

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Date: 22 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Contract Ref:** **ENV6005704R task 1**

**Contract Title: Viability of developing a screening tool to assess non-standard bioaccumulation potential of chemical substances in aquatic and terrestrial wildlife**

You are invited to quote for the above in accordance with the enclosed documents.

Instructions on what information we require you to provide is in Section 4 of the following Request for Quotation document.

Your response should be returned to the following [Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk) by Friday 16th September 2022

Please confirm, by email, receipt of these documents and whether you intend to submit a quote.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Estelle Nma

Programme Delivery Advisor

E-mail: estelle.nma@@environment-agency.gov.uk

Telephone: +44 (0) 7385348499

**Request for Quotation**

**Contract Ref: ENV6005704R task 1**

**Contract Title: Viability of developing a screening tool to assess non-standard bioaccumulation potential of chemical substances in aquatic and terrestrial wildlife**

**Section 1**

**Who is the Environment Agency?**

We are an Executive Non-departmental Public Body responsible to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Our principal aims are to protect and improve the environment, and to promote sustainable development.

Further information on our responsibilities, Corporate Plan and how we are structured can be found on our Website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about>

**What do we spend our money on?**

We are a major procurer of goods and services within the UK, spending circa £600M per annum, our major spend areas are:

* Flood and Coastal Risk Management (design, construction and maintenance)
* ICT and Telecommunications
* Vehicles and Plant
* Environmental Consultancy and Monitoring
* Temporary Staff and Contractors
* Facilities Management, Energy and Utilities
* Flood Management and Water Related Services

**What do we need from our suppliers?**

Suppliers are vital in supporting the delivery of our corporate plan. We aim to support the economy and society whilst delivering more environmental outcomes for every pound we spend. In many areas we are leading the way on environmental and technical developments. It is our role to ensure that suppliers clearly understand our corporate aims and objectives and know that we are committed to delivering the best value most sustainable solutions, taking into account the whole life cost of our procurement decisions. We promote diversity and equality and treat all of our suppliers fairly.

Our procurement strategy may be of interest to you as a potential supplier. It sets out our priorities and key commitments in a range of areas such as delivering our corporate plan, Government policy, supplier management and sustainable procurement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/procurement#procurement-strategy>

**Government changes and collaboration**

Since 1 April 2013, the Environment Agency is no longer responsible for delivering the environmental priorities of Wales. This is now the remit of Natural Resources Wales (NRW).Further information can be found here:

<http://naturalresources.wales/splash?orig=/>

By bidding for this requirement, you may also be approached by other members of the Defra network, NRW or other government departments that are specifically named in the tender document.

**Further information**

For further information and to see our commitments to Diversity and Equality, please visit our website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/procurement>

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/equality-and-diversity

Also, are you up to date on environmental legislation? See links below for further information.

Waste and Environmental Impact - <https://www.gov.uk/browse/business/waste-environment>

Environmental Regulations - <https://www.gov.uk/browse/business/waste-environment/environmental-regulations>’

**Section 2**

**The Customer**

**Summary**

The Chemical Assessment Unit (CAU; Chief Scientist’s Group – Research, Environment and Business Directorate, Environment Agency) supports the UK Chemicals Agency (the Health and Safety Executive, HSE) on the environmental aspects of the UK Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and restriction of Chemicals (REACH) legislation. A crucial part of our work is hazard assessment of industrial and consumer chemicals, and the correct assignment of bioaccumulation potential is a fundamental component of such assessments.

## Contract Length

It is anticipated that this contract will be awarded to one supplier for a period of 20 weeks to end no later than 24/02/23. Prices will remain fixed for the duration of the contract award period. We may at our sole discretion extend this contract to include related or further work. Any extension shall be agreed in advance of any work commencing and may be subject to further competition. Any amendment to contract prices for the extensions are to be by negotiation.

The Environment Agency Conditions of Contract for Research (Appendix C) shall apply to this contract.

This contract shall be managed on behalf of the Agency byEstelle Nma, Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk

## Contact Details and Timeline

Estelle Nma will be your contact for any questions linked to the content of the quote pack or the process. Please submit any questions by email and note that both the question and the response will be circulated to all tenderers. Deadline for clarification questions is Friday 09 September 2022.

All queries should be sent to [Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk) and cc. [Pippa.CurtisJackson@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Pippa.CurtisJackson@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Key elements of the process have been reviewed. Anticipated dates for planned activities are below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Due Date** |
| Supplier responses for Request for Quote | 16 September 2022 at 17:00 |
| Evaluation of Request for Quote submissions | 23 September 2022 |
| Award of contract | 7 October 2022 |
| Project/Contract end date | 24 February 2023 |

It should be noted that these timescales and activities may be subject to change.

**Section 3**

## Evaluation Criteria

We will award this contract in line with the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) as set out in the following award criteria:

* Price – 40%
* Quality – 60%

The following quality criteria are weighted in accordance with the importance and relevance attached to each one.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Quality Sub-Criteria Weightings:** | | |
| Approach & Methodology  *(minimum score threshold 4 will apply* |  | **40%** |
| Proposed Staff (inc CV's)  *minimum score threshold 4 will apply* |  | **30%** |
| Project Management (including project plan)  *minimum score threshold 4 will apply* |  | **30%** |

The criteria listed above will be assessed on a 0 to 10 basis and will reflect the following judgements:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Rating of Response**  **The tenderer provides a response which in the opinion of the evaluators is:** | **Score** |
| **Excellent:** Addresses all of the requirements and provides a response with relevant supporting information which does not contain any weaknesses, giving the Agency complete confidence that the requirements will be met. | 10 |
| **Very Good:** Addresses all of the requirements and provides a response with relevant supporting information, which contains very minor weaknesses, giving the Agency high confidence that the requirements will be met. | 8 |
| **Good:** Addresses all of the requirements and provides a response with relevant supporting information, which contains minor weaknesses, giving the Agency reasonable confidence that the requirements will be met. | 6 |
| **Satisfactory:** Substantially addresses the requirements and provides a response with relevant supporting information which may contain moderate weaknesses, but gives the Agency some confidence that the requirements will be met. | 4 |
| **Weak:** Partially addresses the requirements, or provides supporting information that is of limited relevance or contains significant weaknesses, and therefore gives the Agency low confidence that the requirements will be met. | 2 |
| **Nil:** No response or provides a response that gives the Agency no confidence that the requirements will be met. | 0 |

**Section 4**

**Information to be returned**

**Please note, the following information requested must be provided. Incomplete tender submissions may be discounted.**

Please complete and return the following information:

* completed Pricing Schedule (Appendix A);
* completed Prior Rights Schedule (Appendix B);
* confirmation that terms and conditions are accepted (Appendix C. Please note that the terms cannot be amended later).
* details of the personnel you are proposing to carry out the service, including CV’s of your key personnel;
* details of proposed approach and methodology
* details of how you will manage the project including your project plan and how you propose to maintain continuity of personnel.

