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Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

**SOLICITATION AMENDMENT
MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION**

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

Comments - Commentaires

**Vendor/Firm Name and Address
Raison sociale et adresse du
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur**

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution
Parliamentary Precinct Division/Acquisitions de la Cité
parlementaire
222 Queen Street / 222, rue Queen
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Ontario
K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet RFQ - Block 2 Design Competition Request for Qualification - Block 2 - Architectural Design Competition	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation EP771-200660/C	Amendment No. - N° modif. 008
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client EP771-200660	Date 2021-02-03
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$PPS-007-28035	
File No. - N° de dossier 007pps.EP771-200660	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM Eastern Standard Time EST on - le 2021-03-02 Heure Normale de l'Est HNE	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Martin, Cory D.	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 007pps
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (613) 990-3941 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (613) 990-4447
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: Block 2 Ottawa, ON	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Delivery Required - Livraison exigée	Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée
Vendor/Firm Name and Address Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur	
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur	
Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)	
Signature	Date

Amendment 008 is raised to publish bidders' questions and answers about the Request for Qualification - Block 2 - Architectural Design Competition, and to amend the RFQ.

1. Amendment to the Questions and Answers

- a. **Question 012:** For the structural, mechanical and electrical engineers, will they have to be registered in Canada or can they be registered in their home country?

DELETE:

Response 012, last paragraph 3 of 3 only:

Respondents are also reminded that engineering entities and Key Individuals designated in Phase 1 are expected to be able to obtain the pre-requisite security clearances in order to be eligible for a follow on contract.

- b. **Question 016:** E.II and F.IV - In light of Covid-19 and stay-at-home/lockdown measures in certain parts of Canada, would PWGSC allow digital submissions and remove the requirement for printed copies and mailed submissions?

DELETE:

Response 016

Given the nature of the submissions, and that the evaluation will be done based on paper copy, the requirement stands and remains unchanged.

INSERT:

Response 016

PSPC has amended the response submission methods. Please see amendment below.

- c. **Question 53:** Can you clarify that all members of the Respondent Team are required to obtain security clearances, particularly any architectural sub consultant if not formed under a Joint Venture?

DELETE:

Response 053

Refer to response provided to Question Q# 057 below.

INSERT:

Response 053

Before contract award, all organizations that form the Respondent, entering into a prime contract with Canada, are each required to hold an organizational security clearance at the level of FSC Secret. The required organizational and personnel security clearances for the other members of the Respondent Team (firms and individuals) will be identified to Stage 2 competition participants.

2. Questions and Answers

Question #061

As previous similar PSPC submissions have used Canada Post epost Connect as a secure online submission option for bids, would PSPC consider using Canada Post epost Connect as an option for online submission for this opportunity to allow proponents to respect public health regulations and recommendations against non-essential travel in provinces and territories across Canada?

Answer #061

PSPC has revised its response submission method. Responses are to be submitted in electronic format using Canada Post epost Connect. Responses submitted in hard copy will not be accepted. Please see amendment below.

Question #062

We have noticed that there are two websites with information posted about this design competition, one being PSPC's Buy & Sell platform, the other listed at parliamentary-precinct-competition.ca. The extension deadline was first released on parliamentary-precinct-competition.ca. If future discrepancies occur, can PSPC please confirm that proponents should refer to the information posted on Buy & Sell as the authority for information on this opportunity?

Answer #062

Please see para 160 in the RFQ.

Question #063

Could PSPC please confirm if the site plan and floor plan requirements for each project are included in the 5 pages per architectural project or 4 pages per non-architectural project?

Answer #063

The page limits indicated under SRE 2 (as amended) and SRE 3, individually and collectively apply to the total material submitted to illustrate and respond to the criteria identified, inclusive of text, graphics, drawings, diagrams and photographs.

Question #064

May proponents reformat SRE 1 Prequalification Questionnaire to include a header and page numbers, provided all the information is included in the same order?

Answer #064

Yes, only modification allowed will be header and footer information.

Question #065

The title page of the RFQ provided and all addenda released include PSPC's format for proponents to sign each front page and submit with their response. Should proponents sign and submit the front page of the RFQ and the front page of each addendum with their response?

Answer #065

Respondents are encouraged to sign and submit the front page of the RFQ and each amendment with their submissions to demonstrate acceptance of the terms and conditions contained therein. However, Respondents will not be deemed non-responsive if they do not submit signed cover pages at the RFQ closing date and time.

