

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 to design, commission and model a pilot-scale electro-thermal fluidized bed reactor to purify graphite flakes at a temperature in excess of 2700°C. The work will involve the following:

1. Perform an audit of NRCan's existing batch-fed fluidized bed design to identify its strengths and weaknesses;
2. Provide assistance in commissioning NRCan's reactor from engineers experienced in commissioning and operating an electro-thermal fluidized bed reactor to purify graphite flakes;
3. Create a conceptual design for a continuous-fed reactor based on NRCan's design of a batch-fed reactor, and;
4. Develop a mathematical model describing the electric conductivity and structural properties of a fluidized bed of graphite flakes, accounting for the geometry of NRCan's reactor.

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:

- Experience: a minimum of 10 years of experience within the last 20 years, conducting R&D for thermal technologies.
- Demonstrated experience designing, commissioning and modelling electro-thermal fluidized beds for graphite purification within the past 10 years.
- Knowledge and understanding of graphite flake properties, electro-thermal fluidized beds, and modelling the Joule heating of an electro-thermal fluidized bed reactor containing fluidized graphite flakes.
- Academic qualifications: Must possess a doctoral degree from a recognized university in the field of engineering. Must have authored papers on electro-thermal fluidized bed research in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

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

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

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
- Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement

5. Set-aside under the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business, non applicable

6. Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement(s), non 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 to the *Government Contracts Regulations* is invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) - "only one person is capable of performing the work.

The identified supplier, **Thermal & Material Engineering Center** 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);
- Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement – Article 14.3, Under the Revised GPA - Article XIII, 1 (b) (iii).

10. Ownership of Intellectual Property

- Ownership of any Foreground Intellectual Property arising out of the proposed contract will vest in the Contractor.

11. Period of the proposed contract dates are as follow:

- The proposed contract is for a period of 6 months

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12. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the contract \$ 75,000.00 USD.

13. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

Thermal & Material Engineering Center
45-047 Opole, ul.
LUDWIKA WARYNSKI No. 2, POLAND

14. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

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 January 27, 2023 at 2:00 pm EST.

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

Julia Pace, Procurement Officer

Natural Resources Canada
1 Challenger Drive
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 4A2

Telephone: 902-719-4856

E-mail: julia.pace@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca