Minutes of Non-Compulsory Tender Briefing Meeting for the RFP relating to the Supply, Design, Development, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of the National Smart Metering System for Electricity and Water at Transnet Property.

Name of Region for Tender Briefing: National

Tender Number: **TP/2026/10/0002/115012/RFP**

Date: 22 October 2026 online on Microsoft Teams and 3rd Floor Boardroom, Carlton Centre

Present:

Transnet Property

Millicent Gama	Research Engineer: Transnet Property
Qiniso Luthuli	Act. National Head: Energy and Sustainability
Rachael Joseph	Energy Manager: Transnet Property
Brett Nichols	YPT: Transnet Property
Busiswa Kakaza	Secretary: Procurement

Prospective Bidders:

An online attendance register of bidders who were in attendance was collated by way of soliciting this information on the Microsoft Team's Online Chat Box as clarified at the tender briefing. Bidders who were present in the venue signed an attendance register.

Safety Brief

Millicent Gama kick started the meeting with safety briefing, encouraging attendees to observe and comply with safety requirements in the areas where they are currently operating from.

Welcome and Introductions

Qiniso Luthuli, the Chairperson of the non-compulsory tender briefing meeting introduced himself and opened the session by welcoming all bidders that were present in the meeting and asked all Transnet Property staff members to introduce themselves. He emphasised to all bidders in attendance that the tender briefing was a non-compulsory briefing session and that bidders had to ensure that they register their full company details on the chat box so that Transnet Property can reach all bidders who attended the meeting in an event that there is further correspondence, or clarifications made to bidders.

As part of the introduction, clarity was provided to bidders that the tender briefing was intended to discuss and clarify all issues related to the tender to procure an end-end smart electricity and water metering solution covering hardware, connectivity, Azure IoT software, SAP integration, training and operational support.

Tender Details:

The Chairperson informed bidders that the tender was issued on 14 October 2026. Non-Compulsory tender briefing session was scheduled for 22 October 2026. The closing date for the tender is 02 November 2026 at 10:00 am. He further mentioned that the due date for all tender clarifications as outlined in the tender document is before the tender closing date and time. Bidders were advised to send all clarifications by no later than this date to ensure that Transnet can provide clarity to all bidders who attended the briefing. It was also mentioned that clarifications will be consolidated and distributed to all bidders who attended the briefing so that they submit a comprehensive bid at the closing date and time and that no late submissions will be allowed by the tender portal.

Scope of work:

Rachael Joseph, a Regional Energy Manager in Transnet Property explained the scope of work to the bidders and what is expected of them. She outlined that Transnet is guided by the ICT policies and standards which are internal documents that will be shared with the successful bidder. She explained that the smart meters to be deployed will utilize SIM cards provided by Transnet.
She further explained that the successful bidder is expected to train and transfer skills to the end users for system operation. She presented that the number of required smart meters is a total of 1 167 smart meters comprising 608 electricity meters and 559 water meters. Transnet advised that, of its total portfolio, 39 tenant-occupied buildings have been identified and will be prioritized during the rollout of this project.

Tender's Evaluation Criteria:

Rachael Joseph gave an overview of tender evaluation criteria. She explained that documents will be checked for mandatory pre-qualification evidence. She emphasized that, bidders who fail to submit the required pre-qualification documents will not proceed to the technical evaluation stage and will be disqualified. She also provided a demonstration of the technical evaluation scoring methodology and illustrated how bidders may calculate their anticipated scores to determine compliance with the minimum technical threshold of 75%. Bidders were further informed that the evaluation calculator can be downloaded from the etender Portal.

Pricing Schedule:

Energy Pricing Basis: For bidding purposes, bulk energy meters should be priced on an 11kv basis except for one in KZN which is 33kv. Tenant energy meters should be priced for 400V application.

Water Pricing Basis: Bidders should price bulk water meters using DN150 and tenant water meters using DN32.

Bidders were told that pricing must cover the complete works including supply, delivery, installation, testing, commissioning, enclosures or other required peripherals, and Certificate of Compliance and must be in South African Rands. The Certificate of Compliance must be treated as normal parts of engineering works and not charged as extras.

