

QUERIES AND RESPONSES

QUERY 1

In your invitation to bid WP 11392 on the Mbokazi dam and hydropower scheme, you refer to the following web address for background documentation:

<http://www6.dwa.gov.za/mzimvubu/>

HOWEVER, if I try to open that website I do get the message "FORBIDDEN, You don't have permission to access this resource."

Can you please assist me in this respect and indicate how I can access the documents?

From William Jonker Klunne

(Small Hydropower expert)

RESPONSE 1

Mzimvubu Water Project reports may be accessed using the following link:

1. www.dws.gov.za;
2. Click 'Projects & Programmes' tab at the top bar;
3. Select 'Integrated Water Resource Planning';
4. Click 'Projects & Programmes' tab at the top bar;
5. Select 'Mzimvubu Water Project';
6. Use drop down menu to open 'Feasibility Study' reports;
7. Use drop down menu to open 'Environmental Impact Assessment' reports;
8. Select 'Locality Plan' for locality details; and
9. Select 'Water Use Licence Application'.

QUERY 2

Can a sub-consultant be part of more than one submission for the same project and can a key specialist be part of more than one submission for the same project?

From Michel; de Rauville (GIBB)

RESPONSE 2

Please note that there is no restrictions with a sub-consultant being part of more than one submission for the same project and can a key specialist being part of more than one submission for the same project.

QUERY 3

What is the link for the Water Resource Classification reports?

RESPONSE 3

The link for the Water Resource Classification reports is:

<https://www.dws.gov.za/RDM/WRCS/default.aspx>

QUERY 4

Nr	Relevance	Clarification Question
1	WP11392	Can you please advise whether there is a page limit on the methodology of the Technical Proposal, and also the requirements in terms of text size and spacing.

2	WP11392	<p>Page limit of individual CVs</p> <p>Terms of Reference, Section 5.3 states that each CV must not be longer than one page, whilst Annexure A, Item C.4 states <i>One to two A4 pages per CV</i>.</p> <p>Please provide clarification on this discrepancy. Can we please request that a two page limit be set, as one page are simply not sufficient for a CV.</p>
3	WP11392	<p>Scope of Services section 3.3 requires review of the reports of the EAP. These reports may be issued after the conclusion of the project in November 2024 whereas the EIA is programmed to continue until November 2025. Must the cost of this, post-completion, technical support to the EIA process be costed in the proposal?</p>
4	WP11392	<p>The Scope of Services calls for the review and update of the Ecological Reserve. Please confirm at what sites/locations this reserve is required. The document only refers to the Lower Mzimvubu River. However, considering the scale of the project, numerous other sites may be required in order to implement the various smaller sub-schemes.</p>
5	WP11392	<p>Confirm that a Reserve determination needs to be carried out for the Mzimvubu Estuary. This may be more critical to the operation of the scheme than the river reserve.</p>
6	WP11392	<p>Scope of Services section 3.8 refers to a Google map of the envisioned bulk potable water supply area. Please could this be provided.</p>
7	WP11392	<p>The seismic resistivity survey is unclear whether the service provider for this task (i.e. the geotechnical contractor) must be included in the financial proposal, or if it is only for the professional time to conduct this task</p>
8	WP11392	<p>Links to various previous study reports are provided, however, these links direct to the inactive DWA website. Can correct links be provided, or alternatively the reports be made available otherwise?</p>

From Johan van Zyl (ZUTARI)

RESPONSE 4

Responses to your queries are given below:

1. The methodology section must not be longer than 30 pages, as a guide; but it should preferably be shorter. Proposals will be opened on the day of evaluation and the committee may not be able to evaluate your proposal properly if it is too long due to time constraints. The text for the proposal should preferably be Arial font 11 and 1.5 spacing.
2. A limit of 2 pages for CVs will be acceptable.
3. Technical support for the EIA process should only be priced up to the end of the feasibility contract. Provision will be made in the EIA contract for technical support beyond the feasibility contract.
4. The locations of the EWR sites should be informed by a review of the existing Ecological Reserve reports and professional judgement of the service provider in consultation with the Directorate: Reserve Determination. For the purpose of pricing, bidders should be guided by the latest Ecological Reserve report.
5. A Reserve determination is required for the Mzimvubu Estuary.
6. A Google map of the project area is something that the bidder is expected to generate for the purpose of tendering, as this is considered a cheap tool.
7. The seismic resistivity survey together with other geotechnical investigations must only be priced for professional services offered. Contractors are paid from the Provisional Sum for geotechnical investigations.
8. Links for previous study reports are provided in Response 1 and 3 above.