Question #066

We understand the intent of the RFQ is for the Respondents to highlight the mechanical and electrical engineering capabilities of their teams as Projects 6 and 7 respectively. From a scoring viewpoint, for Project 6, which is the Mechanical project, the total score achieved for criteria A1 to A7 is to be multiplied by Scope/Importance Factor A8. However, as per para 285 and 286, the factor A8 is the sum of the Sub-factors achieved for each facility group. Accordingly, if on the Mechanical reference project, the Respondent's team member has also provided electrical and IT/Telecom services, the factor A8, and consequently the total score for Technical Criteria, will be significantly higher than if the Respondent's team member has provided only the mechanical engineering services. The same also applies to electrical engineering reference Project 7.

Please advise whether our understanding of the Scope/Importance Factor A8 is correct.

Answer #066

PSPC assumes that an increasingly complex mechanical systems results in similarly increase in complexity of electrical systems, and vice versa. Scoring method presented in para 286 will be used to assess the scope and importance factor applied to mechanical system design for Project 6 – Mechanical reference project, and electrical system design for Project 7 – Electrical reference project, on the basis of the information supplied in the response.

Question #067

Annex B Prequalification Questionnaire: If a Canadian architectural firm is teamed with a foreign design architect firm without a formal Joint Venture agreement, does the foreign architectural firm need to complete all of the following listed forms or only fill in form 2.2 Member of the Respondent since the Canadian architectural firm will be the prime Respondent:

- Form 2.1 The Respondent
- Form 2.2 Member of the Respondent
- Form 2.6 Sub Consultant Architect Respondent Team member

Answer #067

Please see response provided to question #042 and also by extension to response to question #058, published under amendment 006. Depending on the teaming arrangement, the foreign design architect firm will need to complete either section 2.1, 2.2 or 2.6.

Question #068

Please confirm that the required security clearances are for the individual level, not the company.

Answer #068

For individuals to hold a personnel security clearance at the level of Secret, they must be sponsored by an organization that holds FSC Secret security clearance.
As part of the RFQ, Annexe B SRE 1 – PQQ questionnaire, section 2, is related to the entities and firms constituting the Respondent.

Question #069

We are a foreign firm. To attain clearances as an international firm, can you clarify if we are to go through the reciprocal Home Country process, and not a process in Canada?

Answer #069

Foreign firms, located in countries with which Canada has a bilateral security instrument, can and will need to obtain FSC Secret through their home country security organization. For clarity, under these bilateral agreement, FSC Secret is understood and have recognized equivalents in all signatory countries.

Question #070

As a UK based firm, we understand that we need to apply to the British government under the reciprocal agreement arrangements, however this application process requires the client to fill out the attached forms (for each individual) to state that clearance is required. We understand that this process is usually only commenced once a contract is awarded, not for a bid. Can you clarify what stage you require clearance to be confirmed? Further, are you able to provide documentation for us to pass to the vetting authority if clearance is required at bid stage?

Answer #070

Please see response to question Q#076.

Question #071

We would like to clear a team member who is a citizen of a country that does not hold a bilateral security instrument with Canada. Please clarify how this can be achieved.

Answer #071

For general guidance, see the answer provided to Q#068 above and Q#076 below, amongst other. For security questions concerning specific individuals, please contact your organisation's company security officer or equivalent.

Question #072

With regards to Criteria A7 'Project undertaken with Respondent' in the Scoring Matrix of the Reference Project Structural Engineering and the Reference Project Mechanical and Electrical Engineering: Please confirm that a 'Reference Project realized with a Respondent Team architectural entity' would receive full points for this criteria regardless of whether the relevant Respondent Team architectural entity is part of a Joint Venture, Prime Consultant or Sub-Consultant in the Respondent Team structure proposed for this submission.

Answer #072

Yes, as outlined in article 262 and 284

Question #073

Regarding Criteria A5 Project Status for the Mechanical and Electrical reference projects in SRE2, if a project is a complete refurbishment of M&E systems within an existing building, where the shell is left intact, how would the project be evaluated?

Answer #073

Under criteria A5 Projects 6 and 7 under SRE 2 (Mechanical and electrical projects); if the project is realized/ under construction and the building shell is completed, a score of 5 (without weight factor) would apply.

Question #074

There seems to be a discrepancy with the delivery address - we called Fedex and they said that the postal K1A 0S5 does not match the address 11 Laurier, Place Du Portage in Gatineau, Québec. We had the same result from Canada Post.

They believe that the postal code that matches the 11 Laurier address is J8X 4A6.

Please would you confirm the return address and postal code?

Answer #074

Due to the change in response submission method, PSPC is no longer accepting hard copies. Please see amendment below.

Question #075

One of our clients (currently not licensed by the OAA) has just had their local Ottawa-based partner drop out of the RFQ pursuit. We are now in doubt if another local architect of similar qualifications can be found for the RFQ.

In the aforementioned partnership, our client was to fulfill the roles of "Principal Design Architect" and "Lead Design Architect" while the Ottawa-based architect would serve as "Principal Executive Architect" and "Lead Executive Architect".