**Section 5**

**Specification**

# Background to the Requirement

The n-octanol-water partition co-efficient (log KOW) is a widely accepted parameter used to screen for the bioaccumulation potential of a chemical substance in aquatic organisms, with the n-octanol-air partition co-efficient (log KOA) used in addition for terrestrial organisms. The log KOW is used as an indicator that a substance has a greater affinity for lipid-rich tissues than water-based ones (like blood) and may accumulate over the lifetime of an organism. Two OECD test guidelines (Nos. 117 and 123) can be used to generate data for this parameter (OECD, 2022 a. and b., respectively). Both test guidelines describe study designs that have different applicability domains for different substance types (ECHA, 2017).

The correlation between log KOW and lipid-driven accumulation for neutral lipophilic organic compounds (NLOCs) is well studied. However, for substances that are not NLOCs, data from wildlife monitoring and regulatory studies have indicated that the accepted metrics for bioaccumulation screening need to be reconsidered. Industrial chemicals that bioaccumulate but do not screen as such based on their log KOW, include per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (De Silva *et al*., 2021). This has also been noted in the chemistries of pharmaceuticals, biocides and plant protection products (Karlsson *et al.*, 2017 and Kaserzon *et al*., 2014).

The processes governing the uptake and partitioning of substances that fall outside of the definition of NLOCs are not well understood. They sometimes contradict contemporary understanding, for example that a substance in its ionic form is less bioavailable than the electronically neutral form (Armitage *et al.*, 2017). However, perfluorocarboxylic acids (PFCAs) and perfluorosulfonic acids (PFSAs) are permanently ionised under environmental conditions, highly polar and amphiphilic (exhibiting both hydrophobic and lipophobic properties), and are also bioavailable. Accumulation is observed within both lipid- and protein-dominant tissues for long chain PCFAs (≥ 7 perfluorocarbons) and long chain PFSAs (≥ 6 perfluorocarbons). Specific examples include perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS). As the perfluorocarbon chain length decreases accumulation is associated less with lipid-rich and more with protein-rich tissues (De Silva *et al*., 2021).

There are no current validated test guidelines or methods to screen for chemicals that bioaccumulate preferentially in tissues other than lipids. We are seeking to identify what alternative tests are available or could be developed and used to screen for this form of bioaccumulation as a regulatory requirement under UK REACH (specifically in relation to PBT assessment and exposure modelling).

If suitable methods can be identified, we would like to understand how they would trigger the determination of bioconcentration factors (or other bioaccumulation metrics) in aquatic and dietary exposure studies.

# Specific Objectives/Deliverables

The deliverable will be a report providing relevant up-to-date evidence and understanding on the types of study that could inform non-standard accumulation processes in aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. It should provide a critical review of current understanding and contemporary methods, identifying uncertainties in generated data and the applicability of methods to different substance types. The report should address the following specific objectives through a targeted literature search:

* Identification and description of non-standard accumulation processes that could be encountered for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, and their significance. Relevant publications include Armitage *et al*. (2017), Endo *et al.* (2011, 2013 and 2016) and van der Heijden (2015).
* Identification of different surrogates for partition co-efficient determination. There is not a widely accepted or suitable model protein that could represent aquatic and mammalian wildlife. Serum albumin – a globular blood protein – is often used but there are drawbacks, for example NLOC substances undergo stronger sorption to albumin than structural proteins such as muscle tissues (Endo *et al.,* 2013). Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA) should not be recommended due to animal welfare concerns; however, for completeness, it should be addressed in the evaluation and discussion. Publications of relevance include Armitage *et al*. (2017) where preserved proteins common to both fish and mammals are discussed, and Chen *et al*. (2019) where liver proteins are assessed.
* The relevance of plant proteins (or specific proteins preserved across a wide range of taxa) shall be considered.
* Identification and description of screening methods, such as those used in the pharmaceutical industry to assess protein affinity, and whether these could be exploited as screening studies for non-standard accumulation processes. This should include a discussion of endpoints (e.g. binding and rate constants of interaction) and a critique of suitability. Relevant publications include Hage *et al*. (2011), Beeram *et al*. (2018), Obradović *et al*. (2022), and Tsopelas *et al*. (2017).
* Consideration of the variability and relevance of any method.
* The practicality of any identified methods, taking account of animal welfare concerns for any material sources, test duration, availability, and likely cost
* Provide an indication of a suitable cut-off value for B/vB screening (in accordance with Annex 13 of the REACH Regulation) if this is possible from the information analysed. Provide a recommendation of potential screening tests and benchmark substances that could be used in the development of a new test guideline.

The report should be suitable for publication and/or external dissemination, e.g. to support OECD test guideline development or for use in regulatory guidance.

**References**

Armitage, J. M., Erickson, R. J., Luckenbach, T., Ng, C. A., Prosser, R. S., Arnot, J. A., Schirmer, K., & Nichols, J. W. (2017). Assessing the bioaccumulation potential of ionizable organic compounds: Current knowledge and research priorities. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, *36*(4), 882–897.

Bernardo, F., Alves, A., & Homem, V. (2022). A review of bioaccumulation of volatile methylsiloxanes in aquatic ecosystems. *The Science of the Total Environment*, *824*, 153821.

Beeram, S. R., Zheng, X., Suh, K., & Hage, D. S. (2018). Characterization of solution-phase drug-protein interactions by ultrafast affinity extraction. *Methods (San Diego, Calif.)*, *146*, 46–57.

Cheng, W., & Ng, C. A. (2018). Predicting Relative Protein Affinity of Novel Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) by An Efficient Molecular Dynamics Approach. *Environmental science & technology*, *52*(14), 7972–7980.

De Silva, A. O., Armitage, J. M., Bruton, T. A., Dassuncao, C., Heiger-Bernays, W., Hu, X. C., Kärrman, A., Kelly, B., Ng, C., Robuck, A., Sun, M., Webster, T. F., & Sunderland, E. M. (2021). PFAS exposure pathways for humans and wildlife: a synthesis of current knowledge and key gaps in understanding. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, *40*(3), 631–657.

ECHA. (2017a). Guidance on Information Requirements and Chemical Safety Assessment. Chapter R.11: PBT/vPvB Assessment. Version 3.0. June 2018. European Chemicals Agency, Helsinki, Finland; [http://echa.europa.eu/web/ guest/guidance-documents/guidance-on-reach](http://echa.europa.eu/web/%20guest/guidance-documents/guidance-on-reach)

ECHA (2017b). Guidance on Information Requirements and Chemical Safety Assessment. Chapter R.7a: Endpoint Specific Guidance. Version 6.0. July 2017. European Chemicals Agency, Helsinki, Finland. [https://www.echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13632 /information\_requirements\_r7a\_en.pdf](https://www.echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13632%20/information_requirements_r7a_en.pdf)

ECHA (2017c). Guidance on Information Requirements and Chemical Safety Assessment. Chapter R.7b: Endpoint Specific Guidance. Version 4.0. June 2017. European Chemicals Agency, Helsinki, Finland. [https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13632/ information\_requirements\_r7b\_en.pdf](https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13632/%20information_requirements_r7b_en.pdf)

ECHA (2017d). Guidance on Information Requirements and Chemical Safety Assessment. Chapter R.7c: Endpoint Specific Guidance. Versions 3.0. June 2017. European Chemicals Agency, Helsinki, Finland. [https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13632/information \_requirements\_r7c\_en.pdf](https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13632/information%20_requirements_r7c_en.pdf)

Endo, S., Escher, B. I., & Goss, K. U. (2011). Capacities of membrane lipids to accumulate neutral organic chemicals. *Environmental Science & Technology*, *45*(14), 5912–5921.