QUERY 5

The ToR calls for a comprehensive Reserve for the lower reaches of the Mzimvubu River and Estuary below the proposed dam. However an intermediate level Reserve was undertaken for the river and estuary as part of the classification study in 2017. The cost of a comprehensive study is high and won't add that much extra confidence to the existing results.

So question is:

Can we propose a lower level Reserve study to update the existing results with the revised hydrology and focus on the ecological consequences for the river and estuary with changes to the flow patterns due to the operation of the dam or should we budget for a comprehensive?

From Michel de Rauville (GIBB)

RESPONSE 5

The TOR requires bidders to price for a Comprehensive Reserve determination based on previous work done on the system by the Department. You will be required to review previous reports and update the existing intermediate Reserve up to the comprehensive level. You will not be required to start from scratch but rather to make use of existing information in consultation with the Directorate: Reserve Determination.

QUERY 6

We are not certain on the extent of professional services to be allowed for in our submission with respect to the Materials and Geotechnical Investigation. The following is written in the Tender document which we believe may be interpreted inaccurately by various consultants:

3.13.6... “In the Financial Proposal, bidders shall only price for the professional time of the team members who are responsible for the procurement of a reputable Specialist Geotechnical Sub-contractor, the supervision of the geotechnical investigations and reporting of the findings.”

3.13.3 ...“The bidders shall only price in the Financial Proposal for professional time of the professional team members who are responsible for the procurement of a reputable Geotechnical Sub-contractor, the supervision of the materials investigations and reporting of the findings.”

5.2.2 Specialist Sub-contractors and Sub-consultants

b) **Materials Investigations** for dam type selection for both the pre-feasibility and feasibility investigations (refer to **3.13.3** above). **The bidder MUST NOT PROVIDE** for the cost of this appointment in the Financial Proposal, it is covered by the Provisional Sum;

c) **Geotechnical Investigations** for both the pre-feasibility and feasibility investigations (refer to **3.13.6** above). **The bidder MUST NOT PROVIDE** for the cost of this appointment in the Financial Proposal, it is covered by the Provisional Sum;

We assume that the consultant **must** allow for ALL professional time relating to the Geotechnical and Materials Investigation. This would include the following:

- All professional time relating to initial and desktop studies for the Geotechnical and Materials Investigation
- All professional time relating to the Procurement of Specialist Geotechnical Sub-contractor
- All professional time relating to the Supervision of the Geotechnical subcontractor including supervision of the of the Geotechnical subcontractor and soil profiling and core logging
- All professional time relating to the sampling and laboratory management
- All professional time relating factual and interpretive reporting and professional engineering interaction and solution analysis

Please could you clarify the requirement in terms of what the bidder must allow for in our tender proposal.

From Michel de Rauville (GIBB)

RESPONSE 6

The Provisional Sum caters for the investigations on site and in the laboratory by specialist sub-contractors such as drillers, seismic survey specialists, laboratories, etc. but it does not cover professional fees of the Professional Service Provider (PSP). Professional fees of the PSP must be priced in the Financial Proposal.

With regard to geotechnical investigations, bidders must price for all professional fees including the following:

1. All professional time relating to initial and desktop studies for the Geotechnical and Materials Investigation;
2. All professional time relating to the Procurement of Specialist Geotechnical Sub-contractors;
3. All professional time relating to the Supervision of the Geotechnical subcontractors including soil profiling and core logging;
4. All professional time relating to the sampling and laboratory management; and
5. All professional time relating to factual and interpretive reporting and professional engineering interaction and solution analysis.

Bidders are, however, not required to price for management fees to manage the contracts of geotechnical subcontractors, topographical survey contractors, etc.; this is paid from an Administrative Fee of 10% included in the Provisional Sums.

QUERY 7

Please see below list of queries regarding the above tender:

1. Please elaborate on the meaning of the following sentence on pg 42 of the ToR: "For instance, the pre-feasibility study may be combined with Phase 1 and not Phase 2 programme of the Study." Does "Phase 1" in this context refer to the Phase 1 development of the Mzimvubu Water Project (being Ntabelanga and Lalini Dams), or does "Phase 1" in this context refer to Pre-feasibility Investigations to be undertaken in advance of Detailed Feasibility Investigations, which is described as the 2-phase approach on pgs 2-3 of the ToR?

2. Is social screening required to be undertaken as part of ToR Item 3.3 [Environmental screening]? If so, please define the scope of such social screening that would be required?
3. What values of Provisional Sums are to be included for, for Geotech Investigations, Topo Survey, Technical Support to Phase 1, etc.
4. Please provide a copy of the economic and institutional viability requirements of National Treasury with respect to the 'Lalini Dam and Hydropower Scheme', such that the scope of the bridging study can be understood.

