

Question 2: (translated from French)

- Q1) Please confirm that the exploratory study report prepared by Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie will be made available only to the potential bidder requesting such study and that the exploratory study request, including the potential bidder's name and the wind farm project site, will be kept confidential.
- Q2) In the event that a exploratory study request concerns a manufacturer and a wind turbine model for which information has already been provided to HQD in relation to the 2000-MW call for tenders, please confirm that Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie can carry out the exploratory study even if the manufacturer is not yet registered and/or has not submitted the same information again.
- Q3)
- a. Please confirm that the expression "additional variant" in Section 1.10.2 really means a third project variant as stated in Section 3.12 of the call for tenders document and that, as a result, an exploratory study at a cost of \$5,000 will allow the potential bidder to obtain an idea of the feasibility of its project's connection with three wind turbine models (main project and two variants), which will allow the potential bidder to direct its discussions with potential manufacturers as well as to eventually offer HQD as many technological options as possible in the same bid.
 - b. If the answer to 3 a) is no and considering that:
 - i) without a minimum number of orders for the manufacturers in call for tenders A/O 2009-02, the barriers to entry for manufacturers who did not bid on the 2000-MW call for tenders are very high;
 - ii) HQ received, studied and simulated the wind turbine models of at least three manufacturers for the 2000-MW and 1000-MW calls for tenders;
 - iii) the exploratory studies for a given site and capacity must include a significant common portion for different wind turbine models;
 - iv) the manufacturers will not provide their prices and conditions in the last months before call for tenders A/O 2009-02 is closed.

Therefore, would HQ agree to have the exploratory studies for a main project and two variants for the same site and same installed capacity but with three wind turbine models and for which all of the technical information has been filed for the 2000-MW call for tenders carried out for \$5,000?

Answer 2, revised June 8, 2009 :

R1) Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie confirms that the exploratory study report will be made available only to the potential bidder requesting such a study and that the exploratory study request, including the potential bidder's name and wind farm project site, be kept confidential.

R2) Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie will carry out the exploratory study if the potential bidder proposes, in its exploratory study request:

- a. A wind turbine model described in Appendix 1 of the contracts signed with Hydro-Québec Distribution for calls for tenders A/O 2003-02 (1000 MW of wind energy) or A/O 2005-03 (2000 MW of wind energy).
- b. A wind turbine model for which the manufacturer has received a prior notice of qualification regarding the modeling of the electrical behaviour of each proposed wind energy technology (« *Avis préalable de qualification relatif à la modélisation du comportement électrique de chaque technologie éolienne proposée* ») in relation to call for tenders A/O 2005-03.

A letter from the wind turbine manufacturer confirming that the proposed model is identical to the model described in the aforementioned Appendix 1 or the one for which such a notice was issued must be submitted along with the exploratory study request.

R3)

- a. Section 3.9 of the call for tenders document states the differences a variant can pertain to in relation to the main offer. An offer that includes a wind turbine model that is different from the main offer constitutes a variant of the main offer.

However, in relation to an exploratory study, contrary to the submission of a bid, Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie considers that a project subjected to a review as mentioned in Section 1.10.2 of the call for tenders does not include a variant. Therefore, only one project can be submitted for each exploratory study request. The expression "per additional variant" in Section 1.10.2 does not mean a variant of the main offer as part of a bid as mentioned in Section 3.12.

Under the second paragraph of Section 1.10.1, "An exploratory study provides a parametric estimate of the costs related to a possible integration scenario for the project involved in the request." Section 1.2 of Appendix 6 lists the information which the bidder can expect with respect to the study report content.

- b. Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie cannot agree to what is requested in Question 3b).

As stated in Answer 3a), a project submitted for an exploratory study cannot include a variant. The type of wind turbine considered by the potential bidder could significantly affect transmission costs. For instance, the use of a certain type of wind turbine may require that major changes be made to the protection systems in several substations.

This is why the study report issued by Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie following an exploratory study includes, among other aspects, a technical notice on the dynamic behaviour required based on the connection area (see Appendix 6 of the call for tenders document). This technical notice will serve to direct the potential bidder's technical choices, but Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie cannot be held responsible for these choices.