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Planning

Provision of Industrial, Medical Gases and Special Gases and Associated Equipment and Services

AWE PLC

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-020866

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03e39d

Published 20 July 2023, 8:44am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

AWE PLC

Reading

Email

AWEProcurement@awe.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ11 - Berkshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

WWW.AWE.CO.UK

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Defence

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Provision of Industrial, Medical Gases and Special Gases and Associated Equipment and Services

Reference number

tender_379952/1237863

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 24100000 - Gases

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Atomic Weapons Establishment Plc (“AWE”) is looking to engage with the market to understand bidders’ capability and capacity to provide industrial, medical and special gases and associated equipment and services to support its Aldermaston and Burghfield sites.

AWE are considering an agreement with industry (single supplier) for a period of up to 6 years.

For clarity this document forms a part of pre-market engagement and is not part of any competitive procedure. Any information you submit will be considered solely for the purposes of building a greater understanding of the marketplace, and industry's ability to support the procurement category strategy

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £18,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 24100000 - Gases
- 24110000 - Industrial gases
- 24111000 - Hydrogen, argon, rare gases, nitrogen and oxygen
- 24111100 - Argon
- 24111200 - Rare gases
- 24111300 - Helium
- 24111500 - Medical gases
- 24111600 - Hydrogen
- 24111700 - Nitrogen
- 24111800 - Liquid nitrogen
- 24111900 - Oxygen
- 24112100 - Carbon dioxide
- 24112200 - Nitrogen oxides
- 24113200 - Compressed air
- 24311900 - Chlorine
- 24321115 - Acetylene
- 31711400 - Valves and tubes
- 38420000 - Instruments for measuring flow, level and pressure of liquids and gases
- 38421110 - Flowmeters
- 38423000 - Pressure-measuring equipment

- 38423100 - Pressure gauges
- 38431100 - Gas-detection apparatus
- 42131140 - Pressure-reducing, control, check or safety valves
- 42131141 - Pressure-reducing valves
- 42131142 - Control valves
- 42131147 - Safety valves
- 42131170 - Gas-cylinder outlet valves
- 42131320 - Choke manifolds
- 42131390 - Assemblies of valves
- 44523200 - Mountings
- 44523300 - Fittings
- 44612000 - Liquefied-gas containers
- 44612100 - Gas cylinders
- 44612200 - Gas tanks
- 63121110 - Gas storage services
- 80550000 - Safety training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ11 - Berkshire

Main site or place of performance

AWE Aldermaston

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

AWE is looking to engage with the market to understand the supplier's capability and capacity to meet its needs for industrial, medical and special gases and associated equipment and services post expiry of its existing contract which expires on 31st December 2024. A procurement is required to secure future supplies under a new contract for the long term.

The supply of products and associated services will support the AWE sites at both Aldermaston and Burghfield. At present there are no plans to service other sites, however it should be noted that during the life of the contract term, the infrastructure and layout of the site may change which may in turn lead to required changes in respect of the in scope services.

In respect of the requirements, the following are deemed in scope. Please see the RFI Requirements document for more detail and note that a full list will be supplied at ITT together with specifications and sizes:

1. Compressed Industrial Gases
2. Compressed Medical Gases
3. Compressed Research/Special Gases and Gas Mixtures
4. Bulk Gases in Liquid Form
5. Cryo Liquids in Small Vessels
6. Solid Carbon Dioxide (CO₂, 'Dry Ice')
7. Gas Regulators and Handling Equipment
8. Assorted Fixtures and Fittings
9. Maintenance and Inspection Services
10. Rental of Gases Tanks
11. Delivery Services
12. Gas Safety Training Courses
13. Demand and Inventory Management

In respect of requirement 13, it should be noted that AWE requires the successful bidder to

undertake the inventory and demand management in respect of the requirements listed above. Continuity of supply is critical to AWE and as such, any successful bidder will need to implement an operating model to ensure that availability of gases meets AWE requirements can be met 365 days a year. The proposed inventory management solution should be light / zero touch from AWE staff, whilst demonstrating appropriate budgetary controls and contract management.

To support the development of our procurement strategy and understand how the market can support and fulfil AWE requirements, AWE is requesting interested parties to submit the proforma; Appendix A, to AWEProcurement@awe.co.uk, including in the title of your email submission “Industrial, Medical Gases and Special Gases and Associated Equipment and Services”.

<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/notice/44698214-d1ab-4dd6-bbbc-95e4be981414?origin=SearchResults&p=1>

We ask that you register your interest in this PIN and RFI by Friday 4th August 16:00 BST, submissions after this deadline may not be considered.

Once the necessary security checks have been carried out using the information submitted in the proforma, if successful, the RFI will be sent to the nominated email in your proforma.

Responses to the RFI should be submitted via email to AWEProcurement@awe.co.uk, including in the title of your email submission “Industrial, Medical Gases and Special Gases and Associated Equipment and Services”.

The nature of this PIN is such that AWE intends to operate restrictions within the relevant procurement regulations in order to protect essential national security interests. If an economic operator has connections with any hostile entity or foreign states which are deemed by AWE to pose a risk to the UK’s national security interests or is otherwise considered not to possess the reliability necessary to exclude risks to the security of the United Kingdom, AWE reserves its right to exclude them from this exercise.

In issuing this PIN and engaging with the market, the AWE is not committing to conduct any procurement in relation to this Programme. Equally non-participation in this Market Engagement will not be taken into account in any future procurement activities and will not preclude any organisation from submitting a tender in any future competitions.

Note: The nature of this contract is such that the award will be subject to supplier’s passing AWE’s security requirements as dictated by its site licenses.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

6 October 2023

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

You can download RFI documents from here

<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/notice/44698214-d1ab-4dd6-bbbc-95e4be981414?origin=SearchResults&p=1>