Transnet Pipelines

SUBJECT	**NON-COMPULSORY CLARIFICATION MEETING**		
TITLE	RFP No: **TPL/2024/03/0004/59257/RFP** The Works: The Design, Supply and Installation of Concrete Block Valve Lids, External Locking Mechanism and 90-degrees Output Gearboxes (Vertical Drive) as part of the modification of the existing Gearboxes		
MEETING NO.	01		
VENUE	Microsoft TEAMS		
DATE	27 August 2025 at 10H00am		
ATTENDEES	**TPL Team** Hlekane Maringa (Chairperson) Nathi Ndlovu Errol Pilusa	**(HM)** **(NN)** **(EP)**	**Tenderers** As per the attendance register
APOLOGIES	None		
ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION	Publishing in the tender portals where the RFP was advertised		

MINUTE	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
1.	**Opening**
1.1	**HM** opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. He acknowledged all for making time for the meeting and for the interest shown in the tender. **HM** introduced himself and requested all TPL representatives to also introduce themselves.
1.2	**Background and Objective**
	HM gave high-level objectives, and the overview of the proposed services. He presented the agenda as follows: - Welcome & Introduction - Project Background - Tender Procedures - Scope of Works - Pricing instruction and Pricing Schedule - Technical Evaluation Criteria - Contracting Strategy - Closing
2.	**Tender Process and Tendering Procedure**
2.1	**HM** provided an overview of what tender documents comprises of and explained some of the critical sections to be carefully considered when developing tender submissions. He informed Tenderers of the following other aspects in relation with the tendering procedure that: ▪ Only those tenderers who submit all compulsory returnable and who submits a price offer are eligible to submit tenders. ▪ Transnet can only do business with entities who are TAX compliant and are registered on the NT

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	Central Supplier Database. ▪ Transnet is using an electronic tender submission system, the e-Tender Submission Portal, in line with the overall Transnet digitalization strategy where suppliers can view advertised tenders, register their information, log their intent to respond to bids and upload their bid proposals/responses on to the system. ▪ The bid closing date is on **14:00** on Wednesday, **10 September 2025.** ▪ For consideration **HM** advised Tenderers of the following: o Timing of submissions so that if there are any issues, there is time to escalate & resolve. o Nobody has access to the bids until after the bid has closed. o Tenderers are expected to make use of the folders provided in the system and may upload information in any of the folders at their digression as folders are labelled in order of information required. Evaluators are obliged to search through any folder when conducting evaluation at any stage. ▪ For specific queries relating to this RFP should be submitted onto the system and to [Hlekane.Maringa@transnet.net] 5 days before the closing date. In the interest of fairness and transparency, Transnet's response to such a query will be published on the e-tender portal and Transnet website
2.2	**HM** then gave on overview of the evaluation procedure and requirements as illustrated in the attached presentation.
3.	**Scope of Works**
3.1	**NN** gave the background and the context on Transnet Pipelines business relating to the project, high-level objectives as TPL aims to appoint a Contractor for the Design, Supply and Installation of Concrete Block Valve Lids, External Locking Mechanism and 90-degrees Output Gearboxes (Vertical Drive) as part of the modification of the existing Gearboxes. He described the main purpose of the project as is to improve security, safety, and accessibility of block valve chambers. **NN** presented on the Works Information detailing technical requirements and deliverables. In summary he indicated that the project scope involves the following but not limited to: • Design, supply and Install additional reinforced concrete slab and replace existing steel lids with reinforced concrete lids. • Introduce external locking mechanisms in all identified chambers • Modify the existing gearboxes with a 90° output drive & extended spindles **NN** highlighted that the solution rollout will be in phases, namely, Phase 1 A, Phase 1 B, Phase 2A and Phase 2B. NN summarised the phases as follows: 1. Phase 1A which includes 116 BV The Contractor is expected to design, fabricate, and install reinforced concrete slab that will fit in the middle of existing concrete lids. Modify the lids to accommodate external locking mechanism.

