

Ref. No.: CC-CS/TWT/Amend-11 & Clar-7

Date: 18.08.2022

<< TO ALL THE BIDDERS THROUGH PORTAL >>

Sub: Package for procurement of Smart Meters including associated Communication Infrastructure, Head End System (HES), Meter Data Management system (MDM) for implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project(s) in Central & Western India; Specification No.: RTN1001566/OTHERS/DOM/A02; GeM Bid Number: GEM/2022/B/2006757 dated 08.03.2022

...Reg. Amendment No. 11 and Clarification No 7 to the Bidding Documents

Dear Sir(s),

- 1.0 This has reference to the bidding documents for the subject package uploaded on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Portal [GeM Bid No. GEM/2022/B/2006757 dated 08.03.2022] and subsequently issued Corrigendum/Amendments/Clarifications.
- 2.0 **Amendment No. 11 and Clarification No. 7** to the bidding documents enclosed herewith are uploaded on the GeM Portal.
- 3.0 Save and Except for the changes brought-out in the above-mentioned amendments, all other terms and conditions of the original bidding documents shall remain unaltered.

Thanking you,

For and On behalf of
Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

8/18/2022

X Aakash Khandelwal

Aakash Khandelwal
Manager (CS)
Signed by: AAKASH KHANDELWAL

Encl: As above

Amendment No.-11 (Commercial Portion) dated 18/08/2022 to the Bidding Documents for Package for procurement of Smart Meters including associated Communication Infrastructure, Head End System (HES), Meter Data Management system (MDM) for implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project(s) in Central & Western India; Specification No.: RTN1001566/OTHERS/DOM/A02; GeM Bid Number: GEM/2022/B/2006757 dated 08.03.2022

Sl. No.	Clause No.	Existing Clause in the Bidding Documents	Amended as
1.	ITB/BDS Clause 13.2, Section-III, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents	<p>Supplementing ITB clause 13.2 with the following:</p> <p>Bid Security shall be valid upto 05/03/2023, or any other date as subsequently requested under ITB Sub-Clause 14.2.</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Supplementing ITB clause 13.2 with the following:</p> <p>Bid Security shall be valid upto 02/05/2023, or any other date as subsequently requested under ITB Sub-Clause 14.2.</p> <p>.....</p>
2.	ITB/BDS Clause 24.1(i), Section-III, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents	<p>Add a new Sub Clause ITB 24.1(i) as under:</p> <p>In addition to the above, the bidder shall also be assessed as under:</p> <p>M/s. REC Limited (the Nodal Agency) has invited applications for <i>“Empanelment of Firms for participation in RDSS AMISP tenders for providing Advance Metering Infrastructure (AMI) prepaid Solution after successful demonstration”</i> vide Request for Empanelment (RFE) Documents issued on 11/03/2022 including subsequent Amendments/Clarifications/Corrigendum.</p> <p>After successful Empanelment in the above RFE, the applicant shall be issued a <i>‘Certificate for Empanelment - For successfully demonstrating an end-to-end AMI prepaid solution’</i> (hereinafter referred to as <i>‘Certificate of Empanelment’</i>).</p> <p>In first envelope of their bid, the bidder is required to submit <i>‘Certificate for Empanelment’</i> issued on them against the above RFE issued by M/s. REC Limited. In case bidder has not already been issued the said</p>	<p>Add a new Sub Clause ITB 24.1(i) as under:</p> <p>In addition to the above, the bidder shall also be assessed as under:</p> <p>M/s. REC Limited (the Nodal Agency) has invited applications for <i>“Empanelment of Firms for participation in RDSS AMISP tenders for providing Advance Metering Infrastructure (AMI) prepaid Solution after successful demonstration”</i> vide Request for Empanelment (RFE) Documents issued on 11/03/2022 including subsequent Amendments/Clarifications/Corrigendum.</p> <p>After successful Empanelment in the above RFE, the applicant shall be issued a <i>‘Certificate(s) for Empanelment - For successfully demonstrating an end-to-end AMI prepaid solution’</i> for both (i) RF and (ii) Cellular Communication Technology (hereinafter referred to as <i>‘Certificate(s) of Empanelment’</i>).</p> <p>In first envelope of their bid, the bidder is required to submit <i>‘Certificate(s) for Empanelment’</i> issued on them against the above RFE issued by M/s. REC Limited for both (i) RF and (ii) Cellular Communication Technology. In case</p>

