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Contract

RACE - Laser welding trials

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-030188

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-037c53

Published 26 October 2022, 1:37pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Contact

Phil Perkins

Email

phil.perkins@ukaea.uk

Telephone

+44 1235467147

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

National registration number

N/A

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

Buyer's address

<https://uk.eu-supply.com/ctm/Company/CompanyInformation/Index/72814>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Fusion Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

RACE - Laser welding trials

Reference number

JNCA/PJP110/22

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 71600000 - Technical testing, analysis and consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

RACE has been investigating laser welding and carried out trials of its own design of laser welding equipment in 2018. It has just completed a second iteration of the design to implement improvements (higher power output, more reliability) and a similar set of trials to the 2018 work needs to be carried out to verify the design. RACE does not have the equipment and expertise to test internally.

The services, facilities and support needed are:

- Laser test facilities (Safety cell, laser power source, robot, measurement equipment)
- Technician support to run experiments
- Guidance on welding setup and parameters
- Analysis of welds
- Interpretation of welds and expert opinion

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: £28,122

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 71600000 - Technical testing, analysis and consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Culham

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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welding equipment in 2018. It has just completed a second iteration of the design to

implement improvements (higher power output, more reliability) and a similar set of trials to the 2018 work needs to be carried out to verify the design. RACE does not have the equipment and expertise to test internally.

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II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Functional fit / Weighting: 50

Cost criterion - Name: Price Commercial / Weighting: 50

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: 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 procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The RACE laser welding head is an evolution of the previous design that was tested at TWI. Only part of the design has needed to be changed. Testing at a different supplier is likely to require redesign of the interfacing components, requiring allocation of more resource and increasing design and management costs.

Various adaptors and ancillary components are needed to connect the laser welding head, having previously tested with them, we already have the equipment needed to operate at TWI.

The costs to change to supplier are estimated around the £1500-£2000 mark, assuming the safety provisions, control systems etc. are identical to TWI. This amount of money was found to be the difference between suppliers in the original selection of TWI.

Core to value for money being achieved through TWI is their previous involvement in this project. Because of this they have a good understanding of the projects aims and of UKAEA's needs. Additionally, TWI have already demonstrated that they are capable of performing the results needed to fulfil this type of testing, by completion of the previous set of trials.

TWI have the necessary expertise, equipment and analysis ability required to provide useful insights into the performance of the welding head and the quality of the welds produced, all under one roof. Alternate facilities, for example at an academic institution, would not have this level of knowledge in-house.

In addition to this, keeping the supplier consistent between the trials will ensure consistency in

the results collected. This will make direct comparison easier, which is necessary to show the effectiveness of improvements in the design.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

C/2068630

Title

Laser welding trials

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

25 October 2022

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

TWI Ltd

Bevan Braithwaite Building, Granta Park, Great Abington

Cambridge

CB21 6AL

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Lowest offer: £28,122 / Highest offer: £28,122 taken into consideration

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

The authority will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers.

This period allows unsuccessful tenderers to seek further debriefing from the authority before a contract is entered into. Applicants have 2 working days from the notification of the award decision to request. Additional debriefing and that information have to be provided within a minimum of 3 working days before the expiry of the standstill period. Such additional information should be sought from the contact named in this notice.

If an appeal regarding the award of a contract has not been successfully resolved, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No. 102) provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland).

Any such action must be brought promptly.

(generally within 3 months).

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

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United Kingdom

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