

TNPA/2026/06/1342/7587/RFP - PROVISION OF THE MARINE LONG-TERM ECOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM FOR THE PORTS OF RICHARDS BAY, DURBAN, EAST LONDON, NGQURA, PORT ELIZABETH, MOSSEL BAY, CAPE TOWN AND SALDANHA FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS

1. Station schedule:

The number of stations shown in the pricing schedule (Annexure C - Pricing Schedule) for discrete water sample collection and in situ water quality monitoring is double the number of positions (stations) shown in the relevant maps in Annexure A - Scope of Service, Section 3.1.2).

- Please could you clarify if the number of positions shown in the maps is correct.

Answer to Q1: The number of stations shown in the pricing schedule are incorrect they are indeed double for each season and do not correspond with the number of stations allocated per port in the scope of services. This was a human error that is amended on the amended annex C:pricing schedule.

2. Saldanha Bay sediment quality surveys:

The RFP states that sediment quality surveys in Saldanha Bay should be performed on an ad hoc basis.

- Please could you clarify that respondents should provide a price for a sediment quality survey in this port for each of the five years, or is there a likely frequency for the ad hoc surveys for which a price should be provided? If the latter, please could you indicate the year/s in which the surveys/ are required/anticipated.

Answer to Q2: Yes, the latter is not applicable. The service provider will have to provide price quotation for once a year across 24 sampling points. The Port will make the call on when they require the analysis.

3. Sediment quality surveys:

- Please could you confirm that the standard approach of collecting three (3) replicate sediment grab samples for sediment physical and chemical analyses should be followed at each sediment station and that these samples should be composited for physical and chemical analysis in the laboratory. The number of replicates required is not stated in Section 3.2.3 Lab analysis standard guidelines.
- Please could you confirm that the standard approach of collecting three (3) replicate sediment grab samples for benthic macrofauna analysis should be followed at each sediment station and that these should be analysed as separate samples in the laboratory. The number of replicates required is not stated in Section 3.2.3 Lab analysis standard guidelines.

Answer to Q3: 3.2.3 Lab analysis standard guidelines:

- Yes, three (3) replicate sediment grab samples for sediment physical and chemical analyses should be followed at each sediment station and these samples should be composited for physical and chemical analysis in the laboratory as per standard scientific quality assurance practice. This will be added in the notes of the amended Annex C -

pricing schedule to be made available to bidders via publication platforms on 17 August 2026.

- Yes, collection of three (3) replicate sediment grab samples for benthic macrofauna analysis should be followed at each sediment station and these should be analysed as separate samples in the laboratory as per standard scientific quality assurance practice. This will be added in the notes of the amended annex c pricing schedule.

4. Ad hoc Chemical and Microbiological Laboratory Analysis (To support Pollution Investigation):

- Please could you clarify that the service provider is only required to provide sample containers and associated equipment for sample collection, storage, and transfer to a laboratory for analysis to TNPA, and is not required to do the physical (on site) water collection as this will be done by TNPA personnel.

Answer to Q4: Yes, the service provider is only required to provide sample containers and associated equipment for sample collection, storage, and transfer to a laboratory for analysis to TNPA, and is not required to do the physical (on site) water collection as this will be done by TNPA personnel.

5. Ad hoc Chemical and Microbiological Laboratory Analysis (To support Pollution Investigation):

The RFP (Section 3.4.3 Laboratory Analysis) states that “The analysis will be guided by the South African Water Quality Guidelines for Coastal Marine Waters: Natural Environment and Mariculture Use. But parameters to be analysed will be specified per request placed. Each bidder should quote for each parameter they analyse at the lab under their Chemical and Microbiological accredited analysis”.

- Different respondents might provide a very different suite of analytes. In this case, the price for the analyses will be very different depending on the suite of analytes considered, which will then disadvantage respondents who provide a more comprehensive list in the adjudication process. Please could TNPA stipulate the list of analytes, so that the prices provided by respondents are directly comparable in terms of the scope of analyses?

Answer to Q5: A summary table of analytes to be analysed as per the South African Water Quality Guidelines for Coastal Marine Waters: Natural Environment and Mariculture Use for ad hoc chemical and microbiological laboratory analysis has been added into the amended Annex C: Pricing Schedule to be made available to bidders via publication platforms on 17 August 2026.

6. Pricing Schedule on eSupplier Portal:

Repostpones are required to add prices for various components of the required monitoring in the eSupplier Portal Pricing Schedule, and to indicate the annual price increase as a percentage in the column headed 'Percentage'. However, respondents can only provide a single percentage increase, yet in Annexure C - Pricing Schedule, varying percentage increases across the 5 years are provided. Consequently, the prices shown in Annexure C - Pricing Schedule will not correspond to those in the eSupplier Portal Pricing Schedule.

- Please can you clarify how this anomaly should be resolved.

Answer to Q6: The system pricing schedule will be replaced with one that only allows for yearly totals. Annexure C will be updated to allow for a complete breakdown of analytes to be analysed as per the South African Water Quality Guidelines for Coastal Marine Waters: Natural Environment and Mariculture Use for ad hoc chemical and microbiological laboratory analysis. Our request is for bidders to not submit pricing before Monday, 17 August 2026. The amended pricing schedules (eSupplier electronic pricing and the Amended Annexure C) will be published on 17 August 2026.