

**RFP Number: T36/09/24**

**RFP description: APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE BANKABLE FEASIBILITY STUDY, BUSINESS CASE AND SPECIALIST STUDIES FOR THE NAMAKWA SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE**

**Question and Answers Version 1**

No.	Question	Type	Answer
1	Could you please share the two presentations made by NCEDA and ISA at the briefing session	Admin	Presentations has been sent to all the bidders that attended the briefing session and were also be uploaded on mediums in which it was initially published (IDC website and National Treasury E Portal)
2	Please consider shifting the submission date by 1 day to Friday 13 September	Admin	New closing date - 17 September 2024 at 11h00 am
3	Given that the briefing session was only held today (29/08) and the questions deadline is the 5 September 2024, we are requesting an extended deadline. This is a complex RFP with many moving parts to consider in the methodology hence our request for additional time so that we can build in value for money for IDC, ISA and the client.		
4	Our company fits the requested scope very well and is confident in submitting a competitive bid. However, given that the briefing session was only held on the 29/08 and the questions deadline is the 5 September 2024, we are requesting an extended deadline. This is a complex RFP with many moving parts to consider in the methodology hence our request for additional time so that we can build in value for money for IDC, ISA and the client. For instance, already arranging a notarized board resolution from both the prime - and subcontractors takes considerable time.		
5	Email Response Capacity for this Submission is 50MB, is it permissible to submit more than one email for the same bid? For example, if your Document is 300MB, can't I divide that into six email submissions	Admin	The submission can be splitted into different emails however these need to come through before the cut off time (11h00 am)

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6	The timeline of 6 months to complete the assignment is pretty tight. We propose 8-9 months.	Technical	The timeline will be extended with an extra 2 months, new duration is 8 months to complete the whole project
7	The time line of 24 weeks (6 months) for such a study will be a challenge to deliver in the requested time frame. We request IDC and the client to revisit this timeline.		
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9	From our Project Manager: "Would the IDC consider providing the Bidders with extra three weeks to complete and submit RFP documents – providing a new deadline date of 3 October 2024?"		
10	From our Project Manager: "Would the IDC consider providing an additional three months for the Winning Bidder to complete the Project, thus extending the project period from 6 months to 9 months, given the complexity of the Technical Proposal, which impacts on the Financial Model and Business Case?"		
11	Aggeneysse to Gamsberg will be fed via a single 132kV twin kingbird line at 70 degrees	Technical	A new 132kv overhead line must be built from the Vedanta 132 kV feeder bay up to the new 132kv/11kv substation located within the SEZ distribution area.
12	<p><b>Hydrological study for the new intake structure at water abstraction point:</b></p> <p>a.The document mentions an existing abstraction point at the Orange River. The bid document indicates challenges as the existing pipeline is deteriorating with age. Is the intention to upgrade the existing abstraction work or to develop another that will support the new development.</p> <p>b.Can the location of the abstraction work be provided to us</p> <p>c.Is the hydrological study for the existing abstraction available or the PSP should obtain same from DWS.</p> <p>d.NCEDA has carried out preliminary studies including the Infrastructure Masterplan, can this document please be provided</p>	Technical	<p>a. Yes, there is an existing water pipeline that will removed and replaced with a new pipeline which will dovetail with the end state volume throughputs (96-100 MU/d)</p> <p>b.Pella Drift Abstraction</p> <p>c. The information is available, and interface with DWS is prudent to ensure regulatory compliance</p> <p>d. Yes, it is available and can be shared, however this was the base case focussing on VZI bulk needs and there are documents which will be shared to the successful bidder.</p>
13	Is there space at Gamsberg Mine Substation for 2 additional Bays?	Technical	A132 kV feeder bay will be created at the substation, feeding the mine, in order to supply the SEZ. Through another 132kV line feeding a 132kv/11kV substation dedicated to the SEZ. The bulk supply must feed a new 132kV/11kV substation dedicated for the 11 kV power distribution within the SEZ development area. The substation will be complete with two transformer bays but only one transformer of 40MVA will be installed as a first phase.
14	W.r.t. section 3.5, How many review cycles should be included in the schedule and what will be the max duration of one cycle? This has an impact on the already tight timeline as well.	Technical	IDC, ISA and the Project Owner aims to limit the number of review sessions, however, this is largely dependent on the quality of deliverables submitted by the bidder.
15	The RFP states that a separate executive summary is expected in PPT format, besides the regular proposal. What is exactly expected from this slide deck. What components should be covered and how many slides should it be?	Admin	This is a high level summary of an entities proposal explaining how they understand the requirements of this RFP and the summary of your proposed solution. However this should exclude the price proposed.

