

National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited

Name of the Project: Consultancy services as Authority's Engineer for Supervision of Construction of (i) Connecting road from Z-Morh Tunnel to Zojila Tunnel and (ii) 14.150 km long bi-directional tunnel across Zojila Pass on Sonamarg-Kargil section of NH-01 on EPC mode in the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Tender ID: 2020_NHIDC_587333_1

Reply to Pre-Bid Queries

S. No.	Clause	Description	Suggestion/Query	Reply
1	Foot note of A) Eligibility criteria for sole applicant firm (Page 8 of 278)	<p>** Tunnel project for Road/ Rail/ Metro (having Cross sectional area of 50% or more of the proposed Tunnel) will be considered as 'Similar Category of project' for this RFP which can be either standalone project or as a part of Road/ Rail/ Metro project</p> <p>Note (ii) Similar Project means tunnel project for Road / rail/ metro having cross sectional area of 50% or more of the proposed tunnel. For this project experience of Twin tunnel EACH having cross sectional area of 50% or more of the proposed tunnel will also to be considered with a multiplication factor of 2.0</p>	<p>We wish to bring to your kind notice that the required tunnel cross section as per eligibility criteria has been asked as 115 sqm for unlined and 100 sqm for lined tunnel and 50% of this will be 57.5 sqm and 50 Sqm respectively. Whereas the cross section of underground metro tunnel projects in India ranges from 22 to 28 sqm for a single tube.</p> <p>As you are defining metro projects as a qualifying criterion, we would request you to amend the requirement accordingly suiting to the metro project tunnels cross sectional area in India.</p> <p>Note (ii) In this note also, it is stated that the Cross-sectional area of 50% should be qualifying from EACH tunnel, which is not achievable in Metro tunnel projects. Hence, we request you to kindly amend the same suiting to metro tunnel projects cross sectional area in India.</p>	As per Amendment no. 3.
2	General	Bid Due date extension	Also, to prepare a qualitative bid and to	As per Amendment no. 3.



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			compile the CVs (9 numbers) with the modifications as issued through the pre-bid queries dated 29.10.2020, requires additional time looking at the present festive season in India. Hence, we request you to kindly extend the tender submission date by 3 weeks to 30 th November 2020 and oblige	
3	Eligibility criteria for sole applicant firm (Page 8 of 278)	A). Eligibility Criteria for sole applicant firm: Firm should also have experience of Project Supervision/ Independent Engineer/ Authority' Engineer of at least one Tunnel project of 'similar category** of project' of length equal to 3.20 km (20% of the project tunnel length).	As client might be aware that there are not many projects executed in India of this magnitude. Since it is a national competitive bidding, we would like to state that majorly Indian consultancy firms do not have experience of 3.2 Km of tunnel supervision due to the fact that most of the tunnel projects in India are still under construction stage. It is thus requested that the eligibility may please be relaxed to "15% of the project tunnel length" from the existing criteria of "20% of the project tunnel length" so that Indian firms can participate and client can get multiple bids for this project which will be in the interest of the project.	As per Amendment no. 3.
4	Eligibility criteria for sole applicant firm	A). Eligibility criteria for sole applicant firm: (ii) Similar project means Tunnel project for	To keep the consultants at par client is requested to delete the following statement	As per RFP.

81

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	(Page 8 of 278)	road/rail/metro having cross sectional area of 50% or more of the proposed tunnel. For this project experience of twin tunnel each having cross sectional area of 50% or more of the proposed tunnel will also to be considered with a multiplication factor of 2.0.	from the above mentioned clause: "For this project experience of twin tunnel each having cross sectional area of 50% or more of the proposed tunnel will also to be considered with a multiplication factor of 2.0". Revised clause shall be read as "(ii) similar project means Tunnel project for road/rail/metro having cross sectional area of 50% or more of the proposed tunnel."	
5	Clause No.1.8 of GCC (Page 236 of 278)	In case the Consultants consist of a Joint Venture of more than one entity, the Members hereby authorize the entity specified in the SC to act on their behalf in exercising all the Consultants' rights and obligations towards the Client under this Contract, including without limitation the receiving of instructions and payments from the Client.	In this regard, we would like to humbly request the Client to kindly consider making payments separately to the Joint Venture partners for the services rendered by them. This will reduce the burden of TDS on the lead partner and each partner will efficiently comply with their tax liability on their respective shares. This may please be accepted.	As per RFP.
6	Clause 17 B), (Page 9 of 278)	B) Eligibility Criteria for partner in case of JV/Associates,	The Consultant understands that in case applicant firm has completed projects as JV, and in absence of clear demarcation of share in Completion certificate then 60% experience weightage shall be given to Lead partner and 40% experience weightage shall be given to the JV partner.	Copy of JV agreement should be submitted along with the said documents.



