

State of Israel



Date: April 4, 2017

Ref: RS-2

Re: Request for Information - Biological Treatment of Contaminated Groundwater – Israel Military Industry at Ramat-Ha'sharon Site ("IMI") - Clarifications Notice no. 2

Ref: Request for Information dated February 2, 2017 ("RFI Process")

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.4 (*Clarifications*) of the RFI, the Tender Committee ("TC") respectfully issues this Clarifications Notice **no. 2**, as follows:

Item no.	Request for Clarification	TC's Clarification Response
1	The RFI seeks biological treatment for 5 contaminants including perchlorate reduction only, while the pilot refers to 10 additional contaminants that are expected to be treated. Please provide a full analysis of the raw water (of the 6 wells) to be treated	The evaluation of the main pollutants concentrations in the FSTP's inlet are specified in sections 2.2 and 2.3 of the RFI. The Pilot's documents for the design, construction, operation & maintenance of the demonstration plant included - in addition to the pollutants concentrations - other parameters used for planning the proposed treatment such as major ions, pH, EC and alkalinity ¹ . The complete and updated composition of the groundwater in the IMI site

¹ A link where the Pilot's tender documents (and clarifications issued within the framework of the Pilot's tender process) is provided under headnote 6 below (item no. 17 below).

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		<p>and its vicinity, including the location of each of the 6 planned production wells, and including the above parameters, will be provided by the TC within the prequalification documents (“PQ”)² which together with the Request for Proposal documents and Contract documents (“RFP Documents”) shall constitute the FSTP’s “Tender Documents”.</p>
2	<p>Will it be possible to propose other relevant technologies for perchlorate removal?</p>	<p>In view of the information known to the TC and its consultants’ – it is the TC’s understanding that given the unique contaminants composition and concentrations, a biological based³ (or involved) treatment is the preferable technology considering associated engineering/financial long term aspects.</p> <p>Responders may present additional relevant perchlorate treatments (non-biological) provided such alternatives are proven – whereby they have successfully treated and removed <u>Perchlorate</u> from contaminated groundwater in a full-scale treatment plant (not experimental or pilot scale). This</p>

² The TC may update, amend or supplement, in any manner deemed beneficial to the FSTP Project, information included in the PQ within the framework of clarification issued during or after PQ or within the RFP Documents.

³ see, in this regard, item 10 below.

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		possibility to provide information relating to alternative treatment methods (as provided above) shall not bear any warranty or representation upon the TC or limitation of its discretion regarding the technology to be applied in the future FSTP.
3	What is the complete list of the treatment goals?	The primary goals shall be provided within the PQ Documents ⁴ . In a general manner and in the context of the RFI it may be added that presently it is assumed the contaminated water will be treated to a level that would, in principal, allow their unlimited use. However, specific requirements regarding the quality of the treated water; their intended use(s), and applying regulations and exemptions - shall all be provided in the RFP Documents.
4	Will preference be given to treating the combined influent of all 6 wells by a single treatment plant as opposed to 6 independent treatment systems (one for each well)?	The intention currently is that the groundwater extracted from the six production wells will be treated in a central treatment plant.
5	Explain if there are any additional	All such requirements will be

⁴ See footnote no. 2.

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	treatment requirements for the final water quality (disinfection, turbidity, etc.)?	concluded and thereafter reflected in the RFP Documents, <i>inter alia</i> , after the TC completes review of the RFI Responses.
6	What are the water quality requirements for the backwash water?	All such requirements will be concluded and thereafter reflected in the RFP Documents, <i>inter alia</i> , after the TC completes review of the RFI Responses.
7	What are the different discharge options for the backwash water in the site?	All such options will be concluded and thereafter reflected in the RFP Documents.
8	Has the pilot operated as per the pilot's tender goals? Will the pilot results be published?	All information regarding the Pilot which has not been referred to or attached hereto including information and data which was submitted by the Pilot's contractor and which is applicable to the FSTP and is in the possession of the TC (or WA) – shall be included in the PQ Documents.
9	Will the Tender Committee allow the operation of additional pilots for the purpose of testing alternative biological treatment method for the FSTP?	The question of execution of additional pilot(s), manner and framework thereof - are under the TC's review. However, it should be noted that the TC intention is to allow prequalifying entities to receive groundwater samples from the site to execute independent tests

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		<p>required for the preparation of their proposal.</p> <p>Further instructions shall be included in the PQ Documents.</p>
10	Is the Tender Committee aware of a fixed-bed biological treatment technology compared to fluidized bed approach?	The TC is aware that biological treatment can be successfully applied in various methodologies.
11	Will preference be given to a technology supplier that can treat multiple contaminants in a single-stage treatment?	This issue shall be reviewed and determined towards issuance of the RFP Documents.
12	Please detail space limitations of the treatment plant.	This issue shall be defined and reflected in the PQ Documents ⁵ after the statutory issues relating to the FSTP Project and site are concluded. Given the above it may be added at this stage that the space reserved for the FSTP's treatment plant will range between 15 – 20 dunams.
13	Schedule for the Tender	After the TC completes the RFI Process, is satisfied that all relevant statutory issues were sufficiently advanced and is prepared for the issuance of the PQ Documents - those shall be issued thereby

⁵ See footnote no. 2.

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		commencing the FSTP's tender PQ stage.
14	What is the role/function of Inbal Insurance Company Ltd?	Inbal Insurance Company Ltd is a company owned by the government of Israel. The company provides the government of Israel PPP projects management consultation and services in a variety of associated aspects.
15	Kindly detail as per the Contractor's scope of obligations vis-a-via financing.	The winning Bidder's role in financing the project will be defined in the RFP Documents. Currently, it is expected that the Project's framework of engagement will be a PPP type, and therefore the preferred bidder (which will become the Contractor of the project) is expected to be obliged to attain the required intermediate finance all as shall be detailed in the RFP Documents.
16	As an international public tender, may the prime contractor for FSTP be an Israeli company?	Requirements relating to the identity of the Bidder, its composition and roles and responsibilities of comprising members (local and foreign) will be defined in the PQ Document.
17	Does the Pilot's JV hold any proprietary intellectual property related to the pilot project	With regard to information relating to the pilot, kindly see item no. 8 above.

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	technology?	<p>As per the specific question raised – the TC is not aware of such rights with relation to the specific technology applied, however this issue is for the Bidder to independently investigate and conclude.</p> <p>Kindly see in this respect the applicable provisions of the Pilot's RFP, Contractor's Confirmation (Appendix D) and applicable provisions of the Contract. These documents are available for online review and download, free of charge, from the Water and Sewage Authority's Website (via the following link⁶).</p>
18	Will the Pilot's JV members be permitted to participate in the FSTP Tender?	<p>The JV was awarded with the Pilot after it had participated in an international public tender and have been declared as the winning Bidder. The FSTP tender is expected to be an international public tender. As such the JV and comprising members are not prevented from participating (jointly or separately) in the FSTP tender provided they (as any other entity) comply with the terms that shall be included therein.</p>

⁶ <http://www.water.gov.il/Hebrew/Tenders/Pages/michraz100016613.aspx>

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19	Please provide the results of the successful pilot-scale facility.	Kindly see item no. 8 above.
20	Please provide details about the insurance required for the project.	This issue shall be defined and reflected in the RFP Documents.
21	Will the contractor be required to provide bonds for the project?	In a general note – the answer is affirmative. However, specific requirements relating thereto shall be determined and reflected in the RFP Documents.
22	Kindly detail the limitations of Contractor liabilities.	Specific requirements relating thereto shall be determined and reflected in the RFP Documents.
23	What will be the variation mechanism for differing conditions?	Specific provisions relating thereto shall be determined and reflected in the RFP Documents.
24	Will the client be able to provide full and uninterrupted access to the site for construction plant, materials and labor using existing infrastructure?	This is an objective the TC is aiming for. Bearing in mind the nature of the site (currently forming part of the IMI) - specific provisions relating thereto shall be determined and reflected in the PQ Documents ⁷ .
25	What is the expected construction cost of the project?	<p>The estimated Total project cost (the construction costs constituting part thereof) will be evaluated following the TC's determination of the project's type, scope, terms and conditions.</p> <p>In view of the aforesaid, it may be added the total project cost is currently estimated at the range of hundreds of millions ILS.</p>

⁷ See footnote no. 2.

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26	When does the government expect to issue a draft and final RFP for the project?	Kindly see item no. 13 above. The RFP Documents shall be issued after completion of the PQ and determination of the Prequalified Bidders and after the TC is prepared for issuance of the RFO Documents.
27	Please provide a copy of Article 14A of the Mandatory Tenders Regulations, 5753-1993 .	Please find, for reference purpose only, a translated version of Article 14A attached hereto as Annex A . Kindly note, the binding version of the Article is the Hebrew one.
28	What is the total investment of the project?	In a general note – see item no. 25 above. The total investment to be made by the Bidder - is for the Bidder to evaluate and determine, <i>inter alia</i> , in view of the provisions of the future RFP Documents.
29	What will be the project's type of engagement?	The specific nature of the FSTP's PPP engagement framework shall be defined and reflected in the PQ Documents ⁸ .
30	What is the expected rate on return on investment?	The ROI is for the Bidder to evaluate and determine, <i>inter alia</i> , in view of the provisions of the future RFP Documents.
31	Can information reflecting obtained experience in projects where industrial wastewater treatment and water ecological environment treatment be submitted in the RFI Response?	See item no. 2 above.

⁸ See footnote no. 2.

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32	Will governmental companies / entities be allowed to participate in the tender?	<p>In principal governmental companies and entities are prohibited from participating in governmental tenders such as the current one.</p> <p>This prohibition will most probably apply upon the current tender. Instructions relating thereto shall be included in the PQ Documents.</p>

2. On a general note, the TC wishes to draw Responder's attention to the objective of the RFI Process (as detailed therein) looking forward towards the preparation and publication of the Tender Documents.

The TC addresses this issue in view of some of the clarifications sought regarding issues which were not yet determined by the TC and which framework is the future FSTP Tender Documents.

3. Kindly attach this Clarification Notice **no. 2** to your RFI Response.
4. This Clarification Notice **no. 2** – is uploaded to the Tender Committee's Websites provided under Section 6.1 of the RFI: (a) the Government Procurement Administration's website; and (b) the WA's website⁹.

Sincerely,

Yariv Nehama

Chairman of the Inter-Ministerial Tender Committee

Copy:

Tender Committee members and consultants.

Attachments:

- (a) **Annex A** – English Translation of Article 14A of the **Mandatory Tenders Regulations, 5753-1993**

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⁹ Links to both websites are provided under Section 6.1 of the RFI.

Annex A

English Translation of Article 14A of the **Mandatory Tenders Regulations, 5753-1993**¹⁰

Preliminary Request for Information Regulations 5769-2009

- 14A.** (a) A tender committee may decide to issue a preliminary request for information that is required by it for purposes of contracting.
- (b) A preliminary request for information shall be made publicly.
- (c) The receipt of information and holding of discussions with those responding to the request shall be done on an equal basis between the respondents.
- (d) The tender committee shall document any information received and any discussions held with those responding to a preliminary request for information.
- (e) A response to a preliminary request for information shall not be a condition for participation in the tender held pursuant thereto, shall not confer on a respondent an advantage merely because he responded to the request, and shall not obligate such respondent's inclusion in the tender or contracting with him in any other manner.
- (f) Information as stated in subregulation (d), based on which a tender was held that was awarded to the provider of the information, shall be subject to regulation 21(e), *mutatis mutandis*.

(*) Provided for reference only. The binding version shall be the Hebrew version.

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¹⁰ <https://www.mr.gov.il/Information/NewsAndUpdates/Pages/English.aspx> (Government Procurement Administration's Website). **Provided for reference only. The binding version shall be the Hebrew version.**