



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

Belgrade, April 22, 2021

CONTRACTING AUTHORITY'S CLARIFICATIONS No. 2

“Construction of Gas Interconnector Serbia-Bulgaria on the Serbian territory”

Tender Ref. n.: NEAR/BEG/2021/EA-OP/0032

No.	Question	Answer
1.	<p>You are kindly requested to send a direct link to the file hosting (cloud storage) from which we could download the drawings or send a zipped package.</p> <p>The question was submitted to the email address vladimir.likic@srbijagas.com, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting as well as in VOLUME 5 DESIGN DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING DRAWINGS as a contact of the person in charge for inspection of Design documents.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Clarifications No. 1, Answer No.1.</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to the Clarifications No. 1, Answer No.2 regarding submission of any request for additional information.</p>
2.	<p>In relation with the Tender in the subject, we kindly ask you to clarify a technical issue. As stated in VOLUME 3 – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS, page 100, section 3: “...TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GAS PIPELINE The design provides that linear part of the gas pipeline is to be built from pre-insulated steel pipes (longitudinally welded, weld joint coefficient $V=1$)...”.</p> <p>We want to participate to your tender, but our question is whether Helical spiral welded steel pipes technology is also accepted, as long as all the other technical specifications would be the respected. Helical submerged arc welding (spiral) steel pipes (HSAW) have many</p>	<p>The pipes technology shall conform to the Technical Specifications and the Drawings. The provisions of the Technical Specifications and the Drawings remain unchanged. Your proposal is not acceptable. The tender has to be fully in compliance with specific requirements defined within the Technical Specifications and all of the provisions of the tender dossier.</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to the Clarifications No. 1, Answer No. 2 regarding submission of any request for additional information.</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>advantages over longitudinally welded pipes (LSAW).</p> <p>The question was submitted to the email addresses: sladjana.vukmirica@mre.gov.rs, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting, vladimir.likic@srbijagas.com, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting as well as in VOLUME 5 DESIGN DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING DRAWINGS as a contact of the person in charge for inspection of Design documents and cfcu.questions@mfin.gov.rs.</p>	
3.	<p>You are kindly requested to provide clarifications in connection with additional information about the Contract Notice published within the frames of open tender procedure for Construction of Gas Interconnector Serbia-Bulgaria on the Serbian Territory (CPV code 45231220).</p> <p>Reference is made to items 4 “<i>Eligibility and rules of origin</i>” and 28 “<i>Legal Basis</i>” of additional information.</p> <p>According to said items “<i>Participation is open to all natural persons who are nationals of and legal persons (participating either individually or in a grouping - consortium - of candidates/tenderers) which are effectively established in a Member State of the European Union or in a eligible country or territory as defined under the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 establishing common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for external action (CIR) for the applicable instrument under which the contract is financed (see also heading ‘Legal basis’ below).</i>”</p> <p>Matter A. Under Article 9 of the European the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 “<i>1. Tenderers, applicants and candidates from the following countries shall be eligible for</i></p>	<p>The applicable instrument under which this contract is financed is Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance - IPA II. Eligibility under IPA II is defined under Article 10 of the European the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014. Also, please refer to the PRAG, https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/, section 2.3 Participation in award procedures, regarding eligibility criteria.</p> <p>With reference to the Eligible Countries that could participate on the tender under IPA II, please refer to PRAG Annex A2a Eligibility programmes 2014-2020, available at the following link: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/annexes.do?chapterTitleCode=A.</p> <p>Only legal entities which are effectively established in an eligible country covered by the applicable regulation are eligible for participation in the tender procedure.</p> <p>Consequently, legal persons (participating either individually or in a grouping/consortium of candidates/tenderers) which are effectively established in Russian Federation are not eligible for participation in this tender financed by IPA II program under conditions</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p><i>funding under the DCI, the ENI and the Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries:</i></p> <p><i>(a) ...</i></p> <p><i>(b) for the ENI, partner countries covered by the ENI and the Russian Federation when the relevant procedure takes place in the context of the multi-country and cross-border cooperation programmes in which they participate”</i></p> <p>Question A: Please, clarify whether legal persons (participating either individually or in a grouping — consortium — of candidates/tenderers) which are effectively established in Russian Federation are eligible for participation in the tender procedure on the basis of European Neighborhood Instrument (ENI) or on the basis of any other provision(s) of Legal Basis regulations, when such legal person is a provider of:</p> <p>a) supply of line pipes for an amount over EUR 100 000 , or</p> <p>b) supply of fittings/ hot bends for an amount over EUR 100 000, or</p> <p>c) supply of other materials for an amount over EUR 100 000, or</p> <p>d) construction works and activities, or</p> <p>e) project-related services.</p> <p>The question was submitted to the email address cfcu.questions@mfin.gov.rs.</p>	<p>stated under the points a), b), c), d) and e) of the Question A.</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to the Clarifications No. 1, Answer No.2 regarding submission of any request for additional information.</p>
