Canada Energy Regulator
517 10 Ave SW
Calgary, Alberta, T2R 0A8
Telephone: 403-470-1748
E-mail: fran.todd@cer-rec.gc.ca