Endo, S., Brown, T. N., & Goss, K. U. (2013). General model for estimating partition coefficients to organisms and their tissues using the biological compositions and polyparameter linear free energy relationships. *Environmental science & technology*, *47*(12), 6630–6639.

Endo S. (2016). Re-analysis of narcotic critical body residue data using the equilibrium distribution concept and refined partition coefficients. *Environmental Science. Processes & Impacts*, *18*(8), 1024–1029.

Erickson R. J., McKim J. M., Lien G. J., Hoffman A. D., Batterman S. L. (2006). Uptake and elimination of ionizable organic chemicals at fish gills: II. Observed and predicted effects of pH, alkalinity, and chemical properties. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, *25*(6), 1522-1532.

Hage, D. S., Anguizola, J., Barnaby, O., Jackson, A., Yoo, M. J., Papastavros, E., Pfaunmiller, E., Sobansky, M., & Tong, Z. (2011). Characterization of drug interactions with serum proteins by using high-performance affinity chromatography. *Current Drug Metabolism*, *12*(4), 313–328.

Kaserzon, S. L., Hawker, D. W., Kennedy, K., Bartkow, M., Carter, S., Booij, K., & Mueller, J. F. (2014). Characterisation and comparison of the uptake of ionizable and polar pesticides, pharmaceuticals and personal care products by POCIS and Chemcatchers. *Environmental Science. Processes & Impacts*, *16*(11), 2517–2526.

Obradović, D., Radan, M., Đikić, T., Nikolić, M. P., Oljačić, S., & Nikolić, K. (2022). The evaluation of drug-plasma protein binding interaction on immobilized human serum albumin stationary phase, aided by different computational approaches. *Journal of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis*, *211*, 114593.

OECD (2012). Test No. 305: Bioaccumulation in Fish: Aqueous and Dietary Exposure, OECD Guidelines for the Testing of Chemicals, Section 3, OECD Publishing, Paris

OECD (2022a). Test No. 117: Partition Coefficient (n-octanol/water), HPLC Method, OECD Guidelines for the Testing of Chemicals, Section 1, OECD Publishing, Paris

OECD (2022b), Test No. 123: Partition Coefficient (1-Octanol/Water): Slow-Stirring Method, OECD Guidelines for the Testing of Chemicals, Section 1, OECD Publishing, Paris

Tsopelas, F., Giaginis, C., & Tsantili-Kakoulidou, A. (2017). Lipophilicity and biomimetic properties to support drug discovery. *Expert Opinion on Drug Discovery*, *12*(9), 885–896.

van der Heijden, S. A., Hermens, J. L., Sinnige, T. L., Mayer, P., Gilbert, D., & Jonker, M. T. (2015). Determining high-quality critical body residues for multiple species and chemicals by applying improved experimental design and data interpretation concepts. *Environmental Science & Technology*, *49*(3), 1879–1887.

**Administrative**

We will provide the following to the contractor:

* Environment Agency Chief Scientist’s Group reporting template.

Following receipt of a draft report, the technical lead and other regulatory reviewers (from UBA (Germany), the European Chemicals Agency and RIVM (the Netherlands) will provide comments to the contractor, who will make the appropriate changes and provide a final version by 15 January 2023. A monthly progress update should be provided to the Project Manager.

You will be working for the Environment Agency’s Chemicals Assessment Unit (CAU), which sits within the Chief Scientist’s Group in the Environment & Business Directorate. CAU assesses environmental hazards and risks from the manufacture, use and disposal of industrial and consumer chemicals, and produces formal regulatory documentation.

### Timescales/Deadlines

This project needs to be completed within the 2022/23 financial year and a project completion date of 24/02/2023 has been selected.

### Skills of Personnel Required

Please provide details of the key staff to be used highlighting their experience and skills relevant to this project.

The information provided should evidence the following skills:

* Expertise in environmental bioaccumulation
* An understanding of the OECD TG 117 and 123 (OECD, 2022a and 2022b)
* An understanding of OECD TG 305 (OECD, 2012)
* An understanding of bioaccumulation assessment as part of PBT assessment for UK REACH (R.7a and c and R.11, ECHA, 2017 a-d)
* An understanding of non-lipid driven bioaccumulation

Please provide details on how the project will be managed that evidences a planned approach, identification and mitigation of key project risks (e.g., continuity) and the ability to deliver high quality outputs within the required timeframes. Your reply should include an overview of the quality assurance procedures you will apply to the project.

A project team organisation diagram should be attached with your reply that provides a clear reporting structure.

**Section 6**

**Contract Management**

This contract shall be managed on behalf of the Agency by Estelle Nma, Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk. Tel: 07385348499

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Completion date** | **Payment schedule** |
| Contract award | 07/10/2022 |  |
| Project initiation meeting | 14/10/2022 |  |
| Short written progress update | monthly |  |
| Progress meeting | Dec 2022 |  |
| Draft report | 06/01/2023 | 70% (agreed draft) |
| Comments (EA and other regulatory reviewers – UBA, ECA, & RIVM | 27/01/2023 |  |
| Progress meeting | TBC |  |
| Draft academic paper (if selected) | 03/01/2023 |  |
| Final output and project conclusion | 24/02/2023 | 30% (agreed final report) |

We will raise purchase orders to cover the cost of the services and will issue to the awarded supplier following contract award.

The supplier should invoice based on the above payment schedule.

Before the invoice is issued, a fee note must be emailed in advance to the contract manager for approval. All invoices must quote the purchase order number in order to be processed. A file copy invoice must be provided to the contract manager, on request. The timescale for payment of invoices will be up to 30 days after we have received a valid invoice.

**Section 7**

**Sustainability Considerations**

We are committed to continually improving our sustainability performance. The Environment Agency has set itself tough objectives as a clear commitment and contribution to sustainable development throughout England. The Agency recognises that this can only be achieved through commitment from all sectors of society and it is intent on raising awareness amongst industry and commerce.

Contractors must adopt a sound proactive environmental approach, designed to minimise harm to the environment.

Environmental criteria should be considered as part of your tender submission with credit given for innovation. Factors to be considered could include areas such as:

* + - Paper use: All documents and reports prepared by consultants and contractors are produced wherever possible on recycled paper containing at least 100% post consumer waste and printed double sided.
    - Travel: use of public transport, reduce face to face meetings by using email and videoconferencing. Meetings to be held in locations to minimise travel and close to public transport links.
    - Packaging: should be kept to a minimum. Re-use and disposal issues must be considered.
    - Efficient Energy and Water Use.
    - Disposal of Waste: Whilst on site the contractor is responsible for the disposal of their own waste and can only use client facilities with express permission from the on site facilities officer.
    - Whilst on site, contractors should comply with the local environmental policy statement which will be made available to you in advance or on arrival.

**Diversity and Equal Opportunities**

We are committed to promoting equality and diversity in all we do and valuing the diversity of our workforce, customers and communities.  As a public body, we publish regular information about what our equality objectives are and how we’re meeting them.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/equality-and-diversity>

**Health and Safety**

Contractors will be responsible for making sure all required health and safety aspects including risk assessments are undertaken and required management measures are in place to protect worker exposure. This includes management of all partners, consortium members and subcontractors.

