

CLARIFICATIONS ON RFP

(IFB No. HQ/EN/EC/NKWD-NGAQ/PMC dated 13.09.2008).

The DFCC's remarks against the queries asked by various firms regarding the subject bid are placed below for information, guidance and necessary action please.

Sl. No.	RFP Clause Reference	Queries	DFCC's Clarifications / Remarks
1.	Page 4, Section 1, Para 6, Section 2, Para 5.5	As 4 parts of proposal are to be put in separate envelopes, it will not be practicable to hard bound the proposal. It may be confirmed that 4 sections will separately and individually be hard bound.	All the four parts should be individually hard bound.
2.	Page No. 5, S. No. 1.	Bid security in the form of Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque only. - Kindly allow the consultants to submit the Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee to reduce the avoidable blocking of funds of consultant.	Not agreed.
3.		The scope does not appear to provide for laying of track. It may kindly be clarified whether there would be a separate contract for the same or it is covered in this work, it is not clear whether this route is to be electrified or not. There being no mention of Electrification in the RFP. If these are to be a part of the work the staffing of PMC would have to be augmented accordingly. In our view these works should be carried out as a complete job separating them would delay the work and also cause problem when foundations for OHE masts are to be provided. Also how complete ballasting will get done. Many other issues will arise. There is also no mention of Signaling.	Please refer Para 1.3 of Data-sheet.
4.	Page No. 11, Clause no. 4.7 (ii)	"At least 50%market." Kindly relax this condition to 20% as the Expert Key Personnel will be deployed on some assignment either other Client.	Agreed.
5.	Page No. 12, Clause no. 4.8 (i)	"The Certificate should alsocompleted." Most of client certificates are not included with the said details. Consultant will provide	Not agreed.

		client completion certificates as we received and in case of absence of details, consultant will give undertaking, please confirm.	
6.	Page No. 13, Clause no. 4.8 (iv)	For Experts spread all over India and in case of International Experts all over world, the CV's are transmitted by electronic mails. Such CV's will have only printed signature of the experts. These may be accepted when countersigned by authorized executive of the consulting company.	Not agreed.
7.	Page No. 13, Clause no. 4.8 (vi)	Training:- Kindly clarify whether Training is a major component of the assignment. If yes, please provide brief details on training aspect	As per RFP.
8.	Page No. 19 & 20 data sheet Para 5.1	It may be confirmed that where ever two requirements are separated by '/' it means 'or'	Agreed
9.	Page No. 19 Para 5.1 (a) & (c)	While specifying the length of Railway the words 'Single Track'/'Double Track' have been used. It is presumed that the reference is to track Kms and not route Kms. Kindly confirm.	It is route kms.
10.	Page No. 19 Para 5.1 (a)	Only work carried out in India or work carried out abroad are also eligible. A company registered in India and 100% owned by foreign Company. Kindly Confirm that the experience /eligible assignments of 100% owned company foreign country will be eligible	The experience of the bidding firm either in India or abroad will be considered for eligibility. For rest, the conditions laid down in the RFP will apply.
11.	Page No. 20, Clause no. 5.1 (d)	Annual Turnover :- Contracted payment from consultancy services received by the bidder firms should be minimum of Rs. 18 Crore and desirable Rs. 25 Crore during the last 3(three) financial years including current years ie. 2005-2006 to 2008-2009 upto date of opening. Consultant understand that cumulative Annual turnover should be minimum Rs.18 Crore and desirable Rs.25 Crore during last 3	The turnover indicated is cumulative during the last 3 years and the current year and accordingly, the word 'average turnover' has been replaced by 'total turnover' at page no. 21, para 5.1 (b), Sl. No.1.

		(three) financial years. Please Confirm.	
12.	Page No. 23, data sheet para 5.2 (c)	<p>Number of Resident Engineers, Material Engineers and Senior Bridge Engineer is 2 each as per para 11.1 of TOR. Please confirm that their CV's will be evaluated for 5 points each.</p> <p>Please confirm that the CV of Structural Design Engineers, one of the key personnel as per TOR will not be evaluated.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Will be evaluated within Points allotted for Sr. Bridge Design Engineer (i.e. 3 Points for Sr. Structural Design Engineer and 7 points for Sr. Bridge Design Engineer).</p>
13.	Page No. 25, Note	Audited balance sheet for the last three years (FY 2005-06, FY 2006-07 and FY 2007-2008, including current year upto the date of opening) - Please consider the provisional balance sheet instead of Audited balance sheet for current year upto the date of opening.	For the current year provisional balance sheet will suffice.
14.	Page No. 37, B. submission of Reports - Sl. No. 2 & Sl. No. 7	Submission of Reports - Sl. No. 2 - 2 Quarterly Progress Report (Column 2) and Sl. No. 7 - 7 Final Completion Report & CD (Column 2) - Please clarify	Please read quarterly report and final report.
15.	Page No. 37 B. submission of Reports & 43 VIII Reports and Document Printing	B. submission of Reports & VIII Reports and Document Printing. The number is different. Please clarify which one of the above is correct.	Report should be submitted as per Page 43 Para VIII Reports and Document Printing
16.	Page No. 40, Field Support Staff	Field Engineers (Bridges) (22 nos.) and Man Month 480. As the Completion period of the work is 36 months, please clarify how the 22 nos. of Field Engineers (Bridges) to be deployed.	Deployment will be as per actuals.
17.	Page No. 41, Section 5 form fin 2 & Page 62,	It has indicated below table for administrative support staff that it does not include clerks and peons. Please clarify as to what are included	The note prohibiting the deployment of Peons / Clerks is

