**BEIS INVITATION TO TENDER: 1455/04/2018**

**Reporting UK Non-Nuclear Radioactive Discharges as Required Under the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (the OSPAR Convention)**

Questions from potential suppliers and answers

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| **Question 1**: Where does jurisdiction lie on obtaining the data (*meaning how and who suppliers can contact to obtain the data, is any authority/clearance/licence needed to obtain the data and what format the data will be provided in)?* |
| **Answer 1**: Suppliers will gather this data from the following central points:   * + - Environment Agency (for England)     - Natural Resources Wales (for Wales)     - Northern Ireland Environment Agency (for Northern Ireland)     - Scottish Environment Protection Agency (for Scotland)     - Information will also be provided from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for oil and gas industry   More information about obtaining the data is provided in Table 1 below. |

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| **Question 2**: Is there a formal Bid Template that BEIS would like suppliers to comply with? |
| **Answer 2**: BEIS do not ask suppliers to submit formal bids in a particular template. Suppliers should consider advice and guidance set out in the Invitation To Tender document, to ensure BEIS requirements and preferences are addressed. |

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| **Question 3**: Roughly how many facilities will be providing data? |
| **Answer 3**: Suppliers will gather data from the annual returns of authorised non-nuclear premises to the environment agencies within the UK (approximately 1200 premises). However suppliers will gather this data from the following central points:   * + - Environment Agency (for England)     - Natural Resources Wales (for Wales)     - Northern Ireland Environment Agency (for Northern Ireland)     - Scottish Environment Protection Agency (for Scotland)     - Information will also be provided from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for oil and gas industry |

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| **Question 4**: What values/units will the data be expressed in? |
| **Answer 4**: Data is commonly provided in the values MBq (megabecquerel), GBq (gigabecquerel) and TBq (terabecquerel). |

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| **Question 5**: Is there an historic facility data sheet we can see (*meaning a non-nuclear premise’s annual discharge return submitted to an environment agency*)? |
| **Answer 5**: Suppliers may view Pollution Inventory guidance and template reporting forms at the following link to the Environment Agency (England).  <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/pollution-inventory-reporting#pollution-inventory:-guidance-notes>    BEIS encourage suppliers to review OSPAR’s published ‘*Annual Report on Discharges of Radioactive Substances from the Non-Nuclear Sector*’ using the publications search function on the OSPAR website (link below). Data, information and process in these OSPAR consolidated reports are lifted from the report that earlier suppliers have provided for BEIS.  <https://www.ospar.org/work-areas/rsc> |

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| **Question 6**: In determining the discharge transit route to the OSPAR regions is marine modelling required by the contractor? |
| **Answer 6**: it will be necessary for the supplier to follow the OSPAR guidance on reporting procedures for non-nuclear discharges. Links to OSPAR guidance and the reporting template are provided in the Invitation To Tender. BEIS would welcome suppliers ideas for achieving an effective approach (which maybe a technology based solution, or maybe alternative practical or innovative approaches).  Suppliers may also review OSPAR’s published ‘*Annual Report on Discharges of Radioactive Substances from the Non-Nuclear Sector*’ using the publications search function on the OSPAR website (link below). Data, information and process in these OSPAR consolidated reports are lifted from the reports that earlier suppliers have provided for BEIS.  <https://www.ospar.org/work-areas/rsc> |

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| **Question 7**: Is there an historic final report we can see? |
| **Answer 7**: BEIS encourage suppliers to review OSPAR’s published ‘*Annual Report on Discharges of Radioactive Substances from the Non-Nuclear Sector*’ using the publications search function on the OSPAR website (link below). Data, information and process in these OSPAR consolidated reports are lifted from the reports that earlier suppliers have provided for BEIS.  <https://www.ospar.org/work-areas/rsc> |

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| **Question 8**: To identify the approximate amount of data that will need to be analysed and reported to ensure that our commercial offering is accurate please can BEIS provide either an example report from previous years or the following:  a.      Approximate number of UK non-nuclear radioactive sources  b.      Approximate number of monitoring events per source (*means the number of non-nuclear discharges in a reporting year from a single premise*)  c.      Approximate number of radioactive elements per reporting event. In accordance with OSAPAR guidance document this is 16 elements *(means the radionuclides listed in the OSPAR guidance*)? |
| **Answer 8**: We are unable to provide an example report.  Suppliers should note that discharges of radioactive substances from the UK non-nuclear sector are subject to change from one year to the next – reflecting perhaps changes in UK activities and business. In accordance with the bullets above:   1. Suppliers will gather data from the annual returns of authorised non-nuclear premises to the environment agencies within the UK (approximately 1200 premises). However suppliers will gather this data from the following central points:    * + Environment Agency (for England)      + Natural Resources Wales (for Wales)      + Northern Ireland Environment Agency (for Northern Ireland)      + Scottish Environment Protection Agency (for Scotland)      + Information will also be provided from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for oil and gas industry 2. OSPAR does not require information about the number of ‘monitoring events per source’. OSPAR requires the annual quantity of discharge released and this information is provided upon request of the data from the environment agencies within the UK. 3. OSPAR’s non-nuclear reporting covers the following radionuclides. Accounting for duplications there are less than 16:    * + the oil & gas sector, the medical sector (I-131);      + universities and research centres (H-3, C-14, P-32, S-35, Cr-51, I-125);      + the phosphate industry (Pb-210, Po-210, Ra-226);      + titanium dioxide pigment manufactures (Pb-210, Po-210, Ra-226, Ra-228);      + primary steel manufacture (Pb-210, Po-210);      + radiochemical production (H-3, C-14, S-35, Cr-51, I-125, Pb-210, Po 210) |

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| **Question 9**: Confirm that the contract/ project management plan is to be developed and submitted as part of the contractor proposal? |
| **Answer 9**: Suppliers will need to provide a proposed Contract/Project management plan (against which progress and expectations can be monitored) as part of their bid response.  Once the supplier is appointed the proposed management plan will be refined and agreed at the initial meeting with input from the BEIS project manager. |

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| **Question 10**: Confirm the budget allocated of £31,000 is per year of contract or covers the entire 3 year contract offered? |
| **Answer 10**: The allocated budget of £31,000 (exc VAT) is for the entire period of the proposed contract and is not for each year of the contract.  The proposed contract is for 3+1 years commencing this year (2018), and ending in October 2021. The successful supplier will be responsible for providing the non-nuclear radioactive discharges report for OSPAR for four separate years.  However, because of Government budgets and spending review periods we cannot currently guarantee funding will be available for years 3 and 4. We are looking for bids to price for the 3+1 years under the knowledge that the project may only run for 2 years. |

Table 1

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| Sectors | England | Wales | Scotland | N Ireland |
| -Phosphate  -Titanium  -Steel  -Rare earth  -Medical  -Universities and research  -Radiochemical production | The Pollution Inventory for England, maintained by the Environment Agency (EA)  *Licence not needed.*  *Data requested via published contact information on website.*  *Data provided in excel format.* | The Pollution Inventory for Wales, maintained by Natural Resources Wales (NRW), the environmental regulator for Wales  *‘Sign off’ licence is needed.*  *Data requested via published contact information on website.*  *Data provided in excel format.* | The Scottish statutory returns, as captured in the Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI), maintained by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)  *Licence not needed.*  *Data requested via published contact information on website.*  *Data provided in excel format.* | Northern Ireland statutory returns, as collated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)  *Licence not needed.*  *Data requested via published contact information on website.*  *Data provided in PDF format.* |
| -Oil and gas extraction (same EEMS for E, W and NI) | The Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS), managed by BEIS  *Licence not needed.*  *Data provided on request to BEIS.*  *Data provided in excel format.* | The Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS), managed by BEIS  *Licence not needed.*  *Data provided on request to BEIS.*  *Data provided in excel format.* | The SPRI that includes statutory returns to SEPA on the discharge of scale from onshore de-scaling operators  *Licence not needed.*  *Data requested via published contact information on website.*  *Data provided in excel format.* | The Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS), managed by BEIS  *Licence not needed.*  *Data provided on request to BEIS.*  *Data provided in excel format.* |