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Planning

In Cave Vacuum System - Centralised Vacuum Cleaning System (CVCS)

United Kingdom National Nuclear Laboratory

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-017845

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-065e27

Published 27 February 2026, 12:00pm

Scope

Reference

NNLC720

Description

The United Kingdom National Nuclear Lab (UKNNL) requires the provision of an In Cave Vacuum System - Centralised Vacuum Cleaning System (CVCS). To ensure a comprehensive view on the current situation, we are issuing the attached Early Engagement RFI to receive input from the supply market. Early Engagement RFI Submission Deadline = 06/03/2025 (complete and return Early Engagement RFI In Cave Vacuum System). This exercise is a request for information, it does not constitute a formal procurement process. The purpose of this exercise is to assess the interest and capabilities within current markets to deliver this service. UKNNL may choose to contact suppliers based on the information provided in this questionnaire. If you prefer not to be contacted, please clearly indicate this preference in your questionnaire response. UKNNL assure you that any information provided during this exercise will not adversely affect the evaluation of any offers you may submit in response to any future Invitations to Tender.

Brief Scope: UKNNL is seeking information from suppliers on their ability to design, manufacture, test and deliver a CVCS for use in a radiologically shielded AHF. The system will be used to support housekeeping during remote metal cutting operations by collecting hazardous swarf for safe disposal. It must be suitable for operation in a high-radiation environment, be capable of remote operation and maintenance, and be compatible with existing in cave handling equipment. The supplier would be expected to own the detailed design, using UKNNL provided concept information, and deliver one complete system, including testing and supporting documentation. This RFI is issued to understand current market capability and interest ahead of any future procurement.

Total value (estimated)

- £240,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 June 2026 to 31 May 2027
- Possible extension to 31 May 2028
- 2 years

Main procurement category

Goods

Additional procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 42990000 - Miscellaneous special-purpose machinery
- 38500000 - Checking and testing apparatus
- 39713430 - Vacuum cleaners
- 42122450 - Vacuum pumps
- 42924740 - High-pressure cleaning apparatus
- 45251111 - Construction work for nuclear reactors
- 71320000 - Engineering design services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

6 March 2026

Engagement process description

https://uk.eu-supply.com/app/rfq/rwlenrance_s.asp?PID=103284&TID=100108482&B=

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
-

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

20 March 2026

Contracting authority

United Kingdom National Nuclear Laboratory

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVXT-8784-YGNV

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Region: UKD61 - Warrington

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government