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Tender

## **Torness to Hawthorn Pit HVDC Link**

National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC  
SP Transmission PLC

F05: Contract notice – utilities

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-002953

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-031223

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### **Section I: Contracting entity**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC

1 - 3 Strand

London

WC2N 5EH

#### **Contact**

David Smith

#### **Email**

[david.smith7@nationalgrid.com](mailto:david.smith7@nationalgrid.com)

#### **Telephone**

+44 7813356850

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/>

**I.1) Name and addresses**

SP Transmission PLC

320 St Vincent Street

Glasgow

G2 5AD

**Contact**

Gary Gallagher

**Email**

[ggallagher@scottishpower.com](mailto:ggallagher@scottishpower.com)

**Telephone**

+44 7747235997

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.scottishpower.co.uk/>

## **I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract involves joint procurement

In the case of joint procurement involving different countries, state applicable national procurement law

England, Wales & Northern Ireland

## **I.3) Communication**

Access to the procurement documents is restricted. Further information can be obtained at

[www.ariba.com](http://www.ariba.com)

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

[www.ariba.com](http://www.ariba.com)

## **I.6) Main activity**

Electricity

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Torness to Hawthorn Pit HVDC Link

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 45000000 - Construction work

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Works

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (NGET) and SP Transmission PLC (SPTN) (the "Employers") are jointly developing a HVDC link between Torness, Scotland and Hawthorn Pit, England (the "HVDC Link"). This notice concerns the award of one or more Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) contracts for the detailed design, engineering, procurement, manufacture, installation, construction, testing, commissioning, spares provision, operational hand-over and maintenance of the HVDC Link between Scotland and England.

The procurement is structured in 3 Lots consisting of:

? Lot 1 - EPC of HVDC, Voltage Source Commutated (VSC) converter stations at both Torness and Hawthorn Pit and HVAC underground cable at Hawthorn Pit between Converter Station and Point of Common Connection (PCC).

? Lot 2 - EPC of HVDC submarine and underground cable between converter stations at both Torness and Hawthorn Pit including HVAC underground cable at Torness between converter station & Point of Common Connection (PCC).

? Lot 3 - A single contract (Turnkey) for both the converter stations and the submarine & underground cabling works.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £924,000,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

The Employers anticipate either awarding separate contracts for the HVDC converter stations and the cable system. (Lot 1 & Lot 2) or awarding a single Turnkey contract for both elements of the Project (Lot 3)

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

EPC of HVDC Voltage Source Commutated (VSC) converter stations at both Torness & Hawthorn Pit and HVAC underground cable at Hawthorn Pit between Converter Station and Point of Common Connection (PCC)

Lot No

1

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 31200000 - Electricity distribution and control apparatus
- 31321300 - High-voltage cable
- 45231400 - Construction work for electricity power lines
- 45314310 - Installation of cable laying

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UK and UK territorial waters

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

EPC of two HVDC VSC converter stations (England and Scotland), including the underground civils works, to accommodate x2 HVDC cable poles over a total route length of approximately 196 km, forming a connection and capable of delivering 2GW as more fully described in the procurement documents.

Applicants' submissions must include detailed delivery plans/programmes clearly demonstrating how production and installation will be achieved to ensure full commissioning of the HVDC Link by Q4 2027.

Submissions must also include EPC of HVAC cable between the converter station and PCC at Hawthorn Pit only. The submission must include interfaces (as defined in the procurement documents) between adjacent cable and converter equipment, allowing interconnection of a final end-to-end solution.

The contract will also include a warranty and maintenance period.

The Employers are considering both a 2GW 2 Cable 525kV solution and a 1.4GW-1.6GW solution. Given the differences in the specification it is proposed to sub-divide Lot 2 to consider these alternative proposals. In the event that the cable capacity is reduced to 1.4 - 1.6GW, the appointed Lot 1 contractor may be required to modify its proposal on the converter station to meet the capability of the selected cable technology solution.

The Employers envisage taking up to a maximum of three (3) Applicants on Lot 1 through to RfP stage.

For the purpose of awarding the contracts, the Employers may enter into joint venture arrangements. If this approach were to be adopted and, depending on the nature of the joint venture arrangements, the successful Applicant(s) may be required to enter into a contract with a new JV entity relating to the execution of the works and services being procured.

As part of the contract award process, the Employers are considering the potential to award early works ahead of entering into the main EPC contract.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £444,000,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

Maintenance for Converter Stations

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

EPC of HVDC submarine and underground cable between converter stations (Torness & Hawthorn Pit) inc. HVAC underground cable at Torness between converter station & Point of Common Connection (PCC).

Lot No

2

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 31200000 - Electricity distribution and control apparatus
- 31321300 - High-voltage cable
- 31321500 - Submarine cable
- 45231400 - Construction work for electricity power lines
- 45314310 - Installation of cable laying

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UK and UK territorial waters

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

EPC of two HVDC cable poles (underground and submarine cable), including the underground civils works, over a total route length of approximately 196 km, forming part of a connection between two HVDC converter stations (England and Scotland) and capable of delivering 2GW (Lot 2A) or 1.4GW - 1.6GW (Lot 2B).

Applicants' submissions must also include EPC of HVAC cable between the converter station and PCC at Torness only. Applicants' submissions must include interfaces (as

defined in the procurement documents) between adjacent cable & converter equipment, allowing interconnection of a final end-to-end solution.

Submissions must include detailed delivery plans/programmes clearly demonstrating how production and installation will be achieved to ensure full commissioning of the HVDC Link by Q4 2027.

