

September 26, 2018

**Bid Bulletin No. 4
PHL-RFP-2018-062**

Subject: Development of Software, Supply and Delivery of Hardware for the Implementation of Philippine Renewable Energy Market System (PREMS)

Dear All,

Please take note on the amendments and clarifications made on the RFP document.

A. Bid Data Sheet

BDS No.	Reference to Section. 2	Data	Original Provision on Specific Instructions/ Requirements	Amended Provision on Specific Instructions/ Requirements
11	31	Deadline for submitting requests for clarifications/question	10 days before the submission deadline	<i>5 days before the submission deadline</i>
13	18, 19 and 21	Manner of Disseminating Supplemental Information to the RFP and responses/clarifications to queries	Direct communication to prospective Proposers by email and Posting on the websites UNGM & UNDP.	<i>Direct communication to prospective Proposers by Posting on UNGM, UNDP Procurement Notice and e-Tendering portal.</i>
14	23	Deadline for Submission	2:00 PM on Thursday, September 27th; Manila Time, Philippines	<i>October 15, 2018; 12:00 Noon Manila Time, Philippines</i>
18		Expected date for commencement of Contract	Mid to late October, 2018	<i>Mid to late November 2018.</i>

B. Amendment in Section 4. Evaluation Criteria in page 36

Technical Evaluation Criteria.

The Technical Evaluation Criteria will be divided into two stages. The 1st stage is the evaluation of the technical proposal and the 2nd stage is the evaluation of the Proof of Concept.

Please take note that only bidders who passed the 1st stage evaluation will be invited for the 2nd stage for the presentation of the Proof of Concept (POC). Bidder should meet the minimum 70% of the combined score of Stage 1 and 2 to be considered for the opening of the financial proposal.

Stage-1: Technical Evaluation: Evaluation of Technical Proposals:

Bidders who meets the minimum score of 70% will be invited for the 2nd stage of Evaluation which is the presentation of the POC.

REVISED TECHNICAL EVALUATION: PREMS 2 STEP EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Section 1. Deliverable Compliance and Quality		Points obtainable
Each deliverable shall be given scores based on their classification or priority. Kindly refer to Annex E – Reference Requirements of the Terms of Reference.		
1.1	Completion or compliance of all deliverables with a classification of “Must Have” or “M” (1 point for each item to be complied with)	247
1.2	Completion or compliance of all deliverables with a classification of “Should Have” or “S” (0.85 point for each item to be complied with)	39
1.3	Completion or compliance of all deliverables with a classification of “Could Have” or “C” and “Want / Wish to Have” or “W” (0.74 point for each item to be complied with)	14
Total Section 1		300

Section 2. Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience**Points
obtainable**

Note: For each of the requirements in this section, provide Official Certification of Satisfactory Completion from the Client (End-User) and provide details: Project Name, Description, Cost in US Dollars, Completion Date (Actual vs. Target, Reason for the Delay - optional) and any other relevant information

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 2.1 | Provide information that the contractor has two (2) completed software projects in the last five (5) years related to the energy sector | 35 |
| 2.2 | Provide information that the contractor has two (2) completed ICT projects within the last ten (10) years with the government sector | 20 |
| 2.3 | Provide information that the contractor has two (2) completed projects on trading e-marketplaces or similar critical ICT infrastructure | 35 |
| 2.4 | Provide information that the contractor has two (2) completed projects involved with hardware components in the last five (5) years related to the energy sector | 20 |

Total Section 2 110

Section 3. Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan**Points
obtainable**

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 3.1 | Adherence of the proposed work program to the TOR indicating activities, man-hours, logistics, and reporting. Submit a Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) according to the template (provided in Section G of the TOR) at least up to the Sub-module level. Show a graphical presentation of activities based on the WBS (i.e. charts) | 40 |
| 3.2 | The Contractor must have project and technology competent staff available to meet on demand at UNDP's or the PEMC's premises as necessary such that communication, planning and deployment are adequate. The designated staff must have authority to make decisions on the Contractor's behalf. | 40 |

Section 3. Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan**Points
obtainable**

