

Basic Infrastructure Sourcing – Pre-Qualification

APCA is currently seeking a market response to validate the appetite of vendors to either individually or collectively provide the necessary Basic Infrastructure (“BI”) Services. Subsequently, APCA will understand how the market proposes to respond and qualify vendor capability and experience in order to down-select to those vendors best capable.

As a vendor or group of vendors interested in tendering for the BI Services, pre-qualification enables you to demonstrate that you have the appropriate capability and experience to successfully design, implement and operate one or more of the BI Services. These are as follows:

1. Switching Services
2. Networking Services
3. Addressing Services

Process

The following process must be followed in your response:

Step 1: Ensure your response satisfies the minimum criteria outlined below.

Step 2: Download the [PQQ Intent To Respond](#) (PQQITR) form.

Step 3: Submit the completed PQQITR form to the NPP PMSO at NPP-PMSO@kpmg.com.au.

The PQQITR form must be completed and received by the NPP PMSO **no later than 5pm AEST on Friday 7 February 2014** to be eligible to receive the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ).

Step 4: Upon acceptance of a completed PQQITR form, the NPP PMSO will email a copy of the PQQ to the nominated point of contact.

A Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) will be provided to all registered vendors. The NDA must be completed and submitted to the NPP PMSO as part of the PQQ response. The NDA is required before prequalified vendors can receive the subsequent RFT.

Step 5: Complete all relevant forms of the PQQ applicable to your response. At this stage we do not require any other information to be provided, other than the requested.

Step 6: Send applicable PQQ forms and signed NDA to the NPP PMSO at NPP-PMSO@kpmg.com.au by **5pm AEST on Thursday 20 February 2014**.

Step 7: Notification of pre-qualification outcomes will be provided to the nominated point of contact **by Friday 14 March 2014**. For unsuccessful vendors, a debrief session may be offered at the discretion of the NPP PMSO.

For successful vendors, a Request for Tender will be issued at **9am AEST on Monday 17 March 2014**. The six week tender period will commence on this date and will **conclude at 5pm AEST on Thursday 24 April 2014**.

Respondents may submit, by no later than **5pm AEST Tuesday 11 February 2014**, any queries and clarifications relating to this PQQ to the NPP PMSO at NPP-PMSO@kpmg.com.au. Any queries should clearly reference the appropriate reference location within the documentation and, to the extent possible, should be aggregated rather than sent individually.

As far as is reasonably possible, the NPP PMSO will respond to requests for clarification made before this deadline within two working days. Generalised responses to requests for clarification will be shared with registered respondents of the PQQ. Queries received after the above deadline will not be answered.

To avoid ambiguity, please note the following:

- Responses may be submitted by a single vendor or consortium, providing they can provide the necessary end-to-end service / complete solution
- Vendors may participate in more than one response or consortium
- Only one PQQ/ITR form is required per response, whether a single vendor or consortium. If consortium, then the nominated leading vendor is to submit the PQQ/ITR form and PQQ response
- Respondent details and the details of the response will be kept strictly confidential

Minimum Criteria

Interested vendors should be aware that to be eligible to pre-qualify for the BI Services, the following minimum criteria must be met:

1. Vendor(s) must be able to provide an end-to-end service (Design, Implement and Operate) for each individual BI Service applicable to the response
2. Vendor(s) must be able to provide a complete solution (all necessary products and services) to deliver each individual BI Service applicable to the response
3. Vendor(s) should be able to provide at least one reference for a comparable implementation completed within the last 10 years
4. Vendor(s) should be able to demonstrate experience in an industry-wide programme (i.e. multiple industry participants)
5. Vendor(s) must commit to the implementation timeline
6. Vendor(s) must agree to contract for the BI Service(s) through a single contracting entity with whom liability will reside
7. Vendor(s) must be able to provide a locally-managed implementation and operation for each individual BI Service applicable to the response:
 - The objective of this criterion is to gauge the level of existing or planned presence of the vendor(s) in Australia in order to adequately support the implementation and operation of the BI Services.
 - Indications of an Australian-led implementation and operation may include presence of a local office, type and number of locally based resources.
 - This criterion does not preclude overseas vendors or vendors utilising an onshore/offshore model to deliver services.
8. Vendor(s) should be able to demonstrate experience in operating in a highly regulated environment

Evaluation Criteria

PQQ responses will be assessed against the following criteria. Note, these are not listed in order of priority.

- Demonstration of financial viability
- Legal actions that will materially impact on the delivery of the proposed services
- Demonstration of partnership with any consortium partners
- Local presence and ability to lead delivery of services locally
- Solution capability and maturity
- Vendor references