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Contract

Effects of Chemical Exposure on Whole Genome

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (Defra Network eTendering Portal)

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-013265

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03a139

Published 24 April 2024, 11:10am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (Defra Network eTendering Portal)

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

Contact

Carol Caddick

Email

dgcenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

Buyer's address

<https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Effects of Chemical Exposure on Whole Genome

Reference number

C17327

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73111000 - Research laboratory services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This is an outcome-based specification, where project deliverables are critical. These may not be achievable in full due to the novel approach we intend to take, but we expect creativity and innovation in the approach to delivering the objectives with us.

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: £419,446.49

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 73111000 - Research laboratory services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Environment Agency is a key delivery partner for the Defra 25 Year Environment Plan. The EA have been monitoring data for over 1500 chemicals that can be used to measure exposure at a single point in time, but there are no suitable measures of the effects on aquatic fauna or flora caused by that exposure.

The Outcome Indicator H4 on the exposure and effects of chemicals on wildlife therefore requires development of novel effects indicators to demonstrate effects at the level of the individual that can be used to predict sub-lethal effects in aquatic organisms caused by exposure to chemical mixtures. The effects measures need to be robust, easily adoptable by a regulator and provide demonstrable environmental protection.

Mixture effects are critical to understanding ecological impacts in the environment, as individuals are never exposed to single compounds in isolation, but all ecotoxicological data used to determine safe thresholds are based on exposure of a very small number of species under controlled experimental conditions using good laboratory practice standards. This leads to uncertainty in predicting impacts based on published Predicted No Effect Concentrations used to determine Environmental Quality Standards. This work will contribute to the development of an organism-based indicator to determine in-situ and in-laboratory culture effects and help to predict the scale of natural population impacts.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Technical / Weighting: 70

Cost criterion - Name: Commercial / Weighting: 30

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2023/S 000-002832](#)

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

2 March 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 3

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 3

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

University of Exeter

Northcote House, The Queen's Drive Exeter

Exeter

EX4 4QJ

Email

crandc@exeter.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

RC000653

Internet address

www.exeter.ac.uk

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £419,446.49

Total value of the contract/lot: £419,446.49

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Defra Network eTendering Portal

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Defra Network eTendering Portal

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Defra Network eTendering Portal

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>