RFQ No: TCC/2023/04/0002/26705/RFI

Date: 26/05/2023

Category	Clarification Question	Response
Technical	Is the RFQ purely based on services offered or would this also include product supply?	The scope of the Newco includes services, assets, Network Operating Centres, human resources, and management/sales capabilities. Where upgrades or installation of new equipment/software is required; this will have to be procured from Original Equipment Manufacturers.
Technical	The mentioned 48F Core fibre (880 km TFR + TPL) - towards which major metro locations does this interconnect?	Transnet Pipelines Fibre: (~688km) - Johannesburg to Durban Transnet Freight Rail Fibre: (~200km) - Segments within Johannesburg, Vereeniging and Bellville - Cape Town
Technical	Will the mentioned tools of trade be 100% transferred or dedicated towards NewCo?	Tools of trade will be transferred where exclusively utilised for the Transnet L1/2 fibre network. Tools utilised or shared to support excluded infrastructure, e.g. wireless (microwave), radio networks, LTE etc., will remain with Transnet. The list of tools of trade to be transferred to the NewCo will be provided as part of the RFP documentation.
HR	Will the mentioned personnel services agreement provide 100% dedicated resourcing towards NewCo?	Where employees are exclusively dedicated to the L1/L2 network, they will be made available

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		to the NewCo through a personnel services agreement.
		The full list of employees will be provided as part of the RFP documentation.
Technical	Are there any existing 3rd party OA&M Agreements in place for the mentioned Fibre & Optical Transport Infrastructure?	Yes, there are third-party OA&M agreements in place. Details will be made available to short listed bidders in the RFP stage of the procurement process
Legal	Are there any indicative timeline or potential complexities yet visible for the suggested transfer of existing customers from Transnet towards NewCo?	More details on the terms and conditions of the contracts will be made available in the RFP stage of the procurement process.
		However, the existing contracts are for a small portion of the Transnet network, and this makes them immaterial.
Commercial	NewCo shall be exclusively contracted to provide services & support towards the existing Transnet business units?	Newco will be the exclusive provider for all fibre L1/L2 network connectivity for Transnet business units.
Commercial	For which period would NewCo be exclusively contracted by Transnet?	The contemplated period is 25 years, and this will be confirmed in the RFP.
Legal	Is there any indicative timeline or potential complexities visible for the suggested transfer of existing Transnet licenses towards NewCo?	The legal opinion received on licences indicated that Transnet may delegate its rights and obligations of the licence to be exercised by a third-party. The details on the licences will be provided in the RFP.

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Technical/Commercial	Does the mentioned Optical Transport Network have some existing or future upgrade planning beyond the mentioned 1x 100G configuration?	In the RFP, shortlisted Bidders will be required to provide Transnet with a detailed business plan for NewCo which is advised by market demand. If the market demand exceeds the current capacity, bidders are required to detail NewCo capacity upgrades/expansion plans (where and how these upgrades will be funded including the technology refresh of End-of-Life equipment).
Technical	The mentioned 36F Core fibre (1623 km) towards which major metro locations does this interconnect?	 36-Core fibre is predominantly between the following locations (note in some cases segments consist of a 24 core + 12 core): Pretoria - Witbank - Richardsbay – Durban. Bloemfontein - Kimberley – Sishen. Saldanha – Bellville. Vereeniging - Potchefstroom Kimberley - De Aar.
Technical	The mentioned 24F Core fibre (7555 km) is fully utilized - does any current planning exists for fibre infrastructure upgrading?	In the RFP, shortlisted Bidders will be required to provide Transnet with a detailed business plan for NewCo which is advised by market demand. If the market demand exceeds the current capacity, bidders are required to detail NewCo capacity upgrades/expansion plans (where and how these upgrades will be funded including the technology refresh of End-of-Life equipment).