



Government of Liberia
MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT LIBERIA

RESPONSES TO REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

**DESIGN-BUILD RAW WATER TRANSMISSION PIPELINE, FROM MT.
COFFEE HYDROPOWER PLANT TO WHITE PLAINS WATER
TREATMENT PLANT**

Ref. No. 4A1507/EP/009

Following the advertisement and issuance of the bidding document for the Procurement of **Design, Build Raw Water Transmission Pipeline from Mount Coffee Hydropower Plant to White Plains Water Treatment Plant**, a **Pre-Bid meeting was held on Thursday, August 16, 2018, 14:00 hrs. (Liberia time)**. Bidders were provided the opportunity to request clarifications related to the bidding document in writing. The deadline for receiving questions from the Bidders was on **Monday, August 20, 2018, 17:00 hrs. (Liberia time)**.

The requests for clarifications from participants of a Pre-Bid Meeting held on **August 16, 2018**, including those that were received after the Pre-Bid Meeting and responses are indicated below:

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

#	Bidders' Queries	MCA-Liberia's Response
1	Query (a), page 35) regarding the preliminary design. M on the point in the RFP (Form TECH-1 must 30% of the preliminary design be submitted as part of the tender submission? Must a new preliminary design be completed by the designer as part of the submission or should the "Preliminary Design Report" be further developed?	Yes, the bidder should submit preliminary design along with its bid for Price Schedule A – 900/1200 mm Dia. Transmission (Main Bid) only. Preliminary design shall be the bidder's own design based on the information provided to him (with the bid and subsequently as a part of clarification/amendment) and his site visit. Refer to Addendum.
2	Does the design engineer have to complete this form if sub-contracting to the Contractor? - Historical Contract Non-Performance. Bidding Form - p16 - 18	To meet the qualification criteria, it should be a JV or association wherein all the members should meet the qualification requirements prescribed in Section III, 2.0 Qualification Criteria. A sub-contractor shall not be accepted.
3	Does the design engineer have to complete this form if sub-contracting to the Contractor? - Financial Situation.	The bidder should meet all the qualification criteria related to design experience.

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	Bidding Form - p19 - 21	
4	Engineering design clarification - how do we do 30% engineering without any survey data that can be built on after award. Are we not inflating the cost of doing this project as we risk re-doing the engineering	MCA-L will provide available survey data and AutoCAD drawings through Addendum . Based on the information available and provided by MCA-L, the bidder should prepare his preliminary design proposal.
5	Relocation of communities can be risk to schedule, how is this mitigated? We are asked to price professional fees, however the funding required to relocate communities, timelines are not clear and apparent as this could be a fatal flaw. Our understanding after the clarification meeting is that we do not need to implement the RAP but only provide the service to provide the RAP. Please confirm this.	<p>The contractor is responsible for the development of the RAP per Section 8 of the bid document. The RAP development needs to be sequenced with the proposed work schedule. The bid document has an option for RAP implementation, see section 8.12. Per section 8.12:</p> <p><i>This is an unpriced option in the contract. The design build contractor will be requested to provide a proposal for the implementation based on rates under this contract and the level of effort identified in the approved RAP. The option will be exercised only on approval of the proposal and based on the performance of the consultant in developing the RAP. It is the best interest of the project that the resettlement is completed in a timely and cost-effective process.</i></p> <p>If exercised, the contractor will be responsible for the implementation and can sequence the work based on the completion of the compensation to PAPs.</p>
6	Can alternative material be considered for the pipeline, for example HDPE? - Confirmed during clarification meeting. No alternative materials should be considered.	No alternative materials will be considered.
7	Have any materials / geotechnical testing been carried out? The document includes 10 test pits but not from the centre line. How can we price rock / hard excavation if the areas of hard rock are not known?	Yes, geotechnical testing was performed. For Segment 1, refer to the Bid document, Appendix F – Mt. Coffee Structural and Stability Calculation Report. For Segment 2, refer to geotechnical investigation data and recommendations provided in the Bid document, Appendix E, Preliminary Design Report for the White Plains Pipeline Extension Project. The bidder shall be responsible for interpreting all available information of sub-surface conditions along the pipeline alignment.
8	Is fencing required along the full extent of the Right of Way Servitude? Will this not cut off access to the local community, specifically access to the river frontage.	Yes, LWSC has requested fencing along the full extent of the ROW. Easement agreements should be negotiated by the Contractor's team to give LWSC the right to maintain and retain access to the pipeline for construction, general maintenance and repair. Usage restrictions of the local community shall be developed during the design phase. During the design phase, the Contractor's Designer shall identify and recommend access points to the river for the local community.
9	In view of the tender clarification meeting, can you confirm whether section 8.12 of the ToR "RAP	Yes, section 8.12 is still applicable as an option based on the RAP developed by the contractor per Section 8.

