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Award

Campus for Advanced Nuclear Skills and Innovation: Pilot Programme

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-011249

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02b363

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

1 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0ET

Email

zara.hodgson@beis.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 2072155000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Campus for Advanced Nuclear Skills and Innovation: Pilot Programme

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) intends to appoint the National Nuclear Laboratory for The Advanced Nuclear Campus Pilot Programme, that will establish a 9 month pilot for an advanced nuclear skills and innovation campus. The Pilot will:

- demonstrate how collaborative Innovation and Research projects can be successfully carried out on a civil Nuclear Licensed Site, and how best to remove barriers and facilitate access to those sites;
- demonstrate and evaluate different approaches to providing skills, training, and experience on a civil Nuclear Licensed Site, for a range of ages and educational backgrounds;
- establish the scope and specification of future Campuses, including, location considerations, access arrangements and infrastructure requirements; and
- develop robust evidence base and propose suitable delivery models and funding levels for full-scale Campuses and identifying what level of user demand exists across the sector.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £2,045,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UNITED KINGDOM

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The core requirement for the pilot project is to trial approaches or arrangements for overcoming the barrier to technology development in a nuclear environment; in other words, the pilot will identify how best to provide reasonable site access to the wider market. This requirement means that a delivery partner must have ready access to R&D facilities on a civil nuclear licensed site from the start of the 9-month programme (i.e. from June 2021). Only NNL have access to extensive R&D facilities on a nuclear licensed site, and thus can provide the services required by this procurement.

Our initial estimated budget of £1.745m has moved to a £2.045m finalised budget, after continued development of project requirements and scoping of costs, since the market engagement and related PIN.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2.14) Additional information

Our initial estimated budget of £1.745m has moved to a £2.045m finalised budget, after continued development of project requirements and scoping of costs, since the market engagement and related PIN.

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

The NNL is a Government-owned body (the Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy is the sole shareholder) and as such has a remit to support Government in nuclear technical matters.

For this pilot programme, market engagement was held with industry organisations, academia and consultancies to determine the viability of a competitive procurement procedure. Feedback gathered has caused BEIS to discount a competition as a viable route for the campus pilot. This is based on the following factors:

- It is not feasible currently to provide the wider market with fair and reasonable access to R&D facilities on a civil nuclear licensed site, therefore a fair competition cannot be held.
- Any potential competitive option would require complex consortia structures, which go against the pilot objectives - all consortia partners would need to partner with a site licensee or enter into lengthy new site licence negotiations with the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). The pilot is not intended to trial and assess the delivery partner, but instead trial the process, learning and outcomes of pilot projects and training enabled by the delivery partner.
- Only a single organisation (NNL) currently have access to extensive R&D facilities on a nuclear licensed site.

The core requirement for the pilot project is to trial approaches or arrangements for overcoming the barrier to technology development in a nuclear environment; in other words, the pilot will identify how best to provide reasonable site access to the wider market. This requirement means that a delivery partner must have ready access to R&D facilities on a civil licensed site from the start of the 9-month programme (i.e. from June 2021). As mentioned, only a single organisation (NNL) already having access to extensive R&D facilities on a nuclear licensed site and can currently offer this service.

Whilst the single source route is appropriate for this pilot, it is vital to create an environment where a fair and open competition is possible for future campus phases. Any future open competition is predicated on the pilot not giving any unfair advantage to the delivery partner or licensed site. During this pilot programme NNL must look toward the next phase and the importance of opening up the market. Opening up the market requires:

- Future Multiple Site Options – NNL will be tasked with identifying future campus location(s), the benefits they could bring and the necessary interventions to enable them to do so.
- Future Multiple Delivery Partners – NNL will be tasked with identifying effective processes and opportunities for organisations to become tenants on nuclear licensed sites, along with associated challenges and requirements.
- Industrial Innovation. NNL will be tasked with identifying campus features (working model and timelines) to enable campus innovation from the market and drive toward Value for Money (ROI) with the Research and Development conducted.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

10 May 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

National Nuclear Laboratory Limited

Chadwick House, Warrington Road, Birchwood Park

Warrington

WA3 6AE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

03857752

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,045,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,045,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

To view this notice, please click here:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/delta/viewNotice.html?noticeId=594087836>

GO Reference: GO-2021520-PRO-18270858

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

1 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0ET

Country

United Kingdom