Planning

(NU/1727) Campus Wide Solar PV Installation Project

Newcastle University

F01: Prior information notice
Prior information only
Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-026172
Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02eda9
Published 19 October 2021, 4:35pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Newcastle University

Newcastle University, King's Gate

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE1 7RU

Contact

Mrs Gillian Mournian

Email

gillian.mournian@ncl.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1912086073

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKC2 - Northumberland and Tyne and Wear

Internet address(es)

Main address

https://www.ncl.ac.uk

Buyer's address

https://www.ncl.ac.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

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

(NU/1727) Campus Wide Solar PV Installation Project

Reference number

DN577026

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 09300000 - Electricity, heating, solar and nuclear energy

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

As part of the Newcastle University’s carbon reduction strategy and in pursuit of our net zero by 2030 target, we are seeking to appoint either one or a number of contractors to design; supply; install and commission roof mounted Solar PV systems (capacities to be proposed by the contractor), with accompanying Solar PV health monitoring and data collection platform, on approx. 65 buildings across the University Campus within a two year period. Contractors may be interested in supply and installation, supply only, installation only or remedial works. The buildings in question vary in age and construction (including listed buildings) and some structural and remedial works will be required prior to PV being installed.

All solar photovoltaic systems would need to comply with standards laid out by the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) MIS 3002 3.3 and all solar photovoltaic system components must also be MCS approved.

This PIN is designed to alert the market to our future intent to tender for this requirement and to give prospective bidders the opportunity to indicate if the requirements of this project are achievable within the proposed timeframe. We are looking for contractors to propose solutions for both carrying out remedial/structural works and insuring the integrity of the buildings and/or installing the PV systems. We estimate that whilst the majority of the cost for this requirement will be the PV element, the building work will also form a significant proportion (possibly 55/45% respectively) and it is therefore envisaged that both Building Contractors and PV installation companies may be interested in this opportunity and can propose solutions which will answer the following questions:

• Is it feasible to install circa. 6MW and 15,000 no. of Solar PV panels within two years in the current climate?

• What are the biggest risks you can foresee for a project of this scale and speed?

• Is this a project you would be interested in bidding for with the currently set timescales i.e. two years?

o If not, what timescale would you propose?

• How would you ensure compliance with the Modern Slavery Act, particularly in the sourcing of the PV panels given the issues surrounding modern slavery issues in the market?

• How would you secure panel stock given the current demand for Solar PV and other issues e.g. silicon shortages?

• How far in advance is it possible to secure stock and price?

• How would you propose in terms of methodology and programme for the building remedial works; design and installation of PV be undertaken?

There may be an opportunity for presentations / visits to be arranged as part of this market research stage. A small number of Campus Buildings have already undergone installation as part of a pilot project with JA Solar JAM72D10-410/ MB, however the University will accept proven equivalent models/ manufacturers.

Interested suppliers may be invited to meet with us virtually or in person in November 2021 to discuss proposals further. The contract reference is NU/1727. The deadline for expressing an interest is 18.11.2021 at 12.00 BST. To do so, please email Gill Mournian gillian.mournian@ncl.ac.uk.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 09300000 - Electricity, heating, solar and nuclear energy
- 45000000 - Construction work

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKC2 - Northumberland and Tyne and Wear

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

As part of the Newcastle University's carbon reduction strategy and in pursuit of our net zero by 2030 target, we are seeking to appoint either one or a number of contractors to design; supply; install and commission roof mounted Solar PV systems (capacities to be proposed by the contractor), with accompanying Solar PV health monitoring and data collection platform, on approx. 65 buildings across the University Campus within a two year period. Contractors may be interested in supply and installation, supply only, installation only or remedial works. The buildings in question vary in age and construction (including listed buildings) and some structural and remedial works will be required prior to PV being installed.

All solar photovoltaic systems would need to comply with standards laid out by the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) MIS 3002 3.3 and all solar photovoltaic system components must also be MCS approved.

This PIN is designed to alert the market to our future intent to tender for this requirement and to give prospective bidders the opportunity to indicate if the requirements of this project are achievable within the proposed timeframe. We are looking for contractors to propose solutions for both carrying out remedial/structural works and insuring the integrity of the buildings and/or installing the PV systems. We estimate that whilst the majority of the cost for this requirement will be the PV element, the building work will also form a significant proportion (possibly 55/45% respectively) and it is therefore envisaged that both Building Contractors and PV installation companies may be interested in this opportunity and can propose solutions which will answer the following questions:

• Is it feasible to install circa. 6MW and 15,000 no. of Solar PV panels within two years in the current climate?

• What are the biggest risks you can foresee for a project of this scale and speed?

• Is this a project you would be interested in bidding for with the currently set timescales i.e. two years?

o If not, what timescale would you propose?

• How would you ensure compliance with the Modern Slavery Act, particularly in the sourcing of the PV panels given the issues surrounding modern slavery issues in the market?

• How would you secure panel stock given the current demand for Solar PV and other issues e.g. silicon shortages?

• How far in advance is it possible to secure stock and price?

• How would you propose in terms of methodology and programme for the building remedial works; design and installation of PV be undertaken?

There may be an opportunity for presentations / visits to be arranged as part of this market research stage. A small number of Campus Buildings have already undergone installation as part of a pilot project with JA Solar JAM72D10-410/ MB, however the University will accept proven equivalent models/ manufacturers.

Interested suppliers may be invited to meet with us virtually or in person in November 2021 to discuss proposals further. The contract reference is NU/1727. The deadline for expressing an interest is 19.11.2021 at 12.00 BST. To do so, please email Gill Mournian gillian.mournian@ncl.ac.uk.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

15 December 2021

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: Yes