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	Implementation – Compensations (Option)” is still applicable to the contractor’s scope of works? Or is the understanding correct that MCC will now arrange for RAP implementation (section 8.12) outside of the present contract?	If the option is exercised, the contractor will be responsible for implementing the RAP.
10	Can you confirm that the signing of Preliminary Agreements with Project-affected persons will form part of the RAP Implementation phase/scope (Section 8.12) and not part of the RAP Development (sections preceding 8.12).	Section 8.2 spells out the requirements for the RAP. This includes compensation agreements and budget for all PAPs.
11	Clause No. - 4.2, Scope of Work, page no 166/359, says work for Segment - 2 also covered under this contract. But BOQ given is only for Segment - 1. We could not find BOQ for Segment - 2. Where and on what basis the pricing for segment - 2 is to be done?	Please refer to Section V, Employer’s Requirements - Price Schedule A for main Bid and Price Schedule B for Alternative Bid, wherein Design and Construction for Segment 2 are mentioned for bidding.
12	As per Clause No.- 3.2.2, "All Design for Segment 2 shall be completed, permits from relevant agencies shall be obtained and RAP development and implementation shall be completed prior to the commencement of construction activities for Segment 2". If above activities are in bidder's scope, then, where bidder has to price for these activities?	Please refer to Section V, Employer’s Requirements - Price Schedule A for main Bid and Price Schedule B for Alternative Bid
13	Is it like that execution of Segment - 2 is covered through a separate tender?	No. It is part of this Bid
14	EMD of US\$ 300,000 is for both Segment - 1 and Segment - 2; or, it is only for Segment - 1?	Bid security is for the entire bid including Segment 1 and Segment 2.
15	Why Clause - 2.4.6, Specific Construction Experience asks for providing, laying, jointing, testing and commissioning of Ductile Iron Pipe line of 36 Inch (900 mm) diameter or more at a rate not less than Two (02) km per year, where as, BOQ asks for only 585 m long pipeline work under segment -1?	Price Schedules indicate both Segment 1 and 2, wherein the bidder has to quote for the length of 585m of DI pipeline under Segment 1 and 4200m of DI pipeline under segment 2. Refer Page 166, Clause 4.2. Scope of Work
16	What are all activities considered in Resettlement Action Plan? Please provide the details for the same.	Refer to Page 300, Clause 8.2.
17	We could not find the specifications for the Valves required for this project. Please provide the same.	Please refer to Page 177 and 178, Clause 4.9.2.2.5 and Appendix -E. The bidder shall design the pipeline along with the required associated valves, to enable the pipeline to operate per the design and loading requirements specified herein, and in conformance with International standards.

