***Dear all,***

***We have received some inquiries regarding the Energy Monitoring Meters Tender. The following is the questions received and our reply.***

Technical Part:

* There are some differences between the number of buildings and the number of MDBs, a clarification is needed for this point.

Typically, in small and medium-sized buildings, each building has one MDB. In larger buildings, there may be 2-3 MDBs along with feeders. However, universities have counted the number of meters based on the number of MDBs. In some instances, errors in counting the MDBs have occurred by either equating the MDBs to the number of buildings or by including sub-distribution boards (sub-DBs) in the count.

* In Minia university, the number of meters is 6 while the number of MDBs and buildings is 3. Is it meant that 2 meters will be installed on each MDB? A clarification is needed for this point.

There was an error. The number of MDBs is 6 in 3 buildings. Therefore, number of meters is 6.

* In Alexandria University, the number of (Buildings and Meters) are 3 while the number of the MDBs are 17, will the rest of the MDBs not be monitored?

There are three buildings, each has one MDB and the total number of meters are only three. The 17 MDBs are three MDBs and 14 sub-panels for distribution from the 3 main MDBs.

* Does the project aim to monitor all meters remotely from one location, and if it’s so we need to supply a monitoring software?

Initially, the project does not aim to monitor all meters remotely from one location. Each meter in this stage will be handled as a standalone meter that will be analysed individually to use its data as a baseline for the building and after implementation of the Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs) to evaluate the performance of their performance. In a later stage, the Programme may need to monitor the overall results, or some individual universities may need to extend their EE program to cover all buildings of the universities. In such a case we don’t want to start buying new meters and use the 95 meters as a base for the future extension.

Currently, the requirements state that **each meter** should be equipped with a direct method to copy and/or transfer the data from the meter to a computer in a workable format. This means that the data collected from the meters should be downloadable or transferable to a computer.

Furthermore, the downloaded or transferred data from the meter should be in a standard format, such as Excel or any other readable standard format. This will enable data manipulation and analysis for reporting purposes.

However, in some cases where the available solution is solely based on networking and data transfer with cloud storage or central software, the full solution must be submitted. This suggests that if there is a requirement for remote monitoring of all meters from one location, including the use of one monitoring software or cloud-based solution, it should be included in the project proposal.

* Is cloud-based solution accepted?

For this tender it is not decided but it could be as an option/alternative offer provided that you submit the offer with a complete solution.

* Is it applicable inside universities to install cable paths for communication cables between the meters in the different buildings or not? (To connect meters to gateway)

In most cases, it is not currently feasible to install cable paths for communication between meters in different buildings within universities. However, there is a possibility that in the future there may be a request to implement such infrastructure outside of the current tender.

To account for this potential future requirement, it has been requested that the meters be equipped with terminals for communication protocols. This means that the suppliers are required to prioritize wireless solutions as the primary means of communication between the meters and the gateway. Considering the limitations of installing cable paths and the need for flexibility in accommodating future demands, wireless solutions are preferred for the communication between meters in different buildings within universities.

* The distances between the buildings are needed for the 18 universities to decide the number of the gateways needed in each university.

It is not assumed in the current tender document for this stage to integrate the communication of the different meters of a university on single system to count for the gateways.

* The distance between panels placed in the same building (Are they in the same electrical room)

Such distance is not available and also it might be in some buildings these MDBs could be in two separate locations.

* Is there Internet source inside each electrical room connected to the local network?

No LAN available at most electric rooms for the buildings power supply. This tender assumes standalone meters with ports for future communication if requested.

* What are the types of the existing panels?

This information is not currently available

* In Annex B, Item #1, It is mentioned that “each meter shall be mounted in a separate panel fitted at or close to each Main Distribution Board (MDB)”, in the case of offering a Panel mount type meter, is it not acceptable to install on the panel front of the MDB?

It is recommended to be installed in separate panel in case of not having space in the existing MDB front. However, if the meter is safe and easily reachable to read or transfer data by any user, then, yes it is acceptable.

* In Annex B, Item #2, Can you please clarify the required standard opening sizes of the Split-core CTs?

The required opening size of the CTs cannot be determined since the MDBs busbars or cables size are different from one MDB to another. The proper sizing will be set by the tenderer to suit electrical current and the actual size of installed busbars or cables. The site visit or contacting the client to clarify will be enabled for the nominated supplier.

**Related to the needed Meters standards:**

* The main standards for power metering devices are as follows which defines the accuracy class for the meters and are identified by the new IEC 60364-8-1 focusing on Energy Efficiency for Low Voltage Installations:

IEC 61557-12 & IEC 62053-21&22&23 which all new power meters are complying to these standards plus other environmental & EMC standards while there are some standards mentioned in the tender document that are not directly related to the needed application. Kindly advise if this will affect the technical approval.

The compliance with the mentioned standards in total or partially with any other equivalent or more recent standards will be technically acceptable.

 Real time clock:

* Synchronization will be done through activation of SNTP servers. Is this ok without need to provide internal battery which will oversize the meter and affect the cost?

This tender phase is asking for standalone energy meters where the internal battery and storage capacity are mandatory required. However, if your offer or your alternative offer is based on wireless communication and cloud-based solution that offers the synchronization through activation with SNTP, then, this will be acceptable.

Memory storage:

* The storage specification mentioned in tender documents will require high storage capacity which could only be achieved by High-End Power Quality Meters which will provide much extensive information & measurements compared to the needed one which will dramatically increase the cost.
Is it accepted to offer store the power and energy on daily basis (Up to 2 months) & monthly basis (Up to 2 years)?

The storage shall be at least on hourly basis not daily basis to enable getting the actual/accurate load profile for a duration as stated in the technical specifications.

Administrative Clarifications

* Can we get the contact information for each university to be able to execute site survey?

The contact details will be available to the nominated tenderer upon the award of the contract.

• It is mentioned that the prices must be in EGP and valid for 45 days. Is it possible to submit the offer in Euro or USD, however the payment will be in EGP according to the Egyptian Central Bank rate at payment date?

Since the offers of the different suppliers will be in different currencies, their values will fluctuate with exchange rate changes. This means that the offers may not be directly comparable at the time of submission of offers. The answer is No, because we will not be able to compare between the different financial offers on different dates.

* Is it allowed to submit a main offer and an alternative offer?

It is legally allowed since the tender document does not state otherwise. In such case, the 2 offers must be totally separated from the main offer (both technical and commercial offers including the bid guarantee).

 However, each supplier understands the capabilities of their meters more than SCU. There is an Annex E: The Compliance Statement of the Supplier pages 24-27 that facilitates the compliance of each offer to the tender document for the technical evaluation. If the 2 offers are compliant with this form, you better select the cheapest of them. If a company is the winner with an offer that does not adhere to the current and future requirements, this company will be obliged to supply and install compliant meters or SCU will take the second priced compliant offer and you will cover the difference between the second offer and your offer.

* In Bidding Information Sec. 2.4 Tender Guarantee, it is mentioned the details and value amount of the Guarantee, but in Sec 1.3 Submission Guidelines or in Preparation of Bids, it is not mentioned in which Envelope should the Letter of Guarantee be contained. Please, Elaborate on that matter!

The letter of Guarantee shall be included in the technical envelope since it is single unified value for all. On opening of the technical envelopes of the different bidders, the check for documents submitted will include the check against the submittal of the LG to proceed in the evaluation.

* In Annex A, Page 13, Sec. 2, 4th paragraph, it’s mentioned that “The supplier shall be committed to supplying and configuring the relevant software for data communication and transfer remotely and domestically in case the client does not have a network to connect with” however, it is not clear what is required in case the client doesn’t have the suitable network facilities to communicate with the relevant software.

This part means the commitment of the supplier to supply the suitable software in case the client later asks for the communication of all meters in a single system. It is not assumed in the current tender document for this stage to integrate the communication of the different meters of a university on single system to account for the gateways or software with a platform. However, testing the transfer of data from each meter to a computer in a readable format shall also be done.

**Best Regards.**

**Committee of the Reply on Tenders Enquiries**