

ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)

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.

2. Definition of the requirement

The department of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has a requirement for a vendor to provide in-depth geopolitical research, analysis and insights pertaining to global and Canadian energy markets, with a specific focus on key challenges and opportunities for Canada (e.g. climate policy impacts, transportation and market access, evolving export markets, etc.). This information must be provided via:

- a. Access to an online portal / interface - with direct access (i.e. phone and email) to political and energy sector experts for analytical support and/or additional information pertaining to the online content. The online content must include advisory services and research at the country, region and energy sector level on a frequent, periodic basis through publications, reports, updates and notes; and
- b. Customized strategic dialogue – including custom briefings / presentations / speaking engagements, conference calls (e.g. quarterly participation in NRCan's interdepartmental oil markets call) and consultations to brief senior management and key analytical staff.

3. 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. Be able to provide access to publications, reports and data (related to definition of requirements) - via an existing online portal.
- b. Must have an existing, in-house analytical team of experts to provide advisory services on politics, geopolitics, economy, culture, social issues and Canada-US relations - demonstrated by at least a minimum of 7 years of experience in each of the expertise areas listed above.
- c. Must have at least 7 years of experience related to policy, energy and natural resources. (Specifically: carbon regulatory and policy risks, supply disruption

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issues, pipelines, oil prices, and supply and demand fundamentals) in a North American and global context.

- d. Must have the capacity to provide customized workshops prepared and presented by senior staff related to the above topics.

4. Applicability of the trade agreement(s) to the procurement

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreement(s):

- o Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
- o World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP)
- o Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)
- o Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)
- o Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA)
- o Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement
- o Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement
- o Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement
- o Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement
- o Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA)
- o Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (CUFTA)

5. Set-aside under the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business – Not applicable.

6. Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement(s) – Not applicable

7. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

The supplier mentioned in section 13 below is the only known supplier that meets the mandatory criteria set out in section 3 above.

Should Canada receive a statement of capabilities from a supplier that contains sufficient information to indicate that it meets the requirements set forth in this ACAN, a competitive process will be triggered with a technical and financial evaluation methodology of the bids proposed by the potential bidders

8. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

The following exception(s) to the Government Contracts Regulations is (are) invoked for this procurement under subsection subsection 6(d) - "only one person is capable of performing the work").

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The identified supplier, **Eurasia Group**, is the only one able to meet all of the criteria identified in paragraph 3 above

9. Exclusions and/or Limited Tendering Reasons

The following exclusion(s) and/or limited tendering reasons are invoked under the:

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) – Article: 513.1(b) (iii);
- World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP) – Under the Revised GPA - Article XIII, 1 (b) (iii);
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) – Article(s) Article 19.12 (b) (iii)
- Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – Article(s): 15.10 , 2 (b) (iii) (s)
- Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA) – Article(s) Kbis-09 (b),Article Kbis-09 (c)
- Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement – Article(s): 1409 (b) (iii);
- Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement – Article(s): 17.11 2 (b) (iii)
- Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement – Article 14.3, Under the Revised GPA - Article XIII, 1 (b) (iii);
- Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement – Article(s) 16.10 (b) (iii)
- Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA) – Article(s)1409 (b) (iii)
- Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (CUFTA) – Article(s) Article 10.13 (b) (iii);

10. Ownership of Intellectual Property – Not applicable

11. Period of the proposed contract:

- The proposed contract is for a period of One (1) year from date of award to February 14, 2022 with one Option period of one year.

12. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the contract is \$149,000.00 USD with a one-year Option period of \$155,000.00 USD (GST/HST extra).

13. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

Eurasia Group
149 5th Avenue, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10010

14. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

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Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services or construction 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.

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

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is February 26, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. EST.

16. Inquiries and submission of statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Julia Pace, Procurement Officer
1 Challenger Drive
Dartmouth, NS

Telephone: 902-719-4856
E-mail: julia.pace@canada.ca