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18	<p>Bid Clause 2.4.6 – Specific Construction Criteria:</p> <p>"For the above or other contracts executed during the period stipulated in 2.4.2 above, a minimum experience in the following key activities:</p> <p>1. providing, laying, jointing, testing and Commissioning of Ductile Iron (DI) water supply pipelines of 36-inch (900 mm) diameter or more at a rate not less than two (2) kilometers per year under a single contract."</p> <p>Please clarify would experience in Steel Pipeline is acceptable? Since restricting to DI Pipe alone would Skew competition.</p>	Yes. Refer to Addendum.
19	<p>Bid Clause 2.4.6 – Specific Construction Criteria:</p> <p>What documentation is required to demonstrate Providing, Laying, Jointing, Testing & Commissioning at a rate of 2 kilometres per year?</p>	An experience certificate from the Employer concerned indicating quantities of pipeline executed and commissioned with value of work done in each year of the contract period.
20	<p>Bid Clause 2.4.6 – Specific Construction Criteria:</p> <p>We have a project completion in March, 2008. Would that qualify when tested with the "Last Ten Years Criterion"?</p>	Refer to Addendum.
21	<p>Is the pipeline route determined / fixed (and will all tenderers therefore use the same route)</p>	No, the pipeline route has not been determined/fixed and tenderers do not have to use the same route. All the bidders were shown the proposed pipeline alignment and original pipeline alignment. The requirements for construction of pipeline were also mentioned in the bid. It is up to the bidders to consider all the information and to decide the best possible alignment and design the pipeline.
22	<p>Is a topographical survey available to all tenderers (if not what should be utilised by all tenderers)</p>	MCA-L will provide the available details through Addendum.
23	<p>Is a geotechnical investigation of the pipeline route available?</p>	<p>Yes, refer to response to Query No. 7 above.</p> <p>The CH2M (Lot 2) investigations, down to the water table, are included in Appendix E materials.</p>
24	<p>Is soil resistivity tests for cathodic protection available?</p>	For corrosion protection recommendations, refer to Bid document, Appendix E, p.17, Final Report Preliminary Design Report for the White Plains Pipeline Extension Project (Part 2). Bidder to test and obtain as a part of design.

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25	Are all the wayleaves and construction permission available at the outset of construction	No. The successful bidder is required to obtain all the permissions required.
26	Must servitudes be registered as part of the scope of work?	Yes. Refer to response to Query No. 8 above.
27	<p>Alternative Bids are permitted and will be considered at the Employer's discretion, as follows: "Main Bid" - 900/1200 mm diameter ductile iron pipeline (DIP); "Alternative Bid" - 1200 mm diameter ductile iron pipeline (DIP).</p> <p>In addition to the Main Bid, the Bidder shall also submit an Alternative Bid for a 1200 mm diameter DIP for the entire length of the project, approximately 4.8 km, from the MCHPP intake to the White Plains WTP</p> <p>As per Bid data sheet, To submit alternative bid in addition to Main Bid with various type of materials as per design requirement, the qualification stipulated at 2.4.6, Specific Construction Experience ,i.e., 1. providing, laying, jointing, testing and commissioning of Ductile Iron (DI) water supply pipelines of 36- inch (900 mm) diameter or more at a rate not less than two (2) kilometer per year under a single contract).</p> <p>Materials should be assorted diameter up to 900mm of pipeline instead of specified DI pipes to bid most competitive bid in line with Design requirement and savings on cost</p>	<p>Since the diameter of pipeline required is 900mm, it is specified that the bidder should have experience in execution of 900mm dia., DI or Steel pipeline.</p> <p>Refer to Addendum.</p>
28	Please can you provide the CH2M drawings, under appendix E, in a DWG or DXF format.	Yes. MCA-L will provide the available details through Addendum.
29	<p>Please can you provide a full scope on the requirement of the Electrical Auxiliary System and Instrumentation. In addition:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What instrumentation is required and where will it be monitored? What electrical auxiliary systems are required and where should they be installed (lighting, small power etc)? Is a connection required into the Mount Coffee Powerplant Control System? 	<p>Question 29a: Bidder to propose as a part of design.</p> <p>Question 29b: Bidder to propose as a part of design.</p> <p>Question 29c: The design is required to function smoothly, despite any changes in the turbine control system.</p>

