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REVISION 004 TO A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions remain the same.

Issuing Office:
 Parks Canada Agency
 National Contracting Services
 Cornwall, ON

Title: Avalanche Forecasting System Replacement	
Solicitation No.: 5P047-23-0067/A	Date: February 5, 2024
Amendment No.: 004	
Client Reference No.: N/A	

Solicitation Closes: At: 2:00 PM On: February 13, 2024	Time Zone: Eastern Standard Time (EST)
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F.O.B.: Plant: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/>
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Address Enquiries to: Christine Lajoie	
Email Address: christine.lajoie@pc.gc.ca	Telephone No.: 343-585-2762

Destination of Goods, Services, and Construction: Parks Canada P.O. Box 350, 301B - 3rd Street West Revelstoke, BC V0E 2S0
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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE BIDDER

Vendor/ Firm Name:	
Address:	
Telephone No.:	Email Address:
Name of person authorized to sign on behalf of the Vendor/ Firm (type or print):	
Signature:	Date:

Solicitation No.:
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Amendment No.:
004

Contracting Authority:
Christine Lajoie

Client Reference No.:
N/A

Title:
Avalanche Forecasting System Replacement

Amendment 004

This amendment is raised to:

- A. Extend the solicitation closing date
- B. Answer questions from bidders
- C. Make changes to the tender documents

A. Solicitation Closing Date

The closing date for solicitation 5P047-23-0067/A, titled "Avalanche Forecasting System Replacement", is extended from February 6, 2024 until **February 13, 2024**.

If you have already submitted your proposal, you are invited to send us your revisions, where necessary, by fax / email to 1-877-558-2349 / soumissionsest-bidseast@pc.gc.ca. Please indicate the solicitation number on all correspondence.

B. Questions and Answers

- Q32: The amendment of ISO27001 requirements seems to be a surprisingly restrictive mandatory technical criteria, especially given that:**
- The data to be integrated was generally categorized by Parks Canada's IT Security team as "Unclassified"
 - The data does not need to be hosted in Canada anymore
 - Parks IT Security team is already involved and creates a list of security controls with respect to ITSG-33

Can the criteria be changed to still require IS27001 but to require its implementation by the time the initial period is completed and the system becomes operational (in November 2025)? Or at least to give a possible Supplier the chance to fulfill this criteria within the initial contract period (e.g. until November 2024)

- A32: The criteria will be changed. Once a contract is in place, we will require proof that the vendor has started the certification process within two months from contract start. The vendor is expected to meet the requirement within 12 months from that point.

- Q33: To demonstrate compliance with the requirements in the Third Party Assurance Requirements, develop a project in an agile way (as defined in the original RFP) and given that the data is categorized as "Unclassified" would it not be more suitable to aim for an ISO standard that ensures the quality of processes and the resulting product (ISO9001) versus an ISO standard that only focuses on information security (IS27001)? Would it therefore be acceptable to add IS9001 as one of the options in the mandatory criteria 2.1 section 1) instead of ISO27001?**

- A33: The ISO 9001 standard provides the requirements to ensure consistency in manufacturing and services. It is nice to have one but has nothing to do with cyber security. The requirement is specifically for ISO 27001 and SOC 2 Type 2 certifications.

In a case where the system's information is UNCLASSIFIED (Level 1 assessment) the guidance in paragraph 2.3.3 <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/guidance/guidance-cloud-security-assessment-and-authorization-itsp50105> ITSP.50.105 - Canadian Centre for Cyber Security states:

"CSA STAR Level 1 is a self-assessment which Cloud Service Providers (CSP) can use to document the security controls provided by their cloud service offerings. In a Level 1 self-assessment, the CSP completes a Consensus Assessment Initiative Questionnaire (CAIQ). The CAIQ must be updated yearly or when the CSP introduces significant changes to its cloud

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services and controls. While your organization can use a Level 1 self-assessment for a high-level screening of CSPs, we recommend using a more in-depth verification by an independent third-party.”

C. Tender Package/ Solicitation Revisions

The Mandatory Technical Criteria is being removed as a Technical Evaluation Criteria as it is not necessary to obtain before contract award. Instead, the requirement is being inserted into the contract security clauses as the requirement must only be met within 12 months of Contract award.

Delete: Part 4 – Evaluation Procedures and Basis of Selection, in its entirety
Replace With:

PART 4 – EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND BASIS OF SELECTION

4.1. Evaluation Procedures

- (a) Bids will be assessed in accordance with the entire requirement of the bid solicitation including the technical and financial evaluation criteria.
- (b) An evaluation team composed of representatives of Canada will evaluate the bids.