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		<p>Certificate for Empanelment, then bidder is required to submit undertaking in first envelope of their bid declaring that they have submitted their application for Empanelment in the above RFE issued by M/s. REC Limited and that their Empanelment is under process.</p> <p>Preliminary responsive bidders who have not already submitted 'Certificate for Empanelment' shall be asked to submit the said 'Certificate for Empanelment' issued in their name within stipulated period, before opening of Second Envelope Bids i.e. Price Bids for the subject package.</p> <p>In case Bidder is not able to submit the above said 'Certificate for Empanelment' within the specified period, the bid from such bidder shall be summarily rejected and their price bid shall not be opened. The Employer shall be the sole judge in this regard and the Employer's decision shall be final and binding.</p> <p>In case Bidder is an Individual Firm the said 'Certificate for Empanelment' is required to be issued in the name of Bidder itself. In case Bidder is a Joint Venture (JV) of two or three firms, the said 'Certificate for Empanelment' is required to be issued in the name of Lead Partner of the JV.</p>	<p>bidder has not already been issued the said Certificate(s) for Empanelment, then bidder is required to submit undertaking in first envelope of their bid declaring that they have submitted their application for Empanelment in the above RFE issued by M/s. REC Limited for both (i) RF and (ii) Cellular Communication Technology and that their Empanelment is under process.</p> <p>Preliminary responsive bidders who have not already submitted 'Certificate(s) for Empanelment' shall be asked to submit the said 'Certificate(s) for Empanelment' for both (i) RF and (ii) Cellular Communication Technology issued in their name within stipulated period, before opening of Second Envelope Bids i.e. Price Bids for the subject package.</p> <p>In case Bidder is not able to submit the above said 'Certificate(s) for Empanelment' for both (i) RF and (ii) Cellular Communication Technology within the specified period, the bid from such bidder shall be summarily rejected and their price bid shall not be opened. The Employer shall be the sole judge in this regard and the Employer's decision shall be final and binding.</p> <p>In case Bidder is an Individual Firm the said 'Certificate(s) for Empanelment' is required to be issued in the name of Bidder itself. In case Bidder is a Joint Venture (JV) of two or three firms, the said 'Certificate(s) for Empanelment' is required to be issued in the name of Lead Partner of the JV.</p>

Clarification No.-7 (Commercial Part) dated 18/08/2022 to the Bidding Documents for Package for procurement of Smart Meters including associated Communication Infrastructure, Head End System (HES), Meter Data Management system (MDM) for implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project(s) in Central & Western India; Specification No.: RTN1001566/OTHERS/DOM/A02; GeM Bid Number: GEM/2022/B/2006757 dated 08.03.2022

S. No.	Clause No. /Doc. Ref.	Description of Clause	Bidder's Query/Comments	POWERGRID'S Reply/Clarification
1.	IFB Clause 2.0, Section-III, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents M/s. REC Limited (the Nodal Agency) has issued Standard Bidding Documents (SBD) (SBD Version 3) for appointment of AMISP for Smart Prepaid Metering on DBFOOT basis by the DISCOMs. 	It is given that Clause No. IFB Clause 2.0, Section-III, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents is Amended as M/s. REC Limited (the Nodal Agency) has issued Standard Bidding Documents (SBD) (SBD Version 3) for appointment of AMISP for Smart Prepaid Metering on DBFOOT basis by the DISCOMs. You are requested please clarify that SBD Version 3 to be referred or published tender documents to be referred.	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents inter-alia at IFB Clause 3.3 are amply clear.
2.	IFB Clause 3.1, Section-I, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents for the complete execution of the Package for procurement of Smart Meters including associated Communication Infrastructure, Head End System (HES), Meter Data Management system (MDM) for implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project(s) in Central & Western India.	Please provide GIS co-ordinate of consumers or list consumer area wise. This is required for network planning and estimation of cost of the components	As brought-out in the Bidding Documents, POWERGRID intends to implement various Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI") Project(s) ("Project(s)") for different DISCOMs/ Power Departments {"Utility (ies)"} in Central and Western India. The details of Utility (ies) for which AMI Project(s) are to be implemented shall be shared with the pre-selected bidders in the event of award. Further, the bidders are also