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30	Has the final position of the work corridor/right of way been determined? Fundamental changes to the route of the pipe following award of contract will lead to changes to design and possible additional costs.	No. The final right-of-way/work corridor has not been established and the locations shown on the drawings are conceptual. The Contractor is responsible for finalizing and obtaining the final ROW/work corridor.
31	Please provide all current information gathered with respect to the RAP required for the project.	All current RAP information was provided in the Bid document, see Appendix I, Resettlement Policy Framework for the White Plains Pipeline Extension Project (Part 2). In addition, RAP reports (including compensation information) for the Mt. Coffee Hydropower Plant and transmission lines is available on the LEC Project Implementation Unit website, http://mtcoffeeliberia.com/?page_id=77 Refer to Addendum.
32	Have measures been put in place to ensure that no further land within the works corridor can be used by local persons for building/crops and therefore increasing the requirement of the RAP following submission of the Tender.	During the pre-bid site visit, LWSC demonstrated that they are currently cutting the bush, clearing the area surrounding existing pipeline and issuing verbal notices to local persons of the upcoming work.
33	With regards to the Bid Security, will a surety bond be an acceptable form of security for the Employer?	No. Refer to ITB 20.2 of the Bid document.
34	Please can you provide full chemical analysis of the proposed raw water to establish requirements for internal pipe coatings.	Characteristics of the raw water quality is provided in the Mt. Coffee Hydropower Plant Environmental and Social Management Plan, prepared by Poyry, dated 2013. The ESMP is available for download on the LEC Project Implementation Unit website, http://mtcoffeeliberia.com/?page_id=77
35	Within the Mount Coffee site there are significant quantities of overhead lines along the initially proposed route. Who will be responsible for isolating and relocating these lines, if required.	The overhead lines along the proposed alignment cannot be relocated. Bidders may adjust the pipeline route appropriately to minimize interference with the overhead lines.
36	Are there restrictions on the route of the pipeline through the Mount Coffee site and, is there a preference on whether the pipe is buried or above ground throughout the Mount Coffee Site?	No. It is up to the bidder to propose the most economical and technically feasible alignment (above ground or buried) and one that minimizes disruption to the normal operations of the MCHPP, subject to requirements in the Bid Document that requires the

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		pipeline to be buried for certain areas. Refer to subpart 4.4.3 of the Bid document.
37	The primary access route to the Mount Coffee storage yard was across a Bailey type bridge which had a weight limit sign of 32 tonnes. This would more than likely be too small for a truck carrying plant or materials for the project. Is alternate access through the Mount Coffee site (access which does not cross the Bailey bridge) available for the Pipeline Contractor?	Yes, there is an alternative route that avoids the Bailey Bridge, using the road that runs between the powerhouse and the dam embankment. Another alternate route to the MCHPP is through the Town of Arthington.
38	What mechanical/pipe connection is currently available at the Water Treatment Plant and will this be the connection for the new pipeline?	There are three existing standpipes at the WTP. This will be the connection Point to the new pipeline . Refer to bid document, Section.V, Employer's Requirements.
39	Employers Requirement section 3.15.4 – please provide the cost of the potable water supply which can be provided and also confirm the flowrate available to the Contractor.	Owner and Raw Water Supplier will provide places for temporary connections to potable water sources at Site. Bidder shall assess pay for potable water and assess requirements.
40	Employers Requirement section 3.15.15 – significant cost involved with 4nr computers with AutoCAD Civil 3D, smartphones, light vehicles etc. Look at removing from Contractor scope and passing this into the scope of the Engineer.	Bid provisions prevail.
41	Please clarify the requirement to provide the Engineer with a fully equipped materials laboratory? The Contractor would mobilise a material laboratory to undertake testing as required on site – why is a second laboratory required for the Engineer?	The Contractor shall provide one fully equipped materials laboratory for use by the Engineer and the Employer. Refer to Addendum.
42	Employers Requirement section 6.1.4.5.1.2 b – Type V sulphate resistant cement has been specified for structures below grade and exposed to brine or weather. Please can you clarify why this type of cement has been specified and kindly provide the geotechnical information that identifies the high sulphate risk. Using Type V cement alone does not mean that the final concrete produced is sulphate resistant. Type V cement is not available on the Liberian market and would add significant additional cost to the project to import from abroad.	The contractor shall satisfy the designated MCA representative that the choice of a cement coating is appropriate. The “Type V” requirement for coatings in especially “risky” locations is part of the general specification. If it is required as per actual soil conditions, then needs to be adopted. For geotechnical information, refer to Appendix E of the Request for Bids, see Preliminary Design Report for the White Plains Pipeline Extension Project, Appendix B.