From Pierre Venter (SMEC South Africa)

RESPONSES 7

1. Phase 1 in the context of section 13.3, page 42 of the terms of reference, refers to phase 1 of the Feasibility Study for the Mbokazi Dam and Hydropower Scheme;
2. Environmental Screening is limited to assessment of potential impacts on the physical environment of the proposed infrastructure components, and does not include social screening. Social impact analysis will be undertaken as part of the EIA process conducted through a separate contract;
3. The following Provisional Sums will be added to the contract price of the appointed bidder:

a. Reserve determination provisional sum (for additional scope that may be specified later by the Department)	R500 000 (Incl. VAT);
b. Materials investigations provisional sum	R2 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
c. Geotechnical investigations provisional sum	R4 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
d. Topographical surveys provisional sum	R2 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
e. Soil testing provisional sum	R1 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
f. Technical support provisional sum (for implementation of the Ntabelanga Dam and associated infrastructure) and	R1 000 000 (Incl. VAT);
g. Social facilitation provisional sum	R500 000 (Incl. VAT).
4. The requirements of National Treasury regarding economic and institutional viability will be clarified through consultation with them. The appointed professional service provider will be required to consult with National Treasury to ensure the bridging study addresses the shortfalls identified by National Treasury. In short, this clause of the terms of reference is about the need for consultation with National Treasury.

QUERY 8

Please see below further tender queries relating to the above mentioned Request for Bid.

We note that we have as yet not received any answers to our previous queries, and have noted that the tender website does not contain any Questions and Answers for this tender.

Submission deadline

- We wish to reiterate our request for an extension of the submission deadline. The team required for such a proposal is extensive, requiring considerable time to engage and ensure full alignment. In order to ensure a quality submission, it is respectfully requested that the deadline be extended by two weeks.

Task 3.2: Bridging study for Lalini Dam and Hydropower Scheme

- It is noted that, under Task 3.12, there is reference to “gaps and weaknesses as identified by National Treasury”. Further reference is made under Clause 2.1 to “recommendations of National Treasury”. Are details of these recommendations available to inform the level of effort and scope of this review of the Lalini Dam and Hydropower Scheme?

Specialist Sub-Consultants: Materials and Geotechnical

- There is some confusion with conflicting statements in the Terms of Reference on the extent of pricing required for these specialist subconsultants. Clause 3.13.6 requires the pricing of the professional time for a geotechnical team, and that the team includes such a specialist. However, Clause 5.2.2 indicates that the costs for specialist sub-contractors and sub-consultants “must not be provided”. Please can you provide some clarity around this?

Clause 3.5.3: Updating the Ecological Reserve

- In a similar light to the exclusion of field work pricing for the geotechnical and materials investigations, please can you confirm if the flow characteristic measurement work required over the two rainy seasons can be excluded from the pricing, and paid for under Provision Sums?

Section 5.3: Evaluation System: Table 5.2: Functionality Criteria

- Please provide clarity on exactly which CV’s are required for evaluation under the category of Team Capability? Although it indicates “Task leaders and specialists” these are not specifically called out in the document, leaving this open to interpretation.

From Andrew Officer (HATCH)

RESPONSES 8

Responses to your queries are given below:

1. CVs are required for all members of the study team providing a professional service;
2. The professional service provider is required to review the Lalini Dam and Hydropower Scheme reports and identify areas that need strengthening to inform optimisation of the hydropower scheme (where this is required), strengthening of institutional arrangements for the construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme including generation and sale of hydropower. The economic analyses must be reviewed as well, as part of the optimisation process. This work requires consultation with National Treasury to ensure any shortfalls they see in the scheme are addressed. There are no specific recommendations from National Treasury at this stage but the appointed service provider is expected to know the requirements for a viable hydropower scheme of this nature and scale, and use that knowledge to diagnose shortfalls of the scheme as currently configured and develop remedial measures;
3. Professional time for specialists appointed by the professional service provider (PSP) must be priced for in the Financial Proposal; however, the cost of hiring drillers for geotechnical and materials investigations, sub-contractors for topographical surveys, soil testing, etc. is paid from the provisional sums made available by the Department as given below. The geotechnical specialists (geotechnical engineers, etc.), surveyors, soil specialists and others appointed by the PSP to the study team must provide all the necessary professional support (in the office and on site) required by the subcontractors, and their professional time must be included in the Financial Proposal.

