CLARIFICATION#5

FOR

PROCUREMENT OF PLANT DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF

LOT 1: LAPSIPHEDI-RATMATE-NEW HETAUDA 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE

LOT 2: RATMATE-NEW DAMAULI 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE

LOT 3: NEW DAMAULI-NEW BUTWAL 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (BASE) AND NEW BUTWAL -NEPAL/INDIA BORDER 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (OPTION)

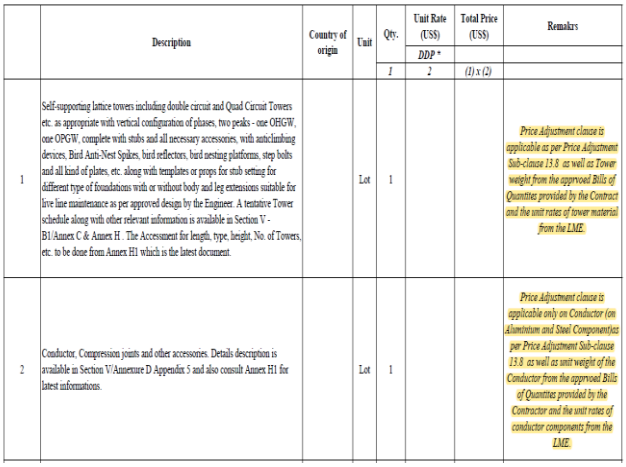
Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/003

Date: 16 March 2023

SN	Questions from Bidders	Response of Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal)
1.	Please refer Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer, Clause No 13.8 (Adjustment for Changes in Cost), Pg No 197-199, Part-1: As per given Price Adjustment Clause, Bidders to follow London Metal Exchange CFR India (official) price for Steel bars, as a source of Price Indexes for Tower Steel Material. Please note that London Metal Exchange not publishing any kind of Indices (CFR India Official rate) for Structural Steel (Like Blooms / Billets / Angles / Channels..etc., used in manufacturing Transmission Line Towers). However, they are publishing rates only for "LME Steel Scrap CFR India (Platts)". We would like to inform you that above available LME Steel Scrap rates does not vary as per actual market variations in Steel Raw material prices in India. Further, majority of the Multilateral Development Bank funding projects (i.e. ADB / World Bank / AIIB....etc.) also allowed Bidders to	The provisions of the Bidding Document will not be amended.

	propose Price Adjustment Indexes as applicable to the appropriate industry in the Country of Origin, sourced from reputed organizations and widely used by the business community. Accordingly, Bidder shall also be allowed to propose Price Indexes for various items as per their Country of Origin. Like for Steel used in manufacturing of Towers, Indexes published by IEEMA (Blooms / Billets) is commonly followed in India & internationally also acceptable by various Utility. Copy Enclosed. Please review & allow Bidders to proposed Price Adjustment Indexes as per their Country of Origin, particularly for Steel used in Tower.	
2.	Please refer Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer, Clause No 13.8 (Adjustment for Changes in Cost), Pg No 197-199, Part-1: a. As per given Price Adjustment Clause, Bidders to follow London Metal Exchange CFR India (official) price for Steel (3 month closing price), as a source of Price Indexes for Steel used in ACSR Moose Conductor. Please note, various reputed ACSR conductor manufacturers in India follows Price Indexes published by IEEMA (i.e. HIGH TENSILE GALVANISED STEEL WIRE (FE)) only, for steel component used in Conductor, while LME CFR India Steel prices also not acceptable to them. Please review & allow Bidders to proposed Price Adjustment Indexes as per their Country of Origin, particularly for Steel used in Conductor. b. Please note, various reputed ACSR conductor manufacturers in India follows Price Indexes published by IEEMA (i.e. HIGH TENSILE GALVANISED STEEL WIRE (FE))	The provisions of the Bidding Document will not be amended.

	only, for steel component used in Conductor, while LME CFR India Steel prices also not acceptable to them. Please review & allow Bidders to proposed Price Adjustment Indexes as per their Country of Origin, particularly for Steel used in Conductor. c. As per given Price Adjustment Clause, Bidders to follow 3 month Closing Price of London Metal Exchange Aluminium, as a source of Price Indexes for ACSR Moose Conductor. Please allow Bidders to propose Cash Contract Price of LME Aluminium, instead of 3 month Closing Price. Please review & allow Bidders to proposed Price Adjustment Indexes as per their Country of Origin, particularly for Steel used in Conductor.	
3.	As per Section VII-Particular Conditions of Contract, Sub-Clause No 13.8 (Adjustment for Changes in Cost), Pg No 238, Part-3 (please refer below image) : **Sub-Clause 13.8** **Adjustments for Changes in Cost** — Amend Sub-Clause 13.8 by inserting the following after the first sentence of the second paragraph: "Adjustment shall be made for the first time and with the frequency as stated in the Appendix to Financial Offer." 238 Please elaborate / clarify the meaning of sentence "Adjustment shall be made for the first time", for better understanding and clarity	"Adjustment shall be made from the second Interim Payment as the first one will be the Advance Payment and will be applied progressively.

4.	Please refer remarks column in "Breakdown of Rates and Prices Schedule No. 2. Plant and Mandatory Tools and Spare Parts Supplied from Abroad", Part-1 Breakdown of Rates and Prices Schedule No. 2. Plant and Mandatory Tools and Spare Parts Supplied from Abroad  Language mentioned in above Remarks column is bit confusing. However, we understand that Price Adjustment shall be applicable on actual executed quantity of Towers & Conductors, considering Unit Prices quoted in Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability. Please Confirm.	Yes, your understanding is correct. However, the weight of the material shall be as per the approved Bills of Quantity/Material to be submitted by the Contractor and approved by the Engineer.
5.	We understand that the Price Adjustment shall be paid progressively along with Interim Payment against Supply of each lot of Tower & Conductor. Please Confirm.	Yes, your understanding is correct.
6.	Please refer Sub-Clause No 18.1 (a), General requirements for Insurance, Section VII-Particular Conditions of Contract, Pg-245, Part-3. We understand that it's not compulsory to procure all kind of Project Insurances from Local Agency in Nepal. Contractors are free to secure required Insurances from any of the reputed Agency outside Nepal, belongs to Eligible Countries. Please Confirm.	The Contractor can arrange insurances from any eligible country. However, the insurances provided should be applicable in the Territory of Nepal for it to be acceptable.

	Description	Country of origin	Unit	Qty.	Unit Rate (US$) DDP *	Total Price (US$)	Remakrs
				1	2	(1) x (2)	
1	Self-supporting lattice towers including double circuit and Quad Circuit Towers etc. as appropriate with vertical configuration of phases, two peaks - one OHGW, one OPGW, complete with stubs and all necessary accessories, with anticlimbing devices, Bird Anti-Nest Spikes, bird reflectors, bird nesting platforms, step bolts and all kind of plates, etc. along with templates or props for stub setting for different type of foundations with or without body and leg extensions suitable for live line maintenance as per approved design by the Engineer. A tentative Tower schedule along with other relevant information is available in Section V - B1/Annex C & Annex H . The Accessment for length, type, height, No. of Towers, etc. to be done from Annex H1 which is the latest document.		Lot	1			Price Adjustment clause is applicable as per Price Adjustment Sub-clause 13.8 as well as Tower weight from the approved Bills of Quantities provided by the Contract and the unit rates of tower material from the LME.
2	Conductor, Compression joints and other accessories. Details description is available in Section V/Annexure D Appendix 5 and also consult Annex H1 for latest informations.		Lot	1			Price Adjustment clause is applicable only on Conductor (on Aluminium and Steel Components)as per Price Adjustment Sub-clause 13.8 as well as unit weight of the Conductor from the approved Bills of Quantities provided by the Contractor and the unit rates of conductor components from the LME.

7.	Please refer clause 5.A408. INSULATION, Pg 63, Section V– B1, Part 2 (Please refer below Image): As per above clause and other relevant clauses in Section V-B1, we understand that V-Shaped Insulator String required to be adopted by the Bidders for D1B-ALT & D1C-ALT Towers (Running Angle Towers). May we request you to kindly arrange to provide the Preliminary Design & Insulator Assembly Drawings for V-Shape Insulator String shall be used in D1B-ALT & D1C-ALT Towers, with relevant details (i.e. No of String in Each Branch / No of Insulator per String / KN of Insulator Units…etc.), for review / ready reference and suitable considerations in working. 2- Type-Transmission I-String: All structures except D1B-ALT and D1C-ALT tower types for which V-Strings are mandatory. . V-String: V-String are now required on D1B-ALT and D1C-ALT tower types. See B1 Section 5.A404.5 Horizontal Post: N/A Horizontal Jumper Post: N/A Vertical Jumper Post: Angle and Deadend structures	For using V-Insulator strings, both tower types D1B-ALT and D1C-ALT should be given the same tower geometry. The positioning of the inclined V-Insulator Strings shall be: a. 110 degree for the interior angle inside the Vee. b. 20 degrees above horizontal, for the angle of inclination of the branch of Vee pointing to the exterior side of the line angle. c. 50 degrees above horizontal, for the angle of inclination of the branch of Vee pointing to the interior side of the line. The Contractor shall perform a study to determine the best position to be adopted for the yoke plate (i.e., for the proper orientation of both branches) for the V-Shaped insulator strings. Please refer to Document V-B1 Exception to Section 2.10.2 (Insulation: Type Transmission) and 2.10.4 (Insulation: Physical Characteristics) – page 24-25
8.	As per the bidding document part 2, B0, Annex B0, Annex 8 EIA document, Annex E "Transmission line details," E-2 Tower Characteristics Table, Foundation footprint given for each & every location. Please confirm foundation foot print area given is considering tower back to back at ground level OR excavated foundation pit back to back. Please clarify.	1. MCA-Nepal has issued the tentative area for each tower footprint through Addendum #2 to the Bidding document. 2. The proposed towers to be accommodated within the footprint area. **3.** The area has been considered as excavated foundation pit back-to-back plus additional clearance in all sides to maintain proper slope for pits during excavation and movement of workers**.**
9.	We request you to provide the Final Tower Schedule in excel format, along with the following locations wise major details : - Foundation Footprints - Tower Height	1. Foundation Footprints – As stated under serial no. 8 MCA-Nepal has issued foundation foot print detail through Addendum #2 to the Bidding document. 2. Tower Height – Tower height for each tower (except the 30 km route) is already available in

	- No of Aviation Marker Balls / Aviation Lights requirements along the route - No of Bird Diverters / Bird Nesting Platforms requirements - Social Characteristics (existing land use) - Construction Characteristics (construction access) Apart from above, we also request you to provide revised route alignment in KMZ file along with PLS Cadd .bak file.	IFB Section V/B1/ Annex B1 /5 Annex Structure List Final Design Report-2019-11-08. For Towers related to 30 km MCA-Nepal has issued the necessary information through Addendum #2 to the Bidding document. (A) No of Aviation Marker Balls- The information is already available in IFB Aviation indicators - Please refer to- Section V/B0/Annex 8- EIA document Annex E-Transmission Tower (B) Aviation Lights requirements along the route – All towers above 60 m of height to be equipped with aviation lights with solar power battery backup. (C) No of Bird Diverters / Bird Nesting Platforms requirements - The information is already available in IFB (Details Bird diverters- Please refer to Section V/B0/Annex 8- EIA document Annex E-Transmission Tower Details 3. Social Characteristics (existing land use) - MCA-Nepal will acquire land for tower footprint and easement area (46 m Corridor) for construction of the TL and the permanent access for construction will be issued in a phased manner to the contractor. For further details of social characteristic please refer to EIA document attached as annexure of the IFB (reference EIA section 5.3, page no. 383) 4. Construction Characteristics (construction access)- The information about access road is already available in the IFB (reference EIA section 2.4.2, page no. 85 and elsewhere in the EIA). No new access roads to towers are permitted. The arrangement and all associated payments for the access foot trails or helicopter lifts are the responsibility of the contractor. 5. Revised route alignment in KMZ file along with PLS Cadd .bak file. – Except 30 km the kmz and Pls Cadd File is already available. For 30 km (in different stretches) the revised route alignment, tower schedule and PLS Cadd file has been issued through Addendum #2 to the Bidding document.

10.	Please refer Breakdown of Rates and Prices Schedule No. 1 Design Services (please refer below image) : **Breakdown of Rates and Prices Schedule No. 1. Design Services** | Item	Description	Unit	Qty.	Un
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			1	
1	**Design services and Engineering**			
1.1	Detailed design (Tower Design & Foundation Design including design of Double Circuit and Quad Circuit Towers) and delivery of all documents, drawings and plans for final approval.	LS	1	
1.2	Proto Type Testing of Transmission Towers and approval including manufacturing of prototype towers and accessories and transport the same to the proto test lab.	LS	1	| Please also refer Clause No 4 (Tower Testing), Pg 4.27 of Annex D Appendix 6 – Tower Specification Rev 1, Annex_B1, Part 2. We request you to kindly arrange to confirm / clarify the followings: - Whether Contractors required to Load Test all types of Designed Towers. Please Confirm. - We understand that only Load Testing required to be carried-out, while Destruction testing not required on any type of Towers. Please Clarify. - Please confirm the Tower Height with Body Extension and Leg Extension for all types of Towers, shall be considered for Proto Load Testing. - We understand that Tested Towers shall not be allowed to supply and install in the Transmission Line. Please Confirm.	Full scale testing of tower with highest body extension of maximum overturning moment, maximum uplift in maximum loading condition to be done as per CBIP-3223 (2014 with latest amendment) and IS-802 (2015 with latest amendment)- one Tower only per lot. In case that two lots are awarded to the contractor, then one tower family only for two lots. Please also note that the contractor is free to propose their own design as per the design criteria mentioned in section V, B1 and its annexures. This is to confirm that Contractors are required to Load Test all types of Designed Towers This is to confirm that only Load Testing is required to be carried-out, while Destruction Testing is not required on any type of Towers. This is to confirm that the Tower Height with Body Extension and Leg Extension for all types of Towers, shall be considered for Proto Load Testing. This is to confirm that the Tested Towers shall not be allowed to be installed in the Transmission Line.
11.	Please refer Clause 21 (Taxes), Section VII – Particular Conditions of Contract, Pg 248-249, Part-3:	

	We request you to kindly arrange to confirm / clarify the followings: a) We understand that for imported plants and equipment (under Price Schedule No-2, Plant Supplied from Abroad), the applicable Custom Duty, Excise Duty, VAT and other taxes in Nepal will be exempted or reimbursed by as per actual by MCA-Nepal. Please Confirm, if our understanding is correct. b) We understand that Bidders require to quote the "Unit Price" exclusive of applicable VAT in Nepal, against various items under following Price Schedules : - Price Schedule No.-1 (Design Services) - Price Schedule No.-2 (Plants Supplied from within the Employer's Country) - Price Schedule No.-4 (Installation & Other Services) The applicable VAT will be exempted or reimbursed to Contractor by MCA-Nepal, in addition to the Unit Prices quoted in above Price Schedule. Please Confirm, if our above understanding for VAT applicability is correct. c) From the given Tax clauses, we understand that Contractors will be allowed to Import the Reinforcement Steel, Cement & Other relevant Civil Materials from outside Nepal, without paying any kind of Custom Duty, Excise Duty, VAT & other taxes at Border (Custom Port). Please Confirm. MCA-Nepal will provide necessary supporting documents to get exemption of taxes in this regard. Please Confirm.	a. Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. The bidder needs to assess the application of taxes on its own depending on its status of incorporation and prior registration in Nepal. b. MCA-Nepal is intending to issue an addendum on this. c. There are no restrictions on the Compact for imports of any raw materials or inputs and it shall be regulated under the Laws of Nepal. With respect to taxes, detail coverage of tax exemption is provided in Section 2.8 and ANNEX VII – Tax Schedules of the Compact Agreement.

	d) We understand that Contractor (as a Permanent Resident) will be liable to pay Income Taxes application in Nepal. Whether MCA-Nepal withhold any Taxes towards Income Tax or other purposes from payment to the Contractor (Permanent Resident). Please Clarify.	d. **The tax exemption letter as per MCC Compact provisions shall be provided to the winning bidder/future contractor if** the required documents as per MCA-Nepal tax exemption process attached under Section V (Employer's Requirement) shall be submitted before arrival to Nepal border of the Plant and Mandatory Spare Parts Supplied from abroad. MCC Funding will be free from the payment of taxes and other similar charges on income, profits or gross receipts attributable to work performed in connection with the Program and related social security taxes and other similar charges on all natural or legal persons performing work in connection with the Program except (1) natural persons who are citizens or permanent residents of Nepal and (2) legal persons formed under the laws of Nepal (but excluding MCA-Nepal and any other entity formed for the purpose of implementing the Government's obligations hereunder). If taxes are applicable MCA-Nepal will withhold applicable Taxes.
12.	Please refer Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer, Clause No 3.1 (Engineers Duty & Authority), Pg No 195, Part-1 : **Engineer's Duties and Authority** 3.1(i) Engineer's authority to instruct a Variation is limited to: up to **ten** percent **(10%)** of the quantity of such individual items, which are included in the Schedule of Prices or other Schedule, or up to **One** percent **(1%)** of the Accepted Contract Amount, whichever is less, subject to a cumulative ceiling of **US$100,000 (One Hundred Thousand United States Dollar).** 3.1(ii) Engineer's authority to approve a proposal for Variation submitted by the Contractor is limited to: up to **ten** percent **(10%)** of the quantity of such individual items, which are included in the Schedule of Prices or other Schedule, or up to **One** percent **(1%)** of the Accepted Contract Amount, whichever is less, subject to a cumulative ceiling of **US$100,000 (One Hundred Thousand United States Dollar).** Given, USD 100,000 ceiling limit for Engineer's to authorized Variation / Change Proposal seems quite low, looking to the large value contract & expected variation in this Projects during Execution.	Please note that Particular Conditions of Contract states: "The Engineer shall obtain the specific approval of the Employer before taking action under the-following Sub-Clauses of these Conditions: iv. Sub-Clause 13.1 [*Right to Vary*]: Instructing a Variation, except if such a Variation would increase the Accepted Contract Amount by less than the percentage specified in the Appendix to Financial Offer." Thus, the Engineer can issue a variation above the limit stated. However, the Engineer is required to take approval of the Employer.

