

राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग एवं अवसंरचना विकास निगम लिमिटेड
National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited

Name of the Project: Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study, Preparation of Detailed Project Report and providing pre-construction services for "Construction of 2nd Tube Uni-directional Zojila Tunnel (13.14 km) from D.ch. 16.80 to D.Ch. 30.50 of NH-1 in the under UT of Jammu & Kashmir.-2nd Call.

Contract Package No.: NHIDCL/JK/NH-1/Zojila 2nd Tube Tunnel/DPR/2023

Tender Id: 2023_NHIDC_760210_1

Date: 27.07.2023

Reply to Pre-bid Query

S. No.	Clause/Reference	Clause Description	Queries	Reply to Queries																																																
1.	DATA SHEET 12.2 Second stage technical evaluation Page No. 32 to 34 of RFP	<p>B. Material testing, survey and investigation, equipment and software proposed to be used</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Maximum Points</th> <th>Sub-Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Availability of Material Testing Facilities with persons/resources having operational skills of the equipment</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.1</td> <td>Owned* (Available In House)</td> <td></td> <td>3.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.2</td> <td>Outsourced (Hire basis/Through Associate)</td> <td></td> <td>2.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">* Shall be ascertained through the ownership evidence uploaded on INFRACON in regard to major equipments required for testing of materials to be used for construction of Highway Project.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Availability of Field investigation Facilities with persons/resources having operational skills of the equipment</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.1</td> <td>Owned** (Available In House)</td> <td></td> <td>2.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.2</td> <td>Outsourced (Hire basis/Through Associate)</td> <td></td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">** Shall be ascertained through ownership evidence uploaded on INFRACON for construction of Highway Project.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Availability of Office Equipment and Software with persons/resources having operational skills of the equipment</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.1</td> <td>Owned*** (Available In House)</td> <td></td> <td>3.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.2</td> <td>Outsourced (Hire basis/Through Associate)</td> <td></td> <td>2.25</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No.	Description	Maximum Points	Sub-Points	1	Availability of Material Testing Facilities with persons/resources having operational skills of the equipment	3		1.1	Owned* (Available In House)		3.00	1.2	Outsourced (Hire basis/Through Associate)		2.25	* Shall be ascertained through the ownership evidence uploaded on INFRACON in regard to major equipments required for testing of materials to be used for construction of Highway Project.				2	Availability of Field investigation Facilities with persons/resources having operational skills of the equipment	2		2.1	Owned** (Available In House)		2.00	2.2	Outsourced (Hire basis/Through Associate)		1.5	** Shall be ascertained through ownership evidence uploaded on INFRACON for construction of Highway Project.				3	Availability of Office Equipment and Software with persons/resources having operational skills of the equipment	3		3.1	Owned*** (Available In House)		3.00	3.2	Outsourced (Hire basis/Through Associate)		2.25	<p>We request you to please amend this criteria and award same marks on Owned facility for Material and field investigation as well as on Outsourced (hire basis) facility for Material and field investigation.</p> <p>MoRT&H and NHA has allotted full marks for Outsourced (hire basis) facilities.</p>	<p>As per RFP and MoRT&H Policy letter no. RW/NH-33044/24/2020-S&R (P&B) dated 06.01.2021.</p>
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2.	DATA SHEET 12.2 Second stage Technical evaluation Page No.34 & 35 of RFP	C-3 Standalone Tunnel Project: <table border="1" data-bbox="577 368 1182 576"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>Key personnel</th> <th>Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Team Leader cum Senior Tunnel Expert</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Tunnel Design Expert</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Senior Geotechnical Engineer</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Senior Geophysicist</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No.	Key personnel	Points	1	Team Leader cum Senior Tunnel Expert	12	2	Tunnel Design Expert	10	3	Senior Geotechnical Engineer	10	4	Senior Geophysicist	8		Total	40	As under Table-1: Minimum Eligibility Requirements for bidder, Experience of tunnel(s) for roads/Railway /Metro rail/ irrigation/ hydro-electric etc. Are considered for eligibility. Due to shortage/limitation of consultants on Infracon having experience in tunnels of roads/Railway /Metro sector. We request you to please consider the work experience of Key personnel for tunnel(s) of irrigation/ hydro-electric along with roads/Railway /Metro rail for evaluation of technical score/marks.	As per RFP.
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1	Team Leader cum Senior Tunnel Expert	12																				
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3.	Technical Score evaluation sheet for Key personnel Page 197 to 203 of RFP	2.4.13 Team Leader cum Senior Tunnel Engineer 2.4.14 Tunnel Design Expert 2.4.15 Senior Geotechnical Engineer	As this bid is invited for Preparation of DPR of Tunnel project, but under the evaluation criteria mentioned in the RFP for key personnel, the required years of experience for construction/ construction supervision of tunnel projects is equivalent to the years of experience required for preparation of DPR. Due to shortage of available key personnel on Infracon having equal years of experience of construction/ supervision and preparation of DPR, we request you to please amend the	As per RFP.																		