a. Reserve determination provisional sum (for additional scope that may be specified later by the Department)	R500 000 (Incl. VAT);
b. Materials investigations provisional sum	R2 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
c. Geotechnical investigations provisional sum	R4 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
d. Topographical surveys provisional sum	R2 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
e. Soil testing provisional sum	R1 500 000 (Incl. VAT);
f. Technical support provisional sum (for implementation of the Ntabelanga Dam and associated infrastructure) and	R1 000 000 (Incl. VAT);
g. Social facilitation provisional sum	R500 000 (Incl. VAT).
4. All Reserve Determination activities, including flow characteristic measurement, must be priced in the Financial Proposal; they are not paid from provisional sums. Only additional scope that may be specified by the Directorate: Reserve Determination will be paid from provisional sums.

QUERY 9

As discussed, if I can get a copy of the following report, it will be appreciated:

Republic of Transkei, Department of Works and Energy: Umzimvubu Basin Development Feasibility Study, undertaken by H. Olivier and Associates. Binnie and Partners, Kennedy and Donkin in Association with M.J. Mountain and Associates KDM, March 1987.

The reason, as explained, is that if, for example, a double curvature arch dam was seen as the most feasible, intricate finite element analyses will be required at the feasibility stage. This will require more resources and time than, for example, an embankment dam.

As pointed out, a full dam type selection will be made, but I would like to price as accurately as I can now.

From Henry-John (ARQ Dams)

RESPONSES 9

A copy of the Umzimvubu Basin Development Feasibility Study (1987) conducted by the Transkei Government will be emailed to bidders on request.

QUERY 10

Please find below a further set of queries regarding the above tender:

- ToR 2.3 states that there are an estimated 924 farm dams in the Mbokazi Dam catchment, and an estimated 210 identified water supply schemes (as of 2009). Please could the source of this information be advised, and whether the source document can be shared with Tenderers?
- Queries 1 and 2 from our email of 10 August below, and the 2nd bullet of our email of 13 August below, have not been responded to date. We respectfully request responses on these matters.
 - *Do independent experts have to be exclusive to a particular bid, or can they be included in the teams of multiple bidders?*
 - *Do sub-consultants have to be exclusive to a particular bid, or can they be included in the teams of multiple bidders?*
 - Should 'HDIs' be understood as per the definition of Black Individuals in the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, or some other definition?
- With respect to Q&A item no. 4 on the DWS website: We postulate that there will be around 70 persons in the study team providing a professional service of greater or lesser extent. To prepare 2pg CVs for every one of these staff members is a substantial task in itself, and will leave the evaluators with a huge amount of work to evaluate so many CVs for each Tenderer. We therefore humbly request that this requirement be amended to revert to the requirement in the ToR that only CVs of 'task leaders and specialists' be submitted.
- Given that the first set of clarifications are only now available on the DWS website, and there are only 5 working days left until tender submission date, we consider it necessary to extend the bid closing date to enable these clarifications to be properly addressed in our tender. Hence we wish to re-iterate our request for a two week extension to the submission date.

From Shaun Chamberlain (SMEC)

RESPONSES 10

1. The source of the information is DWAF Water Resource Study in Support of the ASGISA EC Mzimvubu Development Project (2009 – 2010) . The reference for this study appears in section 2.4.1 of the TOR. A copy of the 2009 study report is attached; the others are too large to send on DWS email server. All the reports of this study, however, can be accessed from the DWS website using the following link:
 - a. www.dws.gov.za;
 - b. On home page select 'Documents' from the 'Document Library' drop down menu;
 - c. Select the category 'Integrated Water Resource Planning – WMA Documents: Other';
 - d. Press 'Go';
 - e. Scroll down the page to WMA 12; and
 - f. Choose reports under 'DWAF Water Resource Study in Support of the ASGISA EC Mzimvubu Development Project'.
2. With respect to Queries 1 and 2 from your 10 August email, see the response below from Supply Chain Management on a similar query from another bidder:
 - a. "Please note that there are no restrictions for a sub-consultant being part of more than one submission for the same project and a key (i.e. independent) specialist being part of more than one submission for the same project";
3. For the definition of HDI please use the BBBEE Act definition until a different definition is communicated by the Department;
4. CVs are required for all members of the study team providing a professional service, excluding technical support and administrative personnel such as draftsmen, etc. 1 page CVs (and not 2 pages) are acceptable. For junior engineers and scientists it will suffice to provide brief CVs in tabular format containing all junior team members in one table;
5. Please be advised that your request for an extension of bid closing date cannot be granted and the current closing date remains. The supply chain process required for an extension is a lengthy process that would create unwanted complications.