	May we request you to kindly review & increase the given threshold limit to the maximum possible extent, further enable Engineer to quickly approve required change / variation proposals in consultation with MCA without hampering progress & to ensure timely completion of Project.	
13.	Please refer Part 2 – Employer's Requirements, Section V – B1. We are not able to find the following referred sections in Part 2, Section V – B1 -"(for 3D Avian Box check – see Section 5.5.A404.1 #8.3)", Point b) on Page-32 -"(see Section 5.5.A404.1 #8.3)", Point d) on Page-32 -"(see Section 5.A404.1.#8.3 for additional specific provisions for Avian Protection and for 10mm holes @ 250 o.c.)", Point 11 c. on Page-34 -"Section 5.A404.1.8.2 Creep Stretch Criteria", Table for Tension Limit Criteria on Page-43 -"See B1 Section 5.A404.5", referred for V-String on Page-63 -"Contractors shall submit their design of insulator strings that is suitable for the application per the Requirements included under Section 5.A404.1 #8.4).", first Para of Point 4 on Page-64	Regarding the Employer's Requirements, Section V– B1, Section 5.A404 does not exist anymore. Please eliminate any reference to this 5.A404 section.
14.	Volume 1 11TB 5.6 Government-Owned Enterprises {"GOEs") are not eligible to compete for MCC-funded contracts for goods {which includes contracts for the supply and installation of information systems) or works. GOEs {a) may not be party to any MCC-funded contract for goods or works procured through an open solicitation process, limited bidding, direct contracting, or sole source selection; and (b) may not be prequalified or shortlisted for any MCC-funded contract for goods or works anticipated to be procured through these means.	Your understanding is not correct. For better understanding, please read carefully Part 13. Government-Owned Enterprise provisions under the MCC Program Procurement Guidelines, which can be found on the below link: https://assets.mcc.gov/content/uploads/guidance-2020001236804-procurement-program.pdf MCC will verify the submitted Government-Owned Enterprises (GOE) certification form and will make a decision based on (i) the submitted

	We understand from that, any enterprise with government stake in firm are not eligible to participate, please confirm of our understanding is correct.	documentation and (ii) further research regarding the GoE status of all firms that submit proposals. A Government-Owned Entity is not eligible to compete for MCC funded contracts for goods and works.
15.	Volume 1 1TB 33.1 If the Bidder (including any of its associates or joint venture/ association members) is or has been a party to an MCC-funded contract (either with MCC directly or with any Millennium Challenge Account Entity, anywhere in the world), whether as a lead contractor, affiliate, associate, subsidiary, subcontractor, or in any other role, the Bidder must identify the contract in its list of references submitted with its Bid using Bidding Form REF-1: References of MCC-Funded Contracts. From this clause we understand that, the bidders who has never been a party as a lead contractor, affiliate, associate, subsidiary, subcontractor, or in any other role except participating in bid are not required to submit Bid Form REF - 1. Please confirm in our understanding is correct.	All bidders must submit the Form REF-1. However, if the bidder has not worked with MCC or MCA or just has submitted a bid but was not awarded a Contract, in that case the Bidder should state "None".
16.	Volume 1 1TB 38.1 Negotiations will be held at the address indicated in the BDS. The invited Bidder will, as a pre-requisite for attendance at the negotiations, confirm the availability of all the Key Professional Personnel listed in the Technical Offer. Failure to confirm such Personnel may result in the Employer proceeding to negotiate with the next-ranked Bidder. Representatives conducting negotiations on behalf of the Bidder must have written authority to negotiate and conclude the Contract on behalf of the Bidder. All the position require to identify manpower for each position and bid is valid for 240 days. As per HR practices we cannot bind a personal for such long period and cannot be kept idle till the bid is	There will be no change in the requirements of the Bidding Document. The Bidder should propose the persons who will be available for the proposed positions at the time of award of the Contract. No alternates or multiple persons for one position is allowed.

	awarded. Please note we have pool of manpower and the project position are filled based on the project award and execution plan. 1. Please confirm bidder can propose multiple person and the personal shall be deployed based on their availability on award. 2. ln case of our participation in multiple lot can be proposed multiple person for each position and same in all the lots. Please confirm.	If the bidder is participating in multiple lots, then a separate set of personnel shall be submitted for each lot, if the bidder considers to be awarded more than one lot.
17.	Volume 1 1TB 38.5 & BDS 15.6{a) It is the responsibility of the Bidder, before starting financial negotiations, to contact the local tax authorities to determine the local Tax amount to be paid by the Bidder under the Contract. In no event, shall the Employer be responsible for the payment or reimbursement of any Taxes. Unless there are exceptional reasons, the financial negotiations will involve neither the remuneration rates for staff nor other proposed unit rates. The prices for Plant, Goods and Equipment to be supplied from abroad shall be quoted on DDP-Works site in Nepal Basis (refer Section V). The Contractor shall also be responsible for custom clearance, loading, unloading, insurance, transportation, off- loading at Site and any other associate charges {inside or outside Nepal) to bring all goods and equipment to Site and staking and storing properly at Sit e. However, the tax exemption letter as per MCC Compact provision shall be provided to the winning bidder/future contractor if required documents as per MCA-Nepal tax exemption process attached under Section V {Employer's Requirement) shall be submitted before arrival to Nepal boarder of the Plant and Mandatory Spare Parts Supplied from Abroad. Clause 1TB 38.5 & BDS 15.6 (a) are contradicting each other and clarity on tax scope is not there. We have following understanding.	

	1. Bidder have to quote on CIP basis and all taxes and duties levied on supply (supplied from outside employer's country) items in employer's country will be in scope of employer. Please confirm. 2. If understanding as per point no. 1 is not correct, please clarify, how taxes and duties within employer's country on supply items will be exempted. 3. Please inform that modalities of taxes and duties as the prices are quoted on DDP basis and taxes and duties are being paid by Employer.	1. Bidder has to quote for all the responsibility for supplying the Goods from outside Employer's country up to site. However, the tax exemption letter will be issued in line with the Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Schedule B, when Contractor will fulfill the requirement stated under BDS 15.6. Any taxes and duties levied (not covered by section 2.8 of the Compact) will be in the scope of the Contractor. 2. The Taxes and Duties sourced within Nepal may be exempted or refunded subject to Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Schedule A and C. Bidders are encouraged to study all tax schedules under MCC Compact. 3. MCA-Nepal will issue a Tax Exemption letter, subjected to Contractor submitting the required documents as per BDS 15.6. The Contractor shall be responsible for all other costs required as per DDP (including costs of loading unloading, staking, storing and all other cost required to bring the Goods, Material, Plant to Works Site). Any taxes and duties levied (not covered by section 2.8 of the Compact) will be in the scope of the Contractor.
18.	Volume 1 1TB 19.3 & BDS 19.3(a) If the award is delayed by a period exceeding eighty-four (84 days) beyond the expiry of the initial Bid validity, the following conditions shall apply: The Bid price shall not be adjusted. Since Bid validity required for this project is 240 days, which in itself is on higher side and then	The Price Adjustment clause for major items is already included with base date as 28 days prior to the latest date for submission of the Bid. The Bidding Document will not be amended.

	further award delay period is mentioned as 84 days. And if award of bid gets delayed then there will be no adjustment, keeping volatile nature of material indices, we request you to please allow bidder for price adjustment beyond bid validity period.	
19.	Volume 1 1TB Clause 5.8 (d) As per clause "Without limitation on the generality of the foregoing, a Bidder or Contractor, including all parties constituting the Bidder, or Contractor and any subcontractors and suppliers for any part of the Contract, including related services, and their respective personnel and affiliates, may be considered to have a conflict of interest ". Subsequently under sub clause 5.8 (d), "participate in more than one Bid in this process; participation by a Bidder in more than one Bid will result in the disqualification of all Bids in which the party is involved; however, this provision does not limit the inclusion of the same subcontractor in more than one Bid;" Please confirm whether same suppliers by Bidders will be considered as conflict of interest.	A Bidder cannot participate, as a Bidder or as a subcontractor, in more than one Bid in this bidding process in accordance with ITB Sub-Clause 5.8 (d). Participation by a Bidder in more than one Bid will result in the disqualification of all Bids in which the party is involved; however, this provision does not limit the inclusion of the same subcontractor in more than one Bid as per the provision stated under ITB 5.8;
20.	Volume 1 Section Ill. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria; 3. Key Professional Personnel Qualifications: And 1TB 19.3 (c) If any of the Key Personnel become unavailable for the extended validity period, the Bidder shall provide a written adequate justification and evidence satisfactory to the Employer together with the substitution request. In such case, a replacement Key Personnel shall have equal or better qualifications and experience than those of the originally proposed Key Personnel. The technical evaluation, however, will remain to be based on the evaluation of the CV of the original Key Personnel; and	

	All the position require to identify manpower for each position and bid is valid for 240 days. As per HR practices we cannot bind a personal for such long period and cannot be kept idle till the bidis awarded. Please note we have pool of manpower and the project position are filled based on the project award and execution plan. Please confirm bidder can propose multiple person and the personal shall be deployed based on their availability on award. Further the bidder has participation in multiple lot then the personal has to be separately identified. Please confirm.	There will be no change in the requirements of the Bidding document. The Bidder should propose the person, who will be available at the time of award of the Contract. If the bidder is participating in multiple lots, then a separate set of personnel shall be submitted for each lot, if the bidder considers to be awarded more than one lot.
21.	Volume 1 Section Ill. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria; 3. Subcontractors/Manufacturers The bidder must fill form CON-1 for critical Subcontractors/Manufacturers such as for conductors, towers/steel, insulators and OPGW etc. for Employer to ascertain past performance of the proposed Subcontractors/ manufacturers. We understand that, criteria as stipulated in EQC clause 9 i.e. "All pending proceedings, litigation, arbitrations, actions, claims, investigations or disputes, in total, shall not represent more than ten percent (10%) of the Bidder's net worth" is not applicable in case of subcontractors and manufacturers. Please Confirm.	As per the current provision in the Biding Document, the CON-1 is required to be submitted for critical Subcontractors/Manufacturers and **a consistent history of awards against the** Subcontractors/Manufacturers or existence of high value dispute shall also be a reason for rejection of the proposed Subcontractors/Manufacturers. However, in case MCA-Nepal decides to amend this provision, MCA-Nepal may issue an addendum. The Qualifications requirement of Section III that is “Failure to sign a contract after receiving a notice of award has not occurred in the past five years. Any deviation should be explained in the enclosed Contract Non-Performance form.”, refers to the qualification’s requirements of the Bidder.
22.	Volume 1 Section 3 - Clause 8: Failure to Sign a Contract Failure to sign a contract after receiving a notice of award has not occurred in the past five years. Any	

	deviation should be explained in the enclosed Contract Non-Performance form. We understand that, if a contract is cancelled by employer after issuance of NOA then details of those contract need not to be declared. Please confirm.	Details of all contracts terminated by an Employer(s) need to be provided. The Bidder should also include an explanation and may attach the Notice of Award (NOA) or other documents for the evaluation panel consideration.
23.	Volume 1 Price Schedule No. 4 of Lot 1, Lot 2 & Lot 3 Total for Schedules 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 (to be carried forward to Schedule 4.0) Price Schedule No. 4 is asking to carry forward total of items 4.1 to 4.5 to schedule 4.0, however there is no provision in schedule 4. Please amend price schedule accordingly.	The correct reference should be Total for Schedules 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 (to be carried forward to Schedule 5.0) Subject to approval of the authority, an addendum to the Bidding Document may be issued to correct this mistake.
24.	Volume 1 Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer - Clause 1.2 Profit shall be: 5% (five percent) percent of the Cost. We understand maximum margin to quote at is not capped. Please clarify the usage of this provision.	Please note the PCC 1.2 which states "In Contract provisions including the expression "Cost plus reasonable profit" require this profit to be one-twentieth (5%) of this Cost unless otherwise indicated in the Appendix to Financial Offer." The provision is set in the bidding document and same percentage shall be applied during contract implementation too.
25.	Volume 1 Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer - Clause 13.8 Adjustment for changes in cost This being long duration project with considerable construction works. The construction works is dependent on labor, fuel and material cost which is volatile considering the local financial and global commodity prices. Please allow price adjustment linked to local WPI and CPI index for construction activities.	The Bidding Document will not be amended.
26.	Volume 1 Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer - (Payment Terms) We understand existing payment terms of are as following :	MCA-Nepal has already issued Addendum # 2 to the Bidding Document, amending the Schedule of Payments. MCA-Nepal will not issue any further amendment regarding the Schedule of Payments.

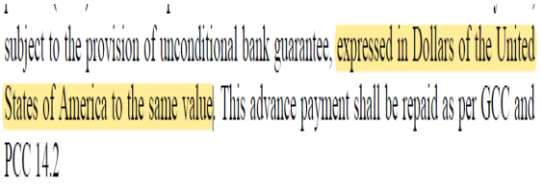
	1. 10% Advance of contract amount less provisional Sum. Design: 80% on approval of design & 20% on TOC Tower Testing: 80% on tower testing & 20% on TOC Supply: 50% of DDP on submission of shipping documents, 30% on Delivery at site, 10% on TOC and 10% after DLP. Installation: 80% of mesaured value of work and 20% upon issuance of TOC. Rentention payment of 10% from all interim payment. from this it is clear that there will be retention of 28% i.e. 10% of 80% from interim payment, 10% on TOC and 10% on DLP totaling to 28%, this will result in huge negative cashflow with contractor and in turn will affect project performance and hence we request you to please amend your payment terms as follows: Advance Payment: 20% Progressive Payment: 70% On Physical Completion: 5% On Commissioning: 5% Also, of commissioning if project gets delayed due to reason not attributable to contractors, 5% payment should be released against bank guarantee.	
27.	Volume 1 Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer - (Payment Terms) Pre Bid Meeting Please clarify on time overrun of compact, will there be extension in Compact duration? If not, we request you to please make complete retention payment of completed works before closure of compact.	The Compact is not expected to be extended. Depending on the status of project progress, MCA-Nepal may assign the Contract to a Government Entity as per PCC Sub-Clause 1.7 or decide to terminate the Contract as per PCC Sub-Clause 15.2. The decision to release or not to release the retention money will be decided based on what action will be taken by MCA-Nepal before the Compact end date.
28.	Volume 2 Part 2, B1 – Annexure C	In Annex H2 of Section V, B0, the minimum tower height against each tower has been

	Structure List & Final Design Report We have following understanding, 1.If tower height increases than provided along with tender document, then contractor will be compensated for same. Please Confirm. 2. If ground or side clearance can not be achieved from given height as per detailed survey, then additional payment will be made for benched quantity. 3. And if tower can not be spotted at given location as per detailed survey then proper location will be selected as per proposal submitted by contractor and reviewed by engineer. And this will be treated as change order. Please confirm.	mentioned. The Bidder shall prepare tower classification (type of tower along with standard body and leg extensions) and adjust that particular tower in a suitable tower group. For example, if the normal tower height is 50meter for a B type tower and for tower number 15 of a particular lot, the minimum tower height is 55 meters, then the Bidder may propose B+6 meters body extension tower. The Bidder should include the cost of this scope of work in their financial Offer. If, due to site conditions during check survey more than +6-meter body extension is required the situation will be dealt as per the provisions of the Contract such as Variation (subject to approval by Engineer). The bidder should include the cost of carrying out the scope of work successfully in their Bid Price. If there will be any change in the scope of work, in that case the situation will be dealt as per the provisions of the Contract such as Variation (subject to approval by Engineer).
29.	Volume 2 Employer's Responsibilities Prebid Meeting We understand, tree cutting will be done in complete corridor of transmission line and not just at tower location. Please confirm.	No, the tree clearance will not be done in entire corridor. The Employer has received approval of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) from the Ministry of Forest and Environment (MOFE) for the existing transmission line route based on the preliminary Employer's design performed to date. As a result, the electrical and canopy clearance must be maintained as per the Employer's Requirements to avoid additional tree clearance which could trigger requirements for supplemental approvals which could delay the project. The conductors will span above the tree canopy wherever adequate clearance can be achieved as a result of tower height and topographic variations.
30.	Volume 2 Access Road Prebid Meeting From Pre Bid Meeting, we had following understanding please confirm.	Tower access restrictions associated with the EIA development are as follows. • No new roads to access the tower sites may be constructed on any land. This is to control erosion.

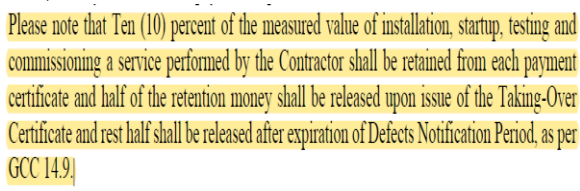
	1. Access road to tower location of width 1.25 mtrs can be leased by bidder in private and govt. land, which includes forest too at cost of Contractor and Administration support will be provided by employer. Please confirm. 2. We understand that, contractor will be allowed to have Access to locations which are in forest through foot trails of 1.25 mtrs wide and approval for tree cutting within this corridor will be arrange by employer. Please Confirm. 3. Please allow provision of access road width beyond 1.25 mtr to take machinery considering the nature of work. The given time period will not be sufficient if the manual work has to be carried. Please allow access road width of upto 3.5 mtr for movement of machinery and equipment for the work.	• Existing roads may be upgraded, but not widened or extended. This is for the same reason. • No trees may be felled on any land. This is to reduce the loss of forests. • Foot trails to a width of 1.5 metres may be constructed on any land with the correct arrangements (such as by leasing) and with appropriate environmental controls, and with the land rehabilitated afterwards. IFB Part 2 – Employer's Requirements, Section V – B1, clause 5.A410.1 (Environmental Protection): "*In terms of environmental risks to the Contractor's works, the most significant is likely to be the difficulty of access to the tower sites. The Project must necessarily avoid the construction of access roads on account of the long-term costs and liabilities associated with road construction in steep terrain. The Contractor will therefore need to use non-motorized access processes, as has traditionally been the case in Nepal. Instability or potential instability of the tower foundation sites may be an issue at some locations, although detailed design work has endeavored to site all towers on stable ground; further information on physical soil properties will be determined during the geotechnical study. The seasonality of rainfall in South Asia, dominated by the intense monsoon period, means that earthworks are not feasible between mid-July and mid-September. For a longer period (May to October, and sometimes outside these months), soil erosion is a significant problem on any unprotected earth slope. Not only is soil a valuable resource that society cannot afford to lose, but once it is eroded it becomes a pollutant in water courses.*"
31.	Volume 2 Forest Clearance Prebid Meeting	Forest Clearance for tree cutting (Cabinet Approval) - Employer's responsibility. The Contractor will be responsible to obtain work permits from DFO and the affected Community

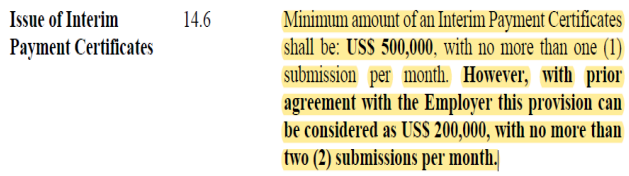
	From Pre Bid Meeting, we understand that employer will provide forest clearance to contractor by August - 2024, Please confirm. Also, please clarify if, employer is not able to provide forest clearance by above mentioned date, then delay in project will be compensated by employer.	Forests User Groups (CFUGs), clearance of trees under the supervision of the office of DFO and CFUGs, transportation of felled trees to the designated area as determined by DFO/CFUG and all other associated work as mentioned in the Bidding Document. The bidder should consider the associated costs in their Financial Offer. Any delay will be accessed by the Engineer during Contract implementation and individual situation will be dealt as per provision of Contract.
32.	Volume 2 Access Road Re-Settlement Plan & EIA Study 1. From Pre Bid Meeting, we understand that employer has completed re-settlement action plan and EIA study. 2. Compensation to buildings , which will be demolished is in scope of Employer, Please confirm. 3. Also please clarify, if there is route change due to unavoidable circumstances, then Forest clearance, feasibility study, resettlement action plan, EIA study will be in scope of changed route. Please Confirm.	1. The EIA is approved but the Resettlement Action Plan is ongoing. 2. Yes, the compensation to buildings , which will be demolished is in the scope of Employer. 3. If there is route change due to unavoidable circumstances, then Forest clearance, feasibility study, resettlement action plan, EIA study will be in scope of Employer for the changed route.
33.	Page no. 12 & 21 5.A404. Point 2 & 5.A402.3. Air density & Air density factor In IS code there is no provision of Air density reduction with altitude, Hence please confirm the wind pressure given in FDR are to be followed in Final design stage	Confirmed.
34.	Page no. 2.9 2.6 Codes & Loadings of FDR Commentary	Confirmed.

	As per commentary please confirm for the oblique wind condition we have to strictly follow IS 802 code provisions .i.e "no different tension values in adjacent plan	
35.	Annex-B Loading tree of TWR-D1DQC Please provide basic outline diagram for "TWR-D1DQC"	Basic outline diagram for "TWR-D1DQC is not available. The contractor has to do their own assessment considering the Design criteria mentioned in B1 and prepare their Bid accordingly.
36.	Page no. 8 5.A402.1. Point 1 Contractors cannot change the tower locations from those presented in these requirement & the tower foundation has to be accommodate within perimeter of the land acquired by the employer Please provide us the max base width restriction for all tower types. Also dimensions of land acquired by employer.	As MCA-Nepal will acquire land for tower footprint prior to check survey there is restriction for base width of all towers. The maximum available area for tower footprint for all towers will be issued soon to the prospective bidders based on which the bidders should estimate. During detailed design, if the contractor finds that the area of available footprint is not suitable to accommodate any tower then they may propose a requirement for additional land and MCA-Nepal will do the needful subject to the approval from the Engineer and compliance with the EIA and ESHSMP.
37.	Page no. 139 TS1 Section IV Bid submission Form Poles Please confirm poles structure is not part of this project. If it is part of project the please provide us the outline and loadings for POLE structures.	Confirmed. Poles structure is not part of this project.
38.	Stub & Cleat design Please specify stub & cleat are designed as per ASCE-10 -15	Confirmed.
39.	Page no. 144 TS1 Section IV Bid submission Form Bolt diameter Please specify minimum diameter of Bolt is to be used in the design of stressed and redundant members	The minimum bolt diameter is 5/8". Subject to approval of the authority this may be included in an Addendum to the bidding document to be issued by MCA-Nepal.
40.	Page no. 2.33 FDR	Confirmed.

	Overload & strength reduction factor table Please confirm we should strictly follow the overload and strength reduction factor mentioned in table and no need to derive the strength factor from IEC 60826 & IS 802.	
41.	Loc No. 233 - 234 Seti Gandaki Crossing We have observed that, span required for crossing of Seti Gandaki at Damauli End have single span of more than 1500 Mtrs, however conductor required for this type of long valley crossing is not suitable and AACSR type conductor must be installed. Kindly amend price schedule and provide technical specification of same.	The Contractor should propose the proper conductor required for this type of long valley crossing and provide the technical specifications.
42.	1.Please refer Schedule of Payment, Page 202, Part-1. a) Advance Payment :  subject to the provision of unconditional bank guarantee, expressed in Dollars of the United States of America to the same value. This advance payment shall be repaid as per GCC and PCC 14.2 As per above clause, Bank Guarantee for Advance payment shall be in USD only. However, if Bidders quoted & requested certain % of payment in Local Nepalese Currency, then Advance BG shall be required in proportion to USD & Local Currency or 100% in USD. Please Clarify.	The Bank Guarantee for Advance Payment shall be in US Dollars.
43.	b) Retention Money : Please refer Clause 14.3 (c) (Application for Interim Payment Certificate), Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer, Pg 200 : - We request you to kindly arrange to clarify / confirm the followings for better understanding and clarity of Payment Terms:	

	i) As per Clause 14.3 (c), Pg 200, we understand that 10% retention shall be deducted from the total contract Price. Please Confirm. ii) As per Sub-Clause 14.9 (Payment of Retention Money), Section VII (Particular Condition), Pg 240, we understand that half of Retention Money shall be released after issuance of Taking Over Certificate. Please Confirm. iii) From Schedule of Payment (Pg 202), we understand that 10% retention shall also be deducted from Design & Tower Testing Payment. Please Confirm. iv) From Schedule of Payment (Pg 202, 203), In respect of Plant & Materials supplied from abroad, we understand that 10% retention shall also be deducted from each Payment for Supply of Plant & Material. Please Confirm. Further, from Point (d) on Pg 203, we understand that 10% of Payment for Plant & Material shall also be withheld upto Defect Notification Period, in addition to 10% retention. Please Confirm. As per above understanding, if we consider, half of retention payment upon TOC, then about 15% of Contract price for Plant & Material shall be withheld upto completion of Defect Notification Period. Please Confirm. Please Clarify, whether Final 10% payment of Plant & Material, payable upon completion of Defect Notification Period (refer Point (d) on Pg 203), shall also be realizable against submission of equivalent amount Bank Guarantee, after issuance of Taking Over Certificate (similar to second half of Retention money). Please Confirm. v) From Schedule of Payment (Pg 203), In respect of Installation & Other Services, we understand that 10% retention shall also be deducted from each Payment. Please Confirm.	i) Yes, as per provisions stated under Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer ii) Yes, 50% of the retention money will be released upon issuance of Taking Over Certificate, as per the provisions of the Conditions of Contract iii) The % of retention stated under Sub-Clause 14.3 shall apply to all payments to be made under the Schedule of Payments. iv) The % of retention stated under Sub-Clause 14.3 shall apply to all payments to be made under Schedule of Payment. Please review Addendum #2 to the Bidding Document in which the Schedule of Payments has been amended. Not Confirmed. As of now there is no such provision of releasing Final 10% payment of Plant & Material, payable upon completion of Defect Notification Period against submission of an equivalent amount Bank Guarantee, after issuance of Taking Over Certificate. However, please refer to Addendum #2. v) The % of retention stated under Sub-Clause 14.3 shall apply to all payments to be made under Schedule of Payment.

	Further, please also refer - "Schedule of Payments", Page 204, Note no 5 (image given below):  5. Please note that Ten (10) percent of the measured value of installation, startup, testing and commissioning a service performed by the Contractor shall be retained from each payment certificate and half of the retention money shall be released upon issue of the Taking-Over Certificate and rest half shall be released after expiration of Defects Notification Period, as per GCC 14.9. We understand that above clause & clause no 14.3 (c) of Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer having same implications and only one time retention @ 10% shall be deducted from the payment of Installation & Other Services, not twice. Please Confirm.	The payments shall be made as per the Schedule of Payments and retention shall be applied to payments as per Sub-Clause 14.3.
44.	c) Please refer Schedule of Payment (Pg 202): From Schedule of Payments, we understand that about more than 20% of the total contract price is withheld upto TOC, in addition to 10% retention upto Defect Notification Completion as per Clause 14.3 (c) of Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer. In view of large value Project with quite tight Time schedule, payment terms shall be relaxed enough to ensure healthy Project Cash Flow. May we request you to please review the Schedule of Payment and should be relaxed inline with other international Multilateral Development Bank funded Contracts, i.e. 15% advance / 75% progressive interim payment / 5% after TOC / 5% after Defect Notification Period. Humble request to review & issue suitable amendments in this regard	Please review issued Addendum #2 in which the Schedule of payments has been modified. MCA-Nepal will not amend the provision further.
45.	d). Further, we would like to inform you that furnished payment relevant terms at various places are quite confusing to Understand (i.e. Clause 14.3 (c) of Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer, Pg 200 / Sub-Clause 14.9 (Payment of Retention Money), Section VII(Particular Condition), Pg 240 / Schedule of Payment (Pg 202) / "Schedule of Payments", Page 204, Note no 5…….etc.).	The Sub-Clause 14.3 (c) that is deduction of retention will apply to all payments made under Sub-Clause 14.3 of Conditions of Contract. Sub-Clause 14.9 is related with how retention money will be paid.

	May we request you to review once again and provide one effective consolidated payment terms, duly indicating relevant Advance & Retention terms. Please review.	You are requested to read Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer in conjunction with GCC and PCC. The Schedule of Payments provides how the payment for various component shall be made.
46.	Please refer Clause 14.6 (Issue of Interim Payment Certificate), Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer, Pg 200 : -  Issue of Interim Payment Certificates 14.6 Minimum amount of an Interim Payment Certificates shall be: **US$ 500,000**, with no more than one (1) submission per month. **However, with prior agreement with the Employer this provision can be considered as US$ 200,000, with no more than two (2) submissions per month.** Contractor may require to claim more than 2 Interim Payment per month as per Project Progresses. Please review & remove any kind of restrictions on interim payment submission per month.	The provisions of the bidding document will not be amended. If required and agreed by the parties during contract implementation, the provision may be amended.
47.	Please refer Clause 38.6, Section-I Instruction to Bidders, Pg 43, Part-1 : It is written that "During Contract negotiations, the Employer will not consider substitution of any Key Professional Personnel unless both parties agree that undue delay in the selection process makes such substitution unavoidable or for reasons such as death or medical incapacity of one of the Personnel. If this is not the case and if it is established that any Key Professional Personnel were offered in the Bid without confirming their availability, the Bidder may be disqualified." Please review & consider our following submittals in this regard: In Private organization, we use to face the challenge of Attrition, though we have a great track record of only 8% Attrition in last 10 years. Having said that we are working in Competitive environment, where retaining Key talent is challenge for almost all the Industry. Therefore, it is practically impossible to bring / depute the 100% offered Key Personal in Bid at contract negotiation	The Employer does not expect any replacement of key personnel as the proposed personnel are one of the basis for selection of the Bidder for award. In case there will be need for replacement, the replacement shall only be done in accordance with the Bidding Document and MCC Program Procurement Guidelines provisions

	/ execution stage. We can confirm to supplement or improve the personnel list with equivalent or enhanced professional experience. In such cases, the alternative suitable replacement shall also be acceptable to MCA. Please review & clarify.	
48.	As per Clause 2.1 (Right of Access to the Site), Page 192-193, Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer : The permanent access for the actual construction work will be granted in a phased manner. The schedule for permanent site access will be provided by the Employer, with assistance from the Engineer, based on the phased completion of the permanent site access protocol defined in the ESHSMP. The Contractor must adhere to the permanent access schedule while mobilizing construction teams for foundation and construction work. We request you to kindly arrange to Clarify / confirm the followings: i) We request you to kindly arrange to provide the Lot wise likely time schedule to provide Permanent Access to Contractor for Construction Work (i.e. Route Stretch Details alongwith Kms and relevant time period) Considering various complexities involved in Transmission Line works, its required to have access clearance for continuous longer stretches to plan various site activities in sequential manger and to avoid idling & additional mobilization / demobilization cost. Please ensure to provide permanent access to longer-continuous stretches and not in a segregated manner. ii) Further, as per Bidding document requirements, Bidders needs to prepare & propose complete Approach, Methodology and Work Plant alongwith their Bid Proposal (reference TECH-4 & other various TECH Forms) and will also be Scored for Qualification Purpose. This comprises of complete mobilization	For the check survey and geo-technical activities, the Employer will provide temporary site access clearance to the Contractor within Fifteen (15) days after the commencement of contract in accordance with the temporary land access procedures defined in the ESHSMP. The clearance for permanent access for the actual construction work will be issued to the Contractor in a phased manner. The clearance for construction of first lot of towers will be issued before commencement of foundation work as defined in the ESHSMP document. MCA-Nepal will acquire land for tower footprint (for foundation and erection work) as well as obtain necessary permission for RoW area (46m corridor- for stringing activities) in a phased manner as stated earlier. A considerable portion of land acquisition for tower footprints is likely to be completed before commencement of foundation and erection activities by the contractor. For the land acquisition process for tower footprints, MCA-Nepal will give due consideration for acquiring land in such a manner that the contractor gets permanent access for a considerable number of towers so that mobilization of their work force is optimized. Please also note that a considerable portion of the line length falls under forest land and government land (Details of which is available in the EIA document)- for which land acquisition/ clearance will be arranged by MCA-Nepal well before commencement of construction activities. The Contractor must adhere to the permanent access schedule while mobilizing construction teams for foundation and other work.

	plan for carrying out the works, proposed timelines in the form of bar chart showing notably the critical path, along with details of the resource requirements (personnel, tools and tackles, equipment and materials…etc.) to complete the works within the contractual time. To prepare and propose realistic / effective Approach, Methodology & Work Plan, basic details like timing of allotment of permanent site access with route stretch details are required at this Bidding stage only, further enable Bidders to plan-out various activities & assess relevant resources requirements. Please review & provide maximum possible details of permanent site access for realistic assessment.	The Contractor is advised to plan the mobilization for preferred timings for land access and liaise with the Engineer at the earliest.
49.	As per the tender documents tower quantities already finalized, spotting is also fixed, footprints can't be increased/shifted. But, quantity of Benching and Revetment is kept as lot item in BOQ. As we all are aware that maximum portion of all three lots are passing through dense forest and hilly terrains, consequently considerable amount of service cost of all three lots will be comprised of benching and revetment (i.e. Tower Footing Protection) relevant activity. Being terrain limitations, there is immense possibility that all the bidders will speculate different quantities for both these activities and as a result there are huge chances that a prospective bidder to get price out or ending up with huge losses. We have used the word speculate as at this juncture practically no bidder will be able to take the contours of locations because of dense forest/vegetation's and site access related challenges.	The bidders may assess the requirement of benching and revetment from the LiDAR data which has been issued through Addendum #2 to the Bidding document. The contour data for 30km has also been provided through Addendum #2 to the Bidding document. This is Lumpsum contract following FIDIC Yellow Book Conditions of Contract. As such tentative quantities for Benching and Revetment work can't be provided. The Bidder shall do their own assessment and accordingly prepare their Technical and Financial Offer.

	For a healthy competitive bidding environment, we request you to please provide the tentative quantities for Benching and Revetment work, so that bidders can quote their per unit price for both these activities. Please review & provide realistic solutions for more effective working.	
50.	Volume 1 Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer - (Payment Terms) & Pre Bid Meeting Payment Terms: We understand existing payment terms of are as following: There is payment milestone of supply and installation items on completion and defect liability period. Pre Bid Meeting: From Prebid Meeting it was understood that duration of compact is valid for 5 years and will be effective from August – 2023 We have following clarification / understanding based on these two clarifications, please confirm 1. In the event of delays in completion of work beyond the execution period for reasons not attributable to the contracts and compact period is not valid. - Is there provision of extension of compact period. - Does the Retention payment for the portion of work completed in supply and installation, will be paid to executing contractor from the compact as the work substaianly complete but project not fully completed. Please confirm.	The question understanding is not clear and thus not confirmed. The duration of the Compact is 5 years. The expected start date of Compact is August 2023. There is no provision for extension of the Compact period. Retention money will only be released as per the Conditions of Contract stated in the Bidding Document.
51.	Volume 1 Section III, Average Annual Turnover Minimum average annual construction turnover is calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed, within the last three (3) years. Further in the forms it is written "The information supplied should be the annual construction turnover of the Bidder or each member of a Joint	Construction turnover is to be demonstrated in the audited financial statements of the last three (3) years and are to be considered as indicative. Please refer Table Qualifications - Documents Establishing the Qualifications of the Bidder, 11. Annual Average Turnover.

	Venture/Association making up a Bidder in terms of the amounts billed to clients for each year for work in progress or completed, converted to USD at the rate of exchange at the end of the period reported. " Please confirm that the definition of turnover shall be accounted for on billing basis for each year for work in progress or completed.	
52.	Volume 1 Forms Form FIN-1 and Fin-2 In case of large companies Turnover is taken as stand along company as well as consolidated basis. We understand for this requirement company stand alone basis data would suffice the requirement. Please confirm.	The information/data of the bidder (the firm submitting the bid) shall be included under FIN-1 and FIN-2. The information of parent firm, holding firm etc. shall not be considered.
53.	Volume 1 Section 4 - Technical Data Schedule We understand, contractors has to submit signed single technical data schedules of all equipments as per section IV on contractors's letter head. Please confirm.	Please refer to clarification response #95 under Clarification #3 which require TECH-11: Technical Data Schedule to be submitted separately for each Lot.
54.	Pre Bid Bidding Corridor Clearance (Tree Cutting) Please confirm, whether all trees in the line corridor has to be cleared, or cutting and removal of trees at tower location will be sufficient. Please Confirm.	1. MCA-Nepal will mark the trees which falls under the corridor and needs cutting. 2. During stringing activities and before energization of the line, the Contractor has also to trim branches of some trees (to be determined by the Contractor in consultation with the Engineer) which will be required to maintain the safe electrical clearance from the bottom conductor to the tree canopy. 3. During stringing activities the Contractor should extensively use drones/pilot wires to reduce the tree cutting. 4. The removal of trees at tower footprint will also be required by the Contractor which will be marked by MCA-Nepal.
55.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 1.2 Interpretation Amend Sub-Clause 1.2 by adding the following at the end:	The Bidding Document will not be amended.

	"In Contract provisions including the expression "Cost plus reasonable profit" require this profit to be one-twentieth (5%) of this Cost unless otherwise indicated in the Appendix to Financial Offer." It is requested to kindly keep this 5% as 10%.	
56.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 1.7 Assignment Replace the text of Sub-Clause 1.7 with the following: "Neither Party shall assign the whole or any part of the Contract, or any benefit or interest in or under the Contract; provided that, the Employer may assign the whole or any part of the Contract, or any benefit or interest in or under the Contract, to another person or entity of the Government (or another entity designated by the Government) without the consent of the Contractor at any time concurrent with or after the expiration of the Compact. The Employer shall notify the Engineer and the Contractor within 10 days of any such assignment. "In the event of any assignment of the Contract by the Employer in accordance with the immediately preceding paragraph: Please confirm that under paragraphs (a) to (d) of the clause regarding bonds, guarantees, insurances etc., the cost of naming the Employer's assignee as beneficiary and / or replacing the name of Beneficiary, if any, shall be borne by Employer. . In case of assignment, any additional cost implication applicable to Contractor shall be borne by Employer. Please confirm.	No, the Bidder shall include such prices in the Contract.
57.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 4.2 Performance Security Amend Sub-Clause 4.2 by adding the following at the end:	There is no such provision in the bidding document for reduction in the Performance Security amount in case of decrease in the Contract Price.

	"Without limitation to the other provisions of this Sub-Clause 4.2, whenever the Engineer determines an addition to the Contract Price as a result of a change in cost and/or legislation or as a result of a Variation amounting to more than 25 percent of the portion of the Contract Price payable in a specific currency, the Contractor, at the Engineer's written request, shall promptly increase the value of the Performance Security in the applicable currency by an equal percentage. Please confirm that in case of any decrease in the Contract Price, the Performance Security shall also be reduced proportionately / on pro-rata basis.	
58.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 8.1 Commencement of Works Amend Sub-Clause 8.1 by inserting the following at the end: "Failure of the Contractor to mobilize all Contractor's Equipment and Contractor's Personnel to the Site as set out in the programme approved in accordance with Sub-Clause 8.3 [Programme] shall result in an obligation on the part of the Contractor to increase the Performance Security by an amount equal to two percent of the Contract Price (as estimated at that time)." Already the Performance Security to be submitted by the Bidder is on a higher side and also since there is a delay provision in the Project in case of default of the Contractor, hence we request you to kindly delete this requirement of enhancement of Performance Security.	The Bidding Document will not be amended.
59.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 8.3 Programme Amend Sub-Clause 8.3 by inserting the following at the end: "Failure of the Contractor to submit a revised programme to the Engineer within 28 days of receiving notice from the Engineer in accordance with this Sub-Clause shall result in an obligation	The Bidding Document will not be amended.

	on the part of the Contractor to increase the Performance Security by an amount equal to two percent of the Contract Price (as estimated at that time). "In the event the Contractor submits a revised programme and the Engineer gives notice to the Contractor stating the extent to which such revised programme does not comply with the Contract, all in accordance with this Sub-Clause, and the Contractor fails to submit a further revised programme to the Engineer within 14 days of receiving such notice from the Engineer, the Contractor shall be obligated to increase the Performance Security by an amount equal to two percent of the Contract Price (as estimated at that time)." Already the Performance Security to be submitted by the Bidder is on a higher side and also since there is a delay provision in the Project in case of default of the Contractor, hence we request you to kindly delete this requirement of enhancement of Performance Security.	
60.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 20.1 Contractor's Claims Amend Sub-Clause 20.1 by inserting the following as a new paragraph between subparagraphs 6 and 7: "Within the above defined period of 42 days, the Engineer shall proceed in accordance with Sub-Clause 3.5 [Determinations] to agree or determine (i) the extension (if any) of the Time for Completion (before or after its expiry) in accordance with Sub-Clause 8.4 [Extension of Time for Completion], and/or (ii) the additional payment (if any) to which the Contractor is entitled under the Contract." Amend Sub-Clause 20.1 by deleting paragraph 8 (in the order of paragraphs prior to the amendment	The Bidding Document will not be amended.

	made above) and replacing it with the following new paragraph: "If the Engineer does not respond within the timeframe defined in this Sub-Clause, either Party may consider that the claim is rejected by the Engineer and either Party may refer such claim to the DAB in accordance with Sub-Clause 20.4 [Obtaining Dispute Adjudication Board's Decision]." It is requested to kindly delete the following clause "If the Engineer does not respond within the timeframe defined in this Sub-Clause, either Party may consider that the claim is rejected by the Engineer and either Party may refer such claim to the DAB in accordance with Sub-Clause 20.4 [Obtaining Dispute Adjudication Board's Decision].". Any claim submitted by the Contractor is requested to be reviewed and considered.	
61.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Compact Please confirm that the word "Compact" refers to "Contract" wherever mentioned in the tender, as applicable to the context.	Compact and Contract are not the same. The Compact is an agreement between the Government of Nepal and the Government of the United States of America, acting through the MCC and is defined under the Conditions of Contract as: "Compact' means the Millennium Challenge Compact between the Government and the United States of America, acting through MCC, executed on **14 September 2017** that sets forth the general terms and conditions on which MCC will provide funding of up to US$ 500,000,000 to advance economic growth and reduce poverty in Nepal (the "Compact"), to which the Government will contribute up to US$130,000,000 for a program to reduce poverty through economic growth in Nepal." and

		"Contract" means the contract proposed to be entered into between the Employer and the Contractor, including all of the documents specified in GCC Sub-Clause 1.1.1.1 and any attachments, appendices, and all documents incorporated by reference therein.
62.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 14.1 The Contract Price Amend Subpara. (b) of Sub-Clause 14.1 by deleting the phrase "except as stated in Sub-Clause 13.7 [Adjustments for Changes in Legislation]". It is requested to kindly retain the referred deletion. Kindly confirm that the Contract price shall be adjusted based on the Changes in Legislation. Please confirm that in case of any statutory variation in Taxes and Duties and in case of any Introduction of New Taxes and Duties from the Base Date, the Contractor shall be compensated with the same.	Please refer to the Compact Section 2.8 (a) which states "Unless the Parties specifically agree otherwise in writing, the Government will ensure that all MCC Funding is free from the payment or imposition of any existing or future taxes, duties, levies,…" read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules.
63.	Section VII. Particular Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 13.7 Adjustments for Changes in Legislation Amend Sub-Clause 13.7 by adding the following to the end of the first paragraph: ", provided, that no such adjustment will be made on account of any change in the Laws of the Country related to taxes as such term is defined and used in Sub-Clause 21." Amend Sub-Clause 13.7 by adding the following at the end: "Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Contractor shall not be entitled to such an extension of time if the same shall already have been taken into account in determining an extension and such Cost shall	Please refer Compact Section 2.8 (a) which states "Unless the Parties specifically agree otherwise in writing, the Government will ensure that all MCC Funding is free from the payment or imposition of any existing or future taxes, duties, levies,…" read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules. No adjustment will be made on account of any change in the Laws of the Country related to taxes as such term is defined and used in Sub-Clause 21 of PCC.

	not be separately paid if the same shall already have been taken into account in the indexing of any inputs to the table of adjustment data in accordance with the provisions of Sub-Clause 13.8 [Adjustments for Changes in Cost]." Please confirm that in case of any statutory variation in Taxes and Duties and in case of any Introduction of New Taxes and Duties from the Base Date, the Contractor shall be compensated with the same.	
64.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer General Design Obligations 5.1 Contractor's obligation to notify the Employer of errors, faults or defects in the Employer's Requirements is: within twenty-eight (28) days from the Commencement Date. It is requested to kindly remove this 28 days time period notification and kindly keep this as "as soon as the Contractor becomes aware of".	The Bidding Document will not be amended.
65.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Delay Damages 8.7 The damages for delays shall be as follows: Lot 1: Lapsiphedi-Ratmate-New Hetauda 400kV D/C Transmission Line 0.1 percent of the final Contract Price per day in the currencies and proportions in which the Contract Price is payable Lot 2: Ratmate-New Damauli 400kV D/C Transmission Line 0.1 percent of the final Contract Price per day in the currencies and proportions in which the Contract Price is payable Lot 3: New Damauli-New Butwal 400kV D/C Transmission Line (Base) And New Butwal - Nepal/India Border 400kV D/C Transmission Line (Option) 0.1 percent of the final Contract Price per day in the currencies and proportions in which the Contract Price is payable	The Bidding Document will not be amended.