4.	<p>We're very much interested in the tender issued for Serbia- Bulgaria Gas Transmission Line (Ref: NEAR / BEG / 2021 / EA-OP / 0032). Can you please provide the tender documents?</p> <p>The question was submitted to the email address cfcu.publications@mfin.gov.rs.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Answer No.1.</p>
5.	<p>Subject: Eligibility criteria</p> <p>Description: We have a fully own subsidiary in Sweden which was established in early 2019, so we have already completed two years of operations and this is our 3rd year of operations in Sweden.. We meet Financial criteria of having average minimum revenue of EUR</p>	<p>No prior opinion on the assessment of the tender can be given by the Contracting Authority in reply to a question or a request for clarification, as stated under PRAG section 5.3.4., https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/. The Evaluation Committee will analyse the</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>80,000,000 as mentioned in Tender. Our first year annual report is ready, second year annual report is getting finalized and shall be ready by 20th April (since we follow march ending for financial closure). We can submit Third year financials by early next year. Meanwhile, we would like to seek your clarification that to meet Financial criteria of 3 years, can you consider Parent company financials? The parent company's revenue exceeds EUR 1 billion for 2019-20. Parent company based in Asia can provide Financial guarantee in event of your confirmation.</p>	<p>tenders in detail against the published selection criteria. Additionally, please refer to PRAG section 2.6.11.1. General principles, regarding Capacity-providing entities and subcontractors.</p>
6.	<p>Subject: Volume 1-Section 2-Tender Form-Appendix to the tender. Time for completion: 637 days Description: Please clarify timing of the project: start and end date and/or duration of the works</p>	<p>Commencement Date and Time for Completion are defined by Sub-Clause 8.1 and 8.2 of FIDIC General and Particular Conditions of Contract. Time for Completion is 637 (six hundred thirty-seven) days from the Commencement Date until the provisional acceptance / Taking Over, followed by 365 (three hundred sixty-five) days for Defects Notification Period. In the Volume 1, Section 1, Instruction to tenderers, the provisional date of the contract signature is October 2021.</p>
7.	<p>Subject: Doc. Technical specification-Previous research performed Description: „Research works for the preparation of project technical documentation for the purposes of interconnection of the gas pipeline systems of Bulgaria and Serbia were carried out by the project organization GEOPUT d.o.o. The results of this research are presented in the following studies, which are an integral part of the design and technical documentation: - Study of hydrological and hydro-technical conditions for construction of the MG10 Niš-Dimitrovgrad gas pipeline route – Study of geotechnical and hydrogeological conditions for construction of the MG10 Niš-Dimitrovgrad gas pipeline route - Study of geotechnical and hydrogeological conditions for construction of facilities on the route of the gas pipeline MG10 Nis-Dimitrovgrad, made by</p>	<p>The mentioned documents are available for inspection, in Serbian language only, as it is stated in VOLUME 5, Section 5.2. Please note that the documents are available only for inspection, not for collection in any kind of hard or electronic copy during the tendering stage.</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	the project organization GEOPUT d.o.o. 2018.“ We would ask you to provide the documents mentioned	
8.	<p>Subject: Doc. Technical specification - Connection, connecting and inlet pipeline for MRS</p> <p>Description: The connection of gas pipeline for the purposes of power supply of MRS will be done on the high pressure transmission gas pipeline MG 10, with the diameter of Ø711.0mm and operating pressure of 20-55bar. Connection will be made by the hot work procedure without interruption of gas transportation (in complete compliance with the internal technical rule for making the connection by the hot work procedure, in accordance with the Internal technical rules for the design and construction of gas pipelines and gas facilities on the JP Srbijagas system). The connection will be made by installing a common Ø219.1mm “weldolet” weld fitting (according to MSS SP 97). The DN200 ANSI400 valve, used when performing connection with hot work procedure remains a sacrificial valve covered with soil. In relation to the welding of the weldolet and hot tapping, we would ask the possibility to avoid this activity inserting a barred “T” piece in order to put the main line and the plant on gas at the same time.</p>	<p>The provisions of the Technical Specifications and the Drawings remain unchanged. Your proposal is not acceptable. The tender has to be fully in compliance with specific requirements defined within the Technical Specifications and all of the provisions of the tender dossier.</p>
9.	<p>Subject: Stations drawings on mechanical activities</p> <p>Description: Please clarify the battery limits on engineering activities. E.g. for all the stations drawings on mechanical activities are missing as well as details on civil activities.</p>	<p>We understand that you ask which works are included in the contract. The limits are defined in the Technical Specifications in Section 6 Detail Technical Specifications.</p> <p>The mechanical stations drawings in VOLUME 5, Drawings No 034 to 061 (21_18-1-T-1_2.1 Mechanical design of above ground facilities gas pipeline MG10).pdf, show the battery limits on P&ID drawings.</p> <p>All BoQ, Technical specifications and drawings with label:</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

