

Ministry of Finance

CLARIFICATION 2

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2 موجر ومن متوسر 2

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ىترىشرىغ بر No:	TES/2024/G-006				
Project:	Installation of 10 MWp grid-tied floating solar photovoltaic systems in Addu city under Design, Build, Finance, Own, Operate and Transfer (DBFOOT) Basis			·	
گرمربر Issued Date:	7 th November 2024				
<u>مَنَوْرُدُ</u> مُعَرْرُ No. of Pages: - 07	بر بر BoQ: -00	نیزیر Drawings: -00			

> Answers for queries raised are attached with this Clarification.

يرَيرُ Name: Aminath Naheen Ahmed	Signature:	A CONTROL OF FIRE
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SI. No.	Reference	Bidder's Clarification	Response
1		In relation to the FPV tender in Addu City we want to express our concern about the restrictive eligibility criteria for the development. The offshore FPV market is still in its infancy, with available technologies, as far as we understand, largely in the testing stage. Consequently, we believe that meeting the experience requirement of 250-500kWp grid-connected plants for the development is a highly restrictive requirement. We suspect there may only be a very limited number of companies with salt-water experience in the market that can comply with this, and hence the number of bidders for the project will be very limited. The actors that can comply with the experience requirements will probably be those that operate in lakes, basins, and very calm waters. However, we expect that most of these companies are large-scale developers, and a project of 2 + 8 MW may be too small for them. We believe that the weather conditions and the aim to test near coastal technologies require a different technology and the bid conditions should motivate these new actors to submit a bid. We also believe including maritime design expertise from fields like floating wind, platforms, and other offshore structures can make the project appealing to a wider range of bidders. Demonstrating a record of operational vessels or offshore facilities is relevant experience for developing a near-shore floating PV plant in Addu City, where environmental conditions are more challenging than in calm inland waters.	Bidder's concern has been duly noted. Bidders are requested to refer to the Addendum No. 2 issued on 8th September 2024 in this regard.
		We look forward to your feedback on these initial observations.	NO.

Company A: 2% of the shares Company B: 0% Company C: 0% Company D: 98% of the shares (as Company D is owned by Company A and Company B 50%/50%, after this change, Company A indirectly will continue to hold the majority of the shares – 51%) Would this be acceptable?	2	Company B: 0% Company C: 0% Company D: 98% of the shares (as Company D is owned by Company A and Company B 50%/50%, after this change, Company A indirectly will continue to hold the majority of the shares – 51%)	Bidder to assess and comply to the requirements of the bid document and Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) . Refer ITB 4.1 of BDS in RFB and Article 17.1 (c) of the PPA
 3 Question on Section III – Qualification – Eligibility and Qualification Criteria table – Column: One Member of Tables 1 to 4. 3 Please, clarify if our understanding is correct: in case of the Bidder being a JV, the requirement that must be covered by One Member (4th column in the mentioned tables), can be done by whoever of the members of the JV. It mustn't necessarily be demonstrated by the lead member of the JV. Correct? 	3	Question on Section III – Qualification – Eligibility and Qualification Criteria table – Column: One Member of Tables 1 to 4. Please, clarify if our understanding is correct: in case of the Bidder being a JV, the requirement that must be covered by One Member (4th column in the mentioned tables), can be done by whoever of the members of the JV. It mustn'	requirement stated under the "One Member" requirement is to be met by ANY one member of the JV.

4		Exchange rate & repatriation of funds We understand the payments will be done in local currency (Maldivian Rufiyaa), indexed to the tariff in USD dollar. If the JV wishes to convert the payments into USD, will the banks apply the same exchange rate that was used to calculate the tariff in local currency and payments? Will there be any restrictions to transfer / repatriate the payments to the JV headquarters in UAE?	 (i) It is Bidder's responsibility to undertake conversion of tariff collection in MVR to USD or any other foreign currency for repatriation. Such exchange may be done by the Bidder from the Bank as per prevailing exchange rates. However certain provisions for support have been made available. Bidder is requested to refer to the Implementation Agreement for details on the specific support. (ii) There are no restrictions in repatriation. Bidders may refer to the website of Ministry of Economic Development (Invest Maldives - https://investmaldives.gov.mv/) for more details.
5	Part 2/ B3.3 Enviromen t conditions	The Solar power station, including all supporting infrastructure, shall be designed and constructed to operate normally under the environmental conditions summarised in table below. Corrosion: Compliance with ISO-12944, C5M Inverter is unable to meet C5M anti-corrosion requirements, the anti-corrosion level of the products that can be provided is C4. Please clarify whether it is accepted.	C5M describes the environmental condition- which is marine spray with high salt content, and thus corrosive. All structures and enclosures, must be designed to withstand these conditions, and operate safely. Products which might degrade over due to environmental time shall be maintained and/or replaced at IPP costs to ensure they do not compromise safety, aesthetic and performance requirements.