	It is requested to kindly consider Delay LD as 0.1 % of the Contract Price per week of delay or part thereof instead of 0.1 % of the Contract Price per day.	
66.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Delay Damages 8.7 Maximum amount of delay damages shall be: Lot 1: Lapsiphedi-Ratmate-New Hetauda 400kV D/C Transmission Line 10% of the Contract price Lot 2: Ratmate-New Damauli 400kV D/C Transmission Line 10% of the Contract price Lot 3: New Damauli-New Butwal 400kV D/C Transmission Line (Base) And New Butwal - Nepal/India Border 400kV D/C Transmission Line (Option) 10% of the Contract price It is requested to kindly keep this maximum amount of delay damages as 5% instead of 10%.	The Bidding Document will not be amended.
67.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Application for Interim Payment Certificates 14.3 (c) Amount to be retained shall be: ten percent (10%) of Interim Payment Certificates. Limit of retention money shall be: ten percent (10%) of the Contract Price. Request you to kindly keep this Retention money as 5% instead of 10% so as to support Contractor in maintaining the cashflow for executing the Project.	The Bidding Document will not be amended.
68.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Schedule of Payments Plant and Materials In respect of Plant and Materials supplied from abroad, the following payments shall be made: (a) 50% of DDP-Work Site in Nepal Price (as per Schedule 2) for Plan and Material through	Please refer to Addendum #2 to the Bidding Document. MCA-Nepal is not intending to amend this provision further.

	irrevocable letter of credit opened in favor of Contractor's bank upon Delivery to the carrier (supported with appropriate documentations listed below) (b) 30% of DDP-Work Site in Nepal Price (as per Schedule 2) for Plant and Material upon delivery to laydown area on Site after receipt of request for interim payment with Delivery Completion Certificate issued by the Employer showing Contract number, goods description, quantity through irrevocable letter of credit opened in favor of Contractor's bank. (c) 10% of DDP-Work Site in Nepal Price (as per Schedule 2) for Plant and Material upon Take Over of the Works and Services (d) 10% of DDP-Work Site in Nepal Price (as per Schedule 2) for Plant and Material upon completion of defects notification period, after receipt of the request for interim payment. Please confirm the following a) 50% and 30% payment shall be on pro-rata basis b) Since there is already a retention payment, hence kindly release the last 10% against Take Over itself. Hence kindly release the payment of 20% against Take Over instead of 10%.	
69.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Schedule of Payments Plant and Materials In respect of Plant and Materials supplied from within the Employer's country, the following payments shall be made: (a) 80% of EXW price (as per Schedule 3) for Plant and Material upon delivery to laydown area on Site (b) 10% of EXW price (Schedule 3) for Plant and Material upon Takeh Over of Works and Services (c) 10% of EXW price (Schedule 3) for Plant and Material upon completion of defects notification period, after receipt of the request for interim payment Please confirm the following a) 80% payment shall be on pro-rata basis	a) The payment of 80% of EXW price (as per Schedule 3) for Plant and Material upon delivery to laydown area on Site will be based on actual quantity of goods delivered to site. b) No amendment to the bidding document will be done. However, please refer to Addendum #2 to the Bidding document, through which MCA-Nepal/Employer has amended the Schedule of Payments.

	b) Since there is already a retention payment, hence kindly release the last 10% against Take Over itself. Hence kindly release the payment of 20% against Take Over instead of 10%.	
70.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Performance Security 4.2 Performance Security will be in a form acceptable to Employer in the amount of: Lot 1: Ten percent (10%) of the Accepted Contract Amount less provisional sum and daywork, payable in US Dollars. Lot 2: Ten percent (10%) of the Accepted Contract Amount less provisional sum and daywork, payable in US Dollars. Lot 3: Ten percent (10%) of the Accepted Contract Amount less provisional sum and daywork, payable in US Dollars. It is requested to kindly keep this 10% as 5%.	Please refer to Addendum #2 to the Bidding Document. MCA-Nepal is not intending to amend this provision further.
71.	Request for Time Extension pertaining to the subject tender. We are in the process of preparing bid and noticed that the time available for submission of complete and comprehensive offer within the due date of 27th March 2023 may become difficult, due to the following reason: 1. As per your Clarification No 02 dated 31.01.2023 it was mentioned that the Addendum will be issued tentatively before 10th of February 2023. Upon receipt on your addendum and clarification, we need to review and finalize our Tower and Foundation Design and obtain confirmations from most of the sub vendors for major materials / service which shall need a more time. 2. As Bidders need to Quote on Lot Items, each Tower Location need to be studied including detailed survey and identification of soil classification as much as possible which requires additional time for preparing the Bid. 3. Considering the volume of works involved in the Tender preparation, we and our manufacturers need additional time to prepare a complete & comprehensive Bid. In view of the foregoing, we hereby request you to extend the deadline for the submission of bids of this project by **6 weeks**.	The deadline of submission has already been extended to 17 April 2023 via Addendum #3 to the Bidding Document. MCA-Nepal is not intending to extend the submission deadline further.
72.	We are in the process of preparing bid and noticed that the time available for submission of complete and comprehensive offer within the due date of 27th March 2023 may become difficult, due to the following reason:	The deadline of submission has already been extended to 17 April 2023 via Addendum #3 to the Bidding Document. MCA-Nepal is not intending to extend the submission deadline further.

	1. As per your Clarification No 02 dated 31.01.2023 it was mentioned that the Addendum will be issued tentatively before 1 0th of February 2023. Upon receipt on your addendum and clarification, we need to review and finalize our Tower and Foundation Design and obtain confirmations from most of the sub vendors for major materials / service which shall need a more time. 2. As Bidders need to Quote on Lot Items, each Tower Location need to be studied including detailed survey and identification of soil classification as much as possible which requires additional time for preparing the Bid. 3. Considering the volume of works involved in the Tender preparation, we and our manufacturers need additional time to prepare a complete & comprehensive Bid. In view of the foregoing, we hereby request you to extend the deadline for the submission of bids of this project by **6 weeks.**	
73.	Please refer Section IV-Bid Submission Forms, Pg 168, Technical Data Schedule – Insulator String, Item 3.5 : For 120 KN Insulator, Insulating Material type mentioned as a "Porcelain". While, as per clause 5.A408. INSULATION, Section V– B1, Part 2 : - All Insulators shall be of "Glass" material. Please review & clarify about the Insulating Material (i.e. "Glass" or "Porcelain") required for various type of Insulators for further suitable considerations in our working.	Please consider Glass insulator instead of Porcelain for all lots of this project. Please refer serial #2 of Addendum 4.

74.	Please refer Section IV-Bid Submission Forms, Pg 166, Technical Data Schedule – Insulator String: 530 KN / 400 KN / 300 KN / 210 KN / 120 KN variety of Insulator Strength Given While, as per various clauses in Section V – B1, Part 2 & provided Insulator Assembly Drawings: - 222 KN Insulators shall be used in Triple Tension String for all types of Tension Tower However, from the various clauses in Section V-B1, we understand that the 222 KN Strength Insulator shall be used for Tension String. Please confirm, whether our above understanding are in line with Bid Documents requirements or not, and issue necessary amendment in Technical Data Schedule in this regard.	Please use the proper Insulators capacity based on the design loading requirements
75.	Please refer Section V – B1, Part 2, Pg 24 (Please refer below Image) : D. **Exception to Section 2.10.2 (Insulation: Type Transmission) and 2.10.4 (Insul Physical Characteristics)** 4.1 Suspension tower types Suspension tower shall be designed taking into account the following requirements: 1. Insulator Strings shall consist of inclined V-Shaped Insulator Strings, not I-sha As per above clause, for Suspension Tower, V-Shaped Insulator String required to be adopted, not I-shaped. While, as per clause 5.A408. INSULATION, Pg 63, Section V– B1, Part 2 (Please refer below Image) and other relevant clauses of Section V-B1, all Suspension Tower shall be with I-String, except D1B-ALT & DIC-ALT tower.	Confirmed

	2- Type-Transmission |	
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I-String:	All structures except D1B-ALT and D1C-ALT tower which V-Strings are mandatory. .
V-String:	V-String are now required on D1B-ALT and D1C-A types. See B1 Section 5.A404.5
Horizontal Post:	N/A
Horizontal Jumper Post:	N/A
Vertical Jumper Post:	Angle and Deadend structures | However, from the various relevant clauses in Section V-B1 (except above Point D. Exception to Section 2.10.2), we understand that for Suspension Towers (except Alternate Running Angle Towers), Bidder has to adopt Single Suspension I-String (with 300KN Insulator Units) Only. Please confirm, whether our above understanding are in line with Bid Documents requirements or not.	All Suspension Tower shall be with I-String, except D1B-ALT & DIC-ALT tower. Please use the proper Insulators capacity based on the design loading requirements.
76.	Please refer Section V – B1, Part 2, Pg 24 (Please refer below Image) : **D. Exception to Section 2.10.2 (Insulation: Type Transm Physical Characteristics)** 4.1 Suspension tower types Suspension tower shall be designed taking into account the 1. Insulator Strings shall consist of inclined V-Shaped I As per above clause, for Suspension Tangent Tower, if V-Shaped Insulator String required to be adopted by the Bidders, then we request you to kindly arrange to provide the Preliminary Design & Drawings for V-Shape Insulator String with relevant details (i.e. No of String in Each Branch / No of Insulator per String / KN of Insulator Units…etc.) .	All Suspension Tower shall be with I-String, except D1B-ALT & DIC-ALT tower. The V-String design should be developed by the Contractor
77.	Following Insulator Assembly Drawings not available - Sheet_1-A_Single Suspension with Single Clamp_I_String_Assembly - Sheet_1-B_Single Suspension with Double Clamp_I_String_Assembly	It should be developed by the Contractor

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>Please arrange to provide earliest possible for ready reference.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>78.</td><td>Please refer Bid Document, Part-1, Section-III (Qualification and Evaluation Criteria), Subcontractors / Manufacturers, Page No- 82:
As per the said clause, Subcontractors / Manufacturers of major items like Insulator & Hardware (Fittings) must meet the minimum qualification criteria as given below:
<table><tr><th>Item No.</th><th>Description the Item</th><th>Minimum criteria to be met</th><th>Documentary Evide need to be submitte with the Bid submis</th></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Fittings (for conductors and insulator strings)</td><td>The fitting manufacturer shall have been in its business for the last ten (10) years. It shall have manufactured and supplied fittings for at least five (5) projects of 380kV voltage level or above within the last five (5) years.</td><td>Evidence is to be giv reference lists for required period of (showing supplied f quantities in sets, p designation, voltage year of supply).</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Fittings (for OPGW including joint boxes)</td><td>The OPGW fitting manufacturer shall have been in its business for the last ten (10) years. It shall have manufactured and supplied fittings for at least five (5) projects within the last five (5) years.</td><td>Evidence is to be giv reference lists for required period of (showing supplied f quantities in sets, p designation, year supply).</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Insulators</td><td>The insulator manufacturer shall have been in its business for the last ten (10) years. It shall have manufactured and supplied minimum 400,000 disc insulators within the last five (5) years of 160KN rating or as per ANSI 52-8 and above.</td><td>Evidence is to be giv reference lists for required period of (showing sup insulator quantities pieces, p designation, year supply). Additionall type test report insulator unit(s) sha submitted.</td></tr></table>However, as per Document under Part-2, B1, Annex D Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification Rev 1, Clause 3.1, Subcontractor / Manufacturer need to provide Proof of Experience as per below:</td><td>Subject to approval by the authority, MCA-Nepal will amend provision of Part-2, B1, Annex D Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification Rev 1, Clause 3.1 to align it with Part-1, Section-III Qualification and Evaluation Criteria. So the information stated under Section III of Part 1 as well as Part-2, B1, Annex D Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification Rev 1, Clause 3.1 both need to be fulfilled.</td></tr>
</table>

	3.1 PARAMETERS FOR TENDER DOCUMENT A. Proof of Experience 1. The Supplier shall be a manufacturer of insulators of similar nature 10 years. 2. The Supplier shall have design, manufacturing, supply and satisfac experience for the last 10 years in at least five (5) projects / lines fo 200,000 units each of same or similar insulator type offered, opera similar climate conditions. 3. The Supplier shall submit documentary evidence of the good perfo the offered insulators by providing at least 3 performance certificat a self- shattering rate less or equal to 1 / 10,000 unit per year, on a of three (3) different projects of more than 100,000 insulators each service for more than five (5) years and operating at voltage level e higher than 230 kV AC. The required evidence should be issued b different recognized utilities. 4. The references shall clearly mention the name of the transmission operating voltage, month and year of delivery completion and oper quantities and type of insulators and the name of the utility, addres phone number, as well as the name and mail address of a represe the utility. 5. The Owner has the right to verify the experience and performance Supplier by contacting the utilities which issued the submitted perf evidences but also by its own criteria, not limited to these utilities. & as per Document under Part-2, B1, Annex D Appendix 9 - Hardware Specification Rev 1, Clause 3.1, Subcontractor / Manufacturer need to provide Proof of Experience as per below: **3.1 PARAMETERS FOR TENDER DOCUMENT** A. Proof of experience: 1. The Supplier shall be a manufacturer of hardware of similar nature f 10 years. 2. The Supplier shall have design, manufacturing, supply and satisfact experience for the last 10 years in at least 5 projects/lines for at leas units each of same or similar hardware type offered, operating unde climate conditions. 3. The Supplier shall submit documentary evidence of the good perfor the offered hardware by providing at least 3 performance certificates minimum of 3 different projects of more than 10,000 units of hardwa being in service for more than 5 years and operating at similar voltag and forces level to the ones of this project. The required evidence sh issued by at least 3 different recognized utilities. 4. The references shall clearly mention the name of the transmission li operating voltage, month and year of delivery completion and operat quantities and type of hardware and the name of the utility, addresse phone number as well as the name and mail address of a represent utility. 5. The Employer has the right to verify the experience and performanc Supplier by contacting the utilities which issued the submitted perfor evidences but also by its own criteria, not limited to these utilities. In comparison with Bid Document, Part-1, Section-III (Qualification and Evaluation Criteria), the abovementioned Proof of Experience demands for completely different experience criteria for Insulators & Hardware (Fittings) items. Kindly clarify, which Qualification criteria needs to be fulfilled by Subcontractors / Manufacturers	
79.	Price schedule- BOQ for schedule no.1 and 2 Item 1.2 As per price schedule, Large angle tower D1A (2-5) deg is required. However, in section V-B1	Tower D1A (2-5 deg) is not required.

	Employers requirement there is no mention of large angle D1A (2-5) deg. Also, line diagram for the same is not furnished. Please confirm whether D1A(2-5) deg is in the scope of work.	
80.	Section V-B1 Employers requirement clause 8 Exceptions to the Preliminary Design (E) Exception to Annex B, Appendix 2 (Transmission Tower Drawings) In clause 8 (E) of section V-B1 it is mentioned that "All loading trees for all required double-circuit tower types (D1A, D1B, D1C, D1D, D1E, D1F plus both D1B-ALT and D1C-ALT) that can be found in Annex B, Appendix 2, particularly inthe lower half of sheets 2, 2A and/or 2B in any corresponding series of (generally) five (5) drawings per tower type, shall be disregarded. Contractors shall also disregard loading trees for D1AQC and D1DQC quad-circuit tower types (anticipated) that can also be found in the same series of drawings." However, in Annex D Appendix 6 clause 2.1 (L), After award of contract, clause 1.2.4 it is mentioned that "Loading tree diagrams, and all the relevant load calculations - Employer has calculated the ultimate external loadings at the conductor, OPGW, and OHGW attachments points. These are provided in the attached tower drawings. The Contractor shall develop the tower designs based on the loadings given by the Employer." The above referred statements are contradictory. Please confirm whether contractor has to use the same loadings provided by employer in the line diagram or contractor has to develop their loadings as per details given in section V-B1.	The contractor has to develop their loadings as per details given in section V-B1.
81.	Section V-B1 Employers requirement clause 2 Tower type selection (j)	This is to confirm that Anti-cascade is required for suspension towers.

