

## Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

23-58194

### Replacement of afterloader system to provide the reference irradiation field used for development of measurement standards

#### 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 Metrology of the National Research Council Canada has a requirement for the supply of a quantity of one (1) HDR Ir-192 afterloader system to provide the reference irradiation field used for development of measurement standards for brachytherapy dosimetry and provision of calibration services.

#### 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 its *product/equipment/system (as appropriate)* meets the following requirements:
  1. The afterloader must be self-shielded so that the dose rate measured around the system is less than 2.5 uSv/h when the source is stored within the unit.
  2. The afterloader must contain a single source of Ir-192 with an activity of ~10 Ci.
  3. The afterloader must provide a means to deliver the source through multiple guides to external points in space. This includes, delivery through an open-ended transfer tube.
  4. The system must be able to deliver the source to nominal positions in the range of 80-150 cm (as defined by the co-ordinate system of the afterloader).
  5. The absolute accuracy of source positioning along a catheter must be better than +/- 1.0 mm ((for source positions in the 80 cm to 150 cm

range). The repeatability of measurements for the same position must be +/- 0.5 mm.

6. The afterloader system must be integrated with the existing radiation safety interlock system at the laboratory.
7. The control software (controlled from outside the irradiation room) must provide functionality including options to select the delivery channel, distance along the catheter and time of exposure (up to ~1000 s).
8. The afterloader must be loaded with a full-activity Ir-192 source at installation and the first re-source must be carried out in month 11 of the contract (i.e., 11 months after installation and acceptance).

#### 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 *Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA)*
- o *Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement (CCOFTA)*
- o *Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement (CHFTA)*
- o *Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement (CKFTA)*
- o *Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA)*
- o *Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA)*

#### 5. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

The pre-identified supplier has specialized solutions meeting the specific needs of Canada's National Metrology Institute. The knowledge and expertise acquired over the years working with institutions within the global metrology field makes them unique within the small number of possible suppliers of the proposed type of equipment. The pre-identified supplier is the only potential supplier with the extensive experience of such non-standard implementations and therefore the only one capable of delivering what is required for Canada's National Metrology Institute.

#### 6. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

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

#### 7. Exclusions and/or Limited Tendering Reasons

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

- a. Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) – Article 513 (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- b. Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA) – Article Kbis-16 (2) (c): necessary to protect intellectual property;
- c. Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement – Article 1409 (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- d. Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement – Article 17.11 (2) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- e. Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement – referencing the WTO Protocol Amending the GPA, Article XIII (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- f. Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement – Article 16.10 (1) (b) (iii): because of the absence of competition for technical reasons;
- g. Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA) –Article 1409 (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;

8. Period of the proposed contract or delivery date

- The system must be delivered on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

9. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the contract, is \$ 150,000.00 (Applicable taxes are extra).

10. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

Elekta Ltd  
200-2050 Rue Bleury  
Montreal, QC, Canada H3A 2J5

11. 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.

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

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is February 13, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. EST.

13. Inquiries and submission of statements of capabilities

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Stéphane Lajoie  
Senior Contracting Officer  
E-mail: [stephane.lajoie@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:stephane.lajoie@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)