- 3.3 Where a change of staffing, specifically for the Business Analyst, Project Manager and System / Database Administrator / Architect positions, is initiated by the Contractor, UNDP will reserve the right to request that:
- a. UNDP and PEMC be informed of such change, including the reason for the change, at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the scheduled transition; and
 - b. The incoming person(s) work with the outgoing person for at least two (2) weeks at the provider's expense prior to the replacement taking place.
 - c. The incoming person(s) shall be approved by the UNDP, in consultation with DOE and PEMC
- 3.4 The Contractor, together with declared Partner/s are expected to be self-sufficient throughout the duration of the contract in order to carry out the Terms of Reference. 40
- 3.5 The Contractor shall use its own resource facility to implement the development activities. The Contractor shall provide, at its own expense, adequate materials, equipment, and other items necessary to carry out the terms of the project. 40
- 3.6 UNDP, in consultation with the DOE and PEMC, may at any point in time send a representative to be embedded in the development team at the Contractor's premises for the duration of the project. 40
- 3.7 Alternatively, UNDP may at any point in time request that part or all of the development team works from UNDP and/or the PEMC's offices. 40
- 3.8 Submit manufacturer statements attesting availability of proposed hardware components for the purpose of this procurement 40

Total Section 3**320**

Section 4. Management Structure and Key Personnel		Points obtainable
4.1	Provide information that the project manager has a proven success track record: three (3) years of experience in implementing ICT project management	10
4.2	The PM should have standing certifications in PMP or Prince 2 and PM. Provide the copy of the certification with their CV.	10
4.3	Number of years relevant experience to the assigned position, employment status with the firm and level of contribution to the project	
	a. Aggregate score for the years of experience must be at least 5.0 with the formula provided in Section M of the Terms of Reference.	35
	b. The Project Manager must be a permanent employee of the contractor	10
	c. Aside from the Project Manager, other project team members should be permanent employees of the contractor	5
Total Section 4		70
Total Score		800

Stage 2: Proof of Concept: Appropriateness and feasibility of conceptual design:

Bidders who meets the minimum score of 70% in the evaluation of POC will be considered.

Presentation of the Proof of Concept		Points obtainable
1.0	Relevance of prototype described or presented to functionalities of PREMS vis a vis the TOR	50
2.0	Appropriateness/ feasibility of the conceptual design in implementing the PREMS functionalities	150
Total Section 2		200

C. Section 5: Terms of Reference:

Item M: Recommended Presentation Offer

Submission Guidelines

1. Timelines (page 74)

Original Provision		Amended Provision	
Event	Date	Event	Date
Bidding Conference/Clarifications	Refer to Bid Data Sheet	Bidding Conference/Clarifications	<i>September 11, 2018; 10:00 AM Manila Time, Philippines</i>
Proof of Concept	TBD (early October)		
Deadline of Submission of Technical and Commercial proposals and Opening of Technical Proposals	Refer to Bid Data Sheet	Deadline of Submission of Technical and Commercial proposals and Opening of Technical Proposals	<i>October 15, 2018; 12:00 Noon (Manila Time, Philippines)</i>
Opening and Evaluation of Commercial Proposals	Refer to Bid Data Sheet	Proof of Concept	<i>1st week of November 2018</i>
Start of Contract negotiation with the selected contractor	TBD	Opening and Evaluation of Commercial Proposals	<i>2nd week of November 2018</i>
		Start of Contract negotiation with the selected contractor	<i>3rd week of November 2018</i>

D. We are pleased to provide you our official response for the queries received through e-mail and also during the pre-bid conference.

D.1 Questions Received through e-mail.

Question 1:

Provide and/or arrange Trainings/Workshops (both local and international) to PEMC and DOE personnel in the management of the registry. The international training will be in the form of a technical consultation (TechCon) with an actual international company (private or state owned) that is managing a RE registry and whose renewable market framework is similar to the Philippines. The company must be in operation for at least 7 years. The company must be managing a RE Registry/ performs RE Registrar functions and power producers and distributors that are participating in the trading of energy certificates. The TechCon should be for a minimum of 5 people with a total duration of 7days maximum. (Page 42), is this a must?