Can our client apply on their own for the RFQ, and if selected, then team with a local (executive) architect for the RFP?

Answer #075

The Phase 2 RFP to follow this RFQ is limited exclusively to the prequalified teams. Please see all previous responses related to the mandatory licensing certifications. Please note that all four Key Individuals are part of the assessment under SRE 4.

Question #076

Are either Organizational or personnel security clearances required at RFQ close?

Answer #076

No. Neither organizational nor personnel security clearances are required at RFQ close. Security Clearances must be in place as a condition of awarding follow on contract.

Question #077

Is a Facility Security Clearance (at SECRET level) required for Respondent entities first, and thereafter obtained for personnel?

Answer #077

Yes. For personnel to obtain up to a secret security clearance, they must be sponsored by an organization that holds Facility Security Clearance.

Question #078

When will security requirements for the Respondent Team be identified?

Answer #078

PSPC will identify to the shortlisted competitors invited to participate in Stage 2 of the competition, the security requirements for each Respondent Team member.

Question #079

If a Canadian architecture firm who holds a valid FSC Secret level clearance is teamed with a foreign design architect firm, does the foreign design architect firm also require a valid Facility Security Clearance (FSC) at the level of SECRET, issued by the Canadian Industrial Security Directorate (CISD) of PSPC?

Answer #079

The foreign firm will require their home country's equivalent clearance of FSC SECRET. Please refer to para 201 in the RFQ.

Question #080

What is the process for Canadian entities to obtain personnel security clearances at the level of SECRET?

Answer #080

Please refer to RFQ Section F.XIX - Security Requirements.

202 Canadian entities may apply for a Facility Security Clearance at the SECRET level, after which personnel may be cleared to the requisite security clearance by completing a Request for Private Sector Organization Screening, excluding sections F and G therein, and sending it to the Contracting Authority to be sponsored.

Question #081

We are a foreign architectural firm without security clearance forming a team with a Canadian firm with Facility Security Clearance at SECRET level. Advanced Procurement Notice Amendment 2, dated February 20 2020, page 4 – Response to Security Questions, states that architectural subconsultants have no security requirement through the design competition. Is this still the case?

If so, can you confirm whether architectural subconsultants will need security clearance at any stage after the competition, if they are part of the successful Respondent Team?

Please also confirm whether personnel security clearance will be required for the four designated Key Individuals proposed as part of the design team (Principal Design Architect, Principal Executive Architect, Lead Design Architect, and Lead Executive Architect).

Answer #081

Please see the revised response to question 053 above.

3. Amendment to the RFQ

a. AT: E.I, Submission Receiving / Return Address,139

Delete:

Responses must be submitted only to the PSPC Bid Receiving Unit by the date, time indicated on page 1 of this RFQ

INSERT:

Responses must be submitted only to the PSPC Bid Receiving Unit by the date and time indicated on page 1 of this RFQ.

Note: For respondents to submit using epost Connect the email address is:

tpsgc.dgareceptiondessaoumissions-abbidreceiving.pwgsc@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

Note: Responses will not be accepted if emailed directly to this email address. This email address is to be used to open an epost Connect conversation, as detailed in 139 (b), or to send responses through an epost Connect message if the respondent is using its own licensing agreement for epost Connect.

b. AT: E.I, Submission Receiving / Return Address, below 139

INSERT:

139 (b) Transmission by epost Connect or by facsimile

1. epost Connect

- a. Responses may be submitted by using the [epost Connect service](#) provided by Canada Post Corporation.
 - i. PSPC, National Capital Region: The only acceptable email address to use with epost Connect for responses to RFQs issued by PSPC headquarters is: tpsgc.dgareceptiondessoumissions-abbidReceiving.pwgsc@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca, or, if applicable, the email address identified in the RFQ.
- b. To submit a response using epost Connect service, the Respondent must either:
 - i. send directly its response only to the specified PSPC Bid Receiving Unit, using its own licensing agreement for epost Connect provided by Canada Post Corporation; or
 - ii. send as early as possible, and in any case, at least six business days prior to the RFQ closing date and time, (in order to ensure a response), an email that includes the RFQ solicitation number to the specified PSPC Bid Receiving Unit requesting to open an epost Connect conversation. Requests to open an epost Connect conversation received after that time may not be answered.
- c. If the Respondent sends an email requesting epost Connect service to the specified Bid Receiving Unit in the RFQ, an officer of the Bid Receiving Unit will then initiate an epost Connect conversation. The epost Connect conversation will create an email notification from Canada Post Corporation prompting the Respondent to access and action the message within the conversation. The Respondent will then be able to transmit its response afterward at any time prior to the RFQ closing date and time.
- d. If the Respondent is using its own licensing agreement to send its response, the Respondent must keep the epost Connect conversation open until at least 30 business days after the RFQ closing date and time.
- e. The RFQ solicitation number should be identified in the epost Connect message field of all electronic transfers.
- f. It should be noted that the use of epost Connect service requires a Canadian mailing address. Should a respondent not have a Canadian mailing address, they may use the Bid Receiving Unit address specified in the RFQ in order to register for the epost Connect service.
- g. For responses transmitted by epost Connect service, Canada will not be responsible for any failure attributable to the transmission or receipt of the response including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. receipt of a garbled, corrupted or incomplete response;
 - ii. availability or condition of the epost Connect service;
 - iii. incompatibility between the sending and receiving equipment;
 - iv. delay in transmission or receipt of the response;
 - v. failure of the Respondent to properly identify the response;
 - vi. illegibility of the response;
 - vii. security of response data; or,
 - viii. inability to create an electronic conversation through the epost Connect service.
- h. The Bid Receiving Unit will send an acknowledgement of the receipt of response document(s) via the epost Connect conversation, regardless of whether the conversation was initiated by the supplier using its own license or the Bid Receiving Unit. This