**IEM2020:**

## Sustainability Objectives

As the Environment Agency, our overarching aim is to protect and improve the environment for people and wildlife. Over the last 10 years we have achieved significant reductions in our environmental impacts that occur through our everyday operations. This included a 40% reduction in our carbon emissions and a 37% reduction in the number of miles we travel. This year we have launched our new Internal Environmental Management strategy to take us through to 2020, building on these successes and widening our ambition.

**Supply chain**

Our 2020 approach will have a very strong emphasis on the indirect impacts of our supply chain.

Our supply chain accounts for over 70% of our total environmental impacts.

Working with our supply chain we want to be world class in the area of environmental management. The environmental impacts of our work and that delivered by and through our supply chain must be reduced; environmental risks must be effectively managed and opportunities for enhancements investigated.

As an organisation, our environmental management system (EMS) is accredited to ISO14001 and EMAS standards. Our procurement activities form part of this system; driving environmental performance improvements across the value chain.

## Section 8

### Additional Information

### Copyright and confidentiality

Unless otherwise indicated, the copyright in all of the documentation belongs to the Environment Agency, and the documentation is to be returned to us with your tender. The contents of the documentation must be held in confidence by you and not disclosed to any third party other than is strictly necessary for the purposes of submitting your quote. You must also ensure that a similar obligation of confidentiality is placed upon any third party to whom you may need to disclose any of the documentation for the purposes of the tender.

### Accuracy of documentation

You should check all documentation; should any part be found to be missing or unclear you should immediately contact us at the address given in the covering letter. No liability will be accepted by the Environment Agency for any omission or errors in the documentation which could have been identified by you.

### Amendments to documentation

Prior to the date for return of tenders, we may clarify, amend or add to the documentation. A copy of each instruction will be issued to every Tenderer and shall form part of the documentation. No amendment shall be made to the documentation unless it is the subject of an instruction. The Tenderer shall promptly acknowledge receipt of such instructions.

### Alternative Offers

Alternative offers may be considered if they constitute a fully priced alternative and are submitted in addition to a quotation complying with the requirements of the Invitation to Quote Documents. If, for any reason you wish to submit an alternative offer without a fully compliant tender please contact us in accordance with the details in the covering letter.

## Continuity of personnel

The Contractor shall employ sufficient staff to ensure that the Services are provided at all times and in all respects to the Project Standard. It shall be the duty of the Contractor to ensure that a sufficient reserve of staff is available to ensure project delivery in the event of staff holidays, sickness or voluntary absence

The Environment Agency will be notified immediately of any changes to personnel associated with the project. The Contractor will ensure that every effort is made to replace outgoing staff with personnel of equal calibre and expertise. All new members of staff undertaking work for the Project will need to be agreed by the Environment Agency prior to commencement.

At all times, the Contractor shall only employ in the execution and superintendence of the Contract persons who are suitable and appropriately skilled and experienced.

## Intellectual property rights

All results, including material and tools produced, developed or paid for under this contract shall be the property of the Environment Agency.

## References

The Environment Agency may request recent and relevant references prior to the award of the project.

**Contract award**

This Request for Quote is issued in good faith but we reserve the right not to award any or all of this work.

### DATA PROTECTION ACT ADDENDUM TO SPECIFICATION

## Protection of personal data

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 the Contractor must agree to the following:

* You must only process the personal data in strict accordance with instructions from the Environment Agency.
* You must ensure that all the personal data that we disclose to you or you collect on our behalf under this agreement are kept confidential.
* You must take reasonable steps to ensure the reliability of employees who have access to personal data.
* Only employees who may be required to assist in meeting the obligations under this agreement may have access to the personal data.
* Any disclosure of personal data must be made in confidence and extend only so far as that which is specifically necessary for the purposes of this agreement.
* You must ensure that there are appropriate security measures in place to safeguard against any unauthorised access or unlawful processing or accidental loss, destruction or damage or disclosure of the personal data.
* On termination of this agreement, for whatever reason, the personal data must be returned to us promptly and safely, together with all copies in your possession or control.

# APPENDIX A - PRICING SCHEDULE

ALL COSTS QUOTED MUST BE EXCLUSIVE OF VAT

All costs must be quoted on this schedule. Any costs not detailed will not be paid.

**Staff Costs**

Please detail the day rates of your proposed personnel in the table below.

(Please also advise how many hours you constitute a working day)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Proposal cost** | | | | | | |
| **Task No.** | **Consultant name** | **Title/Grade** | | **Day rate** | **No. of Days or part thereof** | **Cost** |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| **Total staff costs** | | | | | |  |
| **Expenses (please detail type ie travel, accommodation etc)** | | |  | | |  |
| **Total overall cost** | | | | | |  |

**APPENDIX B - PRIOR RIGHTS SCHEDULE**

Details of Prior Rights held by the Parties (To be updated as Rights are introduced during the period of the Contract)

Prior Rights owned or lawfully used by a Party, whether under licence or otherwise, which it introduces to the Project for the purposes of fulfilling its obligations under the Contract

Held by the Environment Agency

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name and description of Prior Rights** | **Extent of proposed use in the Project** | **Proprietary owner of the Prior Rights** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Held by the Contractor

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name and description of Prior Rights** | **Extent of proposed use in the Project** | **Proprietary owner of the Prior Rights** |
|  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |

**Explanation of Contractor's Prior Rights**  
All Intellectual Property Rights owned by or lawfully used by the Contractor, whether under licence or otherwise before the date of this Contract. It can also mean any invention and know how or other intellectual property (whether or not patentable) owned by one of the parties prior to the commencement of the Project, or devised or discovered by one of them only in the course of other projects during the Project period and not arising directly from the Project.

**APPENDIX C - Conditions of Contract - Research & Development**

Contract Ref: ENV6005704R task 1

Contract Title: Viability of developing a screening tool to assess non-standard bioaccumulation potential of chemical substances in aquatic and terrestrial wildlife

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1. **DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**
   1. In the Contract, unless the context otherwise requires the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings:
      1. Agency

Environment Agency, its successors and assigns.

* + 1. Agency’s Prior Rights

All Intellectual Property Rights owned by, or lawfully used by the Agency, whether under licence or otherwise, before the date of this Contract.

* + 1. Appendix

The Appendix to these Conditions.

* + 1. Contractor

The person, firm, company or body that undertakes to provide the services to the Agency as set out in the Appendix.

* + 1. Contractor’s Prior Rights

All Intellectual Property Rights owned by or lawfully used by the Contractor, whether under licence or otherwise before the date of this Contract.

* + 1. Contract

These Conditions including the Appendix, any Special Conditions, the Specification, Pricing Schedule, Contractor’s tender, acceptance letter and any relevant documents agreeing modifications exchanged before the Contract is awarded, and any subsequent amendments or variations agreed in writing.

* + 1. Contract Period

The time period stated in the Appendix, or otherwise in the Contract, for the performance of the Services.

* + 1. Contractor Personnel

means all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Contractor and/or of any sub-contractor engaged in the performance of its obligations under this Contract

* + 1. Contracting Authority

Means any contracting authorities (other than the Environment Agency) as defined in regulation 2 of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/102) (as amended).

* + 1. Contract Price

The price (exclusive of any VAT) set out in the Contract for which the Contractor has agreed to provide the services.

