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Tender

Liquid Scintillation Counter Procurement for ERATO/THALIA and LIBRTI Project

UK Atomic Energy Authority

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-067950

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05d2cc ([view related notices](#))

Published 23 October 2025, 4:30pm

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Scope

Reference

T/MN109/25

Description

A. Lot 1- THALIA Project The THALIA Project serves as the parent initiative with the primary goal of testing and validating analytical work-up methods and instrumentation for tritium accountancy in molten breeder material matrices. The THALIA workstream will be structured into dedicated functional areas, each designed to support specific activities: • Molten breeder handling area – for heating and maintaining breeder material in a molten state, equipped with a purpose-built tritium introduction system to accurately dose and generate tritiated breeder material samples at required concentrations. • Preparation area – for weighing and formulating molten breeder materials, including dosing with impurities where required. • Sample collection and cooling area – for safe collection and solidification of samples. • Sample analysis preparation area – for wet chemistry sample

preparation and sample darkening, following methodologies developed under the ERATO Project. • Liquid Scintillation Counting (LSC) analysis – following preparation into a suitable LSC cocktail, samples will be analysed using LSC instrumentation. The LIBRTI programme is a central component of UKAEA's fusion energy mission, specifically focusing on the safe and effective handling, storage, and processing of tritium—a critical fuel for fusion reactors. B. Lot 2 – LIBRTI Facility Project The LIBRTI Facility Project aims to establish Liquid Scintillation Counting (LSC) capabilities through collaboration with partner organisations, enabling the training of future personnel working at the neutron facility. This capability underpins tritium breeding research, including the analysis of purge gases and breeder materials such as solid, liquid, and molten salts. A sample oxidizer will be required for preparing solid samples that cannot be directly processed for LSC analysis. Following oxidation and preparation into a suitable LSC cocktail, samples will be analysed via LSC instrumentation.

Total value (estimated)

- £540,000 excluding VAT
- £648,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 22 December 2025 to 1 April 2026
- 3 months, 11 days

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 38943000 - Beta counters

- 38942000 - Alpha beta counters
- 38944000 - Beta gamma counters

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

11 November 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

19 November 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

https://uk.eu-supply.com/app/rfq/rwlenrance_s.asp?PID=99302&B=

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

5 December 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Technical Questions	Segments into: Technical and Experience (Mandatory and Conditional scope) Programme Adherence Social Value	Quality	80%
Commercial Questions	Fixed price determined Price for both lots, with separated pricing for mandatory and conditional scopes. Rates card for staffing also required.		20%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

The main base of the tender is three identical LSC machines, of which there is an established supplier base in the UK of several providers. Given that these items are 'Off-the-shelf', there would have been limited benefit from engaging with the market prior to this notice.

Contracting authority

UK Atomic Energy Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PLJV-1169-JTDD

Culham Science Centre

Oxfordshire

OX14 3DB

United Kingdom

Contact name: Maili Nugent

Telephone: +44 1235468141

Email: maili.nugent@ukaea.uk

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

Region: UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government