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Opportunity

## **Enquiry Control and Utility Asset Management System**

Firmus Energy (Distribution) Limited

F05: Contract notice – utilities

Notice reference: 2024/S 000-009687

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

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

Firmus Energy (Distribution) Limited

A4-A5 Fergusons Way Kilbegs Road

ANTRIM

BT414LZ

#### **Email**

[procurement@firmusenergy.co.uk](mailto:procurement@firmusenergy.co.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKN0D - Antrim and Newtownabbey

#### **Companies House**

05375370

## **Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.firmusenergy.co.uk](http://www.firmusenergy.co.uk)

## **I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://www.firmusenergy.co.uk/enquiry-control-and-utility-asset-management-system>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

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

Production, transport and distribution of gas and heat

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Enquiry Control and Utility Asset Management System

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

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

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

Services

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

firmus energy is tendering for the provision of an Enquiry Control and Utility Asset Management System. firmus energy is looking for bidders with the experience, skill and technical ability to provide a reliable Enquiry Control and Utility Asset Management System to assist in every day operations of connecting new customers and managing and maintaining the gas network and associated assets.

Estimated total contract value (based on the entire potential contract duration, including any extensions) is anticipated to be between £300,000 and £500,000.

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

Value excluding VAT: £500,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 48000000 - Software package and information systems
- 72212000 - Programming services of application software
- 72223000 - Information technology requirements review services
- 72224000 - Project management consultancy services
- 72225000 - System quality assurance assessment and review services
- 72227000 - Software integration consultancy services
- 72232000 - Development of transaction processing and custom software
- 72241000 - Critical design target specification services
- 72242000 - Design-modelling services
- 72243000 - Programming services
- 72245000 - Contract systems analysis and programming services
- 72246000 - Systems consultancy services
- 72251000 - Disaster recovery services
- 72253000 - Helpdesk and support services
- 72254000 - Software testing
- 72261000 - Software support services
- 72262000 - Software development services
- 72263000 - Software implementation services
- 72265000 - Software configuration services
- 72266000 - Software consultancy services
- 72267000 - Software maintenance and repair services
- 72268000 - Software supply services

- 72320000 - Database services

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

NUTS codes

- UKN0D - Antrim and Newtownabbey

Main site or place of performance

Antrim, Co Antrim, N. Ireland

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

firmus energy wants to procure a contract for the provision of an Enquiry Control and Utility Asset Management System to assist in every day operations of connecting new customers and managing and maintaining the gas network and associated assets.

firmus energy wants to work with a supplier who can successfully deliver a cloud hosted and futureproofed Enquiry Control and Utility Asset Management System for a gas distribution business, which will provide increased staff productivity, improved business intelligence and increased return on investment.

The project will be managed using appropriate project management methodologies to ensure on time and on budget delivery. The end product will be designed through interactive requirements gathering and design workshops, agreed with firmus energy and will be implemented by the supplier to meet the agreed configuration, specifications, designs and quality assurance.

The supplier will lead firmus energy through the transition to the new system and continue to support, maintain and develop the product through the lifetime of the contract.

At the end of the procurement process, firmus energy want to purchase a system that enables firmus energy to reduce opex costs, increase staff productivity, is future proof and is easily configurable.

### **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: £500,000

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

Duration in months

60

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

It is anticipated that any contract awarded will be entered into for a three (3) year period. The total duration indicated above reflects the potential for 2x1 year contract extensions.

### **II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged number of candidates: 4

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

As set out in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire

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

Variants will be accepted: No

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

It is anticipated that any contract awarded will be entered into for a three (3) year period. The total duration indicated above reflects the potential for 2x1 year contract extensions.

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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 stated 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**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

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

List and brief description of rules and criteria

As stated in the procurement documents

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

firmus energy reserves the right to require bonds, deposits, guarantees or other forms of undertaking or security to ensure proper contractual performance.

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

As set out in the procurement and contract documents

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

Subject to the status and involvement of the parties, firmus energy may require the parties to commit to joint and several liability in respect of the contract. Alternatively firmus energy

may require the lead operator to take total responsibility or a consortium to form a legal entity before entering into any framework agreement.

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

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

As set out in 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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

18 April 2024

Local time

5:00pm

#### **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: 4 (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**

This contract is being procured competitively in accordance with the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016 (as amended). The procedure to be followed for this procurement is the negotiated procedure. Bidders who wish to participate in this procurement will be required to provide their contact details to [procurement@firmusenergy.co.uk](mailto:procurement@firmusenergy.co.uk) upon downloading the procurement documents. Bidders who fail to provide their details or register in this manner will not receive any clarifications or updated information provided by firmus energy during the procurement process.

The costs of responding to this notice and participation in the process will be borne by each bidder. All discussions and correspondence will be deemed strictly subject to contract until a formal contract is entered into. The formal contract shall not be binding until it has been signed and dated by the duly authorised representatives of the relevant parties.

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

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

High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland

Royal Courts of Justice, Chichester Street

Belfast

BT1 3JF

Email

[office@courtsni.gov.uk](mailto:office@courtsni.gov.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

firmus energy will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to all bidders. The standstill period provides time for review of the award decision by unsuccessful bidders before the contract is entered into.