

Reply to Pre-Bid Queries

PROJECT NAME: Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report and providing Pre-Construction activities for Construction of Highway Tunnel including approaches across Shinkun La, Tanglang La & Lachalung La in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Contract Package no. Ladakh/Tunnels-2020/DPR-01/02/03

Tender Ref, No. : 2020_NHIDC_548777_1

S. No.	Clause No.	Existing Clause/ Description	Queries	Reply
1	Cl. 1.4 of LOI, Page no. 6	The consultants shall submit proposals either in sole capacity or in JV and/or in Association. Joint Venture shall not have more than two firms. In addition to this the Applicant may include Associates having experience in new technologies as AEM Survey & Directional Coring (who shall fulfil atleast 10.0% of eligibility requirement under Sr. No. B or C of Minimum Eligibility requirements of Data Sheet). However, the Associate(s) cannot be common for 2 or more bidders	As per the existing clause, the Joint Venture is allowed for 2 partners and two specialist associates. We have tried to add a JV Member and associates on INFRACON but the INFRACON has not allowed any addition of JV partners or specialist Associates which means that the bid can only be submitted by a Sole Bidder. This is not inline with the tender document clause 1.4.	The issue of INFRACON has been resolved.
2	Appendix-V, Detailed evaluation Criteria, Page no. 156	Post Graduation in Ventilation/Fire Safety or equivalent	Our Expert is trying to upload the required documents for Ventilation and fire safety requirements as per tender conditions but INFRACON does not have provisions of Post Graduate (M.E/M.Tech/Masters) in Mechanical Engineering in the available list of Post graduate degrees.	The issue of INFRACON has been resolved.
3	Bid submission Date	Monday, 11th May 2020 before 11:00 Hours	Since, there is an error on INFRACON where the bidders are unable to add a JV partner and Specialist Associates which is the initial stage while submitting a bid on INFRACON. And as on date is not possible to generate a team ID with out necessary technical corrections in Infracon by the client	The issue of INFRACON has been resolved. Amendment No. 4 referred for due date submission.



4	Data Sheet, Clause No 12.1, Table-1 Minimum Eligibility Requirements; Note (i), Page 22	The sole applicant shall fulfil all the requirements given in Table-1 S. No. A. And 'B' and 'C'	We understand that to fulfil the minimum eligibility requirement, a sole firm requires to qualify item 'A' only. However, in case of JV, the other partner(s) of JV needs to qualify items – 'B' and 'C' also. We understand that AEM Survey/Directional Coring is provided by specialized agencies/firms and there are a very few companies across globe having expertise in providing these services. Such companies are not keen to participate as Consultant specializing in another specialized services of 'tunnel design'. Also, under 'C' it says- The Firm applying should have carried out Airborne Electromagnetic Survey (AEM) (non-intrusive geophysical survey) to the depth of 300 M and have successfully prepared interpretative engineering geological model using the data so obtained for at least one project of Road/ Rail/Metro tunnel of minimum 25% of the indicative length of the package. It is to be noted that it is not possible to conduct AEM survey for metro projects. Also, it is mentioned in Clause 3.3.2 of Terms of Reference (TOR) that NHIDCL will be conducting the AEM survey and it has been clarified in the replies to queries under item number 49 that Consultant is not required to carry out AEM Survey. Accordingly, it has not been included in the BOQ. Therefore, we request to remove the eligibility criteria under 'B' and 'C' altogether and also Ten (10) Marks criteria in the firm's relevant experience evaluation. Importantly, engagement of resources/experts from abroad may not be possible in near future due to COVID-19 pandemic around the world.	The sole applicant is not required to fulfil the requirements given in table 1 S No. B & C, as per the RFP.
5	Data Sheet, Clause No 12.1, Table-1 Minimum Eligibility Requirements; Note (i), Page 22	A Firm applying should have Experience of preparation of Detailed Project Report for Road/Rail/Metro tunnels of aggregate length equal to the indicative length of the package.	It has been clarified vide replies to queries under item number 28 that Detailed Design work during the project preparation will be considered as relevant experience under the head of DPR / Feasibility experience. We understand that the Preliminary Design\involving preparation of tender design and cost estimate and Detailed Design during construction experience shall be considered for eligibility criteria and marking as well. Kindly clarify.	Only the Detailed Design work during the project preparation will be considered as relevant experience under the head of DPR / Feasibility experience.

6	Data Sheet, Clause No 12.1, Table-1 Minimum Eligibility Requirements; Note (i), Page 22	Minimum experience and performance of Preparation of DPR of Road Tunnels/Highways in the last 10 years....	It has been clarified vide item number 69 of replies to queries that a substantially completed project experience shall be considered for marks. Therefore, we assume that a Substantially Completed Project Experience (90% and above) will be considered for minimum eligibility criteria as well, in line with General Practice in Govt. Agencies. Kindly confirm.	Yes.
7	Data Sheet, Clause No 12.2 A, Firm's relevant experience in last 10 years; S. No. 1.2, Page 23	DPR for Road/Rail/Metro Tunnel projects each equal to or more than 40 % of indicative tunnel length (or Feasibility Study each equal to or more than 60 % of indicative tunnel length)	Kindly clarify if 40% or 60% of indicative length for DPR and FSR respectively, means length of each project wherein aggregate length of one or more tunnels under one project shall be considered.	For sake of clarification, the firm should have prepared DPR/FSR of atleast one Tunnel project of length 4.0km/6.0km to qualify for bidding.
8	LOI, Clause 1.8.5 Page 7	In case, if any firm, which is a 100% owned subsidiary company in India of a foreign company, claims the experience of the parent foreign company.... an undertaking from the parent company is to be submitted with the bid.	We understand that a wholly owned subsidiary company in India using parent company credentials need to submit an undertaking by the parent company. However, it is also mentioned in the next paragraph that such subsidiary company needs to get the unique INFRACON Team ID created by taking parent company as an associate. Kindly clarify as to why even after obtaining the 'undertaking' from parent company (the Letter of comfort obtained from the parent company) it has to submit tender in association of the parent company?	The parent company will not be considered as an Associate. Its only for evaluation purpose the parent company is to be taken as an associate for creating INFRACON ID. As regard, technical associate the associate firm must qualify the criteria Table 1 of Sr. No. B or C. In case, the technical associate do not qualify the criteria the associate firm shall not be considered as associate of the main bidder.
9	General	-	This project requires extensive field related work and for the same we need to engage local domestic companies more who can able invest in the field work activities in early stage of project and we have to make them partner as well for ease of doing buisness.	Accepted. Please refer Amendment no. 4
10	General	-	Considering the time limit provided in the bid document, one has to mobilise multiple drilling rigs at site to complete field drilling activities in two working seasons. Also requirement of drilling is not like normal ordinary DPR Project. To achieve your requirement, we have to mobilise very advance drilling rigs which has high performance capabilities which are generally not used in geotechnical investigation projects We have to deploy rigs which are used in oil & gas and mineral exploration works which has capacity for deep drilling. These rigs are large and heavy in size. These rigs also requires more working space. With these factors we might have to prepare temporary access roads through which we can shift rigs at desired locations. All these activities require heavy initial investment. Considering the same we would like to request you to provide 10% interest free advance amount against Schedule B Item - Directional Coring, Sub-soil Investigation without bank guarantee on mobilisation of rig on site.	Please refer Amendment no. 4