Eskom National Transmission Company South Africa ™	**Technical Evaluation**	**National Transmission Company South Africa**

Title **Establishment of the Panel of service providers for the provision of professional assurance services for NTCSA- Technical Evaluation**

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Content

Page

1. INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the technical evaluation methodology that will be applied in the process to establish the panel of external assurance providers that will perform non-statutory audit (NSA) work, including advisory services in respect of NTCSA SOC Limited. Furthermore, it provides the high level of evaluation process for when panel member is allocated work. The detailed functional criteria will be determined at that phase.

2. TECHNICAL EVALUATION

2.1 Evaluation during the Establishment Phase of the Panel

2.1.1 Mandatory Technical Criteria

2.1.1.1 Membership of Professional Bodies

- All members of the proposed team must be active members of the IIA or South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) at the time of tendering and for the entire duration of the contract:

- The IIA membership or SAICA certificates must be provided for all members listed in the tender documents. If an active membership certificate is not provided, the firm will be disqualified. The firm will not proceed to the next stage of evaluation.

- If a team member is processing their application at the time of tendering, this will not be considered. The firm will be disqualified. The firm will not proceed to the next stage of evaluation.

2.1.2 Noting for Consultants

2.1.2.1 Hourly rates in line with Circular 1/2026/27

Tenderers are informed that the rates of remuneration will be subject to negotiation, with the rates prescribed in Circular 1/2026/27, *Guideline on Fees for Audits Performed by Private Firms on Behalf of the Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA)*, serving as guidance during the negotiation process.

This is to ensure that *Consultants* understand that in participating in this process, the expectation in the second phase will be that:

- Each tenderer independently determines and submits its own competitive hourly rates. The rates specified in Circular 1/2026/27 will be used as a benchmark to assess market relatedness of prices and to inform negotiations but will not constitute a mandatory ceiling or a basis for disqualification.

- Where a proposed hourly rate exceeds the applicable guidance rate, NTCSA may negotiate the rate with the tenderer before finalising the relevant task order. Failure to agree on a market related rate may result in the task order not being awarded to that panel member.
- A copy of Circular 1/2026/27 - Guideline On Fees For Audits Performed By Private Firms On Behalf Of The Auditor-General Of South Africa (AGSA) can be obtained from Auditor general website.

Note: AGSA issues its fee schedule annually. Accordingly, the AGSA fee guidelines applicable at the time each panel task order is issued will apply throughout the term of the panel contract.

2.1.2.2 Compliance with National Treasury Cost Containment Instruction Notes

NTCSA is required to abide to the Cost Containment Instruction Notes that are issued by National Treasury. The onus is on the supplier to obtain a copy of this document from National Treasury.

Tenderers are informed that the rates of remuneration will be subject to negotiation, with the rates contained in the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) *Guide on Hourly Fee Rates for Consultants* serving as guidance during the negotiation process.

This is to ensure that *Consultants* understand that in participating in this process, the expectation in the second phase will be that:

- Each tenderer independently determines and submits its own competitive hourly rates. The rates specified in the DPSA *Guide on Hourly Fee Rates for Consultants* will be used as a benchmark to assess market relatedness of prices and to inform negotiations but will not constitute a mandatory ceiling or a basis for disqualification.
- Where a proposed hourly rate exceeds the applicable guidance rate, NTCSA may negotiate the rate with the tenderer before finalising the relevant task order. Failure to agree on a market related rate may result in the task order not being awarded to that panel member, without affecting its continued membership of the panel.

Note: DPSA issues its fee schedule annually. Accordingly, the DPSA fee guidelines applicable at the time each panel task order is issued will apply throughout the term of the panel contract.

2.1.3 Technical Scorecard Evaluation Matrix

The tenderer must provide proof of documentation to the following requirements to substantiate what they have submitted as required. The tenderer must package the response according to the format below and where additional information is provided/ attached somewhere else; such information must be clearly referenced. Tenderers must obtain at least 70% or points on the technical evaluation to be considered for further evaluation on Price and B-BBEE. Tenderers that fail to achieve 70% or points shall be disqualified.

Table 1 below depicts the technical criteria which is applicable for this panel. The related weightings and maximum available points are also listed below.

Table 1: Technical Criteria

TECHNICAL CRITERIA	WEIGHTINGS	MAXIMUM POINTS THAT CAN BE SCORED
Quality management of audit	20	20
Proactive Assurance/internal audit experience	20	20
Qualifications and experience of the proposed team of resources	25	25
Audit methodology, execution plan and value add	30	30
Geographic reach	5	5
Total	100	100
Technical Evaluation threshold applicable in the first stage process - minimum threshold to be achieved in order to proceed to the next level of evaluation		**70%**

Note: The comprehensive technical evaluation matrix is attached as an Annexure A.

Based on the outcome of this procurement process stated above, those tenderers that meet the stipulated minimum threshold will be framed will be awarded with enabling agreements or panel member contracts. The objective is to have numerous firms available to provide assurance services for NTCSA to mitigate the risks.

Alternative tenders will not be accepted.

2.2 Evaluation of Request for Quotations (RFQs) to allocate work to Panel Members

The second stage is a secondary procurement process under which requests for Quotation will be issued to all eligible panel members.

Each RFQ issued to panel members shall be evaluated using the preference point system applicable to the estimated value of the task order. The 80/20 preference point system shall apply where the estimated value is R50 million or below, while the 90/10 preference point system shall apply where the estimated value exceeds R50 million.

RFQs shall be evaluated in the following stages:

Stage 1 – Functionality: Tenderers shall be evaluated against the functionality criteria and minimum threshold specified in the RFQ. Only tenderers that achieve the minimum threshold shall proceed to Stage 2.

Stage 2 – Price and Specific Goals: Qualifying tenderers shall be evaluated on price and the specific goals stipulated in the RFQ, using the applicable 80/20 or 90/10 preference point system.

3. REVISIONS

Date	**Rev**	**Remarks**
August 2026	1	New Document

4. DEVELOPMENT TEAM

The following people were involved in the development of this document:

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