4.1.1. Technical Evaluation

4.1.1.1. Point Rated Technical Criteria

Technical bids will be evaluated against the point rated technical evaluation criteria in **Annex C to Part 4 of the Bid Solicitation**.

4.1.2. Financial Evaluation

The price of the bid will be evaluated in Canadian dollars, Applicable Taxes excluded, FOB destination, Canadian customs duties and excise taxes included.

4.1.3. Basis of Selection

1. To be declared responsive, a bid must:
 - a. comply with all the requirements of the bid solicitation; and
 - b. obtain the required minimum points specified for each criterion for the technical evaluation, and
 - c. obtain the required minimum of **130 points** overall for the technical evaluation criteria which are subject to point rating.
The rating is performed on a scale of **260 points**.
 2. Bids not meeting (a) or (b) and (c) will be declared non-responsive.
 3. The selection will be based on the highest responsive combined rating of technical merit and price. The ratio will be **70%** for the technical merit and **30%** for the price.
 4. To establish the technical merit score, the overall technical score for each responsive bid will be determined as follows: total number of points obtained / maximum number of points available multiplied by the ratio of **70%**.
 5. To establish the pricing score, each responsive bid will be prorated against the lowest evaluated price and the ratio of **30%**.
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6. For each responsive bid, the technical merit score and the pricing score will be added to determine its combined rating.
7. Neither the responsive bid obtaining the highest technical score nor the one with the lowest evaluated price will necessarily be accepted. The responsive bid with the highest combined rating of technical merit and price will be recommended for award of a contract.

The table below illustrates an example where all three bids are responsive and the selection of the contractor is determined by a 70/30 ratio of technical merit and price, respectively. The total available points equal 135 and the lowest evaluated price is \$45,000 (45).

Basis of Selection - Highest Combined Rating Technical Merit (70%) and Price (30%)

		Bidder 1	Bidder 2	Bidder 3
Overall Technical Score		115/135	89/135	92/135
Bid Evaluated Price		\$55,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$45,000.00
Calculations	Technical Merit Score	$115/135 \times 70 = 59.63$	$89/135 \times 70 = 46.15$	$92/135 \times 70 = 47.70$
	Pricing Score	$45/55 \times 30 = 24.55$	$45/50 \times 30 = 27.00$	$45/45 \times 30 = 30.00$
Combined Rating		84.18	73.15	77.70
Overall Rating		1st	3rd	2nd

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Delete: Annex C to Part 4 of the Bid Solicitation, in its entirety
Replace With:

ANNEX C TO PART 4 OF THE BID SOLICITATION

TECHNICAL EVALUATION

1. Technical Bid Format

The technical bid must address clearly and in sufficient depth the points that are subject to the evaluation criteria against which the bid will be evaluated. Simply repeating the statement contained in the bid solicitation is not sufficient.

In order to facilitate the evaluation of the bid, **Canada strongly requests that bidders address and present topics in the order of the evaluation criteria under the same headings.**

To avoid duplication, bidders may refer to different sections of their bids by identifying the specific paragraph and page number where the subject topic has already been addressed.

The Bidder is advised to pay careful attention to the wording used throughout this Request for Proposal (RFP). Failure to satisfy a term or condition of this RFP may result a bid being deemed non-responsive.

All information required for evaluation purposes must be included directly in the Bidder's technical bid. The evaluation team cannot consider information not provided directly in the technical bid (e.g. links to additional website content, references checks, etc.).

2. Point Rated Technical Criteria

Technical bids will be evaluated against the point rated technical criteria below.

For a bid to be declared responsive to the solicitation requirements it must meet or exceed the minimum weighted points required for the point rated technical criteria, as identified. Bids that do not meet or exceed the identified minimum weighted points required (if applicable) for the point rated technical criteria will be given no further evaluation. **In addition, a bid must have achieved a minimum technical score of 130/260.**

Point Rated Technical Criteria 2.1 will be evaluated in accordance with 3. Generic Evaluation Criteria.