	section 6 para 11.1	and where the cost of clerks/peons is to be covered. Administrative support staff will normally have document controllers cum clerks, data entry operators cum clerks, stenographers and office assistants (Peons)	deleted. However, before deployment of sub-staff CVs of administrative support staff should be submitted for approval of DFCCIL.
18.	Page No. 43, Form Fin-2 III	Financial Proposal Standard form Fin-2 III Transportation:- Kindly specify the vehicle months required for the assignment, so that all consultant will be on same level.	As per consultant's assessment for their requirement for the project.
19.	Page No. 44	What is the Man month requirement of Expatriate staff and for which position	Expatriate staff need is considered to be minimum in the PMC. However, in design and construction of bridges, DFCCIL would prefer deployment of expatriates for introduction of modern technology particularly, connected with heavy haul.
20.	Page 50, section 6 para 2.1 & page 51 para 4 (i)	Tentative location of proposed 3 site offices may be indicated as the same will affect the value of office space, requirement of transports as well as availability and identification of Key Experts. From the client side the contract will be administered by GM/Engg. III in Delhi and CPM in Allahabad. Team Leader of PMC will be co-ordinating with them. Please confirm that office of team Leader will be at Delhi or at Allahabad	The location of site offices will be as per requirements of the project. Team Leader's office of PMC should be nearest to the project. However the Team Leader will coordinate both at Allahabad and Delhi offices.
21.	Page 52, Section 6 Para 4(vi)	10% test check by Team Leader may not be practicable, considering his other duties and may be reconsidered.	Not agreed. 100% check has to be done by PMC's lower level technical staff and subsequent checks as provided in the RFP should be done

			before the bill is submitted to CPM.
22.	Page 53, Section 6 Para 5.3 & para 11.1	Proof checking of design of specialized work and complicated structure and bridges is required to be done by PMC. Senior Bridge Design and Senior Structural Design Engineers have been provided for in the manning schedule. However personnel with qualification and experience specified (Minimum 20 years after M.Tech) in the bid document mainly organise, guide, supervise and manage the design engineers and are not habituated to carry out calculations etc. themselves. It is therefore requested that - Provision may be made in manning schedule for Design Assistants to assist the Sr design engineers in proof checking OR The Sr. Design Engineers may fix agencies like Engineering institutions or specialized design companies and the Finance forms may separately provide for payments for the same	Not Agreed.
23.	Page No. 54, Para 6.2	CEO of one of the Directors from the Board of Governors is required to act as Engineer and shoulder the responsibilities detailed I Para 6.4 and elsewhere. The engineer is also required to visit the sites at every three months for two weeks. Kindly rethink this provision as it may distract most of the firms from bidding. Generally the Team Leader will take care of all these requirements.	While involvement of one of the Directors is not being insisted upon, the consultant must nominate suitable senior person as the co-ordinator to discharge the function of the CEO and to co-ordinate between DFCCIL corporate office and their field offices.
24.	Page No. 57	Maintenance of records; labour and material used should be the responsibility of the contractor and not the consultant.	Not agreed.
25.	Page No. 58, section 6 para 6.7 (ix)	It may please be confirmed that maintenance manual to be prepared will be primarily to cover the Defect Liability period.	Maintenance manual will be prepared by the Consultant for future maintenance purpose.