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43	Please clarify any and all duty concessions that have been applied to the Project.	In accordance with Section 2.6 of the Compact and Annex II of Program Implementation Agreement, both of which are available at MCA-Liberia's website (www.mca.gov.lr), all non-Liberian entities and individuals that receive MCC Funding in furtherance of the Compact are exempt from taxes in Liberia, which includes import duties.
44	During the pre-bid meeting it was mentioned that a second pipeline may be installed in the future. Does the pipeline designed/installed for this project have to be designed to accommodate a second parallel pipeline in the future?	No. Please follow bid provisions.
45	During the site visit and pre-bid meeting, the Owner referenced the requirement for a reservoir to be constructed at the Water Treatment Plant for use in the event that the raw water supply is suspended. Please clarify if this is a requirement of this tender and if so, please provide details of the requirement.	The ground-level reservoir (tank) that LWSC requested during the site meeting is not reflected in the bid documents. Bidders should price their bids as per the bid document. The price should not include the reservoir.
46	During the site visit and pre-bid meeting the availability of existing accommodation and office space at the Treatment Plant and Mount Coffee Hydro site was discussed. Please can the Employer provide a schedule of rates for accommodation and office space available at both locations.	Yes. The contractor will be charged for the use of any accommodation that will be provided within the White Plains WTP. Refer to Addendum.
47	Can Materials Off Site (MOS) be paid on manufacturers site should a bond be provided to cover clients risk. Materials off site i.e out of country. i.e once the volume of pipe for each month is manufactured , the contractor invoices the cost of the pipe, which is paid by the client within 30 days . The Contractor provides a payment guarantee on the pipe as well as transferring the pipe into the client's name.	No. Bid conditions prevail.
48	If designers and pipe Installation crews are subcontractors will their experience and company turnover be added to the main contractor for qualification criteria to be met, i.e. they not forming a JV.	The bidder should have design experience on its own or shall have a designer as JV member to meet the qualification criteria prescribed.
49	Should MOS not be allowed off site, can payment of pipe be split into two payments i.e. supply and install. Materials on site payments: This is a 80% payment of the pipe installation rate being paid by the client 30 days after the pipe arriving in Monrovia. The remaining 20 % is paid after installation of the pipe. The pipes once gain transfer into the client's name to mitigate clients risk and securely stored on site.	Refer to conditions of Bid document.

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50	Please provide quality of water and soil to design pipe coating.	See responses to Queries 34 and 42.
51	<p>2.4.5 Specific Design Experience For the above or other contracts executed during the period stipulated in 2.4.1 above, a minimum experience in the following key activities: 1. preparation of designs, drawings, specifications and cost estimates of 36-inch (900 mm) diameter or larger water transmission pipeline</p> <p>2.4.6 Specific Construction Experience For the above or other contracts executed during the period stipulated in 2.4.2 above, a minimum experience in the following key activities: 1. jointing, testing and commissioning of Ductile Iron (DI) water supply pipelines of 36- inch (900 mm) diameter or more at a rate not less than two (2) kilometer per year under a single contract.</p> <p><i>2.4.3 Similar Design Experience and 2.4.4 Similar Construction Experience the pre qualification requirement is for last 10 yrs. But for 2.4.5 and 2.4.6 why as per 2.4.1/2.4.2, this also need to be in last 10yrs-- Kindly clarify</i></p>	Refer to Addendum.
52	<p>2.4.5 Specific Design Experience At least one member For each enumerated key activity, at least one member must demonstrate experience at a level equal to at least fifty- five percent (55%) of the required number or scope specified</p> <p><i>Is only design experienter Di pipes or any other materials- Kindly clarify</i></p>	<p>For the specific Design Experience under Clause 2.4.5, the experience requirement is 36 -inch (900mm) diameter or above for large water transmission pipeline.</p> <p>Refer to Addendum.</p>
53	<p>ITB 14.1 "Alternative Bid" - 1200 mm diameter ductile iron pipeline (DIP approximately 4.8 km, from the MCHPP intake to the White Plains WTP.</p> <p><i>1. We presume the total length is 4.8 km and segment one is 1.1 km, during execution if any difference in length has to be done the rates will be paid on prorata basis-kindly confirm us</i></p>	The length the proposed pipeline for segment 1 is 585 m and for segment 2 is 4200m. All the bidders were shown the proposed pipeline alignment and original pipeline alignment. The requirements for construction of pipeline were also mentioned in the bid. It is up to the bidders to consider all the information and to decide the best possible alignment and design the pipeline. The bidder should assess deviations, if any in the proposed alignment and consider the same and quote the lump sum price for each segment.
54	<p>As discussed in the pre bid meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need GPS coordinates for pipe line 	Refer to Addendum.
55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need Other relevant documents including related drawing, compensation / settlement for crops 	Regarding compensation/settlement for crops, refer to response to Queries No. 5, 9, 10 and 31.

