



Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

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Tel: +44 (0)20 381 72984

All applicants for the Contract for Dover Solar Panels:
MCA DOVER,

e-mail: contracts@mcga.gov.uk

Via Contracts Finder

Our ref: TCA 003/007/1125

15th October 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

CONTRACT FOR: MCA DOVER SOLAR PANELS

Please see below for responses to questions and requests for information raised via email for this contract. To ensure that all applicants have access to the same information we will publish this document on Contracts Finder.

Question 1: Instructions on Submission of Tenders - missing point 11 or is this a typo?

Answer 1: Typo – Amended document uploaded to Contracts Finder.

Question 2: Form of Tender gives date of return as 14th October contrary to other instructions. Please confirm tender due 11.00am on 21st October 2019

Answer 2: Typo – Amended document uploaded to Contracts Finder. Tender due 11am 21st October 2019.

Question 3: Photovoltaic Solar Installation MCA Dover: Point 2 specifies size of system as 50 kWp and the Parsons Brinkerhoff location plan suggests two locations and presents 50 kWp and 100 kWp options. Point 12 suggests we are at liberty to modify exact location and size of system. Can you confirm the maximum size in terms of kWp or MWh/yr generation you will consider for the primary tender.

Answer 3: Document has been amended (& uploaded to Contracts Finder) to show a system either roof or ground mounted and this now provides the suggested amount of generation required and furthermore states we are open to bidders' suggestions.

Question 4: Is an alternative tender constrained to the £95,000 ex VAT limit, or will a higher cost be acceptable if it can be proven to be financially more attractive?

Answer 4: the amount shown is the estimated cost and the value secured within existing capital budgets. Whilst of course some limited flexibility may be applied if better value can be achieved, the Agency is constrained to align its expenditure to allocated budgets.

Question 5: An accurate assessment of financial benefit and optimal sizing requires an electricity consumption profile – ideally half hourly metered data from the supplier or sub metered data. Are these available? Alternatively, Parsons Brinkerhof could estimate the seasonal and daily average profiles based on equipment and hours of use

Answer 5: New additional document uploaded onto Contracts Finder with HH data for the site for the last year.

Question 6: Please indicate location of the fiscal electricity meters and switch rooms and the MPAN numbers. Are you nominating a specific MPAN/supply to which you want the solar PV connected?

Answer 6: Please email for specific requests contracts@mcga.gov.uk or this data can be obtained during the site visit day from your host. Yes.

Question 7: Is planning permission required for Government land and has it been obtained?

Answer 7: this is part of the requirement; we will work with the chosen provider to obtain this and any other necessary consents.

Question 8: Has any engineering/geotechnical assessment been made of the site for placement of the ground array frame? Is it available?

Answer 8: No assessment has been undertaken.

Question 9: How frequently is the helipad used?

Answer 9: Regularly.

Question 10: How windy does it get at the site?

Answer 10: Up to 100 kts of wind when the helicopters are operating.

Question 11: has grid approval been accepted or are we to organise that and include costs?

Answer 11: Needs to be included in tender submissions.

Question 12: At what point on the site are we to make our connections to the mains electric?

Answer 12: this will depend on the proposed solution, but this can also be addressed during the site visit.

Question 13: The specification asks for 245-watt panels. Standard panels are now 285 watts plus. Are we ok to use a higher output panel?

Answer 13: the illustration provided at the Appendix was to show one suggested location this was drawn up some time ago and therefore the standard output shown may be incorrect; 285 watt is fine.

Any additional questions and answers that arise from the site visit on the 16th October will be uploaded in a separate document.

I hope this provides all the information required to assist in bid submission.

Yours sincerely,



Gillian Norris
MCA Procurement & Contracts