26.	Page No. 63, Clause no. 11.2 and Page no. 76, Annexure-III	"It is proposed to broadly evaluate them..... Capabilities." Kindly confirm that CVs of sub-professional staff, field support staffs and optional staffs not required to be submitted to the client.	While CVs of only key professional staff will be considered for evaluation of the consultant, before deployment CV of other staff e.g., sub-professional staff, field support staff, optional staff are also required to be submitted and get approved before their deployment.
27.	Page No. 63, Section 6 Para 12.1	Please clarify as to how the 40% duration for contract specialist in 'home country' will be applied in case of Indian contract specialists.	As per the RFP and as decided during negotiation if needed.
28.	Page No. 65, Section 6 Para 13.2 Site office	Area of site offices indicated in this Para @ 50/40 sq. m will not be able to accommodate the PMC personnel who will be required to use them. Office of Team leader will be required to accommodate Team leader, 2 Sr. Design Engineers, 2 Sr. Bridge Engineers, Environment and Contract experts, CADD man, Quantity surveyor etc apart from a meeting room and administrative staff and may require minimum 150 sq. meter of carpet space. The offices of RE will be required to accommodate, quality control engineers and field engineers. Even assuming that only about half of field engineers will be in office at a time for the purpose of study and discussion of drawings, preparation and calculation of bill quantities, taking or giving documents or taking instructions etc., minimum of 100 sq. meter space will be required for each RE's office. Provisions may therefore be reconsidered.	The area given in only indicative and the consultant is required to make their own assessment as it has to be arranged at their own cost.
29.	Page No. 66, Section 6 Para 13.2 Equipment for Engineer	(i) Taking into consideration need for one PC each in offices of RE and one for CADD, number of computers required may be considered for increase to 6	The Number given is the minimum to be provided by the consultant. However,

		<p>(ii) Xerox machines capable of handling A4 size may be required in offices of RE's also,</p> <p>(iii) In case DFCC may require electronic transmission of data/reports etc., provision of Internet connections may also be needed for computers but not covered in this Para.</p>	<p>consultant is required to make their own assessment for discharging the responsibility. All these have to be arranged by the consultant at their own cost.</p>
30.	Page No. 70, Ann. I to Section 6 Para 6	Material Engineers are to be 'deployed throughout the contract duration', but man month provision in Para 11.1 is not adequate to fulfill that requirement	Not agreed.
31.	Page No. 70 of RFP : Qualification of Contract Specialist.	As per RFP he will be a qualified Contract Specialist with qualifications and experience in the field of contract management, Law, MIS, etc. Please clarify the word 'qualified Contract Specialist' and what is the basic qualification of contract specialist.	The basic qualification for contract specialists is BE Civil Engineering. However, he need not have experience in law or MIS. The experience in Law and MIS will be considered as added qualification.
32.	Page No. 71	As per annexure-I - Broad Qualification Requirement of Key Professional Staff : Kindly relax the relevant experience to min 15 years Professional Staff, Sr. No. 6 - Sr. Bridge Design Engineer and Sr. No.-7 - Sr. Structural Design Engineer should have relevant experience of about 20 Years.	Agreed to.
33.		Maximum age has been fixed for various personnel. It is suggested that the present market scenario of availability of experienced Railway personal is very restricted. Putting an age bar will further restrict it. Besides it is not unusual to find persons in fit physical condition even at 70 years and above. It would perhaps be more useful be seek physical fitness.	Not agreed
34.	Page No. 74,	Qualification requirements of CADD	Not Agreed

	Ann-II section 6, Para 1	expert are not practicable to meet with. Graduate Engineers do not continue as CADD experts for 8-10 years after graduation. CADD and computerization at reasonable level started only after mid nineties in India and therefore CADD diploma holders with 14-16 years will also hardly be available. Provision may please be reconsidered.	
35.	Page No. 76, Ann-III section 6, Para 1 & 2 for Field Engineers	<p>(i) It may be clarified whether 50% mentioned in 6th. Line of the Para is 50% of the 50% mentioned in first line of this Para or of the total strength.</p> <p>(ii) AS PMC for Railway Formations is of recent origin in India, graduate engineers with 2-5 years professional experience, who are also well versed with construction of Railway formations will not be available. Provision may please be reviewed.</p> <p>(iii) It has been laid down that remaining 50% Field Engineers should have higher qualification than graduate engineers. This may not be practicable as, as per our experience, even graduate engineers with some experience are unwilling to join projects as 'Field Engineers". Candidates with Management and MIS qualification may not be prepared to take up the duties assigned to a Field engineer And they may not be conversant with total station etc. Provision may therefore be reviewed.</p>	<p>The RFP provides for deployment of half of the field engineers be Graduate Engineers and rest can be Diploma holders. Similarly, half of the Engineers (Graduate/Diploma) should be well versed with construction of railway formation work including blanketing.</p> <p>The engineer's experience is not required to be in PMC. His experience of work elsewhere will also be counted.</p> <p>Agreed to. Engineering graduates with requisite experience will suffice.</p>

