	Request for Information (RFI) Template	Document Identifier	240-72663051	Rev	1	
		Effective Date	October 2022			
		Review Date	October 2027			
		EOI/RFI Number	MPKOM11197GX			

[Ensure that the RFI number is inserted in the header]

[In all instances where RFI is stated, please delete the option which is not applicable]

PART A REQUEST FOR AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)/ REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)			
Description of the works/goods/services	Eskom requires Solar PV frame members (supporting structures) that are environmentally safe, sustainable and low maintenance. These members must be able to carry raised Solar PV, providing the necessary support and safety that will be required for the establishment of Agrivoltaics plants for Eskom.		
Deadline for submission	31 July 2024	At (South African Standard Time)	10h00am
Tender Office address	The Tender Office Tender Box, Ground Floor No. 10 Smuts Avenue Witbank I Emalahleni Mpumalanga		

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (“Eskom”) invites you to submit an:

- Request for information (RFI)** to submit information for the works/goods/services as stated in the table. This RFI is a stand-alone information-gathering and market-testing exercise, intended only to inform and assist Eskom’s further deliberation and development of a strategy for the [Drafting note: insert name of project]. Eskom may request indicative prices if so stated in this RFI.


Eskom has delegated the responsibility for this **RFI** to the signatory of this document, whose details can be found below.

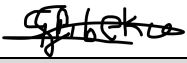
We look forward to receipt of your response.

Yours faithfully

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Name	Designation	Signature	Date
<i>Phindile Sibeko</i>	<i>Procurement Practitioner</i>		28 June 2024
Telephone number	013 295 9197	Fax and/or e-mail address	Sibekoph@eskom.co.za

*[Ensure that the EOI / RFI number is inserted in the header]
[In all instances where EOI/RFI is stated, please delete the option which is not applicable]*

PART B RESPONSE SHEET IN TERMS OF A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION To be completed by the supplier			
To	Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Date	[insert today's date]
Attention	[insert name of Procurement Practitioner as it appears in Part A]		
Tel no	[insert your tel number]	Fax no and /or e-mail address	[insert your fax number and/or e-mail address]
From	[insert the registered full legal name of the company]	Address	[insert the business address of the company]
Address	[insert the physical address of the company]		
Sender	[insert the full name of the sender at the company]		

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Description of the works/goods/services	<p>SOLAR STRUCTURES FOR AGRIVOLTAICS</p> <p>Eskom wants to embark on the development of medium and large scale Agrivoltaic plants. There is a need for Solar Panel frame members that are environmentally safe and low maintenance while still providing the necessary support and safety that will be required for the establishment of these Agrivoltaic plants. The following details the information that Eskom requires from the market in order to proceed with these projects.</p> <p>1. Physical Environment</p> <p>The solar panel frame members' function is to distribute and withstand mechanical forces in three dimensional space comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compression • Tension • Shear • Torsion • Fatigue • Buckling <p>Steel has the unique ability to provide similar resistance to all types of forces that it is subjected to. Therefore, as a benchmark, the material / product / system proposed by manufacturers and suppliers will be measured and graded against the material properties of EN10025 Grade S355JR steel. Alternative materials / products / systems will most likely not be as versatile, but they should strive for similar mechanical properties as steel.</p> <p>Provide test report/s for the above-mentioned mechanical properties.</p> <p>2. Design</p> <p>Frame member design is subject to the creativity of the manufacturer and supplier, including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laminar designs • Aggregated design • Composite designs
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to approach the properties of steel as closely as possible. Where the intrinsic material / product / system cannot compete with steel, an alternative physical design can be considered, for example:

- A different cross-section design
- A composite design with multiple pieces (eg. mini-lattice, layered beam)

FEM analyses are to be submitted to illustrate the functionality of frame design.


3. Material / Product / System Characteristics

Granted the proposed material / product / system will not have the characteristics of steel, consideration should be given to a solution satisfying as many as possible of the following:

- **Weight:** The material / product / system weight to be low enough for handling by able-bodied / manual labour resources.
- **Hardness:** The material / product / system is required to be physically damage-resistant.
- **Chemically inert:** Once fitted, the material / product / system must have an economical lifespan and be reasonably:
 - UV resistant.
 - Chemically resistant.
 - Water ingress resistant
 - Temperature-resistant (veld fires, extreme cold).
 - Suitable for additional coatings, as may be required.
 - Test reports to be submitted for the above
- **Conductivity:** Manufactures and suppliers to specify likely conductivity (Ω/m) or insulation (kV/mm) of material / product / system for earthing assessment – Test report required.
- **Handling / logistics:**
 - Size of the material / product / system supplied, in fixed lengths.
 - How the material / product / system is typically packaged, transported and stored.
- **Tolerances:** The material / product / system proposed should strive for
 - Absolute criteria where safety is concerned.
 - Minimum criteria where strength is concerned.
 - Maximum criteria where fitment and fastening are concerned.

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4. Governance

The substitute material / product / system needs to conform to a set standard (to be determined) for auditing and control during the lifecycle of its use. As such a review of applicable international standards and guidelines is required. Manufacturers and suppliers are expected to be knowledgeable in the latest cutting-edge technology of statute metal and steel alternative products. Said standards should specify to what standard(s), local or international:


- The material / product / system is manufactured (Epoxy type).
- The material / product / system is inspected and tested.
- The material / product / system must be fitted, where activities may include (but not limited to):
 - Drilling holes: Does cut surface require additional treatment?
 - Fastening Methods: Tightening bolts and prevention of damaging material / product / system during tightening / fastening to withstand vibration.
 - Bending members.
 - Recessing and resizing on site.
- Guarantees will be provided with regards to:
 - Retention of physical properties.
 - Expected life time after fitment (Aging test report).
 - Maintenance requirements. (eg. Regular inspection or on-site testing?)
 - Accreditation needs: Competence of crews working with the material / product / system.
- How the material / product / system is packaged, transported and stored.

Please find below our response to Eskom's questions:

No.	Question	Please indicate your response in this column
1.	[your contact name and contact details]	

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2.	[Company registration number]	
3.	[brief description of previous experience and Description of the solution that you can offer]	
4.	Indicative prices (optional and only for use of RFI's)	
5.	[Add applicable questions]	

[Ensure that the EOI / RFI number is inserted in the header]

[In all instances where EOI/RFI is stated, please delete the option which is not applicable]

Yours faithfully

Name	Designation	Signature	Date
[insert your full name/s]	[Insert your full designation]		
Telephone number		Fax and/or e-mail address	

Additional Notes

Queries and Questions

No questions, during the RFI period will be answered telephonically.

Questions must be submitted in writing, either via e-mail to:


Attention: Phindile Sibeko

E-mail: SibekoPH@eskom.co.za

Subject Line: Request for information for the **SOLAR STRUCTURES FOR AGRIVOLTAICS** at Komati Power Station.

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The closing time for clarification of questions and queries is 2 working days before the deadline of the submission.

All submissions responses must be clearly marked as follows:

Offer Confidential Enquiry Reference no: MPKOM11197GX

Closing date: 31 July 2024

Closing time: 10h00am South African Standard Time

Important Notes

Please note that this enquiry is not a Request for Quotation/Proposal but a Request for information only and therefore non-committal and does not constitute a guarantee of business, or an agreement to negotiate a binding agreement.

Eskom reserves the right not to proceed with any further engagements on the requirements presented.

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