		<p>21_18-1-T-2_1.1 Tender Construction design of gas pipeline MG10; 21_18-1-T-2_2.1 Tender Construction design of above gr. facil. gas pipeline MG10; 21_18-1-T-2_3.1 Tender Leveling design and local roads conections gas pipeline MG10; 21_18-1-T-2_4.1 Tender Architectural design gas pipeline MG10; 21_18-1-T-3.1 Tender Crossing with large waters corses gas pipeline MG10, are the scope of work for <i>civil activities</i> according to Serbian law. No further clarifications are available for battery limits for civil works.</p>
10.	<p>Subject: Missing documents: Description: Within the technical documentation, we have not found the data sheets necessary for a correct quotation of the valves and related actuators. Please provide these documents</p>	<p>According to the VOLUME 3 - Technical Specifications on Pages from 117, the description for valves is: “Block valve station consists of underground line break »LB« DN700 ANSI400, which automatically stops gas flow if pressure drop within gas pipeline exceeds 3,5bar per minute. It has a bypass line with two DN250 ANSI400 pressure equalizing valves which activate when LB valve is opened and outlet caps for gas discharge and clearing the gas pipeline for maintenance and handling. Break will be driven by double-action gas-operated (natural gas from operating pipe) pneumatic linear actuator. “ Also, the related drawings exist in VOLUME 5, Drawings No 002 to 033 (21_18-1-T-1_1.1 Mechanical design of gas pipeline route MG10).pdf</p>
11.	<p>Subject: CE marking materials: Description: Please clarify whether all materials must have CE marking</p>	<p>All materials and equipment within the scope of mechanical works, defined with specified standards or norms, must be made in accordance with those standards or norms, not necessarily CE marking. Additionally, please bear in mind that in accordance with the Instructions to Tenderers, Article 3, all supplies under this contract must originate from one or more of</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

		the eligible countries. However, they may originate from any country when the amount of the supplies to be purchased is below EUR 100 000.
12.	<p>Subject: Doc. Technical specification - Technical description of existing facilities and installations</p> <p>Description: With reference to this article in which the Client will take care of obtaining all the permits, we would request to clarify whether also for all the other land owners the Client is already in possession of the usage permits.</p>	Land acquisition is obligation of the Republic of Serbia represented by PE Srbijagas. Land acquisition is in progress in accordance with the national legislation.
13.	<p>Subject: No reference was found to complementary or additional works:</p> <p>Description: No reference was found to complementary or additional works (e.g.: gabions, wood palisades, concrete piling, drainages, etc.) necessary in some particular sections. Please clarify whether these works will be compensated with unit prices.</p>	We understand that you ask how the works, required by the construction methodology and not listed in the BoQ, are to be paid for. If our understanding is correct, please see Volume 4.3.1 — Introduction, Item 2.1. All necessary complementary or additional works are included in the existing BoQ items.
14.	<p>Subject: Pipes:</p> <p>Description: Please clarify which pipes must be internally coated</p>	There are no pipes which must be internally coated.
15.	<p>Subject: Drawing: Situation of and longitudinal profile of gas pipeline route, Scale 1:1000</p> <p>Description: There is no indication of the meaning of soil class, please clarify and detail each category</p>	Soil classification is according to - GN200 (GN stands for Građevinske Norme). This classification (categorization) of soil excavations is based on descriptions of the lithological composition and condition of rock masses in which the excavation conditions are indirectly included, through a description of the quality of the environment and the means of execution. According to this classification (categorization), earthworks are performed in the ground, which are divided into seven categories. – from I Category: Loose (soft) earth, up to VII Category: Very solid and tough rock. For additional information, please see also Volume 5, section 5.2: “Elaborat o geotehničkim i hidrogeološkim uslovima izgradnje trase magistralnog



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

		gasovoda MG10 Niš-Dimitrovgrad” (Geotechnical and hydrogeological Elaborate for gas-pipeline – available in Serbian language only)
16.	Subject: UXO survey and archeology: Description: Please clarify if these activities must be done and the battery limits	The Works Contractor must adhere to the Serbian laws and regulations, among other the regulation Ordinance on safety at work during construction works (“Pravilnik o zaštiti na radu pri izvodjenju gradjevinskih radova“). If archaeological remains are found, the applicable Serbian laws and regulations and FIDIC Sub-clause 4.24 must be followed.
17.	Subject: environmental monitoring: Description: Please clarify battery limits about environmental monitoring	Please refer to the Volume 3 Appendix A, Excerpt from EIA - Measures for protection during construction phase, and EIB Annexes, Annex 7 - Environmental and social covenant template.
18.	Subject: Doc. Technical specification - Non-destructive testing “All welding joints on transmission gas pipeline must be 100% radiographic tested. Scope of gas pipeline testing must be in accordance with SRPS EN 1594.” Description: Please clarify if it is possible to test the welds with ultrasonic method using qualified companies	The provisions of the Technical Specifications remain unchanged. Testing of the welding shall conform to the Technical Specifications. Your proposal is not acceptable. The tender has to be fully in compliance with specific requirements defined within the Technical Specifications and all of the provisions of the tender dossier.
19.	Subject: Fiber optic cable: we would ask: Description: - in the major river crossings, the possibility to lay the casing duct for DN 40 in the same trench as the main line - in the trenchless crossings, the possibility to weld a DN150 steel pipe to the external section of the casing pipe	The provisions of the Technical Specifications and the Drawings remain unchanged. Your proposal is not acceptable. The tender has to be fully in compliance with specific requirements defined within the Technical Specifications and all of the provisions of the Tender dossier.
20.	Subject: Question for Construction of Gas Interconnector Serbia – Bulgaria on the Serbian Territory Description: Is it acceptable that the possession of the ISO/IEC 17025 certificate is met if the	In accordance with the Technical Specifications: “Non-destructive testing can be carried out only by legal entity which complies with requirements of SRPS EN