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				<p>advised to refer Amendment No 10 in this regard.</p> <p>Accordingly, bidders are requested to submit their bid as per the provisions of the Bidding Documents read in conjunction with subsequently issued Corrigendum(s)/ Amendment(s) / Clarification(s).</p>
3.	ITB/BDS Clause 31.1, Section-III, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents	<p>.....</p> <p>Total Quantity of 1 Crore Smart Meters alongwith associated Supply/Services shall be divided in four Lots (i.e. Lot-1, Lot-2, Lot-3 & Lot-4), with each Lot comprising of 25 lakhs Smart Meters alongwith associated Supply/Services (hereinafter referred to as 'LOT BOQ'). Corresponding to each Lot, a bidder shall be pre-selected and considered for award of Smart Meter quantity upto 25 lakhs alongwith associated Supply/Services.</p> <p>The Employer will pre-select and sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)</p>	<p>Kindly clarify whether all the parties except L1 will be sent price match request simultaneously or will they be sent accordingly to their rank decided in e-RA. As per our understanding, the request should be sent to bidders according to their ranking & should follow the process of "First Right of Refusal" process for selection of M2, M3 and M4.</p> <p>Also, we request you to kindly share detailed process of e-RA process again for further clarity and better understanding as it is not clear. For eg. If a bidder puts a L1 value on third day just a minute before expiry, then will it be extended and if yes,</p>	<p>In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents are amply clear and shall remain unchanged.</p> <p>Detailed e-RA strategy/procedure shall be shared with the shortlisted bidders <i>(i.e. bidders selected for participation in e-RA in line with the provisions of the Bidding Documents)</i> prior to e-RA.</p>

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		<p>with four successful bidders. The initial validity of the MoU shall be six months from the date of signing of MoU, which shall further be extended with the consent of both POWERGRID and the pre-selected bidder.</p> <p>Subject to purchase preference as per ITB Clause 28.1 above, the methodology for pre-selecting the bidders for signing of MoU shall be as per the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) b) c) Thereafter, all the remaining bidders shall be sent price match request to match their price with L1 Bidder on GeM portal. The three lowest evaluated bidders who have agreed to match the L1 Price shall be referred to as M2, M3 & M4 bidders in the order of their ranking based on final evaluated bid price after e-RA. 	<p>then how many such extensions are possible if the duration allotted for e-RA is 3 days only.</p>	

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		Accordingly, the MoU shall also be signed with such Pre-Selected Bidders. 		
4.	ITB/BDS Clause 31.3, Section-III, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents	The Employer reserves the right to vary the quantity of Service Cable as per the requirement of the AMISP Contract between Employer and the Utility and any of the spares and/or delete any items of spares/Service Cable altogether at the time of Award of Contract.	We request that quantities of any spares to be provided before the bidding process.	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents shall remain unchanged.
5.	GCC/SCC 3.3, Section-V, Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents	The Contractor shall be responsible for providing all the spares as may be required during currency of the Contract. The spares shall be maintained by the Contractor at no extra cost to the Employer/Utility.	We request that beside the aforesaid Mandatory Spares parts, the Contractor shall ensure the availability of spare parts required for the operation and maintenance of the Facilities to the Employer for a minimum period 10 years from Completion of the Facilities.	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents inter-alia at GCC/SCC Clause 3.3 are amply clear and shall remain unchanged. Bidders are further requested to note that provisions of Section-IV (GCC) are required to be read in conjunction with provisions of Section-V (SCC) as brought-out in Preamble to GCC.
6.	Appendix-2 (PRICE ADJUSTMEN	FIRM AND FIXED DURING CURRENCY OF THE CONTRACT	Pls provide price adjustments as per IEEMA for supply of service cable, instrument Transformers. Further pls	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents shall remain unchanged.