Answer 1:

Yes, the workshop/ technical consultation is a must to be arranged by the vendor in coordination with the PREMS Project Team.

Question 2:

Appointment of a Local Representative (Page 60), is this a must?

Answer 2:

Yes, it's a must.

Question 3:

The Contractor should have at least three (3) years of experience in delivering ICT projects preferably for energy markets or renewable energy markets. The Contractor should have at least two (2) successful implementation of Web-based applications. (Page 64). IEX is an exchange dealing in Power and REC products with in house development center which was incorporated in the year 2017, as per your condition 3 years' experience in delivering ICT projects does not get fulfilled, please let us know if we can still be eligible?

Answer 3:

Eligibility requirements are stated in Section 4; Evaluation Criteria and also in Annex K of the Terms of Reference.

Question 4:

Proof-of-Concept (Page 73), is this a must?

Answer 4:

Yes.

Question 5:

Expected Outputs and Deliverables - Are the dates provided flexible? Timelines are too short.

Answer 5:

Please see table below on the timeline of the deliverables reckoned on the date of the contract signing.

Deliverables/Output		Estimated Duration to Complete (Months)	Indicative Target duration (Reckoned After the Date of Signing of Contract)
A	Hardware		
1	Delivered	1	8 weeks
2	Configure and tested	2	10 weeks
B.	Software Development		
1	Completed/ Developed Modules	5	5 months
C.	Testing		
1	Phase 1: Compliant to Final User Acceptance Tests and Defects are Fixed*	2	10 weeks
2	Phase 2: Compliant to Final User Acceptance Tests and Defects are Fixed**	1	4 months
D.	Other Deliverables/ Activities		
1.	Trainings & Awareness via technical consultation on the operations of RE Registry	1	4 months
2.	Documentation (including Source Code)	-	5 months
3.	System Integration	-	4 months
4.	Complaint to Software Certification	4	4 months
5.	Trial Operations Assistance	2	3 rd -4 th month
6.	Commercial Operations	-	February 2019

**Conduct of software Certification is not included in the scope of this TOR*

***Please refer to Annex F of the TOR*

Question 6:

Need more clarity need in REC banking.

Answer 6:

This is a transaction wherein the Mandated Participant reserves for future the RE Certificate. However, there is an expiration of 3 years for the RE Certificate.

Question 7: Queries regarding the Bulletin Board

- a. Can there be multiple trades for a single REC i.e. can REC buyer resell the same?

Answer: *Yes, however, this will be recorded for audit purposes*

- b. Can Buyer or Seller do negotiation with single counterparty over the bulletin board?

Answer: *No. the bulletin board will just provide the quantity and price of RECs for selling or buying.*

- c. How long pending orders should be available on bulletin board?

Answer: *As long as the parties do not initiate their transactions in the market.*

- d. Can there be partial trade i.e. single seller against multiple buyers or vice versa?

Answer: *Yes.*

- e. How would be financial settlement done for the trades?

Answer: *This will be outside of the market.*

Question 8:

ICT - we need to know the status / capability of the Live and backup data center and the capacity /redundancy of the inbound Internet links, and the Intersite links. Are they leased lines, MPLS or PTP VPN over Internet? What is the bandwidth between the two sites and the Latency on the link?

Answer 8:

These are leased lines (DLL). The vendor may propose the required capacity based on their estimated data volume for PREMS.

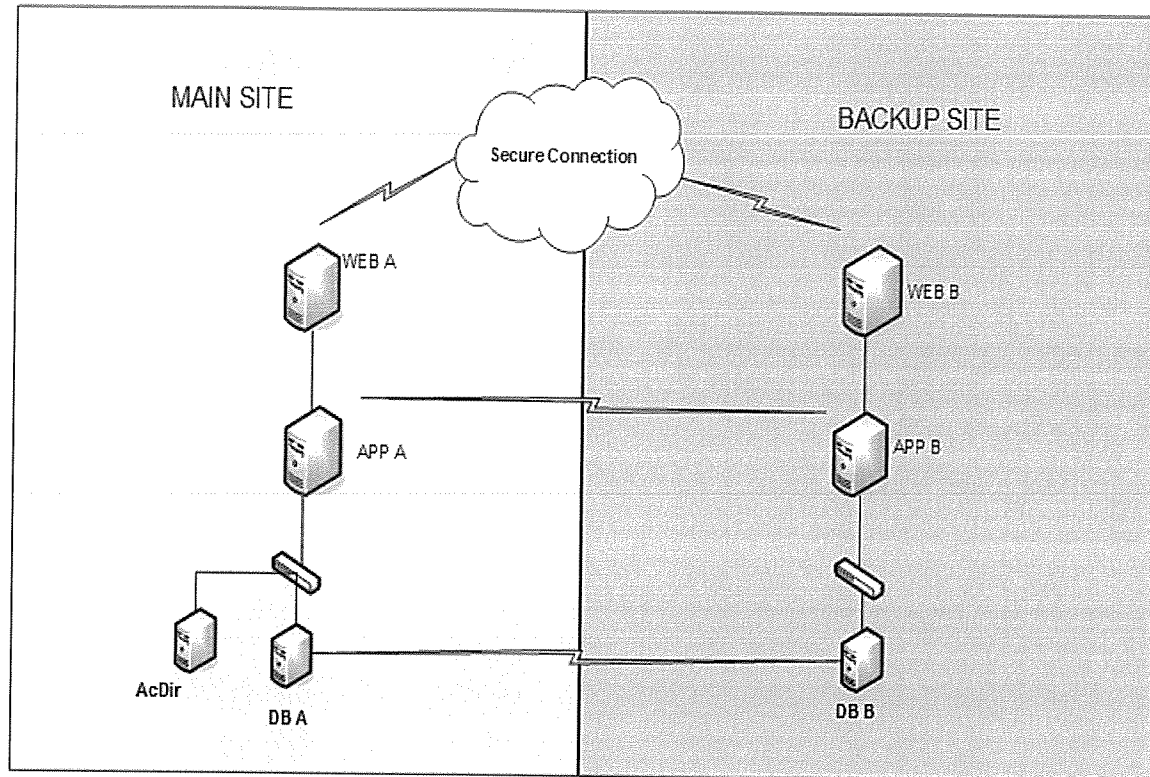
Question 9:

Why do you have a Load Balancer when you only have one Web Server? If your numbers are status contexts are correct, to have a system that can support 4,000 concurrent users open day 1 and 10,500 on year 5, you will need multiple Web and App servers, HA load balancing and HA firewalls. Please clarify - is the number of CONCURRENT users correct, or is it a single Web App server set up and less active users?

Answer 9:

For this Project, the load balancer is not required (please see updated illustration below). Concurrent users are 4,000.





Question 10:

The system is to be Active-Active - so inter site link speed information is critical to be able to achieve this

- what do they have?

- This is contradicted in the Annex E Requirement Item 2 which refers to site 2 as a Back Up (Disaster Recovery) site - not an active site with a 1-hour time for Live site down before switching to back up - and no SLA for switchover to backup site is provided

So, is this Active-Passive, Active-Active, or Hot Standby?

Answer 10:

As indicated in item 2 of Annex E - Requirements (Hardware), the Back-up Site will serve as a Disaster Recovery which means that the Back-up Site will operate on a Passive or Stand By mode only.

Question 11:

Delivery and Config dates - we need 4-6 weeks for delivery of the high specification systems if it is 4,000 growing to 10,000 users - these items are never in stock - and another 4 weeks for config and test between the two sites subject to all links being available and power capacity in the two data centers - can this be guaranteed now?

Answer 11:

The indicative dates provided are reckoned on the targeted contract signing date (as indicated on page 58 of the RFP). Please refer to the delivery timelines presented in periods (i.e., number of months or weeks) after the contract signing date as in Answer 5.

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Question 12:

Does the end user have a current Microsoft EA agreement under which it can obtain preferential pricing for the Microsoft components such as Windows server and SQL server?

