



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Directorate B - Security of supply, Energy markets & Networks
B.3 - Coal & Oil

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Contract Notice OJEU S 123-202994

Invitation to Tender ENER/B3/2011/202-1

**"European Coal Resources: A geographical database and map of EU coal basins
incl. potential sources of coal bed methane based on a harmonised typology "**

Deadline for receiving tenders: 8 September 2011

Last update: 10/08/2011

QUESTION 1: Is the tenderer required to acquire the data for coal and gas or has the European Commission contacted the various authorities and stakeholders informing them on the tender thus facilitating the tenderers work?

REPLY: The tender specifications stipulate according to section I.3.3 that the database must include at least all data required in the specifications. Please note that one of the award criteria is "shown knowledge of existing sources and classifications of relevant data as well as their coverage and limitations". Consequently, the tenderer is expected to clearly identify in the offer the sources of data to be used. Please also note that the specifications include as purpose of the contract inter alia an evaluation of the existing sources and classifications of data as well as the formulation of a common classification and terminology for coal typology and for CBM reservoirs (see section I.2. of the specifications). Naturally the Commission will, if necessary, cooperate as regards acquiring data, although this remains primarily one of the tasks expected from the successful tenderer.

QUESTION 2: Award criterium No.1 is "Shown knowledge of existing sources and classifications of relevant data as well as their coverage and limitations". Does "existing sources" refer to existing data sources such as the databases of the various Geological Survey Authorities or existing sources of coal and CBM?

REPLY: "Existing sources" refers to existing sources of relevant data. However, please note that the main purpose of the assignment will be the creation of a database with estimates for the coal and CBM resources potentially available from EU coal basins using a common classification which will need to be developed by the contractor.

QUESTION 3: As regards the technical and professional capacity tenderers must have for the tender to be eligible, is the experience of a subcontractor considered as an eligible addition to the experience of the tenderer?

REPLY: The tender specifications ask for "proof of availability of staff for this assignment" with a certain experience. For the purpose of checking the compliance with this selection criteria it is therefore not relevant if this capacity is available in-house or ensured by subcontracting. Please note that also in the latter case appropriate proof (for example via documents mentioned in section IV.2.2 of the tender specifications) will have to be provided. Please also note that tenderers intending to subcontract need to adhere to the instructions on subcontracting stated in section II.3 of the tender specifications.

QUESTION 4: Some geological surveys have mentioned that data regarding to this projects are available but information and/or data deliverable are not free of charge. This fee is hardly to calculate, that's why we don't consider this fee in the financial proposal. Is this the right way?

REPLY: The tenderer's financial proposal should include all costs related to the project.