



Date: October 11, 2023

Title: Design and Installation of a Microgrid at the High Commission of Canada in South Africa, in Pretoria

Solicitation Number: 24-250214

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The following Questions & Answers is in link with the solicitation document mentioned above.

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### Questions & Answers # 1

**Q1. "RFP Clause 3.1- Corporate experience (Pg 7)**

This clause states that the "bidder and/or sub consultants must have minimum of three (3) projects in the past ten (10) years related to the design and/or implementation of building energy, micro grid, Solar PV, Renewable energy power generation in a similar scope and size to the High Commission of Canada in South Africa, in Pretoria prior to the bid closing date."

Query: With regards to this, kindly help to confirm the following:

- Will bidder's consultants/sub-contractor work experience be considered under this criteria?
- Since there is no min. plant size requirement mentioned in the RFP, what is the minimum project size to be considered as experience? Can you allow bidder to use similar projects of any capacity?
- If the bidder has done Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) management of large-scale grid tied renewable energy projects globally, will this be considered as part of this criteria? Since large scale projects are more complicated and management of these projects require detailed design, technical and implementation expertise, we understand that the company having such experience should qualify.
- For ground-mounted solar projects, will the gross area of the land be considered instead of a gross area of the building?"

**A1.**

- Will bidder's consultants/sub-contractor work experience be considered under this criteria? *Yes, the bidder's consultant can be considered.*
- Since there is no min. plant size requirement mentioned in the RFP, what is the minimum project size to be considered as experience? Can you allow bidder to use similar projects of any capacity? *Yes, Similar size and scope.*
- If the bidder has done Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) management of large-scale grid tied renewable energy projects globally, will this be considered as part of this criteria? Since large scale projects are more complicated and management of these projects require detailed design, technical and implementation expertise, we understand that the company having such experience should qualify. *If the engineering included design, then yes.*
- For ground-mounted solar projects, will the gross area of the land be considered instead of a gross area of the building?" *Area to be considered on the property should be evaluated by the proponents during the site visit.*

**Q2. "RFP Clause 5.4- Price breakdown (Pg 9)**

Query: From this clause we understand that the price breakdown may be requested at a later stage, if required and not to be submitted along with the proposal. Kindly confirm."



**A2.** *At the RFP stage we will require Part 3 – Tender Form completed only. This form includes a total firm price exclusive of taxes. Canada may request a breakdown of this price to be provided if it believes the price the be unreasonable.*

**Q3.** **“RFP Clause 7.3- Declaration form for procurement (Pg 10)  
Query: Please confirm if this form needs to be provided as part of the bid submission or does it need to be filled in on-line as per the instructions given on the link provided”**

**A3.** *This form is only required at bid submission if the following is applicable. It would be required to complete the form as a PDF and provide it with your bid submission.*

1. the supplier has, in the past three years, been charged with or convicted of one of the offences listed in the [Ineligibility and Suspension Policy](#) (the “policy”); and/or
2. the supplier has, in the past three years, been charged with or convicted of a criminal offence in a country other than Canada that, to the best of the supplier’s knowledge and belief, may be similar to one of the offences listed in the policy; and/or
3. one of the supplier’s affiliates has, in the past three years, been convicted of one of the offences listed in the policy, or has, in the past three years, been convicted of a criminal offence in a country other than Canada that, to the best of the supplier’s knowledge and belief, may be similar to one of the offences listed in the policy; and/or
4. the supplier is unable to provide any of the certifications required by the [Integrity provisions](#)

If the above do not apply, please also ensure you are reading and certifying the following as you are certifying by submitting a bid.