	In clause j it is mentioned "all tension towers must be designed for anti-cascading at that line angle location." However, in table B1-1 design loading conditions in case no. 12 Failure containment Anti cascading, suspension towers D1A, D1B-ALT & D1C-ALT are also included. Please confirm whether Anti-cascade is required for suspension towers.	
82.	Section V-B1 Employers requirement clause 8 Exceptions to the Preliminary Design (D) Exception to Section 2.10.2 (Insulation: Type Transmission) and 2.10.4 (Insulation: Physical Characteristics) In clause 8 (D) 4.1, it is mentioned that suspension towers shall be designed taking into account the insulator strings that consist inclined V-Shaped Insulator Strings, not I-shaped Strings. Whereas, in same section V-B1 in clause 5.A.404 General characteristics, point no. 5 Main Tower Types, it is mentioned as all suspension towers are proposed to be equipped with single I-Insulator strings, made of 300 kN individual insulator units. Also, in Annex D Appendix 9 Hardware Specification Rev 1, string drawings provided are all I-string dwgs. Please confirm whether suspension towers are to be provided with I- string insulator or V- string insulator.	This is to confirm that suspension towers are to be provided with I- string insulator strings.
83.	Section V-B1 Employers requirement 8 Exceptions to the Preliminary Design In clause 8, exceptions to wire sag tension limits and exceptions to loading conditions are given. We understand that contractor has to develop tower design as per Tension limit criteria table &	Your understanding is correct.

	design loading conditions given in table B1-1 of section V-B1. Please confirm that section V-B1 Employers requirement supersedes the FDR.	
84.	KMZ File Hetauda SS We refer the kmz file where a new line starts from Hetauda SS approx. 3.37 km (green colour) points with BM1, BM1/1, AP1 , AP 2 going to south of the line. We understand that contractor's scope of works is from Ratmate to Hetauda S/S only. This 3.37 km line is not in contractor's scope. Please clarify.	The latest kmz and tower schedule already issued soon through addendum. The bidders have to consider all the towers mentioned in tower schedule while preparing their technical and financial offer.
85.	Tree Cutting As per standard practice in Nepal, for forest region, tree numbering is in the scope of Contractor and tree cutting is in scope of employer. Also, all necessary permissions from ministry of forest and / or any other concerned authorities are obtained by the employer. We presume for this project also, necessary permissions and tree cutting shall be responsibility of employer. Please confirm.	The cabinet approval for tree clearance will be obtained by MCA-Nepal. The Contractor will be responsible to obtain work permits from DFO and affected Community Forests User Groups (CFUGs), clearance of trees under the supervision of the office of DFO and CFUGs, transportation of felled trees to the designated area as determined by DFO/CFUG and all other associated work as mentioned in the Bidding Document.
86.	Survey We have noted that, MCA has provided preliminary survey plans and profiles as part of tender documents. Also, during the site visit it was confirmed that at execution stage the contractors are required to carry out only “check survey” and detailed survey is not required. Considering the above we request you to confirm that in case of any change in tower type /extension and line length, the contractor shall be paid as per the actual quantities supplied and installed.	1. Based on available information furnished in the bidding document and subsequent addendum (already issued) the bidder shall prepare their technical and financial offer. 2. Details of the financial offer should be furnished by the bidders in the Price Schedule (including day rates and ESHSMP price schedule) and Price for Price reasonability analysis. 3. Any changes during execution will be dealt as per the provisions of the Contract and based on assessment made by the Engineer.

87.	Price Schedule In tender specification estimated BOQs are provided. Please clarify whether we have to use the same quantities to fill up the price schedule.	There is no BoQ provided. Only the price schedule. The quantities in the price schedule are mentioned as 1 except in the list of day-works. The bidders have to consider the latest kmz and tower schedule which was issued through addendum. The bidders has to consider all the towers mentioned in tower schedule while preparing their technical and financial offer.
88.	Foundation type soil classes The tower quantities along with the extensions (structure list – in Annex C) have been provided in the specification. Further we would like to inform you that we refer the soil investigation report, in which at most of the locations soil investigation was carried out of the line / away from the line and it is very difficult for contractors to envisage the exact soil class at tender stage. Hence we request you to please provide us the foundation type soil classes as per the following summary. This will help us in preparing most competitive and comprehensive proposal.	Since the contract is **design and build**, the contractor has to classify the soil type from the information furnished with the bidding document and accordingly prepare their technical and financial offer.
89.	LIDAR Survey at execution stage Kindly confirm that LIDAR survey is not mandatory for the contractor to be carried out during execution stage.	Confirmed.
90.	Tower quantities The tower quantities specified in excel file "SUMMARY OF TOTAL NUMBER OF TOWER IN EACH SECTION" is different from BOQ in pdf file. Please confirm which one to consider	The bidders must consider the latest kmz and tower schedule already issued through addendum. The bidders have to consider all the towers mentioned in tower schedule while preparing their technical and financial offer.
91.	Vehicle Please confirm whether vehicles for this project can be sourced from outside Nepal. Also, confirm	Yes, the Bidder can procure & supply above Vehicles from Outside Nepal.

Foundation type		Lapsipedi - Ratmate	Ratmate - Hetauda	Ratmate - New Damauli	Damauli - New Butwal	New Butwal - India border
Line length	km	59 km	58 km	90 km	90 km	18 km
Total Locations (Twr)	Nos	163	142	249	248	52
Soi Type 1 - Normal dry soil	Nos					
Soi Type 2 - wet soil	Nos					
Soi Type 3 - soft rock / fissured soil	Nos					
Soi Type 4 - sandy soil	Nos					
Micropiles - all type soil	Nos					
Steel grillage foundation	Nos					

	in such case vehicle shall be exempt of taxes and duties.	This shall be as per section 2.8 of the Compact read along with Schedule B, Annex VII.
92.	TDS - Insulator Strings, Insulating Material According to the Technical Data Schedule, insulating material for 120 kN insulator is specified as Porcelain. However, for other insulators (530 kN, 400 kN, 300 kN, 210 kN) it is specified as glass. Please confirm the type of material to be used for the Insulators.	Please consider all the insulator type as Glass.
93.	Coupling Required coupling specified is as per both IEC and ANSI standards. However, IEC and ANSI standards are different. We presume coupling meeting requirement of either IEC or ANSI shall be acceptable. Please confirm.	This is to confirm that coupling meeting requirement of either IEC or ANSI shall be acceptable.
94.	Annex D Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification Rev 1, Clause 3.1 Section III Evaluation and Qualification Criteria Qualification requirement for insulator manufacturer specified in Appendix 8 and in Section III Evaluation and Qualification Criteria are different. Please confirm which qualification criteria to be considered.	Please consider Section III Evaluation and Qualification Criteria. Subject to approval of authority, MCA-Nepal may issue an addendum to correct mistakes under Annex D Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification Rev 1, Clause 3.1.
95.	KN ratings of Insulators In the technical specifications there is a mention of 400 KN and 530 KN insulators. however, the same are not specified in the estimated BOQ. Please confirm whether the same are required are not.	The same are required.
96.	Project Insurance Project insurance purchased from outside Nepal shall be acceptable. Please confirm.	The Contractor can arrange insurances from any eligible country. However, the insurances provided should be applicable in the Territory of Nepal for it to be acceptable.
97.	Taxes and Duties	

	Price Schedule & Particular Conditions of Contract clause 21.1 As specified in price schedule - All items supplied from abroad shall be quoted on DDP basis. - The Contractor shall also be responsible for custom clearance, loading, unloading, insurance, transportation, off-loading at Site and any other associate charges. - Tax exemption letter as per MCC Compact provision shall be provided to the winning bidder/future contractor if required As per Particular Conditions of Contract clause 21.1 ".....the Contract, including in connection with the execution of the Works, are exempt from taxes, duties, levies, contributions or other charges imposed under Laws currently or hereafter in effect in the Employer's Country (separately "tax" and collectively "taxes") during the effective term of the Compact....." Please clarify the following - We understand that all local taxes and duties shall be exempt for the project. - Prices to be quoted and bid evaluation shall be exclusive of all taxes, duties, VAT, levies etc. and the same are to be mentioned in the "Letter of Financial offer". - Taxes and duties exemption shall also be applicable to all Subcontractors and suppliers.	Tax exemptions shall be as per Section 2.8 of the Compact read along with tax Schedule VII. -The Price in Letter of Financial Offer should not include output VAT. -Yes, subject to provision of Section 2.8 of the Compact - - -
98.	ITB Clause 5.8 (d) Conflict of Interest As specified in the referred clause d) participate in more than one Bid in this process; participation by a Bidder in more than one Bid will result in the disqualification of all Bids in which	This is allowed, subject to abiding by the provisions stated under ITC clause 5.8. However, please note that a Bidder cannot participate, as a Bidder or as a subcontractor, in more than one Bid in this bidding process in accordance with ITB Sub-Clause 5.8 (d).

	the party is involved; however, this provision does not limit the inclusion of the same subcontractor in more than one Bid; Generally in all multilateral funded contracts the bidders who are also the reputed Manufacturer's of Transmission Line products (Tower/Conductor/Insulators) are allowed to supply their product to other bidders competing in the same bid. We understand that the same shall also be acceptable in this bid. Please confirm.	Participation by a Bidder in more than one Bid will result in the disqualification of all Bids in which the party is involved; however, this provision does not limit the inclusion of the same subcontractor in more than one Bid as per the provision stated under ITB 5.8;
99.	ITB Clause 38.6 Negotiations As specified in the referred clause "During Contract negotiations, the Employer will not consider substitution of any Key Professional Personnel unless both parties agree that undue delay in the selection process makes such substitution unavoidable or for reasons such as death or medical incapacity of one of the Personnel. If this is not the case and if it is established that any Key Professional Personnel were offered in the Bid without confirming their availability, the Bidder may be disqualified." We understand that there may be reason like an employee / employees whom we have proposed for a particular positions may separate from the organisation due to personal issues or better prospects before award of the contract. Hence, it is practically impossible to deploy the same proposed employee for the project execution. In such case, an alternative suitable replacement of that out going proposed personnel shall be considered by MCA. Please confirm.	The replacement of key personnel is not expected by MCA-Nepal/Employer. The provision of the replacement remains same. However, MCA-Nepal will review the situation on a case-by-case basis as it will be encountered and evaluate the situation when the time will come.
100.	ITB / BDS Clause 12.2 Documents comprising the bid We understand that all 3 Lots have common technical specifications and common Qualification requirements, except the requirement of key personnel, equipment and some other financial	Please refer to response of query #95 under Clarification #3 issued by MCA-Nepal/Employer.

	documents which are to be submitted separately for each lot. We request you to please accept a common submission for all 3 lots except for bid security and any other document, which is categorically required for each lot individually. Please confirm.	
101.	ITB / BDS Clause 15.6 (a) As specified in the referred clause the bid prices shall be quoted on DDP Basis. Also, tax exemption certificate shall be issued by MCC through a specified process. a. As per contract conditions, the project is primarily tax exempted project. We understand that prices for the materials which are to be imported from outside Nepal can be quoted exclusive of any taxes but as per INCOTERM DDP where Duties etc. are to be exempted / Borne by the Employer. Please confirm. b. Considering the proximity of Nepal to India, reinforcement Steel / Cement may also be imported from outside Nepal. Hence as per our understanding the custom duties and applicable taxes at custom port for such imports shall also be exempted. Please confirm. c. For Service portion in Nepal, the VAT shall be borne by MCA Nepal and can be claimed by the successful contractor from MCA Nepal. Hence, Output VAT shall not be the cost to the contractor. Please Confirm. d. As per our understanding a company can operate in Nepal 1) through branch office registration for taxation purpose or 2) By incorporating the Local Subsidiary under Nepali's law.	a. Import Tax is exempt. The tax exemption letter will be provided by MCA-Nepal for the Goods imported for the purposes of the Compact. b. This shall be as per section 2.8 of the Compact read along with Schedule B, Annex VII. c. This shall be as per section 2.8 of the Compact read along with Schedule A, Annex VII. d. This shall be as per section 2.8 of the Compact read along with Schedule D, Annex VII.

	In case of Branch office operation for delivering the project services to MCA Nepal, we understand that the company shall not be subject to WHT deduction from the invoices raised. Please confirm.	
102.	ITB / BDS Clause 20.2 As specified in the referred clause, bid securities specified for each lot are LOT-1 : USD 700,000 LOT-2 : USD 550,000 & LOT-3 675,000 USD a. In case if a bidder is interested and eligible for award of 2 Lots, submission of bid securities i.e USD 700,000 and USD 675,000 shall be acceptable to the employer, even though the bidder is participating in all 3 Lots. Please confirm. b. Similarly if a bidder is interested only for one Lot, bid security of USD 700,000 can be submitted by the bidder which shall be applicable for all the three lots. Please confirm.	a. Separate Bid Security for each lot is required to be submitted unless there is an addendum. b. Separate Bid Security for each lot is required to be submitted unless there is an addendum.
103.	Letter of Financial Offer item 12 As specified in the referred clause, bidder has to cofirm that he is not participating in more than one bid in the capacity of a main contractor or Subcontractor. However, the bidder is allowed to participate in more than one bid as a supplier of transmission line product. Please confirm	It is allowed subject to abiding by the provisions stated under ITC clause 5.8. A Bidder cannot participate, as a Bidder or as a subcontractor, in more than one Bid in this bidding process in accordance with ITB Sub-Clause 5.8 (d). Participation by a Bidder in more than one Bid will result in the disqualification of all Bids in which the party is involved; however, this provision does not limit the inclusion of the same subcontractor in more than one Bid as per the provision stated under ITB 5.8;
104.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Clause No 1.2 Interpretation As specified in the referred clause "Profit shall be 5% of the Cost".	The profit is what is referred to under Conditions of Contract. In section VII. Particular conditions of Contract, the Sub-Clause 1.2 is modified as:

	Request you to please clarify, as we are unable to corelate between the clauses from General conditions and the above referred clause.	Amend Sub-Clause 1.2 by adding the following at the end: "In Contract provisions including the expression "Cost plus reasonable profit" require this profit to be one-twentieth (5%) of this Cost unless otherwise indicated in the Appendix to Financial Offer." Hence, in Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer the Bidding Document is also including the same statement.
105.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Clause No 2.1 Right of Access As specified in the referred clause, permanent access of site shall be provided to the contractor in the phased manner. However, the project being complex for execution of transmission line works, we request you to grant access to the site in a full strech and not in a phased manner. Please confirm.	For the check survey and geo-technical activities, the Employer will provide temporary site access clearance to the Contractor within Fifteen (15) days after the commencement of contract in accordance with the temporary land access procedures defined in the ESHSMP. The clearance for permanent access for the actual construction work will be issued to the Contractor in a phased manner. The clearance for construction of the first lot of towers will be issued before the commencement of foundation work as defined in the ESHSMP document. MCA-Nepal will acquire land for towers footprint (for foundation and erection work) as well as obtain necessary permission for RoW area (46m corridor- for stringing activities) in a phased manner as stated earlier. A considerable portion of land acquisition for tower footprints is likely to be completed before commencement of foundation and erection activities by the contractor. For the land acquisition process for tower footprints MCA-Nepal will give due consideration for acquiring land in such a manner that the contractor gets permanent access for a considerable number of towers so that mobilization of their work force is optimized. Please also note that a considerable portion of the line length falls under forest land and government land (details of which is available in the EIA document)- for which land acquisition/ clearance

		will be arranged by MCA-Nepal well before commencement of construction activities. The Contractor must adhere to the permanent access schedule while mobilizing construction teams for foundation and other work.
106.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Clause 3.1 & 3.2 Engineer's Duties and authority As specified in the referred clause "the engineer authority for instructing the Variation and approving the Variation is only up to 10% of line items qty and 1% of the contract value whichever is less and with a maximum ceiling of USD 100,000." We understand that the average weight of Individual tower in this contract is approximately 55-60 MT which itself shall be costing around 100,000 USD on DDP Basis (Delivery at site). We feel that the above clause is restrictive and may not permit addition of a single Tower in Contract during execution stage. We request you to review the same as it may be very difficult to address any variation in the quantities during project execution. Please clarify.	Please refer PCC Sub-Clause 3.1 **Engineer's Duties and Authority:** "The Engineer shall obtain the specific approval of the Employer before taking action under the-following Sub-Clauses of these Conditions: (iv) Sub-Clause 13.1 [*Right to Vary*]: Instructing a Variation, except if such a Variation would increase the Accepted Contract Amount by less than the percentage specified in the Appendix to Financial Offer. Thus, the provision stated under Appendix to Financial offer is the minimum amount for which the Engineer does not have to take approval from the Employer. After the Employer approval, the Engineer can issue a Variation above the stated limit.
107.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Clause 13.8 Adjustment for Change In Cost We understand that the Price Adjustment shall be paid on immediate basis on supply of each lot of Tower & Conductor as per approved Level 2 Implementation Schedule. Please Confirm if the understanding is correct.	Payments will follow the process stated under clause 14 of Conditions of Contract. "Price Adjustment shall be made from the second Interim Payment as the first one will be the Advance Payment and with the frequency as stated in the Appendix to Financial Offer."
108.	Appendix to Letter of Financial Offer Schedule of Payment We understand that 20% of the payment portion is linked to Taking over certificate (TOC) and Defects Liability Period (DLP).	Please refer to Addendum #2 to the Bidding Document. Retention as per Sub-Clause 14.3 (c) will apply as per provisions of the Contract.