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56	Also want to confirm that if any additional works as discussed during site visit that should be shared with us along with detailed drawings	No additional works. Please refer to Bid document provisions.
57	Presume that we have to fix fencing all along the line with 120 meters right of way only. No more fencing works involved in the plant area	Permanent fencing shall be installed along both sides of the permanent ROW. Per LWSC, a width of 120 ft. (not 120 m) shall be assumed for the permanent ROW. Contractor is only required to repair or replace existing fencing in areas of the WTP and MCHPP that are damaged or removed for construction of the pipeline, laydown areas, or temporary facilities.
58	Hope the office accommodation within the WTP area will be given free off charges.	Except for the office space which will be charged, the Contractor will be provided the equipment storage and construction staging area free of charge. Refer to Addendum.
59	Since we will get the reply around 28th August 2018, we may have few more clarification required after receiving reply.	To avoid less time for bid preparation with long process of seeking clarifications as and when queries arise, the bidders were requested to study bid document completely and submit all queries for clarifications by 20 th August 2018.
60	Can we submit second set of clarification, after receiving reply clarification submitted on 20th August ,up to 14 days before submission of bid-kindly confirm'	
61	RAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there any consideration for changes to the RAP conditions along the pipeline route after a contract have been awarded - changes may include additional PAPs, structures or crops; Would crops be captured under the RAP or a Crop Compensation Plan? And Does the proponent possess any legal document w.r.t the proposed demarcated pipeline route? Kindly confirm	<p>As per Section 8, the contractor is responsible for developing the RAP. As per Section 3.5.5.1.1 Mark up Guidelines:</p> <p><i>All changes in alignment needs to coordinate with the environmental and resettlement teams to mitigate negative environment and social impacts. All Changes resulting in a change to the Resettlement Action Plan and affected PAPS must be clearly indicated in supporting documentation identifying the PAP impacted, the resources/property affected, nature of impact, documentation of consultation with the PAP, and negotiated compensation agreement. These changes must also be reflected in the geo-referenced database.</i></p> <p>In terms compensation, crops are included as part of the potential compensation as stated in Section 8.4 Asset Identification and Valuation. It needs to be included in the RAP, not a separate document.</p> <p>On the possession of the ROW, see response to question 8.</p>

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62	In order to facilitate the preparation of our application, would it be possible to receive the electronic version of the tender documents, especially the tender forms?	The bid document along with forms were already provided to the bidders. If the bidder still requires, He should request at mcaliberiapa@cardno.com .
63	Could you confirm that payments in foreign currencies can be done directly to the contractor's bank account located outside of Liberia? Who will bear the costs of irrevocable confirmed letter of credits when used for payments?	Payments will be made to the Contractor's bank account. There are no letters of credits for payments. Please refer to Bid document.
64	Could you confirm the following: 1. Whenever VAT applies, VAT on the overall contract price will be paid by the Employer to the Contractor. VAT is not applicable on the value of the imported goods, whenever VAT applies to the value of the imported goods, Employer will pay those goods with VAT.	Refer to clarification issued at item No. 43
65	Could you confirm if imported goods are exempted from all customs taxes, duties, levies?	Refer to clarification issued at item No. 43