- a. it has read and understands the [Ineligibility and Suspension Policy \(https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ciif/politique-policy-eng.html\)](https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ciif/politique-policy-eng.html);
- b. it understands that certain domestic and foreign criminal charges and convictions, and other circumstances, as described in the Policy, will or may result in a determination of ineligibility or suspension under the Policy;
- c. it is aware that Canada may request additional information, certifications, and validations from the Bidder or a third party for purposes of making a determination of ineligibility or suspension;
- d. it has provided with its bid a complete list of all foreign criminal charges and convictions pertaining to itself, its affiliates and its proposed first tier sub-consultants that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, may be similar to one of the listed offences in the Policy;
- e. none of the domestic criminal offences, and other circumstances, described in the Policy that will or may result in a determination of ineligibility or suspension, apply to it, its affiliates and its proposed first tier sub-consultants;
- and
- f. it is not aware of a determination of ineligibility or suspension issued by PWGSC that applies to it.

**Q4.** **“RFP Appendix “A” – Statement of Work (SOW)- Clause 9.2 and 9.3- Civil and Structural deliverables (Pg 58)**

**This clause states that Construction documents (drawings and specifications) must be signed and sealed by a licensed professional Civil Engineer and a licensed professional Structural Engineer respectively.**

**Query: Please confirm is this is required at the bidding stage, or will it be a requirement for the successful bidder? Kindly note that getting such certified documentation requires additional time and site visits by the professional engineers and would be difficult to provide within the short bid submission timeline. Request your consideration please.”**

**A4.** *This is a requirement for the successful bidder only, following contract award.*



- Q5. “RFP Appendix “B” – Security Requirements Check List**  
**Query:** This form is not clearly visible and is a bit blurred to read. Kindly advise what is a bidder required to do here and request to please share a clear version of the same”
- A5.** *There is no action required for the bidder in this section. The Security Requirement Checklist is here to reflect that there are no Security Requirements for the bidders organization or persons for this requirement.*
- Q6. “About two years ago, Canada did a press release in which its intentions to do Roof-top Solar retrofits for a large proportion of its approximate 10,000 buildings was announced...and I'm wondering if this Pretoria RFP might be tied into that bigger plan?”**
- A6.** *We believe that the proponent is referring to the Greener Home Grant, which offers grants to homeowners to save money and reduce their environmental footprint. GAC is not affiliated with this program.  
GAC has internally done an assessment of Crown-owned properties to identify ideal candidates for solar PV, based on the carbon intensity of the local grid and solar irradiance. Pretoria was identified as a very strong candidate for solar based on that analysis. Solar PV and battery energy storage installations align with the Government of Canada's transition to net-zero emissions by 2050, which also applies to the international mission network.*
- Q7. “In Section 2.3, b. it notes that “His Majesty will send a written notice to the bidder”. Being in Canada and South Africa, our postal service in South Africa doesn't work well.”**
- A7.** *A written notice will be sent via email and not via the postal service.*
- Q8. “Contract currency is CAD or Rand?”**
- A8.** *Please be advised that the Contract currency is has been changed to Rand.*
- Q9. “What are the payment terms?”**
- A9.** *Progress payments with a 10% holdback.*
- Q10. “The 10% holdback, when would it be released, after completion of the Contract?”**
- A10.** *That's correct. Typically, in Canada that's what we do on most of our international Contracts. We retain 10% of each invoice throughout the progress billing which will be reimbursed at the end of the Contract once all deficiencies have been corrected.*
- Q11. “Have you decided on the size of the system in terms of solar PV or the battery size? Because we had a look in terms of your requirement. You are looking for 72 hours assuming there won't be any grid to charge the batteries or provide power. In that scenario, one has to understand what the major requirement is to size the battery. How is the bidder going to size the system? If the sizing of the system is left to the bidder, how would you compare the financial proposal? Because if one bidder is proposing X size and Y size, how are you going to compare the financial proposal?”**
- A11.** *We weren't looking at the size more so to have 3 full days at full load capacity based on the energy consumption at the mission. Each company may have different solutions. We understand each*



*company will have different products and innovative solutions, as long as the goal is met to have 3 days full load for the High Commission to be off the grid.*

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