acknowledgement will confirm only the receipt of response document(s) and will not confirm if the attachments may be opened nor if the content is readable.

- i. Respondents must ensure that they are using the correct email address for the Bid Receiving Unit when initiating a conversation in epost Connect or communicating with the Bid Receiving Unit and should not rely on the accuracy of copying and pasting the email address into the epost Connect system.
- j. A response transmitted by epost Connect service constitutes the formal response of the Respondent and must be submitted in accordance with section F.IV.

2. Facsimile

- a. Responses may be submitted by facsimile.
 - i. PSPC, National Capital Region: The only acceptable facsimile number for responses to RFQs issued by PSPC headquarters is 819-997-9776 or, if applicable, the facsimile number identified in the RFQ.
- b. For responses transmitted by facsimile, Canada will not be responsible for any failure attributable to the transmission or receipt of the faxed response including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. receipt of garbled, corrupted or incomplete response;
 - ii. availability or condition of the receiving facsimile equipment;
 - iii. incompatibility between the sending and receiving equipment;
 - iv. delay in transmission or receipt of the response;
 - v. failure of the Respondent to properly identify the response;
 - vi. illegibility of the response; or
 - vii. security of response data.
- c. A response transmitted by facsimile constitutes the formal response of the Respondent and must be submitted in accordance with section F.IV.

c. AT: E.I, Submission Receiving / Return Address,140

DELETE:

Due to the nature of the bid solicitation, Responses transmitted by facsimile and/or email to PSPC will not be accepted.

INSERT:

Due to the nature of the RFQ, only responses transmitted by epost Connect or facsimile will be accepted. Responses submitted in hard copy or by email to PSPC will not be accepted.

PSPC requests respondents use epost Connect and only use facsimile in the event that epost Connect is unavailable.

d. AT: E.II, Response Preparation Instructions

DELETE:

141 PSPC requests that the Respondent submits its Response in separately bound sections as follows:

- a) Volume I: SRE 1 Pre-Qualification Questionnaire: one (1) hard copy; and
- b) Volume II: SRE 2,3, and 4: one (1) hard copy marked "Original", five (5) additional

hard copies, and one (1) soft copy on USB key.

- 142 If there is any discrepancy between copies of Volume II, the copy marked "Original" will take precedence

INSERT:

- 141 PSPC requests that the Respondent submits its response in accordance with paragraph 139 (b). The epost Connect system has a limit of 1GB per single message posted and a limit of 20GB per conversation.

The response should be in a single print-ready pdf file with the following sections:

SRE 1- Pre-Qualification Questionnaire, SRE 2 - Past Project Experience, SRE 3 – Respondent Skills and Abilities, and SRE 4 – Team Composition, Capacity and Capabilities.

NOTE: If the response exceeds the 1GB limit and cannot be sent in a single file, the response may be separated by section into separate pdf files.

NOTE: PSPC recommends that respondents format their responses in North American paper sizes. If printed by PSPC, documents will default to North American paper sizes (8 1/2 in × 11 in, 11 in x 17 in), and printing output will default to these sizes (ie: Shrink to paper size in printing options). Respondents are requested to take this into consideration in their response.

- 142 If the Respondent is simultaneously providing copies of its response using multiple acceptable delivery methods, and if there is a discrepancy between the wording of any of these copies and the electronic copy provided through epost Connect service, the wording of the electronic copy provided through epost Connect service will have priority over the wording of the other copies.

e. At: Appendix D: Biographies of the members of the jury, Peter Herrndorf

DELETE :

Peter Herrndorf is President and CEO of ...

INSERT :

Peter Herrndorf is past President and CEO of ...