Answer 12:

There is no preference on the platform to be offered to run the system (i.e. Linux, Windows, etc.). If the proposed solution is Microsoft based, please submit the financial proposal showing two options: with and without the Microsoft EA agreement.

Question 13:

How many concurrent users per location, max users per location, expected growth rate over the warranty period?

Answer 13:

We're expecting around 800 market participants (companies) with an average of 5 users per company on the onset. The expected growth rate is linear with a total of 2,000 expected market participants in 5 years' time.

Question 14:

Can we visit the PEMC data center and Main Site now? When?

Answer 14:

No, only successful bidder will be allowed access PEMC, however, the successful bidder will be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA).

Question 15:

4-hour replacement SLA not offered in country due to potential issues with weather or traffic - 4-hour response is offered but not replacement. In such cases Vendor always recommend that either a clustered device (e.g. HA Firewall), or a clustered server is implemented to allow continuous process and time to obtain spare parts without downtime. If the backup site is Active-Active - this reduces SLA pressure - but Annex E says it is a DR site, not an active site. Please clarify.

Answer 15:

To clarify, we mean 4-hour response time.

Question 16:

3 years on site is standard for all servers, 4 hours on firewall and switches only offered for Enterprise configuration devices, and should be clustered, stacked or in HA mode already.

Answer 16:

For all hardware warranty, we require three (3) years parts, three (3) years' service, three (3) years on-site support.

Question 17:

Refers to the PEMC and backup sites defined in Section J - they are not listed in Section J. We require to survey prior to bid. At a minimum we need to see PEMC Live site and plans for Backup site.

Answer 17:

To clarify, the Main Site will be at PEMC premises while the Back-up Site will be situated in Visayas region, however the specific address shall remain confidential and will be disclosed to the successful bidder only upon signing of the contract and the NDA.



Question 18:

POC is due in early October - which is listed as being BEFORE the deadline of submission of bids?
Please clarify?

Answer 18:

Please refer to the updated Evaluation Criteria in this document.

Question 19:

No provision for Archival or Off Site (Tape or Disc or Cloud) Backup exists or is specified?

Answer 19:

It is specified in the TOR (RFP) under Annex E - Reference Requirements (Non-Functional Requirements), "The system shall archive data older than a configurable age to the PEMC data warehouse"

Question 22:

Can both DC's provide 10KVA to each rack, needs an 80A single phase supply up to a max of 3 racks per site?

Answer 22:

Current capability is only 50A, 3 phase only, 3.5 kVA per rack only for the 1-node configuration depicted in the server diagram below. The required capacities identified above may need to be coordinated with the Building Administrator.

Question 23:

How many Internal users (inside the firewall) will be accessing the system concurrently in addition to the three workstations?

Answer 23:

Around 15 internal users inside the firewall.

Question 24:

How many Internal users (outside the firewall) will be accessing the system concurrently?

Answer 24:

Around 5 internal users outside the firewall.

Question 25:

Are all internal users only the three provided workstations?

Answer 25:

No.

Question 26:

Will external users be mandated to use Multi Factor Authentication?

Answer 26:

Yes, The PEMC will implement the following two-factor authentication: active directory and digital certificate.

Question 27:

If we cannot know backup location, how can we be sure it is suitable?

Answer 27:

The Back-up location is designed as a Data Center.



Question 28:

Is this really 4,000 simultaneous users growing to 10,500 logged into server via Firewall - What is the bandwidth allocated per user by Client? What about year 2,3,4 & 5 - User accounts increase but no change in concurrent users? This means adding user licenses AFTER the warranty period has ended?

Answer 28:

The vendor may propose a hardware infrastructure that will support the solution implemented to accommodate 4,000 concurrent users on day 1.

Question 29:

How long a UPS backup time is required before Generators start?

Answer 29:

4 hours run time

Question 30:

Do we have to provide cabling infra to connect workstations to server racks - if so we need floor plans or a site survey?

Answer 30:

No. Workstations will connect to the PREMS server via a secured LAN.