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	2. Phase 1B which includes 55 BV Where the contractor is expected to design, fabricate and install an external locking mechanism with a removable key 3. Phase 2A & 2B which includes 63 & 48 BV respectively The Contractor is expected to replace existing steel lids with a new reinforced concrete lid. Fabricate and install external locking mechanism with removable key to be designed based on the latest technology in the market. The Contractor is expected to modify the existing gearboxes with 90 degrees output gearboxes (vertical drive) including a handwheel with extended spindle and a universal T-piece key. The gearbox shall allow the valve to be operated externally without requiring personnel to enter the chamber in case of an emergency. **EP** explained in detail the concept of operations with regards the modified gearboxes. He explained with the aid of drawings and pictures the current situation and the expected outcome. **EP** explained how the gearboxes are currently being operated and how it is anticipated to be operated after the modification. **EP** further urged attendees to carefully consider the interfaces between the Civil works and the Mechanical works where in particular a 100mm hole is required in the centrepiece of the concrete lids for operating the Valves. **NN** took attendees through functional capability and contract performance requirements. He covered but no limited to, the slab requirements, locking mechanism requirements, the universal T-piece key operational requirements, safety requirements, lifting & installation requirements, certifications and all necessary approvals. **NN** highlighted that the entire solution installation for all phases is expected to be completed in 18 months. Refer to the attached presentation for more details. **NN** then presented the Activity Schedule and explained how the schedule is to be read and interpreted. **HM** added remarks with regards to the Activity Schedule and highlighted that the short descriptions in the Activity Schedule are for identification purposes only. He explained that all work described in the Works Information is deemed included in the activities.
4	**Technical Evaluation Criteria**
4.1	**HM** gave an overview on the technical evaluation criteria and highlighted the experience and knowledge expected from tenderers and their key resources. He indicated in summary that tenderers will be measured based of the following: ○ CIDB Contractor grading of 7CE or Higher ○ Eligibility with regards to professional registrations of the following key persons: ▪ Construction Manager ▪ Health & Safety Officer ▪ Mechanical Engineer ▪ Structural Engineer

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	○ Project Method Statement ○ ISO Certifications ○ Programme ○ Company Previous Experience in Civil Structural Engineering and in Mechanical Engineering ○ Block Valve Lid Locking System/ Mechanism Concept Design **HM** explained that the technical evaluation will be conducted in two folds, first Technical Evaluation Desktop and secondly Presentation and Demonstration.	
5	**Evaluation and Final Weighted Scoring**	
5.1	**HM** highlighted that the preference point systems applicable to this bid is the 80/20 or 90/10 point system and that the lowest acceptable bid will determine the preference point system. He indicated that in terms of Transnet Preferential Procurement Policy (TPPP) and Procurement Manuals, the following preference points will be awarded to a bidder who provides the relevant required evidence for claiming points. ○ B-BBEE Level of contributor (1 or 2) – Allocated 10 or 5 points ○ Local Content: Sectors for steel in construction (100%) – Allocated 5 or 2.5 points ○ Local Content: Designated sector Cement (100%) – Allocated 5 or 2.5 points	
6	**Contract and Agreements**	
6.1	**HM** explained that the form of contract to be employed for this contract is the NEC3 ECC with: Main Option A: Priced contract with activity schedule and Dispute resolution Option. W1: Dispute resolution procedure. He highlighted that the following Secondary Options were selected for the contract: X2: Changes in the law X7: Delay damages X13: Performance bond X16: Retention X18: Limitation of liability Z: Additional conditions of contract **HM** advised attendees that the tender meets the required CSDG goals and it will be a condition of contract that the Contractor shall, in the performance of the contract, achieve the Contract Skills Development Goal (CSDG) established in the CIDB Standard for Developing Skills through Infrastructure Contracts.	
7	**Questions asked**	**Answers provided**
7.1	The T-piece key lengths, are they going to be the same for all the chambers or will they be different	The T-piece key will be of the same size, one size fits all, however, the length of the extended spindle will vary depending on the depth of the chamber. The approximate length would be 1.5 meters but will depend on the depth of the chamber.

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7.2	The gearboxes, are they all the same model of gearbox, the gearboxes that we need to adapt onto.	The gearboxes are not all the same, but the positioning is, so will be the adaptiveness.
	Since the Tender requirements is for 7CE, what grade should one have to qualify as a JV.	Please note the following rules for the JV to qualify: - every member of the JV is registered with the CIDB - the lead partner has a grading lower than one level below of the required grading, i.e, 6 CE in this case - the combined grading calculated in accordance with CIDB regulations is equal or higher than the required grading - the JV must provide a certified copy of its signed JV agreement
	Would we need to procure those gearboxes, the one to one ratios gearboxes, or will they be free issued?	The scope covers the supply of the gearboxes; they are not free issued.
	Most of the drawings issued with the RFP have faded areas especially on the labelling part.	TPL team to arrange with the drawing office for better presented drawings
	In response to the ISO Certification requirements. I case of a JV is it expected of both JV members to each have both the ISO 9001 and ISO 45001 certification. Or what in a case both members have one each.	In a case of a JV tendering, the capabilities of all JV members are consolidated. A tender offer will be acceptable, i.e, in a case both members have each certification or where one member have two of the certifications and the other member does not.
7	**CLOSURE**	
7.1	**HM** requested all attendees to send in writing all queries and clarifications which may arise after the meeting during the tendering period.	

Compiled By

Strategic Sourcing Specialist

Hlekane Maringa