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Contract

Apollo Solution

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

F06: Contract award notice – utilities

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-027150

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-048943

Published 23 August 2024, 4:11pm

Section I: Contracting entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

1100 Cetury Way, Thorpe Park Business Centre, Colton

LEEDS

LS158TU

Contact

Rebecca Rowley

Email

rrowley@northerngas.co.uk

Telephone

+44 7935077342

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKE42 - Leeds

Companies House

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk

I.6) Main activity

Production, transport and distribution of gas and heat

Section II: Object**II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

Apollo Solution

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

A contract has been awarded for a 3 year term for Apollo Solution. These services are used

on all NGN laptops, tablets System Control desktops and Offtake Site Comms PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control to access NGN services to conduct their work duties. Brand provide us capabilities within its services to overcome some critical restrictions within our AWS design architecture that Amazon natively does not support from an network routing prospective.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKE42 - Leeds

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

A contract term of 3 years have been awarded for Apollo Solution. These services are used on all NGN laptops, tablets System Control desktops and Offtake Site Comms PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control to access NGN services to conduct their work duties.

Brand provide us capabilities within its services to overcome some critical restrictions within our AWS design architecture that Amazon natively does not support from an network routing prospective.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: 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 works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

NGN have a contract with Brand Communications, which expires on the 31st of August 2024.

Apollo Solution services are used on all NGN laptops, tablets System Control desktops and Offtake Site Comms PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control to access NGN services to conduct their work duties. Brand provide us capabilities within its services to overcome some critical restrictions within our AWS design architecture that Amazon natively does not support from an network routing prospective. We cannot overcome this challenge without re-architecting our AWS landscape. With Brand technologies we have been able to circumvent these restrictions with their expert Layer 2 Network skills and experience. Bridging our VPC landscapes would not have been feasible without Brand technologies whilst ensuring security principles were maintained throughout the solution implemented. This is also extended into our Operational landscape where utilising the Brand Communication services, we are able to drastically improve our CNI network coverage, performance, monitoring and security of telemetry and gas day quality data flows from our critical offtake sites.

This software is a critical part of our IT infrastructure and would be a multi-million pound investment to replace, procure and swap out all devices if Brand was replaced. Therefore there is a need to renew the contract to save NGN time and money that has been spent on building our current infrastructure to replace this with a new solution.

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-025167](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Title

Apollo Solution

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

23 August 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

Brand Communications Limited

Huntingdon

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

Companies House

Brand Communications Limited

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £335,441.95

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Northern Gas Networks

Leeds

Country

United Kingdom