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>Bidder (one of the members of the JV) has a business-technical cooperation agreement with a company that has such a certificate, or a JV member must have that certificate?</p>	<p>ISO / IEC 17025 for appropriate type and method of testing.” It is acceptable to submit the certificate of the JV member or subcontractor who will perform the non-destructive testing.</p>
21.	<p>Subject: Questions for Construction of Gas Interconnector Serbia – Bulgaria on the Serbian Territory Description: 1. Do all the accompanying documents of the Bid (licenses, certificates, Take Over certificates ...) have to be translated into English with a certified court interpreter, or is a simple English translation without certification enough? 2. If some accompanying documents of the Bid must be translated into English with a certified court interpreter, please state which ones (Power of Attorney, etc...)? 3. In Form 4.4 Financial Statement under item 4.4.2 what year do you mean by „Current year“-2019 or 2020? Please note that audited financial statements for 2020 will be available after 30.06.2021. 4. In the Form 4.4 Financial Statement under item 4.4.6, you asked to enclose a reference/certificate about the financial situation of the company and its access to credit facilities (maximum amount of credit facility to be stated in euro or NC equivalent), but the period and amount of the credit facility are not indicated anywhere else in the Tender documentation. Please clarify. 5. Is a letter from the bank sufficient, or confirmation of turnover for the previous period, or a non-binding letter of intent that the bank will credit part of the project if necessary? 6. Will more tender guarantees obtained from JV members be acceptable, which would give a total amount of 1,000,000 eur (each member of JV takes out a tender bond for it's part of the job, in accordance with the split of work in JV agreement)?</p>	<p>1. Translation does not have to be certified. However, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to ask for a certified translation at any moment of the procedure if necessary. 2. Please refer to the answer above. 3. The average annual turnover of the tenderer in the past 3 financial years for which the accounts are closed should be considered, taking into account the legal provisions of the national legislation of the country where the tenderer is established. Specifically, in relation to Form 4.4. Financial Statement item 4.4.2, for legal entities for which the financial year “2020” is closed before the deadline for submission of tender, as “Current Year” should be considered 2021. In case the financial year “2020” is closed after the deadline for submission of tender, as “Current Year” should be considered 2020. 4. There are no minimum requirements regarding tenderer`s access to credit facilities. However, the tenderer should demonstrate his financial capability for execution of the contract and that he has access to credit lines or any other credit facilities sufficient to meet the construction cash flow (other than pre-financing) for the whole duration of the contract. 5. The relevant references/certificates about the financial situation of the company and its access to credit facilities should be drawn up in accordance with national law or practice.</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>7. In Contractor's Personnel as per Technical Specifications, Section 5, item 8. Electric Engineer and item 9. Cathodic Protection installers, you ask for engineers with license no. 452. According to the Serbian Chamber of Engineers for Electrical Engineers, license 452 does not exist. Please clarify if this is a technical error.</p>	<p>6. As per Article 15.1 of Instructions to Tenderers "The tenderer must provide, as a part of its tender, a tender guarantee in the form set out in Volume 1, Section 3 of the tender dossier...". A tenderer is a natural or legal person or Joint Venture/consortium thereof submitting a tender with a view to concluding a contract. Only one tender guarantee must be provided by a tenderer – Joint Venture/consortium as a whole.</p> <p>7. We confirm, this is an error. In Technical Specifications, Section 5. Contractor's Personnel, item 8. Electric Engineer and item 9. Cathodic Protection installers, the requirement for the licence 452 is deleted.</p>
22.	<p>Based on review of Tender document, we hereby seek clarification on the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Technical requirement: Can you consider project references of last ten (10) years instead of 5 years meeting Technical criteria of construction works of new pipeline for transportation of liquid or gas with minimum 50 km of which at least 10 km with nominal diameter 700 mm (28") & working pressure higher than 1.6 MPa which is put in operation to meet Technical requirement?2. Technical requirement: Can you also consider on-going projects which are likely to be completed this year meeting Technical requirement? Proof of completion can be submitted by Q4, 2021 or by the time Tender is awarded.3. Technical requirement: FIDIC or equivalent works contract can be of any construction project, kindly confirm.4. Financial criteria: Company can meet the Financial criteria of average turnover of EUR 80,000,000. However, our European entity can produce Financial reports of 2019 & 2020 along with bid and submit Financial report of 2021 later. Will that be considered? Parent company with revenue in excess of EUR 1+	<p>Please note that no prior opinion on the assessment of the tender can be given by the Contracting Authority in reply to a question or a request for clarification, as stated under section 5.3.4 of PRAG.</p> <p>However, please consider the following regarding the listed questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The selection criteria are clearly described in section 12.2 of the Instruction to Tenderers. Please note that the reference period is past 5 (five) years from the date of submission of tenders.2. As it is clearly stated, the works contracts that the tenderer refers to must have been successfully completed. Please refer to section 12.2 of the Instruction to Tenderers regarding interpretation of the requirements. Completed works Contracts will be taken to mean that the Tenderer has in his possession Taking Over Certificates or equivalent (copies translated in English, signed by the supervisors/ contracting authorities/ employers), of the projects submitted for evaluation and included in Volume 1, Section 4.6.4. The tenderer must have successfully completed the works contracts - this means that the contract the tenderer refers to could have been



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

<p>billion can also submit its financials as supporting document to demonstrate financial capability.</p> <p>5. Procurement criteria: It says “All supplies under this contract must originate in one or more of these countries. However they may originate from any country when the amount of supplies to be purchased is below EUR 100,000” In this event, can you provide APPROVED VENDOR LIST?</p> <p>6. Drawings: Due to size constraint the Drawings were not included in the Tender. However, can you share important Drawings (~ 20 MB) which will facilitate in initiating bid preparation?</p> <p>The questions were submitted to the email addresses: sladjana.vukmirica@mre.gov.rs, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting, vladimir.likic@srbijagas.com, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting as well as in VOLUME 5 DESIGN DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING DRAWINGS as a contact of the person in charge for inspection of Design documents and cfcu.questions@mfin.gov.rs.</p>	<p>started/implemented/completed at any time during the indicated period but it does not necessarily have to be started and completed during that period, nor implemented during the entire period.</p> <p>3. As stated in section 12.2 c) 2) of the Instruction to Tenderers, tenderer must have successfully completed as a prime contractor at least one (1) works construction contract of value of at least €10M completed under FIDIC Conditions of Contract or comparable contract standard (PRAG or other contract conditions used by International Financial Institutions – IFIs or based on national legislation of EU member state). The works contracts must have been completed at any moment during the period of past five (5) years from the date of submission of tenders.</p> <p>4. The average annual turnover of the tenderer in the past 3 financial years for which the accounts are closed should be considered, taking into account the legal provisions of the national legislation of the country where the tenderer is established. The Evaluation Committee will analyse the tenders in detail against the published selection criteria. Additionally, please refer to PRAG, https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/, section 2.6.11.1. General principles, regarding Capacity-providing entities and subcontractors.</p> <p>5. Please refer to the PRAG section 2.3 Participation in award procedures, regarding eligibility criteria. There is no APPROVED VENDOR LIST.</p> <p>6. The Contracting Authority cannot send the tender documents by e-mail or by any other means. The full Tender Dossier including the drawings is available on CD-ROM from Contracting Authority as it is stated in the document Additional information about the Contract Notice.</p>
---	--