* + 1. Contract Supervisor

Any duly authorised representative of the Agency, notified in writing to the Contractor for all purposes connected with the Contract. Any notice or other written communication given by or to the Contract Supervisor, shall be taken as given by or made to the Agency.

* + 1. Data Protection Legislation

means: (i) the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) or GDPR, the Law Enforcement Directive (Directive (EU) 2016/680) ("LED") and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time (ii) the Data Protection Act 1998 ("DPA 1998") and/or the Data Protection Act 2018 ("DPA 2018") to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy; (iii) all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy

* + 1. Data Protection Schedule

The Schedule attached to this Contract describing how the Parties will comply with the Data Protection Legislation.

* + 1. Law

means any law, subordinate legislation within the meaning of Section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, enforceable right within the meaning of Section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972, regulation, order, regulatory policy, mandatory guidance or code of practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements with which the Contractor is bound to comply

* + 1. Notice

Any written instruction or notice given to the Contractor by the Contract Supervisor, delivered by:

1. fax, or hand delivery to the Contractor’s registered office or other address notified by the Contractor to the Agency for the purposes of the Contract and be deemed to have been served at the date and time of delivery; or
2. first class post to the Contractor’s registered office. Such notice shall be deemed to have been served 48 hours after posting.
   * 1. Intellectual Property Rights

All Intellectual Property Rights including without limitation, patents, patent applications, design rights, registered designs, utility models, trade and service marks and applications for same, copyright, know- how, rights in semi-conductor chip topography, and in each case whether protectable at law or not, and if protectable, whether an application has been made for such protection or not, and all similar industrial, commercial, monopoly or other intellectual property rights whether present or future, vested or contingent wherever protected.

* + 1. Results

All things produced in performing the Services including maps, plans, photographs, drawings, tapes, statistical data, experimental results, field data, analysis of results, published and unpublished results and reports, inventions, computer programmes and user documentation.

* + 1. Resulting Rights

All Intellectual Property Rights in the Results that are originated, conceived, written or made by the Contractor, whether alone or with others in the performance of the Services or otherwise resulting from the Contract.

* + 1. Services

All Services detailed in the Specification including any additions or substitutions as may be requested by the Contract Supervisor.

* + 1. PCR

Means the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/102) as amended.

* 1. Except as set out above and in the Data Protection Schedule, the Contract shall be interpreted in accordance with the Interpretation Act 1978.
  2. All headings in these Conditions are for ease of reference only, and shall not affect the construction of the Contract.
  3. Any reference in these Conditions to a statutory requirement this will include all subsequent modifications.
  4. All undefined words and expressions are to be given their normal English meaning within the context of this Contract. Any dispute as to the interpretation of such undefined words and expressions shall be settled by reference to the definition in the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary.

1. **PRECEDENCE**

To the extent that the following documents form the Contract, in the case of conflict of content, they shall have the following order of precedence.

* + - Conditions of Contract including Appendix, Data Protection Schedule and any Special Conditions
    - Specification
    - Pricing Schedule
    - Drawings, maps or other diagrams.

1. **CONTRACT SUPERVISOR**

The Contractor shall strictly comply with any instruction given by the Contract Supervisor concerning or about the Contract provided such instructions are reasonable and consistent with the nature, scope and value of the Contract. All such instructions shall be in writing. The Contractor is not obliged to comply with any verbal instruction from the Contract Supervisor, that is not confirmed in writing within seven working days.

1. **SERVICES**
   1. The Contractor shall provide all staff, equipment, materials and any other requirements necessary for the performance of the Contract using reasonable skill, care and diligence, and to the reasonable satisfaction of the Contract Supervisor.
   2. Where the Agency has indicated in writing, at or before the date of the Contract, that there will be a need to retain certain persons crucial to the successful provision of the Services, such persons (“Key Personnel”) shall be identified from within the Contractor’s business or staff and agreed in writing, and a list made of such persons (“the Key Personnel List”).
   3. The Contractor shall (subject to Condition 4.5) make Key Personnel available for the whole of the Contract Period, for the purposes of providing the Services.
   4. Where the Contract Supervisor gives Notice that Key Personnel are associated with the provision of specific services, such services shall only be provided by such persons.
   5. No changes of any kind shall be made to the Key Personnel List, without the prior written agreement of the Contract Supervisor.
   6. The Contractor shall only employ in the execution and superintendence of the Contract, persons who are suitable, and appropriately skilled and experienced. The Contract Supervisor shall be at liberty to object to, and require the Contractor to remove any person employed in or about the Contract who is unsuitable, misconducts himself, is incompetent or negligent in the performance of his duties, or persists in conduct which could endanger the health or safety of others. Such persons shall not be employed again on the Contract without the express permission of the Contract Supervisor.
   7. The Contractor shall provide the Agency with such progress reports at such intervals and in such form as is detailed in the Specification or otherwise as reasonably required by the Contract Supervisor.
   8. The Contractor shall notify the Contract Supervisor immediately if any factors occur which give the Contractor reason to believe that the Contract could be completed more effectively or expeditiously by changing the programme or method of working in the Specification.
   9. The Contractor shall not carry out any survey for the Agency (whether or not such survey forms part of the Services) which includes any interviews or the circulation of questionnaires or similar documents without the agreement of the Agency to the form and content of such interviews, questionnaires or other documents.
   10. The Contractor shall promptly notify the Contract Supervisor, in writing of any situation, or event arising from circumstances beyond his control and which it could not have reasonably foreseen which makes it difficult for the Contractor to carry out in whole or in part the Contract in accordance with the Specification. On receipt of such notification, any revision to the Condition 6 (Contract Period) in accordance with Condition 10 (Variations) and/or Condition 11 (Extensions of Time) shall be considered by the Contract Supervisor on its merits, and the Contractor notified in writing of the decision.
2. **ASSIGNMENT**
   1. The Contractor shall not assign, transfer or sub-contract the Contract, or any part of it, without the prior written permission of Contract Supervisor.
   2. Any assignment, transfer or sub-contract entered into, shall not relieve the Contractor of any of its obligations or duties under the Contract.
   3. Nothing in this Contract confers or purports to confer on any third party any benefit or any right to enforce any term of the Contract
3. **CONTRACT PERIOD**

The Contractor shall perform the Services within the time stated in the Appendix, subject to such amendments arising from Condition 10 (Variations), and/or Condition 11 (Extensions of Time.).