The following questions were asked during the "Question and Answer" session of the Tender Briefing Session:

Questions	Answers
Bidders requested clarification on the specified 30 mm cast iron water meter and enquired whether the meter body should be constructed from brass or plastic material?	It was clarified that tenant water meters should be priced as brass meters rather than plastic meters. This requirement is intended to mitigate the risk of vandalism and improve the durability of the installations. **Refer to the Technical Specification for the meters.**
Bidders enquired whether the meters are to be installed as wall-mounted units or underground installations.	It was explained that the installation method for water check meters will depend on the municipal bulk meter arrangement and existing site conditions. Similarly, the installation of tenant water meters will be site-dependent and determined based on the specific conditions of each property. A site assessment will therefore be required prior to installation. For electricity meters, installations must be above ground to ensure uniformity and standardization across all regions.
Bidders sought clarification on whether the meter boxes specified under the tender requirements are to be fabricated from steel.	Transnet confirmed that both steel and non-steel water meter boxes are acceptable, provided they comply with the tender specifications. For electricity meter installations, steel meter boxes are not a requirement. **Refer to the Technical Specification for all mandatory requirements.**

Bidders enquired whether multiple connectivity service providers would be utilized for the smart metering solution.	Transnet advised that it currently utilizes Vodacom as its cellular service provider. The successful bidder will be provided with physical M2M data SIM cards and will be responsible for managing the integration, connectivity configuration, and associated APIs required to enable communication between the smart meters and the designated platform.
Bidders sought clarification on whether Transnet requires a bespoke software solution developed specifically for and owned by Transnet, or whether an existing software platform could be proposed and subsequently transferred to and accepted by Transnet.	Transnet advised that the solution will be hosted within its Microsoft Azure environment and will ultimately be owned by Transnet Property. The successful bidder will be provided with the applicable ICT policies, standards, and governance requirements to facilitate integration and implementation. Upon contract completion, the successful bidder will be required to provide operational and maintenance support for a period of 36 months to support end users. Furthermore, no software licensing arrangement with the supplier will be permitted, as ownership of the solution will reside with Transnet Property.
Bidders sought clarification on the type of water meter required by Transnet and enquired whether the requirement is for bulk water meters, piston water meters, or multijet water meters.	Transnet advised that both tenant and bulk water meters form part of the scope. The tender does not prescribe a specific meter technology such as piston or multijet meters; however, the proposed solution must comply with the technical specifications and performance requirements set out in the tender documentation.
Bidders enquired whether the scope of work requires conventional water meters or prepaid water meters.	It was explained that not all municipalities currently utilize prepaid water metering systems. As a result, Transnet's requirement is for conventional water meters and not prepaid water meters. The proposed solution must therefore cater for conventional metering, capable of remote data communication and integration with the smart metering platform in accordance with the tender specifications.
Bidders enquired whether SIM cards will be installed only on bulk meters	Transnet clarified that SIM cards will also be installed on bulk water meters. The proposed smart metering solution must be capable of remotely communicating meter data in accordance with the tender requirements.

Bidders enquired whether the proposed solution should utilize GSM, LoRaWAN, or any other specific communication technology.	Transnet clarified that it has specified a meter + data logger as communication technology. Bidders may propose the most suitable technology for the solution, provided that it complies with tender specifications, Transnet's ICT requirements and is capable of reliable integration with the Microsoft Azure environment. Transnet does not allow other communication infrastructure currently.
Bidders wanted clarity on whether Transnet requires CIDB Grading? If so what level?	Transnet clarified that the tender has no CIDB grading due to the portion of software works required. The engineering works will have quality assurance through the professionally registered personnel who will sign-off on the installations.

General

- It was emphasised that the tender closes on 02 November 2026, any bidder that has a clarification question must submit it to Transnet Procurement before the closing date and time.
- Any request for an extension must be submitted through Transnet Procurement
- It was announced that the presentation, together with the minutes of the briefing session, will be circulated to all bidders following the meeting.

Closing: The meeting was adjourned at 11h50, after which a site walk was conducted with the bidders in attendance.