	While in Appendix to Letter of Financial offer Clause 14.3 (c) there is an additional deduction of 10% as retention money from any Interim Payment Certificate, which sums up to 28% of the contractor's funds being blocked out of which 18% shall be released after issuance of TOC and balance 10% after DLP. It is practically challenging for the contractors to handle such cash flow gap. We request you to please review the payment terms and propose as per international Multilateral Funded Contracts i.e. 20% Advance, 70% Interim, 5% on TOC and 5% after DLP. Please Confirm.	
109.	Price Schedule We have received MCA assessed estimated BOQs for all 3 lots with the tender specifications. However, bidder has to quote the bid on Lump sum basis. Further to the Price Schedule for each lot, the Bidder has to specify quantities and quote unit rates for each item in the Price Reasonability. a. As the Project is on Lump sum Turnkey basis, the bidder must be free to quote as per their own assessed quantities which may be more or less from the quantities assessed by the employer. Please confirm. b. As per our understanding the Price Reasonability Break up Schedule where unit prices for each item shall be provided by the bidder will be used for interim payment purpose without any further price break up during contract execution stage. Please Confirm	a. The purpose of the price schedules is to identify the Bid Price which will be used to determine progress payment. The Bidder/future Contractor shall be responsible for the supply and installation of the required quantities of all items as per Employer's requirement. b. The Price Schedule and Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability will be the basis for determining the billing schedule (to be prepared by the Engineer in Consultation with the Employer and the Contractor).

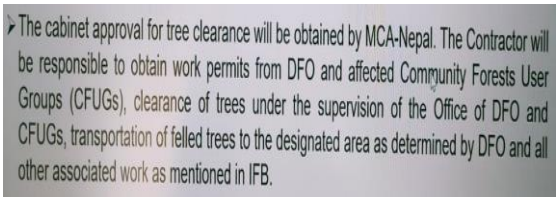
	c. If in case the employer disagrees / refuses for the above queries , we understand that there shall be an additional billing break up which shall be deployed for interim payment release. Please confirm. d. As per our understanding, the day work price schedule shall form the part of overall bid evaluation, but shall be exercised only when any additional work or variation / change order to the current contract is issued to the contractor. Please confirm.	c. Please refer to the above answer. d. The Daywork rates may be used for any additional work required, which are not included under the Employer's requirements. The Daywork price shall be included for the evaluation and day work schedule will be included in the Contract for executing additional Work. Daywork will only be paid if the Contractor is requested to carry out additional work.
110.	Section III Qualification and Evaluation criteria - Key Personnel Form TECH-5: Project Management Organization As specified in Section III Qualification and Evaluation criteria - Key Personnel, the bidder has to summarise details for the following 10 positions Resident Project Director,Design Manager,Transmission Design Engineer, Resident Construction Manager, Construction Supervisor/QA Manager, Tree Clearance Officer, Health and Safety Manager, Gender & Social inclusion Manager, Environmental Manager, Social safeguard Manager. However, as specified in Form TECH-5, the bidder has to summarise details for the following 9 positions Resident Project Director,Design Manager,Transmission Design Engineer, Resident Construction Manager, Construction Supervisor/QA Manager, Tree Clearance Officer,	This is corrected via Addendum#2. Please refer to Addendum#2. https://mcanp.org/blog/specificprocurement/procurement-of-plant-design-supply-delivery-installation-testing-and-commissioning-oflot-1-lapsiphedi-ratmate-new-hetauda-400kv-d-c-transmission-line-lot-2-ratmate-new-damauli-400kv-d-c-transmi/

	Health and Safety Manager, Gender & Social inclusion Manager, Environmental Manager. Please confirm exact no. of positions for which the bidder has to propose his key personnel for project execution.	
111.	Standards for design of ACSR conductor (construction and Material) As per Technical DATA Schedules for Conductor ASTM standards mentioned are as follows: ASTM B498- (ACSR), ASTM B609- (Steel Core), ASTM B231-(Aluminium Outer Strands). However, we understand these are not relevant to the ACSR conductor. Following are the correct standards relevant to ACSR condcutor ASTM B232- (ACSR), ASTM B498- (Steel Core), ASTM B230-(Aluminium Outer Strands) Please confirm same shall be applicable.	Confirmed.
112.	Grease Application for ACSR conductor Techanical Requirements-B. Mechanical Design-3.10.Grease. As per Techanical Requirements-B. Mechanical Design-3.10.Grease, the grease shall conform to the requirements of IEC/BS/EN 50326, Type B and shall not corrode the wires. Please confirm Type A Grease shall be acceptable or not.	The grease shall conform to the requirements of IEC/BS/EN 50326, Type B
113.	Reels / Drum for ACSR conductor As per Technical DATA Scheules-Conductor for ACSR Moose Conductor 1. Maximum Conductor Length on drum-4600m 2. Maxium Gross Weight per drum incl. conductor- 10186kg. 3. Drum/Reel Size-	It is acceptable.

	FL= 2440, TR=1525mm, DR=1050mm, OW=1650mm, AH=130mm, W=1000kg For ACSR Moose Conductor 1. Maximum Conductor Length on drum-2000 to 2500 m 2. Maxium Gross Weight per drum incl. conductor- Appox. 5000kg. 3. Drum/Reel Size- FL= 1900 to 2100 mm, TR=900 mm, DR=730mm, OW=1100mm, AH=105mm, W=1000kg We are offering conductor on our standard steel drums with flexi packing. Please confirm whether the same shall be acceptable.	
114.	**1. <u>Access Road for Transportation of Materials & Construction Machinery :</u>** As per various relevant clauses of Bidding Documents and understanding based on Pre-Bid Meeting discussions:- "*No new road construction is allowed and the Contractor should use the existing roads. However, the Contractor is also allowed for temporary lease hold of the Private Lands for transportation of construction materials at their cost and time as defined in ESHSMP document (refer to Section V/B0/Annex 10). Construction of new foot trails to a maximum width of 1.25 meter is also allowed and to be rehabilitated at the time of site closure."* In reference to above, we request you to kindly arrange to clarify / confirm the followings: i) As per above clause, we understand that Contractors will be allowed to temporary lease hold Private Land	The Contractor can lease hold private land with proper documentation as defined under ESHSMP but cannot lease hold a non-forest government land or government forest land. The Contractor will be able to construct foot trails of 1.50 meters width in private and government land without clearance of any tree. The

		only, for transportation of construction material & machinery. While, Contractors will not be allowed to temporary lease hold any Government or Forest Land for transportation of construction material & machinery. However, construction of new foot trails to a maximum width of 1.25 meter only allowed in Govt / Forest Land. Please Confirm, whether our above understanding are in line with Bidding documents requirements or not.	Contractor is allowed to transport the construction material & machinery through these foot trails. As previously stated, no new roads are permitted on any type of land.
	ii)	We request you to review the followings in the best interest of Project : a) Majority of the Transmission Lines passing through Hilly / Mountainous terrain (with Hard Rock / Fissured Rock Soil) Manual excavation (non-mechanized) of Foundation Pit in Rocky / Hard Rock Soil is quite challenging / time consuming and seems not feasible looking to the nos of Locations and Project Completion Time Period. Even deployment of additional manpower / resources will also not give the required output. Mechanized excavation / construction methods are the only solutions for this Project to ensure timely completion. b) As per Geo-Investigation details furnished with Bidding documents and first hand assessment of Sites, it seems that large nos of locations required some kind of special	**(ii)** MCA-Nepal/Employer will not amend the Bidding Document provision.

	foundations (like Deep Pile Foundations / Micro-Pile foundations….etc.). This types of foundations requires mobilization of Heavy Machinery (like Piling Rigs…etc.), without which, construction of such type of special foundation could not be possible. C) Maximum Transmission Line route also passing through Government / Forest Land. As per above rulings, construction of new foot trails (max 1.25 meter width) only allowed in Govt / Forest Land, as an access to the Tower Locations. Given 1.25 meter width foot trails, none of the heavy construction machinery (like, Excavator / Mixture Machine / Piling Rigs / Trucks for Transportation of materials….etc.) could reach to the site locations to execute the work of required quality & within time. Considering Huge Quantum of Works (nos of locations) / Terrain Difficulties / Time Constraint..etc., Contractor shall be allowed to construct required new access roads in Government & Forest Land also to mobilize equipment / machinery as per Site requirements (required permission shall be arranged by Employer), to ensure timely completion of work with required Quality & Safety. We request you to once again review above points in the overall interest of the Project and practical approach shall be adopted in granting required access to the Contractor along the Transmission Line route to ensure timely completion of work with required Quality & Safety.	
115.	**2. Tree / Forest Clearance Scope :**	The cabinet approval for tree clearance will be obtained by MCA-Nepal. The Contractor will be

	As per clause no. 5.A303 (Permit and Access of Forest Clearance) Part-2, Sec-V-B0 tree clearance is in scope of Contractor. The Contractor shall be responsible for tree cutting in accordance with the procedures and requirements of the Forest Clearance Permit, EIA and Employer ESHSMP. This includes, among others, procedures for forest clearance and vegetation clearance. The Contractor will only be authorized to clear trees approved by the GoN and must abide by applicable MoFE tree and vegetation clearing rules and regulations. For more details refer to the EIA document. If not otherwise determined in the Forest Clearance Permit, specific instructions regarding tree cutting, site clearance, and timber stacking, transport and distribution shall be defined in agreements between the Employer and the District Forest Offices and/or Community Forest Users Groups. The Contractor shall abide by any applicable terms of such agreements. From the above point, we understand that tree marking and tagging is in scope of MCA-Nepal. All work permits from DFO level of respective regions will be provided by MCA-Nepal. But, as specified in the presentation shown in Pre-bid meeting held on 19.01.2023, all work permits from DFO and affected Community Forests User Groups are to be obtained by Contractor.  Though, we agree for cutting of the trees and transportation of felled trees to the designated place, but we requests you to please keep all work permits from DFO level in scope of employer, as the entire forests approval process was taken care by Employer and if in last stage contractors are involved than things will be more complex. As the concern departments being government entities, they will not entertain the contractors with the same zeal with which they will entertain MCA-Nepal and consequently the approvals will be delayed. Further contractors will start the work post award of tender and due to time limitations; there is huge possibility of getting the things delayed. For timely receipts of all work permits, it is requested MCA-Nepal to obtain and provided	responsible to obtain work permits from DFO and affected Community Forests User Groups (CFUGs), clearance of trees under the supervision of the office of DFO and CFUGs, transportation of felled trees to the designated area as determined by DFO and all other associated work as mentioned in IFB. The bidder should consider the associated costs in their Financial Offer. However, MCA-Nepal will provide necessary administrative support.

	required works permits from DFO and CFUGs. Please review & Confirm.	
116.	**Forest Clearance and Relevant Implications :** Please refer Clause 5.6.2 – Forest Clearance Permit Application, Page 11, Section V – B0, Part 2 – Employer's Requirements. Image of Second Para given below: EIA has estimated the forest area to be cleared for the ETP. This will be verified during forest census and forest clearance and land use permit will be prepared & submitted by MCA-Nepal for approval by the GoN. The Contractor has to abide by the responsibility stated in the forest clearance and land use permit. The Contractor will be responsible for the clearing of trees as per rules and regulations of MoFE (Ministry of Forest and Environment) and the specific requirements defined in the approved Forest Clearance Permit. General procedures for forest We request you to kindly arrange to provide the list of Special Responsibility / Specific Requirements / Rules & Regulations….etc., mentioned in Forest Approval & Clearance Permits by MoFE & other relevant authorities, which requires to abide & follow by the Contractors while clearing & working in the Forest. Please arrange to provide for better understanding and clarity.	The Bidder needs to carry out their own assessment by visiting the concerned departments and accordingly prepare their technical and financial offer. The Bidder is advised to ensure that they have obtained the latest versions of the rules and regulations.
117.	**Office Accommodations :** Please refer Point No. 20 (Accommodations) of Clause 5.A102 (Temporary Site Installation), Page 18, Section V – B0, Part 2 – Employer's Requirements. Image of Second Para given below: The Contractor shall provide suitable furnished office accommodation for Engineer and Employer at least in one convenient location per Lot. In line with requirements specified in Technical Data Schedule TS13. This will include but not limited to office furniture, pantry items, smoke detection, and firefighting equipment, HSE equipment, IT infrastructure, etc. complete in all respect as per the satisfaction of Engineer. The Contractor is also liable for the arrangement of running and maintenance of such establishments including the arrangement of electricity, drinking waters, gas, and other consumables, stationery items, IT consumables, etc. for the entire contract period. From the above clause, we understand that a) Contractor require to provide above Office Accommodation for Engineer & Employer for Contract Period Only. Please Confirm.	a. Yes, the facilities are required for contract period only. (58 months)

	b) After completion of the Project, this Office Facilities shall be the Property of the Contractor. Please Confirm. c) Above facilities required to be provided for 42 months or 60 months Contract Period. Please Clarify. d) Request you to kindly arrange to define the suitable Locations (Lot Wise), where Contractor require to provide above Office Accommodation. e) Request you to kindly arrange to Clarify the type of Office Structure requirements, i.e. Porta Cabins (Container type) or Prefabricated Structure or Permanent Concrete Structure (Rented Office in Town). Please Clarify.	b. After completion of the project the office facilities shall be the property of the contractor. c) The above facilities are required for Contract duration until post Defects Notification Period (DNP). d. The suitable location for establishment of the office of Engineer (1 office per lot) and Employer (1 office per lot) shall be determined by the Engineer and Employer during the kick-off meeting in mutual understanding with the Contractor. Generally, the office location of Engineer and Employer shall be nearby to the Site office location of the Contractor. All the options are acceptable.
118.	**<u>Transportation for Employer :</u>** Please refer Point No. 20 (Accommodations) of Clause 5.A102 (Temporary Site Installation), Page 18, Section V – B0, Part 2 – Employer's Requirements. Image of Third Para given below: The Contractor shall provide a suitable transportation facility for Engineer and Employer in line with requirements specified in Annex 9 of this document Volume B0 as well as in price schedule. The running and maintenance cost of such vehicles for the entire contract period including the supply of fuels, lubricants, drivers, payment of fees associated with statutory permission and clearances like insurance, road tax, etc. are in the scope of the Contractor. Minimum four vehicles as specified in price schedule to be arranged for each Lot.	