Item No.	Evaluation Criteria	Min Score	Max Score	Total Score <small>**To Be Completed by Evaluation Team**</small>
2.1	Avalanche Data Experience: The Bidder must provide information for two (2) projects that demonstrate experience developing data-driven monitoring tools for the risk management of avalanche hazards. The projects submitted will be reviewed and assessed to evaluate the level of related experience and the quality of work.	6/ project	10/ project	/20

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	<p><u>Information that should be supplied:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general description of the project • Clearly indicate how the project is comparable/relevant to the requested project • A description of practices, methods and principles applied by the bidder to ensure project success • A description of project outcomes • The name and contact information of the client organization(s) for whom the work was provided 			
<p>2.1 **To Be Completed by Evaluation Team**</p>	Reference(s):			
	Strengths:			
	Weaknesses:			

Item No.	Evaluation Criteria	Min Score	Max Score	Total Score <small>**To Be Completed by Evaluation Team**</small>
2.2	<p>System Capabilities:</p> <p>The Bidder must provide a response for each capability in the table at Appendix 1 using the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – the Bidder’s solution provides this capability without the need for customization or other additional work that goes beyond reconfiguring an existing product. • Custom – the Bidder’s solution will provide this capability after customization or other or other additional work that goes beyond reconfiguring an existing product. • No – the Bidder’s solution will not be able provide this capability. <p>Rating Scale for System Capabilities Yes = 5 points Custom Build = 2 points No = 0 points</p>	120	240	/240
<p>2.2 **To Be Completed by Evaluation Team**</p>	Reference(s):			
	Strengths:			
	Weaknesses:			

3. Generic Evaluation Criteria

PCA Evaluation Board members will evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Bidder's response to the evaluation criteria and will rate each criterion with even numbers (0, 2, 4, 6, 8 or 10) using the generic evaluation table below.

At the final consensus evaluation meeting, the PCA Evaluation Board members will assign both even and odd numbers in determining the final score for each evaluation criteria.

	INADEQUATE	WEAK	ADEQUATE	FULLY SATISFACTORY	STRONG
0 point	2 points	4 points	6 points	8 points	10 points
Did not submit information which could be evaluated	Lacks complete or almost complete understanding of the requirements.	Has some understanding of the requirements but lacks adequate understanding in some areas of the requirements.	Demonstrates a good understanding of the requirements.	Demonstrates a very good understanding of the requirements.	Demonstrates an excellent understanding of the requirements.
	Weaknesses cannot be corrected	Generally doubtful that weaknesses can be corrected	Weaknesses can be corrected	No significant weaknesses	No apparent weaknesses
	Bidder do not possess qualifications and experience	Bidder lacks qualifications and experience	Bidder has an acceptable level of qualifications and experience	Bidder is qualified and experienced	Bidder is highly qualified and experienced
	Team proposed is not likely able to meet requirements	Team does not cover all components or overall experience is weak	Team covers most components and will likely meet requirements	Team covers all components - some members have worked successfully together	Strong team - has worked successfully together on comparable projects
	Sample projects not related to this requirement	Sample projects generally not related to this requirement	Sample projects generally related to this requirement	Sample projects directly related to this requirement	Leads in sample projects directly related to this requirement
	Extremely poor, insufficient to meet performance requirements	Little capability to meet performance requirements	Acceptable capability, should ensure adequate results	Satisfactory capability, should ensure effective results	Superior capability, should ensure very effective results

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Appendix 1 - System capabilities

The Appendix 1 is a separate document in Excel format. The document's name is: *System Capabilities-Capacités du système_v2*.

At: PART 6 – RESULTING CONTRACT CLAUSES

Delete: 6.1. Security Requirements

Replace With:

6.1. Security Requirements

Third Party Assurance Requirements:

The Supplier must provide documentation to Canada [within 12 months of Contract Award](#) that demonstrates how the Software as a Service Provider of the proposed Commercially Available Public Software as a Service complies with the requirements in the Third Party Assurance Requirements. Compliance must be demonstrated by providing one or more of the following industry certifications identified below and validated through independent third party assessments.

The Supplier must provide the following industry certifications for the proposed Service to demonstrate compliance:

1. One of the following:
 - a. ISO/IEC 27001:2013 Information technology - Security techniques - Information security management systems – Requirements; or
 - b. AICPA Service Organization Control (SOC) 2 Type II
2. Self-assessment, or assessments by external auditors, of its services against the Cloud Security Alliance (CSA) Cloud Controls Matrix (CCM) version 3.01 or subsequent version.

Each provided certification and assessment report must:

- a. Be valid as of the Submission date;
- b. Identify the legal business name of the proposed Supplier, and applicable Supplier Sub-processor, including Cloud Service Provider (CSP);
- c. Identify the current certification date and/or status;
- d. identify the list of Assets, Supplier Infrastructure, and Service Locations within the scope of the certification report.

The Supplier must provide the Technical Authority proof that they have started the certification process within two months from contract award.

ALL OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.