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

		Additionally, please refer to the Clarifications No. 1 Answer No.2 regarding submission of any request for additional information.
23.	<p>Subject: Clarification on Technical & Procurement criteria</p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Can you consider project references of last ten (10) years instead of 5 years meeting Technical criteria of construction works of new pipeline for transportation of liquid or gas with minimum 50 km of which at least 10 km with nominal diameter 700 mm (28”) & working pressure higher than 1.6 MPa which is put in operation to meet Technical requirement?</p> <p>Can you also consider on-going projects which are likely to be completed this year or earlier meeting Technical requirement? FIDIC or equivalent works contract can be of any construction project, kindly confirm Procurement: It says “All supplies under this contract must originate in one or more of these countries. However they may originate from any country when the amount of supplies to be purchased is below EUR 100,000” In this event, can you provide APPROVED VENDOR LIST? The question was submitted to the email addresses: sladjana.vukmirica@mre.gov.rs, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting, vladimir.likic@srbijagas.com, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting as well as in VOLUME 5 DESIGN DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING DRAWINGS as a contact of the person in charge for inspection of Design documents and cfcu.questions@mfin.gov.rs.</p>	<p>Please note that no prior opinion on the assessment of the tender can be given by the Contracting Authority in reply to a question or a request for clarification, as stated under section 5.3.4 of PRAG.</p> <p>Please refer to the Answer 22, points 1, 2, 3, 5.</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to the Clarifications No. 1 Answer No.2 regarding submission of any request for additional information.</p>
24.	<p>In relation with the Tender in the subject, we kindly ask you to clarify a technical issue. As stated in VOLUME 3 – TECHNICAL</p>	<p>Please refer to the Answer No. 2.</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>SPECIFICATIONS, page 100, section 3: "...TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GAS PIPELINE The design provides that linear part of the gas pipeline is to be built from pre-insulated steel pipes (longitudinally welded, weld joint coefficient V=1)...".</p> <p>We want to participate to your tender, but our question is whether Helical spiral welded steel pipes technology is also accepted, as long as all the other technical specifications would be respected.</p> <p>Helical submerged arc welding (spiral) steel pipes (HSAW) have many advantages over longitudinally welded pipes (LSAW). Your prompt reply would be greatly appreciated.</p>	
25.	<p>Subject: Clarifications regarding pipe technical requirements in the frame of open tender procedure for Construction of Gas Interconnector Serbia-Bulgaria on the Serbian Territory (CPV code 45231220)</p> <p>Description: According to Technical Specifications from the Tender Dossier the linear part of the gas pipeline is to be built from pre-insulated steel pipes (longitudinally welded, weld joint coefficient V=1) with $\varnothing 711$mm diameter and minimum quality in accordance with specification PSL 1. From the bidder point of view and according to the best engineering practice for the gas transmission system usually it is required line pipes with specification level PSL 2. Please confirm the specification level PSL1 and steel grade X52 (or L360) for Line Pipes $\varnothing 711$.</p>	<p>We confirm the specification level PSL1 and steel grade X52 (or L360) for Line Pipes $\varnothing 711$.</p> <p>The provisions of Technical Specifications, remain unchanged.</p> <p>The tender has to be fully in compliance with specific requirements defined within the Technical Specifications and all of the provisions of the tender dossier.</p>
26.	<p>Subject: Procurement</p> <p>Description: Tenderer understands that procurement of the line pipe and metering station, ball valve...are outside of the scope of works, could Client confirm?</p>	<p>Your understanding is not correct. Procurement of all materials and equipment is within the Scope of works.</p>
27.	<p>Subject: Detailed design</p> <p>Description: Tenderer understands that no detailed design is part of the scope of works, it</p>	<p>Design for Construction Permit ("Projekat za građevinsku dozvolu") and Detailed Design ("Projekat za izvođenje") have already been</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>is a construction only contract, could Client confirm?</p>	<p>completed and are not a part of the Works Contractor's scope. Please also see Volume 3, Technical Specifications under heading 3. Management Documents and Additional Designs.</p>
