

 Eskom	Tender Questions and Answers	Document Identifier	240-7124948	Rev	1
		Effective Date	01 April 2023		
		Review Date	April 2026		

To whom it may concern	Date	04 June 2025
	Enquiries	Yvonne Hadden
	E-mail address	HaddenY@eskom.co.za

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Enquiry Number	E1147DXKZN
Description / Project Title	Request for Proposal and Subsequent award of a contract for a <u>Turn-key project</u> for the Design, Supply and installation of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) at Eskom Westville Menston Road Office Complex, Westville Kwa-Zulu Natal
Tender Questions Closing Date	15 June 2025

Item	Questions	Answers	Clarity Published Dates
1.	Shading will impact the solar panel output. Efficiency of conversion drops. There are many tall and established trees in the immediate vicinity. Cutting of the trees is a sensitive matter and is not recommended. What is Eskom's position on shading and the impact of trees, and on shading impact from other structures? Can the professional engineers accept shading as a design input and adjust the layout for increased quantity of panels?	Since a detailed design is required as an outcome of the RFP, it's important that the tenderer carries out a shadow analysis. This will help identify any potential sources of shade, like nearby trees or buildings, and assess how they might affect the proposed layout of the solar panels. By doing this, they can fine-tune the panel angles to make the most of available sunlight and minimise shading. It also gives the tenderer's design engineer the insight needed to choose the	04 June 2025

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		<p>best locations and layout for the panels to avoid any unnecessary shade.</p> <p>Additionally, Eskom ERE already has a vegetation management contract in place, which can help with managing tree pruning to further reduce shading issues.</p>	
2.	<p>Please could Eskom provide us with the electrical power supply general arrangement layout showing incoming municipal supply, 250 kVA standby generator, and building distribution board loading. Specifications and rating are to accompany the electrical power supply General arrangement at Westville Menstone. If the General arrangement is not available, can our Project Engineer come onto site and prepare the GA layout with the necessary specifications and ratings. Please advise?</p>	<p>There are currently no electrical reticulation schematics available for the Customer Care Centre in Westville. To help ensure a practical and informed design proposal.</p> <p>The Eskom technical team recommends conducting a third site visit. This visit would include the building's electrical maintenance contractor, who can assist with technical queries and potentially open the distribution boards. This would give tenderers the opportunity to take photographs and better understand the existing incoming circuits, enabling them to propose how best to integrate the Solar PV supply into the current building power system</p> <p>DATE: Friday 06 June 2025 Time: 09:30 to 12:00pm 3 Menston Road Westville</p>	04 June 2025

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3.	<p>Request to Extend Closing Date</p> <p>REASON OF EXTENSION : Due to Complexity of Scope and Technical Requirements</p>	<p>The request to extend the closing date for Tender Ref: E1147DXKZN has been approved. The new submission deadline is now 20 June 2025, extended from the original date of 22 May 2025.</p>	
4.	<p>We would like to query the mandatory requirement of "Retic Master, DlgSILENT or similar power system simulation software."</p> <p>Our understanding of the scope of work is that we would have to design for integration with a low voltage (LV) system operating at 400V. Furthermore, we understand that the use of power systems simulation software such as Retic Master is that amongst other functions, it is required to analyze and model electrical networks operating at low voltage (LV) and high voltages (HV).</p> <p>Although we hold the view that power system simulation software for the system required at your Wesville building is not critical, we understand that Retic Master and DlgSILENT are software that are widely used within Eskom. The system can be designed successfully based on current fault levels using solar PV simulation software. Due to this view, we believe that "Retic Master, DlgSILENT or similar power system simulation software" should not be made a mandatory requirement at the first stage of the technical evaluation of the tender. Simply because it</p>	<p>We acknowledge that the system in question is at the low voltage (400V) level. Even at LV, it is good engineering practice to use simulation tools to validate design decisions, manage integration risks, and meet Eskom's internal review standards.</p> <p>We understand your concern around cost implications, particularly at the tender stage. However, access to simulation capabilities, either through proprietary tools like Retic Master or DlgSILENT, or through an equivalent open-source platform, remains a necessary requirement to ensure technical robustness.</p> <p>To address your concern and offer flexibility, we can confirm that open-source power system simulation software will be accepted, provided it can perform equivalent analyses. While DlgSILENT PowerFactory and ReticMaster were mentioned as examples, they are not mandatory. Tenderers are welcome to use alternative</p>	04 June 2025

