

Ljubljana, 14.06.2012
ACER/2012/OB/mv/767

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: *INVITATION TO TENDER No. ACER/OP/ADMIN/14/2012 (open tender procedure) for IT infrastructure hosting services for the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators*

Contract notice published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJ EU) S 112 on 14.06.2012

All tender documents are available for downloading from the following address:

http://www.acer.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/ACER_HOME/The_Agency/Public_procurement/Open%20calls from 15.06.2012

1. The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators is planning to award the public contract referred to above.
2. If you are interested in this contract, you should submit a tender in triplicate in one of the official languages of the European Union.
3. Tenders shall be submitted by letter only. Tenderers may choose to submit tenders:
 - a) either by post or by courier not later than **10.08.2012**, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip, to the following address:

Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators
For the attention of: Mr Alberto Pototschnig
Trg republike 3/II.
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

- b) or delivered by hand to the following address:

Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators
For the attention of: Mr Alberto Pototschnig
Trg republike 3/II.
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

not later than 16.00 hours Ljubljana time on **10.08.2012**. In this case, a receipt must be obtained as proof of submission, signed and dated by the official in the Agency.

The Agency is open from 09.00 to 17.00 Monday to Friday. It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Agency's public holidays¹.

Tenders submitted by e-mail are not permitted and will not be considered.

4. Tenders must be placed inside two sealed envelopes. The inner envelope, addressed as indicated in the invitation to tender, should be marked as follows: **"Invitation to tender no. ACER/OP/ADMIN/14/2012 - not to be opened by the internal mail department"**. If self-adhesive envelopes are used, they must be sealed with adhesive tape and the sender must sign across this tape.

The inner envelope must also contain two sealed envelopes, one containing the technical specifications and the other the financial bid. Each of these envelopes must clearly indicate the content ("Technical" and "Financial").

5. The specification, listing all the documents that must be produced in order to tender, including supporting evidence of economic, financial, technical and professional capacity and the draft contract are attached.
6. Tenders must be:
 - signed by the tenderer or his duly authorised representative;
 - perfectly legible so that there can be no doubt as to words and figures;
 - drawn up using the model reply forms in the tender specification.
7. Period of validity of the tender, during which tenderers may not modify the terms of their tenders in any respect: six (6) months from the final date for submission.
8. Submission of a tender implies acceptance of all the terms and conditions set out in this invitation to tender, in the specification and in the draft contract and, where appropriate, waiver of the tenderer's own general or specific terms and conditions. It is binding on the tenderer to whom the contract is awarded for the duration of the contract.
9. Contacts between the contracting authority and tenderers are prohibited throughout the procedure save in exceptional circumstances and under the following conditions only:
 - Before the final date for submission of tenders:
 - * At the request of the tenderer, the contracting authority may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the nature of the contract.

¹http://www.acer.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/ACER_HOME/The_Agency/Public_procurement/General%20Documents%20for%20Procurement%20Procedures/19_Director%20Decision%202011-018%20on%20ACER%20holidays%202012.pdf

Any requests for additional information must be made (in writing only) for the attention of **Ms Mateja VAVTAR**, indicating clearly **"Invitation to tender No. ACER/OP/ADMIN/14/2012"**:

- By fax to the number: +386 (0)8 2053 413
- Or by e-mail to ACER-OP-ADMIN-14-2012@acer.europa.eu

Requests for additional information received **less than nine (9) working days before the closing date for submission of tenders will not be processed** (for practical reasons).

- * The Agency may, on its own initiative, inform interested parties of any error, inaccuracy, omission or any other clerical error in the text of the call for tenders.
- * Any additional information including that referred to above will be posted on the following website:
http://www.acer.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/ACER_HOME/The_Agency/Public_procurement/Open%20calls
- After the opening of tenders
- * If clarification is required or if obvious clerical errors in the tender need to be corrected, the contracting authority may contact the tenderer provided the terms of the tender are not modified as a result.

10. The tenders will be opened on **22.08.2012 at 12:00 hours** Ljubljana time at the following address:

**Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators
Trg republike 3/II. floor
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia**

Tenderers' representatives may attend the opening. A maximum of one (1) representative per tenderer may attend the opening session and their participation will be restricted to an observer role. This representative should give evidence of his legal capacity for attending the opening session (legal representative of the company or person having delegation of power). The status of tenderers' representatives attending the opening will be verified by the opening committee. They will sign a record of attendance.

If you want your representative to attend, please notify **Ms Mateja VAVTAR** in writing, indicating clearly **"Invitation to tender No ACER/OP/ADMIN/14/2012"**:

- By letter sent to the address indicated under point 3 above;
- By fax to the number: +386 (0)8 2053 413
- Or by e-mail to ACER-OP-ADMIN-14-2012@acer.europa.eu

11. This invitation to tender is in no way binding on the Agency. The Agency's contractual obligation commences only upon signature of the contract with the successful tenderer.
12. Up to the point of signature, the contracting authority may either abandon the procurement or cancel the award procedure, without the candidates or tenderers being entitled to claim any compensation. This decision must be substantiated and the candidates or tenderers notified.

13. Once the Agency has opened the tender, the document shall become the property of the Agency and it shall be treated confidentially.
14. You will be informed whether or not your tender has been accepted.
15. If your offer includes subcontracting, it is recommended that contractual arrangements with subcontractors include mediation as a method of dispute resolution.
16. If processing your reply to the invitation to tender involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as your name, address and CV), such data will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data. Unless indicated otherwise, your replies to the questions and any personal data requested are required to evaluate your tender in accordance with the specifications of the invitation to tender and will be processed solely for that purpose by the Director's Office. Details concerning the processing of your personal data can be requested from the Data Protection Officer of the Agency by e-mail at: DPO@acer.europa.eu.
17. Your personal data may be registered in the Early Warning System (EWS) only or both in the EWS and Central Exclusion Database (CED) by the Accounting Officer of the Commission, should you be in one of the situations mentioned in:
- the Commission Decision 2008/969 of 16.12.2008 on the Early Warning System (for more information see the Privacy Statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm), or
 - the Commission Regulation 2008/1302 of 17.12.2008 on the Central Exclusion Database (for more information see the Privacy Statement on http://ec.europa.eu/budget/explained/management/protecting/protect_en.cfm#BDCE)


Alberto POTOTSCHNIG
Director

Enclosures:

Annex I: Tender specifications

Annex II: Financial offer

Annex III: Draft framework service contract