The contract will also include a warranty and maintenance period. The proposed HVDC cable technology is 525kV XLPE, PPL or MIND. Proposed PPL and MIND cable systems (cables and accessories, including factory joints and transition joints) shall be type tested in accordance with Cigre Electra 189 and 171 before the award of the contract. Proposed XLPE cable systems (cables and accessories, including factory joints and transition joints) shall be PQ tested in accordance with CIGRE TB852 or TB496 before the award of the contract.

The Employers envisage taking up to a maximum of twelve successful Applicants - a maximum of six (6) on Lot 2A and six (6) on Lot 2B - (in accordance with the procurement documents) through to RfP stage.

For the purpose of awarding the contracts, the Employers may enter into joint venture arrangements.

If this approach were to be adopted and, depending on the nature of the joint venture arrangements, the successful applicant(s) may be required to enter into a contract with a new JV entity relating to the execution of the works and services being procured.

As part of the contract award process, the Employers are considering the potential to award early works ahead of entering into the main EPC contract.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £480,000,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

? Provide a spare duct to each landfall

? Post Delivery Support Agreement

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

A single contract (Turnkey)

Lot No

3

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 31200000 - Electricity distribution and control apparatus
- 31321300 - High-voltage cable
- 31321500 - Submarine cable
- 45231400 - Construction work for electricity power lines
- 45314310 - Installation of cable laying

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UK and UK territorial waters

## II.2.4) Description of the procurement

EPC of Two HVDC VSC converter stations (England and Scotland), including the underground civils works, to accommodate x2 HVDC cable poles over a total route length of approximately 196 km, forming a connection and capable of delivering 2GW as more fully described in the procurement documents.

EPC of two HVDC cable poles (underground and submarine cable), including the underground civils works, over a total route length of approximately 196 km, forming part of a connection between two HVDC converter stations (England and Scotland) and capable of delivering 2GW or 1.4 - 1.6GW.

Applicants' submissions must also include EPC of HVAC cable between the converter station and PCC at Torness and Hawthorn Pit. The submission must include interfaces (as defined in the procurement documents) between adjacent cable and converter equipment, allowing interconnection of a final end-to-end solution.

The contract will also include a warranty and maintenance period. The HVDC cable technology is 525kV XLPE, PPL or MIND. Proposed PPL and MIND cable systems (cables and accessories, including factory joints and transition joints) shall be type tested in accordance with Cigre Electra 189 and 171 before the award of the contract. Proposed XLPE cable systems (cables and accessories, including factory joints and transition joints) shall be Pre-Qualification tested in accordance with CIGRE TB852 or TB496 before the award of the contract.

Submissions must include detailed delivery plans/programmes clearly demonstrating how production and installation will be achieved to ensure full commissioning of the HVDC Link by Q4 2027.

Please note that the constituent parts of any joint venture or consortium Applicant participating in Lot 3 will be expected also to participate in Lot 1 and Lot 2.

The Employers envisage taking up to a maximum of three (3) Applicants on Lot 3 through to RfP stage.

For the purpose of awarding the contracts, the Employers may enter into joint venture arrangements. If this approach were to be adopted and, depending on the nature of the joint venture arrangements, the successful applicant(s) may be required to enter into a contract with a new JV entity relating to the execution of the works and services being procured.

As part of the contract award process, the Employers are considering the potential to award early works ahead of entering into the main EPC contract.

**II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

**II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £924,000,000

**II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

**II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

**II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

? Maintenance for Converter Stations

? Provide a spare duct to each landfall

? Post Delivery Support Agreement

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions

As described in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

List and brief description of selection criteria

As described in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.4) Objective rules and criteria for participation**

List and brief description of rules and criteria

As described in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.6) Deposits and guarantees required**

The following contractual security may be required from contractors:

? Parent company guarantees from the ultimate parent company or equivalent third-party security

? Performance, retention and warranty bonds

? Collateral warranties in favour of the Employers from all key subcontractors (to be determined by the Employers)

? Advance payment bonds if the Employers agree to an advance payment, in each case as more fully described in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.7) Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them**

Torness to Hawthorn Pit HVDC Link is subject to regulation under the Ofgem RII0-T2

Large Onshore Transmission Investment regime and therefore the project costs and payment provisions may be subject to regulatory oversight.

### **III.1.8) Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded**

Where there is a group of economic operators, joint venture or consortium each economic operator, joint venture partner or consortium member must be jointly and severally liable for the whole of the performance of the obligations under any contract to which it is a party.

## **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

### **III.2.2) Contract performance conditions**

Contracts will be structured on an EPC basis, will be subject to the laws of England, Wales & Northern Ireland, and will contain performance guarantees. Completion and full commissioning of the HVDC Link needs to be scheduled to be completed by Q4 2027. Full details of the contract performance conditions are described in procurement documents.

### **III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract**

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Negotiated procedure with prior call for competition

#### **IV.1.4) Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue**

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

## **IV.2) Administrative information**

### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2020/S 207-506533](#)

### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

4 March 2022

Local time

12:00pm

### **IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**

7 April 2022

### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 16 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.3) Additional information**

For the purpose of awarding the contracts, the Employers may enter into joint venture arrangements. If this approach were to be adopted and, depending on the nature of the joint venture arrangements, the successful contractor(s) may be required to enter into a contract with a new JV entity relating to the execution of the works and services being procured.

The Employers reserve the right to withdraw this notice or any of the Lots

included in this notice at any time for whatever reason. In the event that the Employers decide to withdraw any Lots within this notice, the Employers reserve the right to continue the process in respect of any of the remaining Lots.

Applicants shall be fully responsible for the costs of responding to this procurement at all stages of the procurement and in no circumstances do the Employers accept any liability for any costs incurred by any Applicants, howsoever or whensoever incurred.

#### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

##### **VI.4.1) Review body**

High Court of Justice

Queen's Bench Division Divisional Court, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand,

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom