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TO:	ALL BIDDERS	FROM:	Courtney Linley Chief, Procurement Section
DATE:	18 April 2017	REF.:	RFP No. 2017-0069/SCOTT-HERON
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SUBJECT:	Clarifications No. 1 for RFP No. 2017-0069/SCOTT-HERON Call-off Contract – Provision of Radioxenon Isotope Samples		



Dear Manager,

Please find attached hereto the Commission's answers to questions raised by bidders for the Request for Proposal No. 2017-0069/SCOTT-HERON "Call-off Contract – Provision of Radioxenon Isotope Samples" (RFP).

Please take these responses into account in the preparation and submission of your Proposal.

Please kindly note that the deadline for submission of proposals under the RFP was extended until **28 April 2017, Vienna local time 17:00.**

Bidders that have already submitted a Proposal may submit a revised Proposal, should the attached clarifications/revision affect the submitted Proposal. If no such revised Proposal is received by the deadline for submission, the Proposal already received in the Commission will be considered as valid for evaluation purpose.

We are looking forward to receiving your Proposal.

Kind regards,


Courtney Linley
Chief, Procurement Section

Call-off Contract – Provision of Radioxenon Isotope Samples

Question 1: After reading the referenced RFP, we are not sure of meeting your technical requirements. It appears that you are looking for Becquerel levels of xenon. Before going through the RFP submission process, I'd like to present what we can offer.

Currently, we sell 740MBq (20 mCi) vials to nuclear power plants to use for calibration purposes. The Xe-133 is in a mixture of 95% CO₂ and 5% carrier Xe contained in a septum-sealed 3cc glass vial. In addition to Xe-133, the vial may contain no more than 5% Xe-131m. Other fission radioxenons are typically not detected by calibration day. Vials are calibrated for 12 Noon Eastern Time and can be delivered several days prior to calibration. We can provide NIST traceable Xe-133 assays and HPGe spectra analysis. This is our standard product and we do not have the capability to dispense less than a few millicuries per vial. However, we do have the capability to dispense Curie quantities of Xe-133 in 300 cc shielded cylinders with Swagelok valve connections.

Please let us know if this will meet your needs so that we may submit a proposal.

Answer 1: We expect from the contractor to be able to provide e.g. a Xe sample, which contain Xe-131m only (impurities of Xe-133, Xe-133m, Xe-135, Xe-127 up to 5% of the Xe-131m activity five days after the time of shipment are acceptable) with an activity of 1 Bq at time of shipment in a gastight vials with septum. The volume of the vial can vary between 10 to 20 cm³. The above described product (Xe-133, 5% Xe-131m, 740 MBq, in a vial of 3 cm³) does not meet our technical requirements as specified in the Terms of Reference.

Question 2: We would like to get clarification of section 2.1.1 of Annex B of the Terms of Reference. Line item (iv) states a Xenon activity range of 1 Bq to 300 Bq for Xe-131m and Xe-133. What is the activity range for the other Xenon isotopes (Xe-133m, Xe-135, Xe-127)?

Answer 2: The isotopes Xe-133m, Xe-135, Xe-127 are all optional and there are no specified activity ranges for these isotopes except for "Ensure that the total activity of a Xenon Sample is below exemption limits under existing national and international regulations for safe transport". We hope to get Xe-127 in similar ranges as specified for Xe-131m and Xe-133. Due to the short half-lives of Xe-133m, Xe-135 we would hope to get activities in the range of kBq's, but as already mentioned there is no requirement specified in the Terms of Reference on the optional Xe isotopes.

Question 3: What is the acceptable uncertainty range for the Xenon Sample activity?

Answer 3: ± 25% (k=1) of the specified values

Question 4: Do stated Xenon Sample activities need to be traceable to a national metrology institute?

Answer 4: No they don't.

Call-off Contract – Provision of Radioxenon Isotope Samples

Question 5: Is the Xenon activity range of 1 Bq to 300 Bq the activity range when the sample is shipped or the activity range when the sample should be received?

Answer 5: *It is the activity range when the sample is shipped.*

Question 6: Can the proposal include a price increase after the initial 3 years if the Commission chooses the optional 2 year extension?

Answer 6: *Yes. Please note that all prices quoted, including the ones for optional extension, shall be firm and fixed and shall not be subject to further escalation.*

Question 7: What is the anticipated time between the awarding of the contract and the first FRD?

Answer 7: *After signature of the Contract, the FRD will be issued as and when required by the Commission. Please be guided accordingly.*