1. **PROPERTY**
   1. All property issued by the Agency to the Contractor in connection with the Contract shall remain the property of the Agency, and shall be used in the execution of the Contract, and for no other purpose whatsoever without the prior approval of the Contract Supervisor.
   2. The Contractor shall keep all property issued by the Agency in safe custody and good condition, set aside and clearly marked as the property of the Agency.
   3. On expiry, or earlier termination of the Contract, the Contractor shall, if so required, either surrender such property to the Agency, or otherwise dispose of it, as instructed by the Contract Supervisor.
2. **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**
   1. Confidential Information shall comprise any information disclosed to, or made available to the Contractor and its agents and staff in connection with the Contract and the provision of the Services. This will include, but not be limited to the Agency’s procedures, the Contract, the Results, any Intellectual Property of the Agency, or any other information which could reasonably be regarded as confidential.
   2. The Contractor shall take all necessary precautions to ensure that all Confidential Information as in Condition 8.1:
      1. Is given only to the minimum number of staff and then only to the extent necessary for each member of staff’s activities in the provision of the Services;
      2. Is treated as confidential and not disclosed, without the prior approval of the Contract Supervisor, to any other person.
   3. Where required by the Contract Supervisor, the Contractor will ensure that its staff sign a confidentiality undertaking before commencing work on the provision of the Services, and provide copies to the Contract Supervisor.
   4. The Agency’s remedies for breaches of Conditions 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3 shall not be limited to damages.
   5. Nothing in this Condition shall prevent the Agency from disclosing such information relating to the outcome of the Contract procurement process as may be required to be published in the Supplement to the Official Journal of the European Communities in accordance with E.C. Directives, or elsewhere in accordance with requirements of United Kingdom law on the disclosure of information.
3. **SECURITY**

The Contractor shall be responsible for the security of all goods and equipment (i) belonging to the Agency and used by the Contractor in the provision of the Services, and (ii) belonging to the Contractor, or Contractor’s staff, or sub-contractors whilst on Agency premises. This Condition shall not prejudice the Agency’s rights under Condition 15.

1. **VARIATIONS**
   1. The Contract Supervisor may vary the Contract by adding to, deleting or otherwise modifying the Services to be supplied, by written order to the Contractor provided such variations are reasonable and consistent with the nature, scope and value of the Contract.
   2. The value of any such variation, other than any variation arising out of Condition 10.3, shall be determined by reference to the rates contained in the Pricing Schedule. Where the Services so ordered are not covered in the Pricing Schedule, they shall be valued at a fair and reasonable rate agreed between the Contract Supervisor and the Contractor.
   3. Where a variation is the result of some default or breach of the Contract by the Contractor, or for some other cause for which it is solely responsible, any additional cost attributable to the variation shall be borne by the Contractor.
   4. The Contractor may also propose a variation to the Services, but no such variation shall take effect unless agreed and confirmed in writing by the Contract Supervisor.
   5. No variation shall have the effect of invalidating the Contract, if that variation is reasonably consistent with the nature, scope and value of the Contract. The Contractor may also propose a variation to the Goods to be supplied but no such variation shall take effect unless agreed and confirmed in writing by the Contract Supervisor.
   6. No variation shall have the effect of invalidating the Contract, or placing the Contract at large, if that variation is reasonably consistent with the nature, scope and value of the Contract.
   7. The Agency may vary the Contract to comply with a change in English Law. Such a change will be effected by the Contract Supervisor notifying the Contractor in writing.
   8. The Agency may assign, novate or otherwise dispose of its rights and obligations under the Contract or any part thereof to:
      1. any Contracting Authority; or
      2. any other body established by the Crown or under statute in order substantially to perform any of the functions that had previously been performed by the Agency; or
      3. any private sector body which substantially performs the functions of the Agency, provided that any such assignment, novation or other disposal shall not increase the burden of the Contractor's obligations under the Contract.
   9. Any change in the legal status of the Agency such that it ceases to be a Contracting Authority shall not affect the validity of the Contract. In such circumstances the Contract shall bind and inure to the benefit of any successor body to the Agency.
2. **EXTENSIONS OF TIME**
   1. Should the performance of the Contract be delayed by any cause beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor, and provided that the Contractor shall first have given the Contract Supervisor written notice within five working days after becoming aware that such delay was likely to occur, then, the Contract Supervisor, if satisfied that this Condition applies:
      1. in the case of any delay of which the Agency is not the cause, may grant the Contractor such extension of time as in his opinion, is reasonable, having regard, without limitation, to any other delays or extensions of time that may have occurred or been granted under the Contract. The Contract Price shall not increase as a result of such an extension of time.
      2. in the case of any delay of which the Agency is the cause, shall grant the Contractor a reasonable extension of time to take account of the delay.
   2. No extension of time shall be granted where in the opinion of the Agency, the Contractor has failed to use reasonable endeavours to avoid or reduce the cause and/or effects of the delay.
   3. Any extension of time granted under this Condition shall not affect the Agency’s rights to terminate or determine the Contract under Conditions 13 and 14 respectively.
3. **DEFAULT**
   1. The Contractor shall be in default if it:
      1. Fails to perform the Contract with due skill, care, diligence and timeliness; or
      2. Refuses or neglects to comply with any reasonable written instruction given by the Contract Supervisor; or
      3. Is otherwise in breach of Contract.
   2. Where in the opinion of the Contract Supervisor, the Contractor is in default, the Contract Supervisor may serve a Notice, giving at least 5 working days in which to remedy the default.
   3. If the Contractor fails to comply with such a Notice, the Contract Supervisor may without prejudice to any other rights or remedies under the Contract, take over for such a period as is necessary the performance of the relevant part of the Contract, and make other arrangements for its completion. Any extra costs arising from this action, will be paid by the Contractor or deducted from any monies owing to it.
4. **TERMINATION**
   1. The Agency may immediately, without any liability on its part and without prejudice to any of its other rights and remedies under the Contract, terminate all, or any part of the Contract by Notice to the Contractor, or the Contractor’s receiver, or the Contractor’s liquidator or to any other person in whom the Contract may become vested, if the Contractor:
      1. fails in the opinion of the Contract Supervisor to comply with (or take reasonable steps to comply with) a Notice under Condition 12.2; or
      2. becomes bankrupt or insolvent, or has a receiving order made against it, or makes an arrangement with its creditors, or (being a corporation) commences to be wound up, not being a voluntary winding up for the purpose of reconstruction or amalgamation, or has a receiver, administrator, or administrative receiver appointed by a Court.

'Termination under the Procurement PCR’

* 1. The Agency may terminate the Contract on written Notice to the Contractor if:
     1. the contract has been subject to a substantial modification which requires a new procurement procedure pursuant to regulation 72(9) of the PCR;
     2. the Contractor was, at the time the Contract was awarded, in one of the situations specified in regulation 57(1) of the PCR, including as a result of the application of regulation 57(2), and should therefore have been excluded from the procurement procedure which resulted in its award of the Contract; or
     3. The Contract should not have been awarded to the Contractor in view of a serious infringement of the obligations under the Treaties and the PCR that has been declared by the Court of Justice of the European Union in a procedure under Article 258 of the TFEU.

1. **DETERMINATION**
   1. Without prejudice to any other rights or remedies under the Contract, the Agency reserves the right to determine the Contract at any time by giving not less than one month’s Notice, (or such other time period as may be appropriate).
   2. The Agency shall pay the Contractor such amounts as may be necessary to cover his reasonable costs and outstanding and unavoidable commitments necessarily and solely incurred in properly performing the Contract prior to determination.
   3. The Agency will not pay for any costs or commitments that the Contractor is able to mitigate and shall only pay those costs that the Agency has validated to its satisfaction. The Agency’s total liability under this clause shall not in any circumstances exceed the Contract Price that would have been payable for the Services if the Contract had not been determined.
2. **INDEMNITY**
   1. Subject always to Condition 15.2 without prejudice to the Agency’s remedies for breach of Contract, the Contractor shall fully indemnify the Agency and its staff against any liability, loss, costs, expenses, claims or proceedings in respect of:
      1. Death or injury to any person, and/or
      2. Loss or damage to any property, excluding indirect and consequential loss, and/or
      3. Infringement of third party Intellectual Property Rights

which might arise as a consequence of the actions, omissions or negligence of the Contractor, its staff or agents in the execution of the Contract.