	Part 2/ D.5.1.1. Frequency withstand capability	Unable to fully meet the above requirements, Frequency withstand capability for the widely-used products in the world is between 45Hz and 55Hz.And it complies with the Chinese standards (GB/T 19964-2012) and (NB/T32004-2018.	
	Part 2/ D.5.1.2 Voltage withstand capability	Unable to meet the above requirements, our proposed inverter will be tier 1 brand on BNEF and meet with the Chinese standards $\langle\!\langle GB/T \ 19964-2012 \rangle\!\rangle$ and $\langle\!\langle NB/T \ 32004-2018 \rangle\!\rangle$. Please clarify whether it is accepted.	The PV inverters are required to contribute towards network stability, via internal dynamic network support functionality, as well as responding to configurable programming via the EMS. Any withstand and ridethrough ranges wider than the grid-norms will be beneficial,
6	Part 2/ D5.1.3 Voltage support	Unable to fully meet the above requirements, Reactive power range is between - 60% and 60%, power factor range is ± 0.8 or comply with the Chinese standards $\langle \text{GB/T 19964-2012} \rangle$ and $\langle \text{NB/T32004-2018} \rangle$. Please clarify whether it is accepted.	provided that the EMS can control the withstand times of these. (This is often an "off-grid" setting" for inverters.) The fine details of these paramaters will be assessed during the detailed design stage of PPA execution.
7		Can the bid be issued from UAE entity if we don't have yet a registered office in Maldives? Also, do we need to have a registered office before submitting the bid security and other bidding documents?	The bidder does not need a registered office at the time of bidding (for submitting the bid document / bid security). However, in of the bid is awarded, the Winning Bidder is required to register in Maldives as per Applicable Laws prior to execution of Project Agreements. Refer ITB BDS 48.2 of the RFB.
8		I am writing to inform you of an issue encountered with the data files for the three FPV sites in the Addu City. Upon attempting to extract the files, it was discovered that several of them are damaged and cannot be opened. Specifically, these files appear to be corrupted, showing a size of 0 kB.	Files have been updated

9	Efforts to unzip the entire folder locally were met with an error indicating that the path was too long. Although this allowed us to identify the presence of files, their corrupted state remained unchanged. I kindly request that you re-upload the information in files that are not damaged.	No issues were noted in unzipping the folder. If such problems persis, try the following: 1 - Use root folder as the unzip destination. 2 - Use operating system of Windows 10 or above Link has been provided in the Bidding Document.
10	I am writing in regard to the Addu Floating Solar Tender. We have noticed that there are divergences between the dedicated floating solar areas provided in the KMZ files, and the areas provided in the bathymetry files – e.g. in the case of Hihadhoo, the area in the bathymetry file is wider but shorter (please see attached). Could you please clarify which of the files contain the correct areas, the KMZ files or the bathymetry files? This is crucial for assessing the project costs. Secondly, for Hithadhoo, given the size of the system, it is needed to have multiple cable paths to the shore instead of one (also schematically indicated in the image attached), as well as multiple transformer houses. Please confirm that this is acceptable	For FPV float, array and anchouring area please review the KMZ files and site maps provided. Bathymetry study covers a slightly wider area than the allowed FPV area. Please note that the margins of the bathymetry study area may have been affected by the reclamations, while the FPV area is unaffected. Any such changes can always be captured during detailed surveys and design stage during PPA execution. For Hithadhoo interconnection, a MV cable and F/O cable shall be provided by FENAKA from power house to the designated shore are to the east of the road. The FPV developer shall establish their PoC at this location, including any necessary MV switchgear, and optionally an education centre. The FPV developer may choose to locate their transformer(s) on-shore, with multiple LV cables to shore, or may locate their transformers on floats, with one or more MV cables to shore to the PoC.

	 Regarding the restrictive eligibility criteria for the Addu City FPV development tender and the issued addendum 2. After reviewing the addendum, we maintain that meeting the eligibility criteria for submitting a valid bid requires compliance with both section 4.1.a) and the, in our view, highly restrictive requirements outlined in section 4.1.b). We request that the eligibility criteria be fulfilled by allowing a bidder who meets section 4.1a) to collaborate with a specialized subcontractor for floats and anchor systems, as an alternative to adhering to section III 4.1.b). 	Refer to Addendum 2 issued on 8 th September
11	anchor systems, as an alternative to adhering to section III 4.1.b). SPS has successfully developed over 300 onshore solar PV projects of more than 128 MWp and battery storage projects in excess of 30MWh. Moss Maritime has recently launched a 23 kWp FPV floater to sea which will deliver power to a nearby workshop. Furthermore, and notably, Moss Maritime brings extensive design expertise in drilling rigs, LNG carriers, floating wind, aquaculture and other floating offshore structures experience to the implementation team. Together, we believe this experience ensures a high- quality and realistic approach to the bidding process and potentially DBFOOT project execution and operation.	Refer to Addendum 2 issued on 8 th September 2024.