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16	W.r.t. section 3.4, Could you clarify what data is already available? If soil data, for instance, needs to be obtained, this is likely to affect the timeline. Please advise.	Technical	In terms of the technical information, the successful bidder will be given a full compendium of documents that have been developed for the project and this will ensure that the timeline and due processes are streamlined. The NCEDA briefing deck provides what has been done and there are other technical annexures which will be availed to ensure timeframes are not compromised.
17	Clarity on the size and anticipated load of Gamesberg 132kV substation. We that a 50MVA smelter will be fed and the existing mine load will be fed, probably for a 60MVA transformer and maybe a possible 60MVA spare. Then we know a 132kV loop in and loop out arrangement will exist at Gamesberg which will feed the 40MVA at the new substation.	Technical	Load requirements: Smelter 230MVA and SEZ 80 MVA. The ramp up for the SEZ is due to a investor that requires 80 MVA at final state.The bulk supply must feed a new 132kV/11kV substation dedicated for the 11 kV power distribution within the SEZ development area. The substation will be complete with two transformer bays but only one transformer of 40MVA will be installed as a first phase.
18	Clarity on the load flow to the 132kV substations that tally up to 260MVA needs to be clarified, this will help with the sizing of the sites for future transformer capacity	Technical	Load requirements: Smelter 230MVA and SEZ 80 MVA. The ramp up is due to a investor that requires 80 MVA at final state.
19	Section 3.2.1 mentions "identifying trends and opportunities within the priority sectors". Which sectors are considered priority sectors?	Technical	Refer to the presentation made by the Acting CEO of NCEDA on pg 7 and 9
20	Confirmation of the point of supply to the new SEZ substation. The flow chart shows the SEZ will be fed via a new 132kV line from the Gamsberg Mine Operations Substation however on page 29, the writeup informs us that the SEZ bulk supply will be fed via a 66kV line.	Technical	The 66kV line will be decommissioned with a new 132kV overhead line must be built from the Vedanta 132 kV feeder bay up to the new 132kV/11kV substation located within the SEZ distribution area.
21	From our Economist: "As part of the economic impact assessment conducted the deliverables will include estimates for contribution to GDP, jobs created by skill level (unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled and highly skilled) and tax revenues generated. Would these satisfy the "socio" component of their ask?"	Technical	The bidder would need to consider all the socio-economic assessment elements for a project of this nature.
22	Can you confirm if the scope of work on the Business Case will also include the sourcing of funding for the project?	Technical	The business case should be robust enough to enable ISA and the project owner to look fro funding from various sources such as BFI, commercial banks and DFIs. In other words it must be packaged in such a way that it meets the requirements of a spectrum of funders.
23	Could you please confirm whether it is a requirement of the tender to source additional funders for the project	Technical	
24	Reference Letters – since there are at least 10 professionals/skillsets, which ones skills do you need the reference letters for?	Technical	The references referred to in our bid document are relating to projects rendered by the entity within the same space as specified in our SOW.

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25	Corrected - <b>QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS OF KEY PERSONNEL (5.1.4)</b>	Technical	The bidder's key personnel of the proposed team must have relevant qualifications, skills and experience in executing the required services as a minimum:
27	Please could you assist with confirming the requirements for the Geotechnical Engineer. The reason for my asking is that the document states that the Geotechnical Engineering should be registered with ECSA, however, the requirement for Geotechnical Engineers are normally to be registered with SACNASP.	Technical	This was addressed in the tender briefing session. The Geotechnical Engineer can be registered with either SACNASP and/or ECSA. Beyond the registration, it is important that the appointed professional has the relevant experience to carry out the work. It is also important that the work be carried out in compliance with the relevant South Africa Standards (SANS) as stipulated in the tender document.
28	The team leader is stated as an Engineer, can you consider an alternative as the Financial Expert since this tender is for a bankable feasibility study (BFS)?	Technical	The feasibility study requires a competent individual with a strong multidisciplinary background and relevant skills to coordinate complex projects, including technical, economic, financial, legal and environmental aspects. <b>A financial analyst</b> with expertise in infrastructure projects and a project management background would be a strong alternative.
29	The resource qualifications requirement for the team leader is to be a registered professional engineer (SACPCMP, ECSA etc) despite the fact that 80% of the deliverables are finance / economic based (Bankable feasibility study, Detailed Business case and specialist studies). There is approximately only 30% of technical work in the deliverables and based on this, we are recommending that the team lead qualification should be finance related (CFA accredited) since the assignment is investment related / biased.	Technical	See above response
30	Most of the qualifications are South African accredited. Can IDC consider any other, internationally accepted, equivalent qualifications?	Technical	Yes, as long as the bidder provides evidence, demonstrating that these international qualifications are also recognised by the relevant South African authorities.
31	<b>To enable us to price for Bulk Infrastructure geotechnical investigation would it be possible to obtain the following information:</b> a.Coordinates and depths of proposed sewer and water pipes for centre line geotechnical investigations. b.Roads and storm water infrastructure layouts for centre line geotechnical investigations. c.Coordinates of water supply reservoirs and sewer treatment plants for footprint geotechnical investigations. d.Coordinates of electrical sub stations for geotechnical footprint investigations.	Technical	<b>We will provide the requested information to the successful bidder upon award of the contract. This will include:</b> a. Coordinates and depths of proposed sewer and water pipes for centerline geotechnical investigations. b. Roads and stormwater infrastructure layouts for centerline geotechnical investigations. c. Coordinates of water supply reservoirs and sewer treatment plants for footprint geotechnical investigations. d. Coordinates of electrical substations for geotechnical footprint investigations.
32	Will there be a single feed to the Substations (Eskom Aggeneys to Gamsberg Mine to SEZ substation)?	Technical	Yes , this will be through a new 132kv overhead line must be built from the Vedanta 132 kV feeder bay up to the new 132kv/11kv substation located within the SEZ distribution area.