* 1. Nothing in this Condition 15 shall limit or exclude any liability of the Agency for personal injury or death arising from its negligence.

1. **LIMIT OF CONTRACTOR’S LIABILITY**
   1. The limit of the Contractor’s liability for each and every claim by the Agency, other than for death or personal injury, whether by way of indemnity or by reason of breach of Contract, or statutory duty, or by reason of any tort shall be-
      1. The sum stated in the Appendix and consider personal data risk];
      2. If no sum is stated in the Appendix, ten times the Contract Price, or five million pounds whichever is the greater.
2. **INSURANCE**
   1. The Contractor shall insure, and maintain insurance against the liabilities under Condition 15 (Indemnity), in the manner, and to the values listed in the Appendix to these Conditions. If no sum is stated, the value insured shall be £5m, (five million pounds).
   2. If required by the Agency, nominated insurances shall be in the joint names of the Contractor and the Agency.
   3. The Contractor shall, upon request, produce to Contract Supervisor documentary evidence that the insurances required are fully paid up and valid for the duration of the Contract.
3. **PREVENTION OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION**
   1. The Contractor shall not offer, give, or agree to give anything, to any person an inducement or reward for doing, refraining from doing, or for having done or refrained from doing, any act in relation to the obtaining or execution of the Contract or for showing or refraining from showing favour or disfavour to any person in relation to the Contract.
   2. The Contractor shall take all reasonable steps, in accordance with good industry practice, to prevent fraud by the Contractor’s staff and the Contractor (including its shareholders, members and directors) in connection with the Contract and shall notify the Agency immediately if it has reason to suspect that any fraud has occurred or is occurring or is likely to occur.
   3. If the Contractor or the Contractor’s staff engages in conduct prohibited by this clause 18 or commits fraud in relation to the Contract or any other contract with the Crown (including the Agency) the Agency may:
      1. terminate the Contract and recover from the Contractor the amount of any loss suffered by the Agency resulting from the termination, including the cost reasonably incurred by the Agency of making other arrangements for the supply of the Goods and any additional expenditure incurred by the Agency throughout the remainder of the Contract; or
      2. recover in full from the Contractor any other loss sustained by the Agency in consequence of any breach of this clause.
   4. The Contractor shall not, directly or indirectly through intermediaries commit any offence under the Bribery Act 2010 (as amended), in any of its dealings with the Agency.
4. **MONITORING AND AUDIT**
   1. The Contract Supervisor may inspect and examine the Services being carried out on the Agency’s premises or elsewhere at any reasonable time. Where the Services are being performed on other than the Agency’s premises, reasonable notice to inspect shall be given to the Contractor. The Contractor shall give all such facilities as the Contract Supervisor may reasonably require for such inspection and examination.
   2. The Contractor shall keep and maintain for six years following termination of the Contract, records of all expenses and expenditure which have been or are reimbursable by the Agency, and of the hours worked and costs incurred by the Contractor and its sub-contractors in the performance of the Contract, and the Contractor shall on request afford the Agency such access to those records as may be required to carry out audit checks or for any other legitimate reason.
5. **CONTRACT PRICE**
   1. The Contract Price will be paid by the Agency to the Contractor, as amended by any variations ordered under Condition 10 (Variations).
   2. Subject to receipt of a valid VAT invoice addressed to the Agency, in addition to the Contract Price, the Agency will pay to the Contractor such VAT (if any) as may properly be chargeable at rates ruling at the time of invoice.
6. **INVOICING AND PAYMENT**
   1. Invoices shall only be submitted for work already satisfactorily completed, and accompanied by such information as the Contract Supervisor may reasonably require to verify the Contractor’s entitlement to payment. Such invoices will be paid within 30 days of receipt by the Agency.
   2. If any sum shall become payable under the Contract by the Contractor to the Agency, whether by deduction from the Contract Price, or otherwise, it will be deducted by the Contractor from the Contract Price and such deduction reflected in the next available invoice.
   3. If the Contractor enters into a sub-contract with a supplier for the purpose of performing its obligations under the Contract, it shall ensure that a provision is included in the sub-contract which requires payment to be made of all sums due from it to the sub-contractor within 30 days from the receipt of a valid invoice.
7. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**
   1. All Prior Rights used in connection with the Services shall remain the property of the party introducing them. Details of each party’s Prior Rights are set out in the Prior Rights Schedule to this contract.
   2. All Results shall be the property of the Agency.
   3. The Resulting Rights in any Results, and any interim results shall, from the time they arise, be the property of the Agency and the Agency shall be free, should it so wish, to apply at its own expense for patent or other protection in respect of the Results or any interim results. The Agency’s intention to apply for such patent or other protection shall be notified to the Contractor. Such applications for patents or other registered intellectual property rights shall be filed in the name of the Agency.
   4. Unless otherwise agreed in writing between the Contractor and the Agency, the Contractor hereby:
      1. assigns to the Agency all Resulting Rights
      2. grants the Agency a non-exclusive, non transferable (save for the purposes of sub-licensing, reorganisation or transfer to a successor body, for the purposes of all the successor body's normal business use), irrevocable, royalty free, perpetual licence to the Agency in respect of all the Contractor's Prior Rights necessary in order for the Agency to use or exploit the Resulting Rights.
   5. The Contractor undertakes to the Agency not to use, exploit or deal with any of the Agency's Prior Rights, other than in the performance of the Contract unless the Contractor has first obtained a written licence from the Agency, in specific terms to do so.
   6. The Agency undertakes to the Contractor not to use or exploit the Contractor's Prior Rights, save as provided in Condition 22.3.
   7. The Contractor warrants to the Agency that the performance of the Services, the Contractor’s Prior Rights and the Results shall not in any way infringe any Intellectual Property Rights of any third party.
   8. If the Contractor is prevented from carrying out his obligations under the Contract due to any infringement or alleged infringement of any Intellectual Property Rights, the Agency may without prejudice to any other rights and remedies under the Contract, exercise the powers and remedies available to it under Conditions 13 and 14, Termination and Determination respectively.
   9. The Contractor shall not be liable if such infringement arises from the use of any design, technique or method of working provided by or specified by the Agency.
   10. The Contractor waives in favour of the Agency its rights to object to derogatory treatment of the Results and the Contractor also agrees that it will not assert or seek to enforce against the Agency and/or any other person, firm or company any of its moral rights as defined in the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988 without the prior agreement of the Agency.
   11. The Contractor shall not be liable for any consequential losses, damage or injuries arising from third party misuse of the Results, of which the Contractor is not aware.
8. **WARRANTIES**

The Contractor warrants that the Services supplied by him will be discharged with reasonable skill, care and diligence.