Question 31:

"The System" - is this "The Application Software" since it is in a Active-Passive backup, or Active-Active?

Answer 31:

Active-Passive as indicated in item 2 of Annex E - Requirements (Hardware), the Back-up Site will serve as a Disaster Recovery which means that the Back-up Site will operate on a Passive or Stand By mode only.

Question 32:

One FTE Internal staff - Is this per shift, 24/7? And what minimum qualifications will they have, e.g. Networking +?

Answer 32:

Yes, per shift, the support staff has capability to provide resolution to incidents related to hardware, software, network and database.

Question 33:

Is it possible to restrict the licenses for IP to the Philippines?

Answer 33:

Yes, licenses for IP is restricted to the Philippines.

Note: As specified in the TOR (RFP), Contractor shall assign property of all Source Code (excluding the source code for the proprietary software product of the contractor or COTS components), SDKs and licenses (free, perpetual and unrestricted licenses)

Question 34:

If Source code is provided can Source Escrow be used?

Answer 34:

No

Question 35:

What guarantees does client provide against resale, relicensing, or any other use by or to others?

Answer 35:

Please refer to response regarding licenses for IP provided in Question 33.

Question 36:

As per Bid Data sheet that we received, proposal submission via e-Tendering is not applicable. But if ever it's applicable now, could we still send our proposal via courier? or we really have to register and send our bid through the portal?

Answer 36:

Please be informed that we issued Bid Bulletin No. 3 regarding the submission of bids. e-Tendering is now applicable, and bidders are not required to submit proposals via courier. Bidders who would like to participate in this project needs to register in the e-Tendering portal and submit its bid. Please see bid bulletin No. 3 for reference.

Question 37:

We have submitted 3 requests for clarifications namely on 9th, 17th and 18th September respectively. As we have not received a response to date, we kindly request the submission deadline be extended. We would like to request the extension be 10 working days from receipt of answers/publication of the bulletin. Provided no further clarifications are required, this would allow us the necessary time to make the revisions and submit the original of bid security in the form of a certified check by the deadline. Due to the time difference, our deadline is a day prior to the stated date.

Answer 37:

Please be informed that we will issue bid bulletins to address your concerns/clarifications, please check e-Tendering portal on issued bid bulletins clarifying/addressing your concerns.

Question 38:

Confirmation of Incoterm for HW component as per page 79, The Financial proposal shall be deemed to include the cost of all applicable taxes, duties, fees, levies, out- of-pocket expenses, bank charges, and other charges.

Answer 38:

Kindly note that UNDP is exempted from Value Added Tax (VAT) when buying goods. The financial proposal for the hardware component should be VAT exempt. As for the incoterms, please use DAP providing options for sea and air. UNDP when importing goods, are likewise exempted from paying importation taxes, duties, fees, levies. UNDP will issue an exemption letter in behalf of the winning bidder to help facilitate tax free importation as soon as the hard ware arrives Manila port. Alternatively, other fees such as bank charges, service fee of broker in Manila port, out-of-pocket expenses, etc. that is important, should be part of the financial proposal.

Question 39:

Conflicting information on deliverables dates as per Section 3 BDS No. 18, expected date of commencement of contract Mid-late October 2018 and as per Subsection M, Recommended presentation of Offer page 74 under submission guidelines indicates Proof of Concept TBD (early October) which would be before award of contract, please clarify.

Answer 39:

Please be informed that the Proof of Concept will be part of the Technical Evaluation. The expected date of commencement of contract will happen upon the conclusion of the combined technical and financial evaluation and successful negotiation with the highest rated bidder.

Question 40:

The deadline for submission mentioned is September 27, 2pm. We are assuming that it is Philippine time?

Answer 40:

Yes, the 2:00 PM deadline for submission of bids is Philippine Time. Please take note that the deadline for submission of bids is extended until 15th October 2018; 12:00 Noon (Philippine Time)

E. Questions received during the Pre-bid Conference.

Question 41:

Do you require High Availability (HA) clustering? The bid does not specify this.

Answer 41:

For this project, this is not a requirement.

Please be guided accordingly.

Thank you.

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