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	<p>forces bidders to incur a cost without guarantee of award.</p> <p>We hold access to the PDE website for access to Eskom standards (not stated as a requirement), the balance of the software required and all the other technical requirements.</p> <p>Kindly consider our request, and/or advise of alternative open-source software that does similar work as DigSILENT or Retic Master.</p>	<p>tools, including open-source options such as OpenDSS (Open Distribution System Simulator), developed by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). However, the chosen software must be clearly indicated in the submission.</p>	
5.	<p>We require electrical single line diagrams from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Municipality to Block A 2. Municipality to Generator 3. Municipality to Block B 	<p>There are currently no electrical reticulation schematics available for the Customer Care Centre in Westville. To help ensure a practical and informed design proposal, the Eskom technical team recommends conducting a third site visit. This visit would include the building's electrical maintenance contractor, who can assist with technical queries and potentially open the distribution boards. This would give tenderers the opportunity to take photographs and better understand the existing incoming circuits, enabling them to propose how best to integrate the Solar PV supply into the current building power system.</p>	04 June 2025

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6.	<p>We hereby formally request an extension of the closing date for Tender Ref: E1147DXKZN to ensure the submission aligns with the project's technical and safety requirements. Below is a summary of the critical factors necessitating this extension:</p> <p>1. Architectural Drawings Pending: We are awaiting essential structural drawings from the City of Durban Municipality. These documents are crucial for conducting a thorough assessment to design a compliant and safe support structure for the solar panels.</p> <p>2. Electrical Drawings from Eskom: Eskom has yet to provide the electrical reticulation and isolation drawings required to finalize the grid integration design. Without these, we cannot accurately determine the scope of work for the solar system's connectivity.</p> <p>3. Site Inspection for Structural Integrity: A licensed engineer must inspect the parking area's floor structure to design a plinth capable of safely supporting the battery and inverter containers. This step is vital to ensure compliance with engineering standards.</p>	<p>1. Unfortunately, Eskom does not have the structural drawings for the Menston Customer Care Centre.</p> <p>2. There are currently no electrical reticulation schematics available for the Customer Care Centre in Westville. To help ensure a practical and informed design proposal, the Eskom technical team recommends conducting a third site visit. This visit would include the building's electrical maintenance contractor, who can assist with technical queries and potentially open the distribution boards. This would give tenderers the opportunity to take photographs and better understand the existing incoming circuits, enabling them to propose how best to integrate the Solar PV supply into the current building power system.</p> <p>3. The site inspection and related findings should be incorporated into the structural design report, which is required as a returnable in the tender submission. This report will validate the support design for the battery and inverter enclosures.</p>	04 June 2025
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	<p>4. Pilot Project Due Diligence: As this is a pilot initiative, we strongly recommend allowing adequate time to address all technical, structural, and regulatory aspects meticulously. Rushing this phase risks oversights that could impact long-term project viability.</p> <p>Given the above, we kindly propose a revised submission deadline to accommodate these prerequisites. We understand the importance of timelines and assure you of our commitment to delivering a comprehensive and compliant tender submission.</p>	<p>4. The request to extend the closing date for Tender Ref: E1147DXKZN has been approved. The new submission deadline is now 20 June 2025, extended from the original date of 22 May 2025.</p>	
7.	<p>Attached is the screenshot of the Submission pack. It states we have to submit as proof the attendance register we signed when attending the compulsory Site visits.</p> <p>That register is at your disposal, can you kindly send me the register where we marked our attendance in order for us to attach it to our submission.</p>	<p>The attendees List was uploaded on the Eskom Tender Bulletin on 29 April 2025. Kindly download the Attendees List and submit as the tender returnable.</p>	04 June 2025

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