

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

SOLICITATION OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

FOR

RTB BOR TAILING PONDS REMEDIATION STUDY

The Republic of Serbia has received a grant from the International Development Association (IDA), as administrator of grant funds provided by Japan, to assist with the preparation of the Bor Regional Development Project. The economy of Bor region in eastern Serbia has historically been dominated a large copper mining and processing complex of RTB Bor, currently in the process of privatization. The Government of Serbia (GoS) has decided to apply a part of this Grant to fund a consulting firm (hereinafter: the Consultant) to prepare a feasibility study and bid documents for the remediation of RTB Bor's tailing ponds that will not be subject to sale.. The Privatization Agency (PA) of Serbia and the Ministry of Science and Environment (MOSE) will jointly act as the Client for the feasibility study assignment. The successful bidder will work in close consultation with management and staff of RTB Bor, the Privatisation Agency team, and the relevant officials at MOSE.

Background Information

In the summer of 2006, the process of identification of private investors for the privatization of RTB Bor's assets has started. The public invitation of non-binding expressions of interests in the three core asset groups (RBB, RBM and TIR) was published in late May 2006. The public invitation to submit bids for the three core asset groups is expected to be published in August, with the tender completed by end of 2006. It is unlikely that all existing facilities and components in the operations at Bor and Majdanpek will be of interest to private investors. Most probably a number of tailing ponds and some other facilities can not play a role in the future privatized operations and will therefore the responsibility of the Government of Serbia. The GoS will need to deal with these liabilities in terms of remediation/closing and maintenance. The required feasibility study will result in a proposal for remediation and maintenance of the concerned tailing ponds and will make preparations needed for the contracting of needed remediation and maintenance works.

Brief Scope of Work

The scope of work comprises the RTB Bor tailing ponds that are not likely to be included in upcoming privatization transactions:

- 1- Field 1 of Veliki Kravelj TDF (Veliki Kravelj);
- 2- Bor TDF (Bor);
- 3- RTH TDF (Bor);
- 4- Saski Potok TDF (Majdanpek).

The specific objectives of the assignment are to: (i) analyze existing baseline data, including the recent Environmental Assessment report prepared by ERM consulting group; (ii) design and execute preliminary site investigations; (iii) propose preferred technical design standards and identify options to secure, remediate and maintain the concerned tailing ponds; (iv) select preferred options and prepare a conceptual design for the stabilization and remediation works with cost estimates for detailed design, remediation works and post-construction maintenance program; (v) prepare terms of reference and bidding documents for both a design-build-operate/maintain (DBO) contract and a contract for supervision of the DBO works.

The study work, conceptual design, cost estimate and input to the design-build-operate contract documents will be performed in compliance with Serbian design and other legal standards; World Bank Operational Policies and Bank Procedures and international standards of good engineering and operational practice.

Qualifications

The Consultant should have experience in mining and mine closure projects, tailings pond design, environmental studies and should be fully familiar with the World Bank Safeguard policies, as well as other related guidelines and procedures.

It is anticipated that the Consultant would establish a strong core team of specialists with extensive experience in undertaking assessments of remediation options for tailings ponds. It is envisaged that an international expert would serve as project team leader with a resident regional/national expert as deputy team leader. The Consultant may complement the skills of the core team with other short-term technical, environmental and institutional specialists as needed. The team is expected to provide pragmatic and insightful planning to complete the assignment to the above scope of work.

It is expected that the core project team will include 4-6 key staff, and the primary skills and specialties are suggested by an asterisk (*) below, and the key staff would have a minimum of 10-15 years relevant experience. The team should include specialists who are highly familiar with development projects in middle-income countries who wish to maintain affordable operations that are environmental and socially acceptable, by taking into account a balance of operations and maintenance costs with capital investment costs. The entire proposed project team may include several of the specialists listed below, but should not to be necessarily confined to the listed specialists:

- (*) Specialist in environmental mining sector projects with 15 years of international experience including experience in tailing pond management / remediation projects; also to act as team leader;
- (*) Civil engineer specialized in structure stability (tailing ponds).– 10 years experience
- (*) (Water) tunnel specialist – 10 years of experience
- (*) Design specialist /cost estimation specialist experienced in mining civil works – 15 years experience
- Procurement specialist with experience in DBO contracting – 10 years of experience;
- Geologist – 10 years of experience in mining operations
- Hydrologist – 10 years of experience
- Wastewater treatment specialist, specialized in tailing ponds water management – 10 years of experience
- Soil pollution / remediation specialist.

The Consultant shall name individuals to participate in specified roles within the project team and provide full curricula vitae and any other information considered relevant by the Consultant. The Consultant shall name the project leader, the deputy team leader, the other core team members and key short-term specialists, and provide an assurance that all members of the proposed team will be made available as specified in the proposal, if the Consultant is named.

The Privatization Agency, Republic of Serbia, now invites Expressions of Interest from qualified firms / consortia which should specify the following minimum qualification information in order to be considered for shortlisting: (i) profile of the firm/consortium and (ii) names and curricula vitae of the firm's key personnel proposed for this project, evidencing all the requirements listed.

The Consultant shall begin work immediately upon contract signature. It is envisaged that the assignment will be completed in 26 weeks.

The project budget for this assignment is fixed at the sum of USD 300,000.00, exclusive of 18 % VAT..

The Consultant will be selected using the **Fixed Budget Selection Method (FBS)**, in accordance with the procedures set out in the **Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, May 2004**.

Interested and eligible firms/consortia who wish to participate should submit their EOIs to the below indicated official of the PA, **by 18th August, 2006 (Friday), and not later than 16:00 hours (local time)**.

Contact: **Ms. Zorica Petrovic,**
 PMU Director
 Privatization Agency
 Republic of Serbia
 Terazije 23, 6th floor
 11000 Belgrade
 Tel: (+381 11) 30 29 968
 Fax: (+381 11) 30 20 828
 E-mail: zpetrovic@priv.yu

Cc: **Ms. Ankica Momcilovic**
 Procurement Officer
 Privatization Agency
 Republic of Serbia
 Terazije 23, 6th floor
 11000 Belgrade
 Tel: (+381 11) 30 20 815
 Fax: (+381 11) 30 20 828
 E-mail: amomcilovic@priv.yu