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Electronic Procurement System

Answers to the questions received from the interested suppliers in the open competition "Identification of unexploded ordnance and geotechnical works in former Cekule military area", identification number RBR 2021/10

RB Rail AS presents following answers to the questions received from the interested suppliers until 8 June 2021:

Nr.	Questions	Answers
1.	Is it possible to have a general map of the area with the specified areas of intervention?	Procurement commission kindly notes that all information regarding area to be detected and cleaned from unexploded ordnance is provided in Technical specification (Annex No 2 to Competition Regulation) and also in letter, dated 2 June 2021, with answers to the questions received from interested suppliers (available here: https://www.railbaltica.org/tenders/identification-of-unexploded-ordnance-and-geotechnical-works-in-former-cekule-military-area/ and https://www.eis.gov.lv/EKEIS/Supplier/Procurement/56827).
2.	Is it acceptable to replace the geotechnical engineer key-expert with a geologist (with equal requirements and professional skills)?	Procurement commission notes that geotechnical investigations (engineering research) for design and construction purposes according to Construction Law of the Republic of Latvia may be managed only by geotechnical investigations engineer which is certified according to applicable regulatory enactments of the Republic of Latvia to perform

		engineering research. For persons, whose permanent place of practice is abroad, Tenderer shall submit document evidencing Professional qualification/education according to the Country`s (Country, where the specialist has permanent place of practice) legislation for the provision of respective services in the field of his/her expertise (if applicable by the respective Country`s legislation) and self-statement issued by the Tenderer with confirmation "The foreign specialists attracted by the Tenderer are entitled to provide specific services, as well as in case a procurement contract will be awarded to the Tenderer, it will submit a declaration on temporary professional services in a regulated profession in the Republic of Latvia to the recognition authority no later than within 5 (five) working days from the conclusion of the procurement contract". Besides that the specialist in question may take up his activities in Latvia only after obtaining permission from the recognition authority of the Republic of Latvia. Procurement commission kindly request to assess this recognition process of qualification in order to be able to provide services immediately after commencement of the contract, if such rights to conclude contract would be awarded.
3.	Are the percussion gouge drillings to be set up in PVC or HDPE boreholes? What is the required diameter of the boreholes?	Percussion gouge drilling diameters up to 80mm. The method of drilling, i.e. dependent on the type of stratum and resistance tapering down as the borehole progresses is an option. However, Consultant must be mindful of the recovery volumes needed for classification tests. Please clarify what you mean by PVC or HDPE boreholes?
4.	In the context of BH, is it necessary that the samples are undisturbed?	In reality no sample is truly undisturbed, however all rotary core boreholes must employ measures to preserve the samples state during and after drilling and sample recovery. Obviously,

		uncemented granular materials are excluded from this as undisturbed recovery is difficult if not impossible. However granular material must be recovered, and loss should be minimized (using catchers/ lifters etc.) Measures to preserve sample state (for cohesive and rock cores) include, but not limited to, single barrel methods causing excessive frictional heating of the cores, excessive flush causing deviation in natural moisture content, retaining samples in stiff tubes and sealed between site and the laboratory to ensure stress relaxation is minimised. Note: Procurement commission recommends the use of incremental push-in Shelby sampling methods to address the aforementioned issues.
5.	Is it necessary to acquire water samples from all the investigation points (by this, we mean: even those in the optional package)?	Water sampling is necessary: 1. At the locations of structures (see table "Investigation points" under 2.2 Geotechnical investigations in Annex 2) for steel or concrete aggressivity analysis. These samples are not necessary for optional package as the optional GI points will not be under structures. 2. In areas that may be contaminated or have signs of contamination during drilling (with hydrocarbons, VOCs, PCBs, etc..). This is necessary for base and optional investigation points. 3. If Karst risk area is encountered/identified, water sulphur content should be analysed. Necessary for base and optional investigation points.
6.	Is it possible to have a complete list of the necessary geotechnical laboratory tests?	The tests must be determined by Consultant, based on their experience, to ensure with confidence that all required data laid out in Annex 2, clause 2.2. Geotechnical investigations will be correctly represented in the report. Consultant shall submit laboratory schedule prior to conducting tests for approval by Contracting authority.

7.	Who is responsible for the costs of transporting and disposing of the trees? The company or the municipality?	The Consultant will be responsible for the costs of transporting and disposing of the cut trees in accordance with requirements of the local municipality and other related regulations.
8.	Can the excavated soil be disposed of, or does the earth have to be re-buried? If it can be disposed of, who shall bear its cost?	Excavated soil must be re-buried (if contamination is detected, RB Rail must be informed immediately for further decision).
9.	According to your indications, is it correct to imagine the ordnance identification at -3 meters from the current ground level?	The Contracting authority cannot define depth of ground where unexploded ordinances could be detected.
10.	From the day of the opening of the proposals, how much time is foreseen before the Commencement Date?	Unfortunately, Procurement Commission is not able to provide you precise estimations of time necessary for evaluation of the tenderers because it depends on several circumstances and obstacles.

Procurement Commission Chairman J.Lukševics

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