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	T), Section-VI (Sample Forms and Procedures), Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents		provide price adjustments for supply of meters if it is going beyond 1 year.	
7.	Clause 4.0, Form No 21, Section-VI (Sample Forms and Procedures), Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents [FORM OF JOINT DEED OF UNDERTAKING BY THE BIDDER ALONGWITH THE SUB-CONTRACTOR(S) FOR METER	As a security, the Meter Manufacturer(s), HES Provider(s), MDMS Provider(s) shall apart from the Contractor's performance guarantee, furnish a Contract Performance Guarantee in respect of the work covered under their scope, from their respective Bank(s) in favour of the Employer in a form acceptable to the Employer. The value of such guarantee shall be equivalent to 5% of the Ex-works cost of Smart Meters (for Meter Manufacturer(s)) (<i>applicable in case where EPC / SI Bidder meets installation and integration criteria of clause 1.1 of Annexure-A(BDS) on its own</i>) / 5% of the Ex-works plus Installation cost of Smart Meters (for Meter Manufacturer(s)) (<i>applicable in all other cases</i>), 5% of the Ex-works plus Installation/Integration cost of HES (for HES Provider(s)) and 5% of the Ex-works	Based on our experience and standard industry practice, The lead bidder i.e. EPC/SI bidder take sole responsibility for completion and performance of the project. And in doing so, they firm their consortium or partners according to their terms and conditions which may include taking guarantee amount of their respective portion, and accordingly EPC/SI take offers and build their cost, risk and margins over the sub-contractor's offer and submit their financial offer to the end client. Now, in this clause, the BG value is more than the proportionate amount offered by the sub-contractor as lead bidder would be building its own cost over sub-contractor's base value. Therefore, request you to kindly amend this clause as no partner is	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents shall remain unchanged.

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	MANUFACTURER, HEAD END SYSTEM (HES) AND METER DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (MDMS)]	plus Installation/Integration cost of MDMS (for MDMS Provider(s)) as identified in the Contract awarded by the Employer to the Bidder/Contractor and it shall be part of guarantee towards the faithful performance/compliance of this Deed of Undertaking in terms of the Contract. The guarantee shall be unconditional, irrevocable and valid for the entire period of the Contract, namely till the end of six (06) months beyond the end of Contract Period under the Contract. The Bank Guarantee amount shall be payable to the Employer on demand without any reservation or demur. This shall be in addition to the Contract Performance Guarantee furnished by the Contractor.	accepting to provide BG of value greater than its portion of work.	
8.	Form No 21, Section-VI (Sample Forms and Procedures), Vol.-I of the Bidding Documents [FORM OF JOINT DEED AND WHEREAS Clause No., Section, of, Vol.- ... forming part of the Bidding Documents inter-alia stipulates that the Bidder and the Sub-Contractor(s) must fulfill the Qualifying Requirements. The Bidder and each of the Sub-Contractor {i.e. Meter Manufacturer or HES Provider or MDMS	We want to highlight the requirement of signing the joint deed of undertaking by Bidder along with its Subcontractor's in the bid and be jointly and severally bound for the successful performance of the offered Advance Metering Infrastructure solution. As the term jointly and severally indicates that all parties are equally	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents shall remain unchanged.

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	OF UNDERTAKING BY THE BIDDER ALONGWITH THE SUB-CONTRACTOR(S) FOR METER MANUFACTURER, HEAD END SYSTEM (HES) AND METER DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (MDMS)]	Provider} are jointly and severally bound and responsible for successful performance of the respective equipment/services offered by such Sub-Contractor so as to ensure successful performance of the offered Advance Metering Infrastructure solution in the event the Bid submitted by the Bidder is accepted by the Employer resulting in a Contract. However, this shall not in any way dilute the overall responsibility of the Bidder for the successful performance of the offered Advance Metering Infrastructure solution.	responsible for carrying out the full terms of an agreement it would be difficult for any subcontractor to fulfil the obligation of the complete scope of work in case of default by its Bidder. We request you to kindly review and please remove the same to be signed from Subcontractor's.	
9.	Attachment-24 to First Envelope Bid, Volume-III of the Bidding Documents	Certificate from statutory auditor or cost auditor of the company (in the case of companies) or from a practicing cost accountant or practicing chartered accountant (in respect of suppliers other than companies) giving the percentage of Local Content, in line with PPP-MII order and MoP order , if applicable <i>[to be</i>	The format shared as Attachment 24 for certification of Local content is intended for the Lead Bidder. However, we understand that, the Meter OEM/Subcontractor can provide a Chartered Accountant certificate for the local content in his products in their own format. PI	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents are amply clear and shall remain unchanged. It is further clarified that in line with the PPP-MII Order and MoP order, the bidder shall submit certificate (Attachment-24) for entire scope under