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			evaluation criteria specially for DPR projects and kindly give the higher weightage to experience for preparation of DPR.	
4.	Technical Score Evaluation sheet for Key personnel Page 197 to 203 of RFP	2.4.15 Senior Geotechnical Engineer C) Experience in Similar Capacity i) Professional Experience as Tunnel Design Engineer (Structural)	We request you to please amend the requirement as below – C) Experience in Similar Capacity i) Professional Experience as Geotechnical or Mining Engineer	Please refer Amendment No. 2.
5.	Notice Inviting Bid Page 4 of RFP	Bid Submission End date: 25.07.2023 (15:00 Hrs)	We request you to please provide at-least 3 weeks' time to prepare and submit competitive bid after issuing of pre-bid replies.	Please refer Amendment No. 2.
6.	Sr. No. 4.2 of Table in Clause 12.2 of data sheet page 32 And Sr. No. 4.2 of Table in Clause 2A of Appendix-V: Detailed Evaluation Criteria, Page 181	Detailed Evaluation Criteria "4.2 Evaluation of Aggregate length of DPR/Feasibility Study for Road/Rail/Metro Tunnel " "4.2 Evaluation of Aggregate length of DPR/Feasibility Study of Expressway "	There is a discrepancy between Sr.No. 4.2 of the Evaluation Criteria mentioned in the "Data Sheet" and "Appendix-V: Detailed Evaluation Criteria". Kindly Clarify.	Please refer Amendment No. 2.



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7.	Sr. No. 5 of Table in Clause 12.2 of data sheet page 32	<p>Tunnel Professionals* working with the Firm</p> <p><i>*The professionals who possess degree in Civil Engineering / Transport Planning / Transport Economics / Traffic Management / Geology / Environment Science or Engineering and 8 years' experience in highway / bridge / tunnel with employment in the firm for more than one year. The current Employment Certificate shall be uploaded by Key Personnel on INFRACON'</i></p>	<p>The Consultants understand that the highway & bridge professionals who possess relevant qualification as mentioned under this clause will also be taken into consideration during the evaluation process along with the Tunnels Professional. Kindly confirm.</p>	<p>Please refer Amendment No. 2.</p>
8.	Data Sheet, Clause 12.1 Table-1: Minimum Eligibility Requirements, Sr. No. 1; Pg. 29	<p>Firm applying should have Experience of preparation of Detailed Project Report Firm should have also prepared DPR for at least one project for tunnel project of minimum 40% of the indicative length of the package or feasibility study of Road/Rail/Metro tunnels of minimum 60% of the indicative length of the package or more of 'Similar Category** for which RFP is invited.</p> <p>**Similar Category of project means Tunnel project having single tube (including tunnel(s) for roads/Railway /Metro rail/ irrigation/ hydro-electric etc.) having at least 5 meter diameter Twin tubes also to be considered with a multiplication factor of 1.5.</p>	<p>We understand that the total length of the stretch is 13.7 km and indicative tunnel length for qualification purpose is 13.14 km and remaining 0.56 km is the approach roads to both portals.</p> <p>1. For the purpose of qualification in terms of aggregate length, the indicative length of the tunnel (13.14 km) is good. But for individual project experience, 40% (5.25 km) and 60% (7.88 km) of indicative length for DPR and Feasibility respectively are very high for most of the Consultants to qualify.</p>	<p>As per RFP.</p>



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			<p>2. The technologies used for design and construction of irrigation/hydro tunnel are quite different from transportation tunnel. Hence, we suggest NHIDCL to restrict the eligibility criteria only to Road/Rail and Metro tunnels.</p> <p>3. We understand that Substantial Completion Experience Certificate (90% and above or Final DPR is Submitted) will be considered in line with General Practice in Govt. Agencies. Kindly confirm.</p> <p>4. The term DPR is usually being used in Indian context. Overseas it is described as Preliminary Design. We would request NHIDCL to consider Preliminary and Detailed Design experience of tunnels at par with DPR experience for Minimum Eligibility Requirements as well as for marking on Firm's relevant experience. This has been done in many tenders of NHIDCL earlier like Gohpur-Numaligarh, Sinkun La etc.</p>	



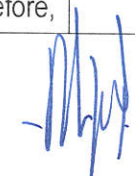
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9.	Data Sheet, Clause 12.2 Second Stage Tech. Evaluation; Pg. 30	1. Firm's relevant experience in last 7 years A. Firm's relevant experience in last 10 years (40)	We understand minimum eligibility clause will consider last 10 years experience and for second stage evaluation as well. But the typo of 7 years still remains there in the table under clause 12.2. Kindly remove it.	Please refer Amendment No. 2.
10.	Data Sheet, Clause 12.1 NOTE No. (ii) under Table-1: Minimum Eligibility Requirements; Pg. 29	In case of JV, the Lead Partner should fulfil at least 75% of all eligibility requirements and the other partner shall fulfil at least 50% of all eligibility requirements.	NHIDCL would appreciate the fact that it is both prudent and desirable to have a local firm with local knowledge and liaisoning capacity with local government officials for efficient LA and EIA clearances, as partner either in the form of an Associate or in JV in DPR Studies in such remote areas. However, the 50% qualification criteria (for all eligibility requirements) is prohibitive for such an Association/JV with local firm. Kindly reconsider it to remove the same.	As per RFP.
11.	Data Sheet, Clause 12.2, B; Pg. 32-33	Material testing, survey and investigation, equipment and software proposed to be used (20)	Items at S. No. 1, 2 and 3 (Material Testing Facilities, Field Investigation Facilities and Availability of Office Equipment and Software respectively) have the options of outsourcing with a lower mark. However, 4, 5 and 6 (experience in LiDAR, GPR and Cadastral Maps respectively) have not	As per RFP and MoRT&H Policy letter no. RW/NH-33044/24/2020-S&R (P&B) dated 06.01.2021.



