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Award

NRWAS Water Purification System - Service & Maintenance Contract

Natural Resources Wales

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-016314

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0469fe

Published 23 May 2024, 12:12pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Natural Resources Wales

Maes Y Ffynnon

Bangor

LL57 2DW

Contact

Naomi Hammond

Email

naomi.hammond@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 03000653574

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0110

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

NRWAS Water Purification System - Service & Maintenance Contract

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The contract involves the supply of consumables, provision of maintenance services (including diagnostics, Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM), and fault fixing), and the purchase of two additional water purification stations to integrate with the current system and maintenance contract.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

Lowest offer: £152,615 / Highest offer: £212,001 taken into consideration

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Natural Resources Wales Analytical Services (NRWAS) at Swansea University is an

analytical laboratory testing samples taken from sites across Wales. NRWAS provide high quality environmental testing and analysis by professional and experienced staff operating to the highest industry standard; accredited by UKAS, the national accreditation body for the United Kingdom to ISO/IEC 17025:2005. The analysis conducted at NRWAS is Inorganic chemistry, Metals analysis, Organic chemistry, and Microbiological analysis. The testing is conducted as part of the Welsh Government's statutory obligations set out in the European Union's Water Framework Directive (WFD); specifically achieving prescribed environmental quality standards listed in Directives 2008/105/EC, 2013/39 and 2015/495.

De-ionised and ultrapure water is essential in analytical laboratories. Purification removes contaminants that may interfere with testing processes. Purified water is used in many ways in water quality testing laboratories for instance to make analytical reagents, to rinse glassware and to make agar for microbiological applications. NRW Analytical Services requires ultrapure water for testing water quality samples collected by NRW.

The specialised water purification system procured by NRWAS in 2020 for their laboratory at Swansea University, was supplied by Merck Life Science and is currently serviced and maintained by the supplier. The service contract was included as part of the procurement of the new system which has now expired. This procurement is for a support and maintenance contract for the existing water purification system for the next 4 years.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract includes the option to purchase two Milli-Q additional water purification stations to support the expansion of our operations. These new stations will be fully integrated with our existing system and covered under the same maintenance contract.

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

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

A Speculative Notice, with requests for Expression of Interest (EOI), was posted in November to publicise this opportunity. We received two responses, one from the existing supplier and one from a company deemed unsuitable for the work. As the manufacturer and incumbent supplier, Merck Life Science Ltd, is uniquely positioned to supply the necessary consumables at a competitive rate and has the expertise to run diagnostics and undertake the Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) and fault fixing. Additionally, the manufacturer can integrate two new purification stations with our current system and maintenance contract, ensuring consistency and reliability in our operations.

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

23 May 2024

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

Merck Life Science UK Limited

The Old Brickyard, New Road

Gillingham

SP84XT

Telephone

+44 0800717181

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Lowest offer: £152,615 / Highest offer: £212,001 taken into consideration

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(WA Ref:141686)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom