



Date: 20/02/2025

### **Clarification No. (4)**

<b>Project:</b>	<b>Water Security and Resilience Program (SoP1)</b>
<b>Contract Title:</b>	<b>Construction of Water Transmission Pipelines between Salem and Al Jalameh and Main Booster Pump Station</b>
<b>RFB No.:</b>	<b>PWA/WSRP/W01/RFB</b>
<b>Invitation No.:</b>	<b>PWA/WB/2024/018-CTD</b>

Reference is made to the BDS, Section I – Instruction to Bidders (ITB), Clause 7.  
Clarification of Bidding Document.

#### **Questions and Responses:**

**Q.1 Is it possible to extend the submission deadline for the above-mentioned tender for 30 days after the current deadline (24-02-2025)?**

A. The revised deadline for the bid submission is March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, as per the issued amendment No. (3).

**Q.2 In particular specifications section 13530/2.1.6 acceptable products. Most of the proposed PLCs do not meet the minimum requirements of PLC mentioned in point #5 (Cycle time for 1 instruction, Binary Min. 0.002  $\mu$ s, Word Min. 0.004  $\mu$ s, Floating point Min. 0.006  $\mu$ s).**

As for requirement #6, these cycle times are extremely fast and for pumping application they will not provide any benefits especially that any signal that will start/stop the VFD will pass through the I/O card (which has its own switching time) and will reach the VFD start/stop relay which has a typical switching time of 10,000  $\mu$ s. Therefore we propose that we will provide PWA already installed PLCs which have the following cycle times:

- o Binary instruction: 0.06  $\mu$ s
- o Word instruction: 0.072  $\mu$ s
- o Floating point: 0.384  $\mu$ s

A. The bidder's Proposal is not accepted, the bidder shall follow and comply with Projects' Design Drawings and Specifications.

**Q.3 Regarding PLC specification section 13530, the redundancy is only specified on the power supply, however we strongly recommend to have redundancy also on the PLC CPU side, since it will not cost much to do it but it will make a big difference in terms of high availability of the system. Please confirm that the CPU shall be hot redundant type.**

A. The bidder's recommendation is not accepted, the bidder shall follow and comply with Projects' Design Drawings and Specifications.



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**Q.4 In electrical works, earthing works, the Exothermic welding uses materials which are not allowed to be entered to Palestine, can we use earthing clamps instead of the exothermic weld?**

A. The Bidder shall submit supporting documentation evidencing that the materials used in the Exothermic welding process are prohibited from being imported into Palestine. Upon verification of this, the Contractor may proceed with the use of Grounding Clamps.

**Q.5 Section 16420 Medium voltage switchgear requires to have the vacuum circuit breaker as draw out unit. Can we provide a fixed breaker as alternative?**

A. The Bidder's proposal is not accepted. No change to the project's requirements and specifications.

**Q.6 The contractor has the following questions regarding the qualification documents (eligibility and qualification criteria) under Section 3.1 (Financial Capabilities):**

**The bid requirements state:**

(i) The Bidder shall demonstrate that it has access to, or has available, liquid assets, unencumbered real assets, lines of credit, and other financial means (independent of any contractual advance payment) sufficient to meet the construction cash flow requirements estimated as USD 2,000,000 for the subject contract(s) net of the Bidder's other commitments.

**The question is:**

Would a formal letter from a bank confirming the availability of a company account balance exceeding USD 2,000,000 be considered acceptable and sufficient to satisfy this requirement?

A. A formal letter or statement from the Bank confirming the availability of a bank balance in bidder's account with more than 2 million US\$ will be acceptable subject to submitting Form FIN – 3.1 and FIN-3.2 with required supporting documents and attachments. However, the contractor must confirm using the bank balance of 2 million US\$ for the subject contract during the construction phase.

**Q.7 Regarding to Eligibility and Qualification Criteria, Item 4.2 (a): Number of Contracts less than or equal to two (2), each of minimum value US\$ 5 million, but with total value of all contracts equal or more than US\$ 10 million.**

**Please confirm that one project with a value exceeding \$10 millions is sufficient and meets the requirements of this item instead of two projects with a value of \$ 5 million or more.**

A. Confirm. One contract / project with a value exceeding US\$ 10 million is sufficient as per the criterion 4.2 (a).



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**Q.8 We have the below clarification regarding Construction of Water Transmission Pipelines between Salem and Al Jalameh and Main Booster Pump Station - PWA/WSRP-SoP 1/W01/RFB:**

As per amendment #02 dated on the 20 Jan 2025, 15063 Ductile Cast Iron Pipes, 1.4 Submittals in specific, it was noticed that the statement:

*“The following documents should be submitted at the tendering stage, any contractor who fails to submit any of these documents will be considered ineligible and will be disqualified”*

had been omitted and replaced with

*“The following documents and submittals should be submitted in accordance with the submittals section for Engineer approval including”.*

**Question:**

Does this mean it's not necessary to propose the technical data sheet and specification for pipes?

A. The Ductile Cast Iron Pipes specifications are included in the project's specifications (Section 15063, DUCTILE CAST IRON PIPES)

If yes; Does, this also applies for all other mechanical & electrical component?

A. The bidder shall review and follow the requirements stipulated in the RFBs.

Is it required or not to provide the technical specification at tendering stage?

A. All material submittals must be prepared and submitted to the Engineer for review and approval during the construction phase in accordance with the Submittals Section of the project documentation (with strict compliance with the project specifications and requirements).

Will they be evaluated at this stage and affects the technical score?

A. The evaluation of Technical Proposal and the required documents for the technical evaluation are outlined and detailed in the relevant sections and clauses of the Request for Bids (RFBs).

**Q.9 Ref to Section 16220, the specified motors are in accordance with IEC standard IEC 60034 which are not a high thrust motor. In the European and international standard, pumps are designed to handle the thrust load and IEC rated motors are not a high thrust and the motors are sold shaft while the pump design incorporate a thrust bearings between the drive and the hydraulic located in the motor Pedestal/stool. Please advise underling that hollow shaft motors are produced under NEMA standard?**

A. As per Section 16000 “General Electrical Requirements”, Clause 1.4 “Regulations, Codes and Standards” the electrical equipment shall be according to IEC or NEMA



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standards, and as per Section 11140 “Vertical Turbine Booster Pumps” The drive motor of the vertical turbine pump shall be of Vertical Hollow Shaft type.

**10. Clarification: Place of Arbitration (Clause 21.6(a)):**

In the event the contract is entered into with foreign contractors, the place of arbitration shall be determined as a neutral location. This location will be specified in the Contract Data, taking into account the nationality of the contractors, and in accordance with the provisions outlined in the Special Provisions, Part B.