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Award

Apollo Mobility Solution

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-012303

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02b781

Published 2 June 2021, 1:45pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

1100 Century Way Thorpe Park

LEEDS

LS158TU

Contact

Maija Narimanidze

Email

MNarimanidze@northerngas.co.uk

Telephone

+44 7814042782

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKE42 - Leeds

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.6) Main activity

Production, transport and distribution of gas and heat

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Apollo Mobility Solution

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

Apollo is used on all NGN laptops, tablets and system control PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working during the COVID-19 pandemic and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control. Brand is also an essential service to secure data flows from our Gas Offtake sites back to System Control. 3iG are currently running a comprehensive programme to replace old Arqiva technology with Brand software which has given NGN more security and reliability.

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: £313,497

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

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

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKE42 - Leeds

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Brand Communications Apollo is used on all NGN laptops, tablets and system control PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working during the COVID-19 pandemic and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control. Brand is also an essential service to secure data flows from our Gas Offtake sites back to System Control. 3iG are currently running a comprehensive programme to replace old Arqiva technology with Brand software which has given NGN more security and reliability.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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:

NGN have a contract with Brand Communications, which expires on the 31st of August 2021.

Brand Communications Apollo is used on all NGN laptops, tablets and system control PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working during the COVID-19 pandemic and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control. Brand is also an essential service to secure data flows from our Gas Offtake sites back to System Control. 3iG are currently running a comprehensive programme to replace old Arqiva technology with Brand software which has given NGN more security and reliability.

This software is a critical part of our IT infrastructure and would be a multi-million pound investment to replace, procure and swap out all devices if Brand was replaced. The current COVID-19 lockdown restrictions would also create a longer-term programme of works of face-to-face interactions between the IT support team and 1000+ end user devices.

There is a need to renew the contract to save NGN time and money that has been spent on building our current infrastructure to replace this with a new solution.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Title

Apollo Mobility Solutions

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

28 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

Brand Communications Limited

Huntingdon

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £313,497

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Northern Gas Networks

Leeds

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

This notice will be issued to the market for 10 days.