28.	<p>Subject: Eligibility of candidates (legal persons) effectively established in Russian Federation Description: Under Article 9 of the European the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 "1. Tenderers, applicants and candidates from the following countries shall be eligible for funding under the DCI, the ENI and the Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries: (a) ... (b) for the ENI, partner countries covered by the ENI and the Russian Federation when the relevant procedure takes place in the context of the multi-country and cross-border cooperation programmes in which they participate" Please, clarify whether legal persons (participating either individually or in a grouping — consortium — of candidates/tenderers) which are effectively established in Russian Federation are eligible for participation in the tender procedure on the basis of European Neighborhood Instrument (ENI) or on the basis of any other provision(s) of Legal Basis regulations, when such legal person is a provider of: a) supply of line pipes for an amount over EUR 100 000 , or b) supply of fittings/ hot bends for an amount over EUR 100 000, or c) supply of other materials for an amount over EUR 100 000, or d) construction works and activities, or e) project-related services.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Answer No.3.</p>
29.	<p>Several days ago we have asked you for some clarification regarding the tender. We need to know when are you going to clarify this issue.</p> <p>The question was submitted to the email addresses: sladjana.vukmirica@mre.gov.rs,</p>	<p>With reference to several repeated requests referring to questions already submitted to different email addresses, please bear in mind that the Contracting Authority cannot immediately and separately respond to tenderers. The Contracting Authority intends</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting, vladimir.likic@srbijagas.com, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting as well as in VOLUME 5 DESIGN DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING DRAWINGS as a contact of the person in charge for inspection of Design documents and cfcu.questions@mfin.gov.rs.</p>	<p>to publish clarifications by grouping the received questions periodically and in any case as soon as it is possible within deadlines given in the Volume 1, Section 1, Instructions to Tenderers.</p> <p>The Contracting Authority must reply to all tenderers' questions at least 11 days before the deadline for the receipt of tenders, as stated in the document "Additional information about the Contract Notice" Article 20 "How to obtain the tender dossier" and in the "Instructions to Tenderers", Article 8 "Explanations concerning tender documents".</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to the Answer No.1.</p>
30.	<p>Subject: NEAR/BEG/2021/EA-OP/0032 QUESTION RELATED TO ITT, Professional capacity of candidate (12.2, b)</p> <p>Description: In the Volume 1, Section 1, Instructions to tenderers, one of the listed criteria - 1) Professional capacity, contains following requirement: Tenderer must have the following Certificates: (SRPS) EN ISO 3834-2, Quality requirements for fusion welding of metallic materials - Part 2: Comprehensive quality requirements, (SRPS) ISO/IEC 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories</p> <p>Question nr.1 Certificate (SRPS) ISO/IEC 17025 is valid for the scope of the accreditation of the laboratory – please indicate what are the activities which must be included in the scope of accreditation of the laboratory?</p> <p>Question nr.2 Please clarify whether the tenderer shall meet this condition only if the tenderer itself (or a member of joint venture) has the certificates (SRPS) EN ISO 3834-2 and (SRPS) ISO/IEC 17025, or the condition will be considered satisfied if the tenderer shall indicate the subcontractor who will be involved in the realization of the contract and who has the requested certificates?</p>	<p>1. Please refer to the Technical Specifications: "Non-destructive testing can be carried out only by legal entity which complies with requirements of SRPS EN ISO / IEC 17025 for appropriate type and method of testing."</p> <p>2. A company can establish a consortium or a Joint Venture with company(s) which already possesses the certificates or nominate subcontractor(s) who will perform the works for which these certificates are required.</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to Article 12.2. of Instructions to Tenderers, Capacity-providing entities: "<i>An economic operator may, where appropriate and for a particular contract, rely on the capacity of other entities, regardless of the legal nature of the links which it has with them. If the tenderer relies on other entities, it must prove to the contracting authority that it will have at its disposal the resources necessary to perform the contract by producing a commitment on the part of those entities to place resources at its disposal. Such entities, for instance the parent company of the economic operator, must respect the same rules of eligibility and notably that of nationality, as the economic</i></p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

