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Contract

**VULCANS (the Virtual Centre for the Application of Nuclear Systems) is a multi-year Research & Development project aiming to help develop very small nuclear power systems to support sensors and propulsion in space and in other remote and challenging environments.**

Business Energy and Industrial Strategy

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-026255

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02edfc

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## **Section I: Contracting authority**

### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Business Energy and Industrial Strategy

1 Victoria Street

London

SW1H0ET

#### **Contact**

Paul Donovan

#### **Email**

[paul.donovan@beis.gov.uk](mailto:paul.donovan@beis.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 2072152445

**Fax**

+44 2072152445

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKI32 - Westminster

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.beis.gov.uk](http://www.beis.gov.uk)

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

VULCANS (the Virtual Centre for the Application of Nuclear Systems) is a multi-year Research & Development project aiming to help develop very small nuclear power systems to support sensors and propulsion in space and in other remote and challenging environments.

Reference number

TRN 5402 10 /2021

### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 51000000 - Installation services (except software)

### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

### **II.1.4) Short description**

Report on sector requirements and demand, covering:

- o Demand from public and private sector organisations for Deployable Nuclear Power Sources and their fuels;
- o Technical specification for isotope systems and fuel forms, in particular drawing on space mission profiles and launch safety requirements;
- o Capabilities required to exploit the UK's nuclear waste inventory for isotope systems;
- o Capabilities required and to develop micro-reactor fuel forms and reactors;
- o Demand for access to SACRED and PuMA2 (including associated potential revenue or cost recovery mechanisms);
- Design/Engineering Specification for SACRED and for PuMA2
  - o Including project plan detailing path to final commissioning
  - o Based on above identified sector requirements
- Exploratory Research & Development into manufacturing approaches for fuel forms (both isotopic and fission) and subsequent performance testing
- Report on future Critical Micro-Reactor Testing and Validation:
  - o Technical requirements for a critical reactor facility
  - o Potential location and licensing conditions
  - o Level of investment required and customer pipeline
  - o Links to the UK AMR Demonstration programme

o Links to UKAEA's Fusion Programme.

### **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: £883,000

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 35113200 - Nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological protection equipment
- 35113210 - Nuclear safety equipment
- 38970000 - Research, testing and scientific technical simulator
- 73100000 - Research and experimental development services
- 73200000 - Research and development consultancy services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

VULCANS (the Virtual Centre for the Application of Nuclear Systems) is a multi-year Research & Development project aiming to help develop very small nuclear power systems to support sensors and propulsion in space and in other remote and challenging environments.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

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## **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:

Direct award due to absence of competition due to technical reasons or protection of exclusive rights (regulation 32(2)(b))

#### **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.2.9) Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice**

The contracting authority will not award any further contracts based on the above prior information notice

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Contract No**

TRN 5402 10 /2021

### **Title**

Virtual Centre for the Application of Nuclear Systems VULCANS

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

19 October 2021

**V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

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

**V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

National Nuclear Laboratory

Chadwick House, Warrington Road, Birchwood Park

Warrington

WA3 6AE

Email

[tim.p.tinsley@uknnl.com](mailto:tim.p.tinsley@uknnl.com)

Telephone

+44 1946556575

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

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: £883,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £883,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Department of Business Energy Innovation & Strategy

Westminster

SW1H 0ET

Country

United Kingdom