1. **PUBLICATION OF RESULTS**
   1. Without prejudice to the generality of Condition 22, the Contractor shall not, without the prior written agreement of Contract Supervisor, use, disclose or permit any person or organisation to use or disclose the Results or Confidential Information for any thesis, degree, research or other educational purpose. Any such use or disclosure may only be made subject to such terms as the Agency shall require.
   2. The Contractor shall not publish any other information related to the Contract without agreeing the text to be published, and the publication or transmission service in or on which it is to appear with Contract Supervisor. Such agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.
   3. Any agreed publication shall contain an acknowledgement that the Services were carried out under contract to the Agency, and is published with the Agency's agreement.
   4. Any publication by the Contractor shall be entirely at the Contractor's own cost and the Contractor shall, within ten days of publication, supply the Agency free of charge with a reasonable number of copies of any publication.
2. **STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The Contractor shall at all times comply with (i) all relevant legislation and all applicable codes of practice and other similar codes or recommendations and (ii) the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (as amended) and any other acts, orders, regulations and codes of practice relating to health and safety, which may apply to employees and other persons working directly or indirectly in the provision of the Services.

1. **ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND DIVERSITY**
   1. The Contractor in the performance of this Contract should adopt a sound proactive environmental approach, designed to minimise harm to the environment, to conserve energy, water, wood, paper and other resources, reduce waste and phase out the use of single-use plastic, ozone depleting substances and minimise the release of greenhouse gases, volatile organic compounds and other substances damaging to health and/or the environment, and be able to provide proof of so doing to the Agency on demand.
   2. The Agency is committed to ensuring that workers employed within its supply chains are treated fairly, humanely and equitably. The Agency expects the Contractor to share this commitment and to understand any areas of risk associated with this and work to ensure they are meeting International Labour Standards. The Contractor ensures that it and its sub-contractors and its supply chain:
      1. comply with the provisions of the Modern Slavery Act 2015;
      2. pay staff fair wages (and pays its staff in the UK not less than the Foundation Living Wage Rate ); and
      3. implement fair shift arrangements, providing sufficient gaps between shifts, adequate rest breaks and reasonable shift length, and other best practices for staff welfare and performance.
   3. The Contractor should support the Agency to achieve its Public Sector Equality Duty by complying with the Agency's policies (as amended from time to time) on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). This includes ensuring that the Contractor (and their sub-contractors) in the delivery of its obligations under this Contract:
      1. eliminates discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
      2. advances equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; and
      3. fosters good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
2. **LAW**

This Contract shall be governed and construed in accordance with the Law, and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England.

1. **WAIVER**
   1. No delay, neglect or forbearance by the Agency in enforcing any provision of the Contract shall be deemed to be a waiver, or in any other way prejudice the rights of the Agency under the Contract.
   2. No waiver by the Agency shall be effective unless made in writing.
   3. No waiver by the Agency of a breach of Contract shall constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach of Contract.
2. **ENFORCEABILITY AND SURVIVORSHIP**
   1. If any part of the Contract is found by a court of competent jurisdiction or other competent authority to be invalid or legally unenforceable, then that part will be severed from the remainder of the Contract which will continue to be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.
   2. The following clauses shall survive termination of the Contract, howsoever caused: 8, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33.
3. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION**
   1. All disputes under or in connection with this Contract shall be referred first to negotiators nominated at a suitable and appropriate working level by the Agency and the Contractor.
   2. If the parties’ negotiators are unable to resolve the dispute within a period of forty five days from its being referred to them, the dispute shall be referred at the instance of either party to the parties respective senior managers or directors (supported as necessary by their advisors)
   3. If the parties respective senior managers or directors are unable to resolve the dispute within forty five days, the dispute shall be referred to the Centre for Dispute Resolution who shall appoint a mediator and the parties shall then submit to the mediators supervision of the resolution of the dispute.
   4. Recourse to this dispute resolution procedure shall be binding on the parties as to submission to the medium but not as to its outcome. Accordingly all negotiations connected with the dispute shall be conducted in strict confidence and without prejudice to the rights of the parties in any future legal proceedings. Except for any party’s right to seek interlocutory relief in the courts, no party may commence other legal proceedings under the jurisdiction of the courts, or any other form of arbitration until forty five days after the appointment of the mediator.
   5. If, with the assistance of the mediator, the parties reach a settlement, such settlement shall be put in writing and, once signed by a duly authorised representative of each of the parties, shall remain binding on the parties.
   6. The parties shall bear their own legal costs of this dispute resolution procedure, but the costs and expenses of mediation shall be borne by the parties equally.
   7. Any of the time limits in Condition 30 may be extended by mutual agreement between the parties. Such agreed extension shall not prejudice the right of either party to proceed to the next stage of resolution.
4. **GENERAL**
   1. Neither party to the Contract will be liable to the other for any delay in performing or failing to perform its obligations under the Contract because of any cause outside its reasonable control. Such delay or failure will not constitute a breach of the Contract and the time for performance of the affected obligation will be extended by a reasonable period.
   2. The Contract contains the whole agreement between the parties and supersedes all previous communications, representations and arrangements, written or oral. It is accepted that the Contract has not been entered into on the basis of any representations that are not expressly contained in the Contract.
5. **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**
   1. The Agency is committed to open government and to meeting its responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (as amended) (‘Act’) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (as amended) (Regulations’).
   2. The Contractor agrees that:
      1. All information submitted to the Agency may need to be disclosed by the Agency in response to a request under the Act or the Regulations; and
      2. The Agency may include information submitted (in whole or in part) in the publication scheme which it maintains under the Act or publish the Contract, including from time to time agreed changes to the Contract, to the public.
   3. If the Contractor considers that any of the information included in its tender, or that it has submitted to the Agency or that is otherwise contained in the Contract, is commercially sensitive, it shall identify and explain (in broad terms) what harm may result from disclosure if a request is received, and the time period applicable to that sensitivity. The Contractor acknowledges that if it has indicated that information is commercially sensitive, such information may still be required to be disclosed by the Agency under the Act or the Regulations. The receipt of any material stated to be or marked ‘confidential’ or equivalent by the Agency shall not be deemed to infer that the Agency agrees any duty of confidentiality by virtue of that marking.
6. **Data Protection**
   1. In the event that the Contract requires data to be processed within the meaning of the Data Protection Legislation the Data Protection Schedule shall be completed by the Parties and provisions and definitions therein shall apply and bind the Parties as part of this Contract.

# Appendix to Conditions Research and Development

Contract Ref: ENV6005704R task 1

Contract Title: Viability of developing a screening tool to assess non-standard bioaccumulation potential of chemical substances in aquatic and terrestrial wildlife

**Condition**

**1 Contract Supervisor 3**

Estelle Nma

Address:-

The Environment Agency

Trentside Offices

Scarrington Road

West Bridgford

Nottingham

NG2 5BR

1. **Contractor**

«Company\_Name»

Address:

«SUPPLIER\_ADDRESS»

«TOWN\_CITY»

«COUNTY»

«ZIP»

**3 Completion**  **6**

Contract Start Date As per contract award

Contract End Date 24 February 2023

**4 Delivery** **11**

Address:-

[*Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk*](mailto:Estelle.nma@environment-agency.gov.uk)

**5 Insurance 17**

Professional Indemnity Min. Cover £*x* million

Third Party Minimum Cover £*x* million

Public Liability Min. Cover £*x* million

**6 Limit on Liability** **16**

Limit on Contractors Liability £*x* million

**ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

I/We accept in full the terms and conditions named in Section 2 and appended to this Request for Quote document.

Company \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_