36.	Page No. 77, Annexure-III (Surveyor)	As now a days, it is hard to get Degree holder surveyor, therefore you are requested to relax the education criteria for surveyor to Diploma in Civil Engineering and ITI (Surveyor)	Agreed to. Surveyors should be minimum Diploma holder having requisite experience given in the RFP.
37.	Page No. 78, Annexure-III Section 6 Para 1 & 2 for optional Staff	Candidates having professional experience with Railways would have joined Railway as apprentice, for which minimum qualification was 10+2, after which they were given 2/3 year apprenticeship training that was considered equivalent to Diploma in Engineering. It may be confirmed that such candidates will be eligible.	Diploma holders or persons with equivalent qualification with requisite experience and who can accomplish the work can be accepted. So long the staff is considered having qualification of Diploma, he will be considered at par with diploma only. For rest of the qualification the conditions laid down in the RFP will apply.
38.	Page No. 99, Section 7, GCC Para 6.2(b)	For a large LS project of this type with a number of unknowns like program of contractor to be appointed, adjustments in the manning schedule of 10% or one week are too small. May please consider their enhancement to 20% and 3 months respectively.	The man months of the deployment schedule is tentative. The consultant will be required to deploy the experts as per requirements of the work. However, for the purpose of payment the overall quoted cost would be the ceiling cost.
39.	Page No. 100, Section 7 GCC Para 6.4 (a) and SCC Para 8.3 (b) sub para (c)	The term 'Government's country' used in these and other Para may please be clarified.	The Term "Government Country" means the country where the project is to be executed.

40.	Page No. 100, Para 6.5	Change of Personal - The provision that even for any change of personal there would be reduction of payment is too stiff. It is suggested that reduction should apply only for change beyond say 25%. In any case replacement would be approved by DFCCIL.	Not agreed.
41.	Page No. 101, Section 7 GCC Para 6.5 (c)	Professional and sub professional staff in the present environment are constantly on the move in the private sector due to all round development in infrastructure in India and abroad. The provision of reduction in fee, where replacement is with similar or better qualification, may please be reconsidered.	Not Agreed
42.	Page No.105 Clause 8.4 (a) Mobilization Advance	An advance payment @ 5% of the contract value in Indian Rupees against a Bank Guarantee for same amount form schedule Bank/Nationalized Indian Bank - Kindly rise the Mobilization advance to 10% against Bank Guarantee as per the industry practice.	Not agreed
43.	Page No. 105, Payment of the Consultant	The client shall cause the payment of the Consultants within sixty (60) days after the receipt by the Client of bills with supporting documents. The 60 days from the date of submission bill is much more time, please be considered payment to the Consultants within 30 days after the receipt of the bill by the Client, instead of 60 days time.	Agreed.
44.	Page No. 107, SCC Para 2.3 (b)	Period of 36 months indicated in second line seems to be incorrect. It is perhaps 6 months. Also the figure of 36 months given in the 3 rd . line may perhaps need correction to 42 months as per completion period given in 'Invitation of Bids'.	The period is six months instead of 36 months.
45.	Page No. 109, 5.12.1 Performance Guarantee	Performance Guarantee for an amount equal to 5 % of the contract value - Normally in India for National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Ministry of Surface Transport (MOST) and PWD projects for Project Management Consultancy Services the amount of Performance Guarantee is 2.5 % of the contract	As per RFP.

		value. We request DFCCIL, please consider the Performance Guarantee for an amount equal to 2.5 % of the contract value instead of 5% of the contract value.	
46.	Page No. 109, SCC Para 8.2 (a)	The escalation provided for in the clause may not be adequate as per the present trend and increase in cost index. It is requested that fixation of a yearly increase tied to RBI's cost index may be considered for remunerations as well as office expenditure for period of contract. During extension of contract period, if any, for no fault of PMC, the modalities of fixing the rates may be provided for in the documents.	It is clarified that escalation is permissible only on remuneration. No escalation will be payable on overheads.
47.	Page No. 110, SCC Para 8.2 (b) sub para (d)	No religious holidays are provided for. It is requested that 5 religious holidays for each personnel may also be set apart.	It is to be understood that the work will continue on all days and therefore the holidays may be granted in such a way that no work stops on this account. However, only one day's rest pr week will be considered for full payment.
48.	Page No. 110 & 111, SCC Para 8.3 (b)	The Para provides for mobilization / demobilization cost of expatriates. Items against which the following will be paid may please be clarified - (i) Mobilisation/ demobilization cost of personnel within India (ii) Cost of movement of members of team in Team leaders office to the site by transports other than Road. (iii) Cost of movement and boarding - lodging etc of members of PMC to the offices of CPM/ DFCC, GM III/ DFCC Delhi and other such offices as requirement of work.	As per provisions in the RFP.
49.		It is requested that a time extension of 4 weeks may please be given as long list past work experience in the last 7 years along with client certificate and signature, proof of	Not Agreed.

		age and their qualification certificates are required to be attached.	
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S. K. Pathak)
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For & on behalf of DFCCIL