		<p><i>operator relying on them and must comply with the selection criteria for which the economic operator relies on them. Furthermore, the tender should include a separate document providing data on this third entity for the relevant selection criterion. Proof of capacity must be provided at the request of the contracting authority. With regard to technical and professional criteria, a tenderer may only rely on the capacities of other entities where the latter will perform the works for which these capacities are required. With regard to economic and financial criteria, the entities upon whose capacity the tenderer relies, become jointly and severally liable for the performance of the contract.”</i></p>
31.	<p>Moju kompaniju je kontaktirala strana reprezentativna kompanija sa željom da učestvuju u procesu nudenja izgradnje interkonekcije gasovoda između Srbije i Bugarske a po tenderu koji je raspisalo Vaše ministarstvo. Na osnovu podatka da ste Vi predstavnik ministarstva u vezi ovog projekta, molim Vas da nam omogućite sastanak na kom bi smo se predstavili kao ponuđač koji je u mogućnosti da ponudi najbolje uslove kako komercijalne tako i kvalitativne. Takođe Vas molimo da uzmete u obzir našu molbu i zahtev da se kriterijum iz tenderske dokumentacije, a koji se odnosi na reference, prilagodi kako bi ste mogli dobiti više kvalitetnih ponuđača. Šaljem Vam opis tenderskog zahteva i naše predloge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of at least one (1) works contract of construction of a new pipeline for transportation of a liquid or gas with a length of minimum 50 km, of which at least 10 km with minimum nominal diameter 700 mm and working pressure higher than 1.6 MPa, which is put into operation. The works contracts must have been completed at any moment during the period of past five (5) years from the date of submission of tenders	<p>Your proposals are not acceptable. The selection criteria remain unchanged.</p> <p>In order to respect the equal treatment and transparency of the procurement process, any kind of individual meeting between a potential tenderer and the representatives of the Contracting Authority and/or the Beneficiaries of the project, except one optional information meeting which will be held by the Contracting Authority as it is stated in the tender documentation, shall not be organized.</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to the Clarifications No. 1 Answer No.2 regarding submission of any request for additional information.</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

	<p>Opcija 1: Razmotriti reference projekata u poslednjih 10, umesto 5 godina, kako bi se udovoljilo tehničkim kriterijima.</p> <p>Opcija 2: Razmotriti gasovod 28 "X 40 km umesto 50 km</p> <p>Opcija 3: U ovom trenutku razmotriti ON-GOING projekte sa 80% završenog projekta. Moguće je predati potvrdu o završetku do dodele ugovora.</p> <p>Sobzirom da je rok za davanje ponude veoma kratak, molim Vas da me kontaktirate kako bi ubrzali proces davanja ponude."</p> <p>Potential tenderer stated that his company was contacted by a foreign company in order to submit tender and requested to have a meeting with the representative(s) of the Ministry of Mining and Energy in order to present themselves as tenderer and their offer. Also, the tenderer asked for the changes of the selection criteria and submitted their proposal and three options for consideration.</p> <p>The original request in Serbian and English language combination was submitted to the email address: sladjana.vukmirica@mre.gov.rs, stated in Additional information about the Contract Notice for purpose of registration for optional information meeting.</p>	
32.	<p>Subject: Clarification nr 2</p> <p>Description: Dear Sir/s, As you will see from the bellow enclosed message, we have submitted a question on the 31st of March, 2021. With no intention of being too insistent, we kindly ask you to clarify this major issue, as time remaining till the date of the tender is running short. We are sure you understand that we need this answer as prompt as possible, in order to properly prepare our participation to the tender. We are waiting either for your answer to the question or at least tell us when we will receive it. Question: Subject: Clarification ref NEAR/BEG/2021/EA-OP/0032 Description: In relation with the Tender</p>	<p>Please refer to the Answer No.2.</p> <p>Additionally, please refer to the Answer 29.</p>



Republic of Serbia

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

<p>in the subject, we kindly ask you to clarify a technical issue. As stated in VOLUME 3 – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS, page 100, section 3: “...TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GAS PIPELINE The design provides that linear part of the gas pipeline is to be built from pre-insulated steel pipes (longitudinally welded, weld joint coefficient $V=1$)...”. We want to participate to your tender, but our question is whether Helical spiral welded steel pipes technology is also accepted, as long as all the other technical specifications would be respected. Helical submerged arc welding (spiral) steel pipes (HSAW) have many advantages over longitudinally welded pipes (LSAW). Your prompt reply would be greatly appreciated.</p>	
--	--