



Invitation for Bids

Date:	14 November 2018
Grant No. and Title:	0521/0522/0523-AFG: Energy Supply Improvement Investment Program Tranche 2
Contract No. and Title:	NPA/DABS/97/W-2221/ICB Procurement of Plant Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Back to Back Voltage Source 500 MW Converter Station at Dashte Alwan
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	18 February 2019, 10:00 hours (Kabul time)

1. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of ***Energy Supply Improvement Investment Program Tranche 2***. Part of this financing will be used for payments under the contract named above. No nationality restrictions apply other than any restrictions as specified in the Instruction to Bidders Clause 4.7.

2. The **National Procurement Authority (NPA) on behalf of the Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS) of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan** ("the Employer") invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the ***Procurement of Plant Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Back to Back Voltage Source 500 MW Converter Station at Dashte Alwan***. The contractor will be responsible for each activity required to complete the facilities such as design, manufacture, delivery, installation, testing, commissioning, training during installation, and required civil and electromechanical works portions. The estimated starting date is 1 October 2019 with the construction period of 1260 days (42 months).

3. The project will connect with 500-kV transmission line from Turkmenistan (Atamurat) at its upstream / intake end and with 500-kV double circuit transmission line Dashte Alwan to Arghundy at the downstream / output end. The project is part of a larger 500kV transmission network under planning and construction including 500/220/20kV substations at Dashte-Alwan. The contractor of this package will need to schedule and align its activities and interface its works with the ongoing activities and existing installations. The Scope of Works includes the following deliveries and services: design, manufacturing, testing, supply, insurance, packing, shipment, delivery to site, unloading and storage, provision of access roads, civil works, installation of equipment, commission and trial operation including necessary documentation, protocols and certificates. The project shall be implemented on a turnkey contract basis and shall include all necessary surveys, site and other facilities, interface management, environmental management and health & safety measures.

4. **International Competitive Bidding (ICB)** will be conducted in accordance with ADB's [Single-Stage: Two-Envelope](#) bidding procedure and is open to all eligible bidders without nationality restrictions.

For this procedure, bidders will be required to submit simultaneously two sealed envelopes, one containing the technical proposal and the other the price proposal. Initially, only the Technical Proposals will be opened at the date and time stipulated in the Bidding Document. The Price Proposals will remain sealed and held in custody by the Employer until completion of the evaluation of Technical Proposals by the Employer. No amendments or changes to the Technical Proposals are permitted. The objective of the exercise is to allow the Employers to evaluate the Technical Proposals without reference to price. Bids with Technical Proposals which do not conform to the specified requirements will be rejected as deficient Bids. Price Proposals of technically compliant Bids will be opened in public at a date and time advised by the Employer. The Price Proposals will be evaluated and the Contract awarded to the bidder whose Bid has been determined to be the lowest evaluated substantially responsive Bid.

5. Only eligible bidders with the following key qualifications, summarized from the Bidding Document, should participate in the bidding. Bidders shall refer to Section 3 of the Bidding Document and ensure they meet the full range of qualification criteria prior to submitting a bid.

- a) Submission of audited financial statements for the last five (5) years. As a minimum, the bidder's net worth for the last year calculated as the difference between total assets and total liabilities should be positive;
- b) The bidder shall have a minimum average annual construction turnover (calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed) within the last five (5) years of at least USD 100.0 million;
- c) The bidder must demonstrate sufficient financial resources as defined in FIN-3 (i.e., that working capital supplemented by credit line statements or overdraft facilities and others less its financial obligations for its current contract commitments as defined in FIN-4, equals or exceed USD 25.0 million;
- d) The bidder shall have participated in at least two (2) contracts within the last ten (10) years that have been successfully completed and that are similar in scope to the proposed works, where the combined value of the bidder's participation exceeds USD 150.0 million. The similarity of the bidder's participation shall be based on the physical size, nature of works, complexity, methods, technology or other characteristics as described in Section 6, Employer's Requirements;
- e) The bidder shall demonstrate an experience in design, installation and commissioning of at least three (3) high voltage 400-kV or above substations in the last seven (7) years.

6. To obtain further information bidders should contact:

Administrative Office of the President of Afghanistan
First Floor Conference Room of National Procurement Authority
Kabul, Afghanistan.

Telephone: +93 020 2147557

Contact Person: Ms. Shekiba Hajizada

E-Mail Address: shekiba.hajizada@aop.gov.af

Copied to:

zabihulahman.rahmani@aop.gov.af

mukhtar.sadat@pmo.dabs.af

director@pmo.dabs.af

7. A complete set of Bidding Documents, in English, may be downloaded **free of charge** by interested eligible bidders at www.npa.gov.af. To download Bidding Documents, clarifications

and amendments, bidders are required to register in NPA website: www.npa.gov.af. Bidders should refer to BID INFO menu, BIDDERS REGISTRATION, suppliers' registration for public procurement biddings form should be filled as follows: User Name, Password, Re-Type Password, Email, Security Question, Security Answer, Name, Father Name, Family Name, Gender, Age, Company Name, License No, Province, City, Phone No, Address In case of any difficulty in downloading from NPA website, interested eligible bidders may contact by e-mail shekiba.hajizada@aop.gov.af; zabihulrahman.rahmani@aop.gov.af; director@pmo.dabs.af; and mukhtar.sadat@pmo.dabs.af.

8. Bidding Documents may also be obtained in a flash memory from the NPA office (at the address given above).

9. Deliver bids:

- to the address below

Administrative Office of the President of Afghanistan
First Floor Conference Room of National Procurement Authority
Kabul, Afghanistan.

- **on or before the deadline 18 February 2019, 10:00 hours (local time).** Late bids shall be rejected and returned unopened.
- together with a bid security as described in the Bidding Document. Bid securities provided in currencies other than US Dollar shall be converted to US Dollar (only for the purpose of evaluation) based on the exchange rate indicated for cash selling rates in Central Bank of Afghanistan website 28 days prior to the bid submission deadline. Bid security shall remain valid for 28 days beyond the validity of bid (i.e., 238 days) after the bid submission deadline date. The bid validity period shall be 210 days.
- Electronic submission of bids is not permitted.

Technical Bids will be opened immediately in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend, whereas the Financial Bids shall remain sealed and unopened and shall be placed locked. Only the Financial Bids of technically responsive and qualified bidders shall be opened after Technical Bid Evaluation, whereas, the Financial Bids of those bidders whose Technical Bids are not responsive or who are not qualified shall be returned unopened after the contract is awarded.