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			Kindly confirm that experience certificate and copy of main client agreement alone shall be sufficient to claim the experience.	
7	Sr. 22, Amendment No. 2 issued on 29.10.2020.	The Tunnel Design Engineer is required to stay for minimum 4 (Four) days in every 2 (Two) months at the project site till the project completed:	The input of tunnel design engineer mentioned in Enclosure A is 42 Months. However, it is mentioned that Tunnel Design engineer has to stay at the project site for maximum 4 (four) days in every 2 (two) months. Kindly clarify whether on home input of Tunnel Design Engineer the payment will be made to the consultants for the duration of 42 months	It is clarify that instead of home input the Tunnel Design Expert may be allowed to work from the consultants' office along with the condition as specified. If not visited the site 1(one) month salary will be deducted.
8	Sr. 7, Amendment No. 2 issued on 29.10.2020.	Tunnel Design Engineer preferential requirement is Post-Graduate in Design / Structural Engineering or equivalent	There are a number of experts available who hold Post-graduate degree in Civil / Mining and rich experience in carrying out similar assignments. Therefore, please consider the same with the existing requirement	As per RFP.
9	Sub-clause x (f) Section 2, Page 16	If the Key Personnel does not fulfill the minimum academic qualification (as mentioned at Enclosure-B of TOR of RFP), the overall score of his CV will be evaluated as zero. If the Key personnel does not fulfill the minimum qualification related to experience, then zero marks will only be assigned for that sub-criteria, but the marks obtained by the CV of the Key Personnel will	There is a discrepancy in experience requirement between "Appendix EC - Evaluation Criteria for assessment of score of Key Staff for adequacy of the Assignment" & Enclosure B - Qualification of Key Personnel. We believe that "Appendix EC - Evaluation Criteria for assessment of score of Key Staff for	The provision of clause 3.4 x. (f) will prevails over the provisions elsewhere. Only if the Key Personnel don't fill the minimum academic qualification, then only the overall score of CV will be assigned Zero Marks. In case of not fulfilling any sub-criteria of qualification only that sub-criteria will be assigned Zero marks.

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		be carried forward for maximum 3 nos. Key personnel for determining the total score of the firm	adequacy of the Assignment" will be considered for evaluation. Also, if an expert does not have minimum experience under various sub-criteria mentioned in Appendix EC (other than minimum academic qualification), then zero marks will be assigned against the particular criteria & marks obtained under other criteria will be allotted and CV will be considered. Please confirm.	
10	Sr. 3, Amendment No. 2 issued on 29.10.2020.	For Team Leader cum Senior Tunnel Expert, Definition of Team Leader includes Project Manager / Resident Engineer / Senior Tunnel Expert / Tunnel Expert or any equivalent position.	As Project Director is higher level than Project Manager / Team Leader, the Consultants request to consider Project Director also in definition of Team Leader.	Yes, Project Director can be considered.
11	As per Section 2, Appendix -EC, Evaluation Criteria, Clause 1 (i) and (ii), Page No. 39	Senior Geotechnical Expert should be Graduate in Civil Engineering/ Masters in engineering Geology or equivalent from a recognized university	A number of experts are available who holds Bachelors / Masters in Geology/ Applied Geology, who have rich experience in carrying out similar assignments, therefore please consider the same with the existing requirement	As per RFP.
12	Section 2, Appendix -EC, Evaluation Criteria, Page 44,	Correspondence course will not be accepted as degree or PG	A number of Experts start their career after Graduation and generally does Post-graduation courses from distance learning / correspondence. Therefore, please consider PG from Correspondence / distance learning	As per RFP.

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13	General	Experts from Government Undertaking Organizations	Kindly confirm that the experts from Government undertaking organizations are allowed to participate in the team, as they will resign from the organization, after award of the work.	Yes, such CV will be considered.


B. Shivprasad
GM(T)/06.11.2020