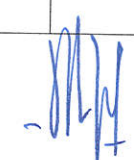
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			<p>been given outsource option. We request NHIDCL to kindly consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Giving outsourcing option for these services. 2. Allowing experience of 'Associate Firms' in the marking without qualifying as JV with 50% qualification credentials. 	
12.	TOR, Section 3.5.1; Page 42	Drilling holes vertical, one at 50 mtr distance & another at 100 mtr distance from each portal..... The drill holes must intersect the proposed tunnels cross section at tunnel grade level (IRC:SP:91).	<p>Since there are instances of conflicting statements in the RFP in terms of quantity of drilling as far as subsoil investigation is concerned. Therefore, kindly clarify the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What quantity of drilling in terms of number of boreholes/depths is expected to be carried out by the consultant? There is mismatch in the quantities suggested under TOR, Section 3.5.1 and the BOQ. 2. The quantity of drilling in soils and rocks is skewed in favour of soils. It should be balanced as lengthy approval process hurts the project later during execution. 	As per RFP and IRC SP 91: 2019.




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			3. Generally in upper Himalayas, the termination criteria for Drill hole to reach tunnel invert is not possible. Therefore, it may please be deleted to avoid confusion.	
13.	TOR, Clause 8; Sub-clause 4, Page 94	The Consultants shall establish an office at the project site..... will be intimated by the Consultant to NHIDCL before commencement of the services.	Is the site office expected to be set up at Srinagar by the Consultant? Kindly clarify	As per RFP.
14.	Form- T10 (Curriculum Vitae for key personal and undertakings), Pg 161	1. CVs of the Key Personnel should be uploaded on INFRACON. 2. Undertakings.	It is understood that the CVs are already created on Infracon and the same is to be downloaded and printed to be submitted along with technical proposal. The undertakings from the key personnel will be submitted with the proposal and doesn't need to be uploaded on Infracon. Kindly confirm.	As per RFP.
15.	Item Rate BoQ	Items 2.0111 and 2.0112, quantities	It is understood that the quantities given are standard values; however, in a project where less bridge foundation work is required, it might be more advisable to have a more balanced approach and make the ratio 1000m (2.0111) and 1800m (2.0112)	As per RFP.
16.	GCC, Clause 6.3 (b) Payment Schedule, Page	Note: (below the table- Payment Schedule) Consultants have to provide a certificate that actually deployed in the project. They have to	The payment will be made on LS basis on achieving individual milestones as shown in the table (payment schedule). Therefore,	As per RFP.



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	230-31biometric attendancebills to the NHIDCL.	the record of biometric attendance may not be very useful and should not be made mandatory. Therefore, the provision of attendance may kindly be removed.	
17.	GCC, Clause 6.3 (c) Payment Schedule, Page 231	No payment shall become eligible for the next stage till the consultant completes to the satisfaction of the client the work pertaining to the preceding stage.....	<p>From the table 'Payment Schedule' it is evident that at least four stages are related to clearances of various stages of land acquisition. It is widely known fact that such clearances consume most of the time in DPR</p> <p>Studies and is completed as the last item in the whole process.</p> <p>Therefore, making such activities as milestones and further linking them with payments of other crucial milestones may adversely affect the project efficiency. Kindly consider delinking payments with clearances.</p>	As per RFP.
18.	NIT, Clause 4, Page 3	All the bidders registered on Infracon shall form a Team on Infracon.....	Infracon support service is far from satisfactory. It takes months for one CV rectification without final success. NHIDCL should consider giving alternate option as well to the Consultants.	As per RFP.



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19.	General	-	<p>It is understood that NHIDCL is doing the execution work of the first tube and a large data collection is available already.</p> <p>Please kindly confirm that in due course of the inception phase, this data is handed over to the DPR consultant as reference data, together with data to understand the geometry of the construction where we need to connect to.</p>	As per RFP.
20.	General / MSME	Treatment of MSE	<p>Please clarify whether the Public Procurement Policies for MSME, as applicable in Railway Contracts, are applicable here also (i.e. exemption of cost for document and EMD) as it is practised in Indian Railway?</p>	As per RFP.


(B. Shivprasad)
General Manager (Technical)