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		<i>submitted on the letter head of the issuer.]</i>	confirm.	the subject package from statutory auditor or cost auditor of the company (<i>in the case of companies</i>) or from a practicing cost accountant or practicing chartered accountant (<i>in respect of suppliers other than companies</i>) giving the percentage of Local Content, if applicable, on the letter head of the auditor/chartered accountant. It may further be noted that Bidders are not required to submit Attachment-24 from their Sub-Contractor(s) in the bid.
10.	General	-	We request that, pls upload price bid format for further bidding process.	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents are amply clear. The tender for the subject package is floated under BoQ based bidding on GeM portal [GeM Bid Number: GEM/2022/B/2006757 dated 08.03.2022]. Bidders are required to quote the prices on GeM portal itself.
11.	General	-	Reference to excel BOQ Delivery Period mention as a 3650 Days (@ 10 yrs) & as per AMD-9, Sr. no 8, Pg- 4 of 12, installation milestone is 27 months.	As brought-out at sl. No. 4 of ' Buyer Added Bid Specific ATC ' in the subject GeM Bid, Delivery Period indicated against each of the BOQ item in the GeM Bid is total Contract duration for the subject package.

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				Delivery period requirement shall be in line with Sec-III, BDS, Vol-I in ATC and any subsequent Amendment thereof.
12.	General	-	We request that, kindly club all the amendments & Clarification's published by PGCIL till date & issue us single RFP.	Bidders are requested to submit their bid as per the provisions of the Bidding Documents read in conjunction with subsequently issued Corrigendum(s)/ Amendment(s) / Clarification(s).
13.	General	-	Also, we would like to invite your kind attention that usually in similar kind of tenders, a Payment Security Mechanism (through LC / ESCROW / Direct Debit Facility) along with Interest for Delayed Payment is incorporated for ensuring on time cashflow to the bidder. The Standard Bidding Document of Smart Metering also includes a "Direct Debit Facility" to secure the payment of AMISP. Hence, kindly consider our request to add a mode for payment security along with a mechanism to provide interest if the payment gets delayed by PGCIL.	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents are amply clear and shall remain unchanged.

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14.	General	-	<p>Apart from the above, we wish to highlight that, AMISP & Its partners shall have to submit 6 BGs for this project in total, which includes both optional and mandatory ones. As the Meter Manufacturer and System Integrators are already providing BGs for their work component, logically respective BGs amounts should be reduced from AMISP's PBG. Moreover, we also suggest removing the BG conditions against 15% payment milestone which shall enable bidders to offer a better quote for this project.</p> <p>.....</p>	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents shall remain unchanged.
15.	General	-	<p>This has reference to above package for AMI project in Central and Western India. The package is for one crore smart meter comprising of four packages each of twenty five lacs meters. We find that the volume of the package is too large and for a single agency to complete the work in the completion time allotted is a challenging task and in the event of any unforeseen circumstances the</p>	In this regard, the provisions of the Bidding Documents shall remain unchanged.

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			<p>completion of the project may get jeopardized. We suggest that each package of twenty five lacs meters may be reconfigured having between 02 to 05 lacs meters per package with a quantity variation clause of enhancing the quantity based on the performance of the agencies. This will ensure deployment of multiple agencies working parallely and thus leading to the completion of the project within the time frame.</p> <p>We request you kindly consider the above suggestions in the overall interest of project completion.</p>	
16.	General	-	<p>It may be mentioned that PGCIL has issued various amendments/clarifications to the RFP. Considering the voluminous documentation and several changes, it is requested to provide a Consolidated Final Documents with revised and appropriate changes wherever required either in clean version or in track change version. Such consolidated document will be helpful for both the parties as both will have</p>	<p>Bidders are requested to submit their bid as per the provisions of the Bidding Documents read in conjunction with subsequently issued Corrigendum(s)/ Amendment(s) / Clarification(s).</p>

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			same understanding of the contract agreement and RFP terms.	