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Planning

HEX Project (Previously warm X-Ray)

AWE PLC

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-029577

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0408b3

Published 6 October 2023, 3:40pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

AWE PLC

MOD Aldermaston

READING

RG74PR

Email

CapitalSCM@awe.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ11 - Berkshire

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

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

HEX Project (Previously warm X-Ray)

Reference number

50000241

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 98300000 - Miscellaneous services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

HEX Project Provision of technologies for providing an intense, pulsed electron beam source.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 31712000 - Microelectronic machinery and apparatus and microsystems
- 33111000 - X-ray devices
- 33124000 - Diagnostics and radiodiagnostic devices and supplies
- 73111000 - Research laboratory services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ - South East (England)

Main site or place of performance

MOD Aldermaston

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

AWE Plc is seeking to work with a vendor or vendors for:

1. Purchase and or development of equipment and technologies to generate a high-intensity 2-3 MeV end point electron beam and x-ray generator
2. Purchase and or development of equipment and technologies to support operations and diagnose the generated electron beam

AWE seeks to purchase a high intensity, pulsed, electron-beam generator with associated diagnostics and ancillary support equipment. The key specifications are as follows:

- The Pulsed Power Machine shall provide the electrical equivalent of a 2.2 μ s Pulse Forming system charged to -5.0 MV
- The Pulsed Power Machine shall be tolerant of electrical loads from 1.5 μ s to 6.0 μ s
- The Pulsed Power Machine shall have an output pulse length of 58 ns \pm 2 ns
- Pulsed Power Machine failure to fire rate shall be less than 1 in 10 shots
- Pulsed Power Machine voltage pulse repeatability at the selected operating voltage shall be \pm 5%
- Pulsed Power Machine voltage prepulse shall be less than \pm 100 kV into an open circuit
- Pulsed Power Machine throughput shall be a minimum of 1 shot per 15 minutes into a load, based on nominally identical set-ups
- Pulsed Power Machine shall support a diode bounding mass of (current estimates anode 500 kg, cathode 20 kg)

II.2.14) Additional information

AWE Plc ("AWE") is seeking to engage with the market for the HEX (Previously Warm X-Ray) Project. This notice is for market engagement only and is not a call for competition.

You can find out more information about AWE here: <https://www.awe.co.uk/>

AWE - Atomic Weapons Establishment

AWE is a high performing, streamlined business delivering extraordinary products.

If you are interested in this PIN please download the Supplier Proforma from Contracts Finder OR contact CapitalSCM@awe.co.uk to request the proforma.

The submission deadline is 03/11/2023

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

7 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

If you wish to respond to this PIN please download the proforma from the Contracts Finder Webpage or contact CapitalSCM@awe.co.uk to request one.

The deadline for submission is 03.11.2023