	From the above clause, we understand that a) Contractor require to provide above Vehicles for Engineer & Employer for Contract Period Only. Please Confirm. b) Contractor require to register above Vehicles in their names only and shall become Property of the Contractor after completion of Project. Please Confirm. c) Above facilities required to be provided for 42 months or 60 months Contract Period. Please Clarify. d) Contractor can procure & supply above Vehicles from Outside Nepal. Please Confirm. e) Applicable Custom Duties / Taxes while importing above vehicles into Nepal, shall also be exempted or reimbursed by MCA-Nepal. Please Confirm.	a. Yes, the vehicles are required for the Engineer and the Employer for the contract period of 58 months. b. The Contractor may either register above Vehicles in their names or they can rent the vehicle from agencies. After completion of the contract period vehicles will be the property of the contractor (if they purchase the same). c. The above facilities are required for Contract duration until post DNP. d. Yes, Contractor can procure & supply above Vehicles from Outside Nepal. e. Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. The bidder needs to assess the application of taxes on its own as per Section 2.8 of the Compact. The Tax exemption letter will be provided by MCA-Nepal for the Goods imported for the purposes of the Compact.
119.	**<u>Residential Family Accommodation :</u>** Please refer Point No. 20 (Accommodations) of Clause 5.A102 (Temporary Site Installation), Page 18-19, Section V – B0, Part 2 – Employer's Requirements. Image of Last Two Para given below: The Contractor shall provide suitable fully furnished residential family accommodation (minimum 2BHK i.e. 2 Bedroom, 1 Hall, and 1 Kitchen.) for the staff of Engineer at a convenient location (To be decided by Engineer). The approximate number of such accommodations is 16 Nos. per Lot. The Contractor is also responsible for the safety and security of such establishments. The arrangement of running and maintenance cost of such accommodation including rent, electricity, water, other utility charges, the arrangement of drinking water, cooking gas, etc. are also in the scope of the Contractor. In case of non-availability of such	

		suitable residential family accommodation, the Contractor may opt for alternate arrangement in suitable Hotels, etc. as agreed by Engineer. The Contractor shall also provide one number fully furnished guesthouse (with at least four rooms) for the visiting staff of Engineer with the same facilities as mentioned in sub-clause "k". We request you to kindly arrange to clarify / confirm the followings: a) Since, given requirements is quite huge (16 nos per Lot), may we request you to kindly clarify the likely locations (Lot Wise), where required to provide above family accommodation. b) Whether all 16 nos require to be provided at same premises / locations or at different places along the Transmission Line Route. Please Clarify. c) Above facilities require to be provided for 42 months or 60 months Contract Period. Please Clarify. d) In case of non-availability of suitable residential family accommodation, the contractor may opt to suitable Hotels, etc. Please define the clear specifications of Hotels / equivalent arrangement requirements in Hotel (i.e. Rooms / How to manage Kitchen Facility ????...etc.) f) Request you to kindly arrange to Clarify the type of Structure requirements, i.e. 2BHK Flats in Apartment (Rented House Type) or Porta Cabins (Container type) or Prefabricated Structures at some common open land. Please Clarify. g) We also request you to provide clear specifications for 2BHK house, as given for Engineers Office in Technical Data Sheet (TS13). h) Please refer the last para regarding fully furnished guesthouse, may we request you to clarify the reference [Sub-	a. The location of such accommodations (16 No. per lot) will be decided by the Engineer/Employer in consultation with the Contractor during the Kick-off Meeting. b. This may depend upon availability, however accommodation of personal in same apartment/building is preferred. In case of non-availability of required no. of accommodation in same building/ apartment the contractor may consider arranging in nearby areas. c) The above facilities are required for Contract duration until post DNP. d. In case of non-availability or for first 6 months the contractor may opt for providing hotel accommodation. In hotel two deluxe bed rooms for each personal with family and one deluxe bedroom for each person without family to be provided with all standard facilities. The hotel must have modern restaurant facilities with availability of international standard food. The hotel also should have but not limited to high speed internet, elevator, power backup system, hot water system, television, AC system, proper security arrangements etc. f. 2BHK Flats in Apartment (Rented House Type), Porta Cabins (Container type), and Pre-fabricated Structures at some common open land or in hotels as stated above- The bidders may choose any options. g. 2 BHK house is for accommodation and not for Engineer's office. Office and accommodation are two different items. The contractor shall provide one office for Engineer and one office for employer per lot. The office may be in the form of porta cabin or rented building or in temporary structure, or even in a hotel with all the facilities as mentioned in the

	Clause "k"], we could not find it in provided documents.	IFB. The contractor shall also provide 16 no. of 2 BHK furnished family accommodation for the Engineer per lot as described in the response section of serial no.5. c. The contractor shall also provide fully furnished guest house 1 no. per lot as specified in the IFB. h. Please ignore the phrase "sub-Clause k" this is due to typographical error. Necessary addendum will be issued. g. Specification of 2BHK: It includes two bedrooms, one drawing, one dinning, kitchen, one/two toilets and other available spaces.
120.	**Facilities & Services for Employer and Engineer:** Please refer Point No. 22 of Clause 5.A102 (Temporary Site Installation), Page 19, Section V – B0, Part 2 – Employer's Requirements. Image given below: 22. Facilities & Services for Employer and Engineer The Contractor is responsible for providing suitable Site offices for the exclusive use of Employer and Engineer's personnel at each site; complete with all required services, furniture and office equipment, cleaning and maintenance as required by Engineer. These offices shall be fully serviced and fitted out, well-lit and ventilated, heated and air-conditioned, and capable of being made secure with lockable doors. In addition, The Contractor shall provide as part of its site office, a suitable meeting room. Above requirements contradicts with the Office Accommodation requirements mentioned in Point No 20 (Second Para, Page 18). We understand that both requirements are same and only one Office Accommodation Setup require for Engineer / Employer at one convenient location per Lot. Please Confirm. If our above understanding are not in line with Bidding Documents requirements, please further clarify the followings: - Nos of additional Site Offices requirements per Lot with detailed specifications (like given in TS13)	a. Your understanding is correct. One office for Engineer and one office for Employer to be provided per lot. Generally, the office for Engineer and the office for Employer shall be located at a reasonable distance from the site office of the Contractor for convenience of all parties. b. No additional site offices are required for Engineer and Employer. c. The facilities are required for the contract period only (60 Months). d. The ownership of such offices after completion of contract shall be of the Contractor. e. The suitable location for establishment of the office of Engineer (1 office per lot) and Employer (1 office per lot) shall be determined by the Engineer and Employer during the kick-off meeting in mutual understanding with the Contractor. Generally, the office location of Engineer and Employer shall be nearby to the Site office location of the Contractor. f. Porta Cabins (Container type) temporary structure for Site Offices with all facilities as described in the IFB are also accepted.

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>

- Above facilities require to be provided for 42 months or 60 months Contract Period.
- Ownership after Completion of Contract Period.
- Define the suitable Locations (Lot Wise), where Contractor require to provide above Site Offices.

Acceptability of Porta Cabins (Container type) temporary structure for Site Offices.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>121.</td><td><u>FAT Witness of Employer :</u>

Please refer Annex 3 (FAT Witness), Annex_B0, Part-2.

<table><tr><td>1</td><td>FAT Witness of Employer & Employer's Representative Personnel</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>1.1</td><td>In-country & outside country Factory Inspection (FAT) & Prototype Testing witness. Contractor to arrange only the transport facility for Employer, Asset Owner & Engineer</td><td>Mandays</td><td>300</td></tr></table>
We request you to kindly arrange to clarify about Transport Facility. Whether it includes Air Travel between Countries / Cities or only local transportation within same city i.e. from Hotel to Factory / Testing Locations. Please Clarify.</td><td>For Employer, Asset owner and Engineer- Only local transportation i.e. from Hotel to Factory / Testing Locations and back within same city (where FAT will take place) shall be arranged by the Contractor.</td></tr>
<tr><td>122.</td><td>As per Annex_B1 (Part-2), Annex D, Appendix 6 – Tower Design and Fabrication Specification – Rev. 1 Page no -42 (Lattice tower 0 to 2 degree suspension for Birds Migratory zone), there are few special requirement of project mentioned in drawing like bird nesting platform and anti-nesting spike applicable only for birds migratory zone.

With reference to the above, we request you to please do provide bird migratory zone area in KM or nos of span traversing in stated zone for all 3 lots for our better clarity and to assess the quantity of birds nesting platform and anti-nesting spike for our bidding stage estimation purpose.</td><td>Please refer to Section V/ B1/5. Annex C_Structure List_Final Design Report-2019-11-08 for details.</td></tr>
</table>

	Please arrange to provide the requested details.	
123.	**Aviation Warning Light requirements on Tower** : Aviation Warning Lights requirements not clearly defined / mentioned in EIA report or any other sections in provided Bidding Documents. May we request you to kindly arrange to provide the likely Route Stretches / No of Locations, where Contractor likely required to install Aviation Warning Lights (i.e. Tower Beacons) as per your assessment & study of Transmission Line Route for contractors ready reference.	Aviation warning lights with solar power backup is required to install on all the towers (above 60 m height) along the Transmission Line route, irrespective of the Airports / Aviation Routes.
124.	We request you to kindly arrange to clarify / confirm the followings : i) Please refer "Annex D: PS-2 Self-Certification Form", Page 263, Part-3, Section VIII – Contract Forms and Annexes. We understand that Bidder's shall not be required to submit above "Annex D: PS-2 Self-Certification Form" along with their Bid and shall require to execute during Contract Signing. Please Confirm. ii) Please refer "Annex E: Code of Business Ethics and Conduct Certification Form", Page 264, Part-3, Section VIII – Contract Forms and Annexes. We understand that Bidder's shall not be required to submit above "Annex E: Code of Business Ethics Form" along with their Bid and shall require to execute during Contract Signing. Please Confirm	We confirm that Annex D and Annex E requirements shall only be submitted by the awarded contractors and shall not be submitted with the Bid. Annex D: PS-2 Self-Certification Form should be signed by the Contractor as part of the Contract and Annex E: Code of Business Ethics and Conduct Certification Form by the Contractor and submitted together with the signed Contract with the awarded bidder(s).
125.	**<u>Breakdown of Rates & Price Schedule :</u>**	

	Please refer the Breakdown of Rates & Price Schedule, Section IV-Bid Submission Forms, Part-1. We request you to kindly arrange to Clarify / confirm the followings: i) Please refer the BOQ given under Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability, Page 210 onwards. We understand that given Item wise BOQ breakup for various Price Schedule is for Bidders reference purpose only. However, Bidders shall be free to modify the Item wise BOQ breakup (i.e. increase or decrease or modify the description of items associated with relevant major scope) as per their Design Methodology / Working Model and relevant assessment of requirements. Please Confirm. ii) Please refer the BOQ given under Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability, Page 210 onwards. a) Whether Bidders allowed to quote consolidated total Tower Structures Quantity in MT with relevant Unit Price for Price Reasonability. However, Tower Structure wise quantity breakups (i.e. Basic Body / Body Extension / Leg extensions…etc.) along with unit design weights, matching with total MT quantity in Price Reasonability Schedule, shall also be provided separately for ready reference. Please Confirm. b) Whether Bidders allowed to quote consolidated total Foundation Volumes Quantity (i.e. Excavation & Concreting in Cum /	The Price Schedule shall not be modified by the bidder. The bidder shall include the prices in the provided price schedule as it is requested. In case that the bidders believe that there are additional items which are required, the price of the additional items shall be included within the items of price schedule. i. No, the bidders cannot change the reasonability analysis sheet until and unless they are using separate tower family (please refer to the provision in the price for price reasonability sheet after each type of tower). Also, the bidders don't need to specify the quantity of the concreting in m^3. The bidders shall have to conduct their own assessment and estimate the quantities for each item mentioned in the Price Reasonability sheet as per their design and quote their rate (in lump sum) for each type of foundation with due consideration of soil type in the Price for Price Reasonability sheet. a) For Price for Price Reasonability analysis sheet, the bidder has to quote the unit rate for tower or for any component of the tower (like leg extension). But for Price Schedule the bidder must quote the rate in totality considering all the required components including body and leg extensions and tower accessories as mentioned in the Price Schedule- complete in all respect. b.The bidder need not to quote the volume for concreting, etc. The bidders must do their own assessment regarding type of soil, type of foundation and its design and quote the lump sum rate for each type of foundation for each type of tower considering soil class in Price for Price Reasonability.

	Reinforcement Steel in MT ……etc.) with relevant Unit Price for Price Reasonability. However, Foundation Wise / Tower wise quantity breakups (i.e. Excavation / M30, M20, M10 Concrete / Rebar Steel..…etc.) along with unit design volumes, matching with total quantity in Price Reasonability Schedule, shall also be provided separately for ready reference. Please Confirm. Please also consider that above Price Reasonability Breakup (i.e. Total Towers in MT / Foundation Volumes in Cum…etc.) shall also easily facilitate accommodation of any variation in Quantity due to Change Order and relevant progressive payment. Please review and allow bidders to quote as per their prerogative.	No, such detail of foundations / tower wise quantity breakup (i.e. excavation volume / grade of concrete- M30, M20, M10 etc, quantity for rebar steel. etc.) as well as unit design volumes, matching with total quantity is not required. The bidder shall do their own assessment and accordingly design and quote the lump sum rate for each type of foundation for each type of towers considering soil class in Price for Price Reasonability. For Price Schedule the bidders shall consider overall foundation cost.
126.	**Compact Termination / Expiration:** We request you to kindly arrange to clarify the Proceedings / Way Forward in case of Contract could not be completed within Contractual time period, for the reasons not attributable to the Contractor, and Compact Period (5 years) expires. Whether, contractor will get any kind of time extension to complete the Balance work OR contract will be terminated in its existing conditions. Please clarify above for better clarity and understandings.	MCA-Nepal expects and will make every effort to complete the project in time However, in case any part of the contract is not completed within the Compact duration, either the contract will be assigned to a government of Nepal entity, or the contract will be terminated.
127.	Please refer below highlighted clause 5.2.1 on Page 6, Section V – B0 : **Works excluded** Access to the land required for the project (area required for the construction of the towers) will be acquired by the Employer and made available to the contractors. Right of Way (RoW) of 46m wide corridor ONLY for the project will be made available by the Employer. Also, the Employer will be responsible for forest clearance permits/approval. Compensatory afforestation for the RoW is excluded from the present scope of work, but revegetation of all bare ground surfaces and earthworks shall be undertaken by the Contractor.	Your understanding is correct.

	From the above clause, we understand the followings: i) Revegetation require to be undertaken by the Contractor at places, which are disturbed by the Contractor during various construction activity Only. Please Confirm. Earthwork require to be carry-out by the Contractor to reinstate the disturbed area to their original conditions Only. Please Confirm.	
128.	**Office Accommodations:** Please refer Point No. 20 (Accommodations) of Clause 5.A102 (Temporary Site Installation), Page 18, Section V – B0, Part 2 – Employer's Requirements. Image of Second Para given below: The Contractor shall provide suitable furnished office accommodation for Engineer and Employer at least in one convenient location per Lot. In line with requirements specified in Technical Data Schedule TS13. This will include but not limited to office furniture, pantry items, smoke detection, and firefighting equipment, HSE equipment, IT infrastructure, etc. complete in all respect as per the satisfaction of Engineer. The Contractor is also liable for the arrangement of running and maintenance of such establishments including the arrangement of electricity, drinking waters, gas, and other consumables, stationery items, IT consumables, etc. for the entire contract period. Please also refer following Item Breakdown related to Site Office in BOQ for Schedule No. 4 (Installation and Other Services), Page 33 of 57: 1.4 Site office (and O&M cost of Site Office) including setting up of Site Office for Employer & Engineer including all necessary facilities (such as furniture, computer and communication equipment etc.). 1.4.1 Site office for Contractor LS 1.4.2 Site Office for Engineer LS 1.4.3 Site Office for Employer LS 1.4.4 Any other facility considered by the bidder LS We request you to kindly arrange to Clarify, whether Contractor required to provide Two different (i.e. One for Engineer & One for Employer) fully furnished office accommodation or One Single office accommodation at one convenient location per Lot, as described at Point No 20 of Clause 5.A102 Section V-B0. Please	Two separate office- 1 No. for Engineer & 1. No. for Employer to be provided per lot.

	Clarify, since two separate items given in Price Breakdown BOQ.	
129.	Please refer below highlighted clause (Point No 2), Page 9, Section V – B1 : Bidders should prepare their bids by following instructions: 1. Location of tower: The bidders shall quote their price based on the latest KMZ, PLS-CADD files updated after the re-survey and the updated tower schedule. 2. The PLS-CADD files shown in Annex -G are from the preliminary design alignment before ground survey and pegging activities. At commencement date, the Engineer will provide the Contractor with an updated KMZ file with final information on tower locations. In view of time constraint / huge quantum of work / terrain difficulties….etc., its not possible for Bidder's to carry out 100% site relevant assessments required for this Design-Build Contracts. Accordingly, we request you to kindly arrange to provide maximum possible details of finalised Transmission Line Route / final tower locations wise information at this Bidding Stage itself, further enable Bidders to prepare more realistic offer and estimates. Please provide the details earliest possible.	Available details (latest KMZ, Tower Schedule, PLS-CADD files, Contour data and tower footprint area calculation sheet) are provided through addendum 4 to the Bidding Document.
130.	Please refer below highlighted clauses on Page 9, Section V – B1 : 3. PLS-CADD files shown in Annex-G are as per the initial alignment after ground survey and pegging activities. Bidders should prepare their bids by following instructions: 1. Location of tower: The bidders shall quote their price based on the latest KMZ, PLS-CADD files updated after the re-survey and the updated tower schedule. 2. The PLS-CADD files shown in Annex -G are from the preliminary design alignment before ground survey and pegging activities. At commencement date, the Engineer will provide the Contractor with an updated KMZ file with final information on tower locations. Language mentioned in both above highlighted clauses (Point No 3 & 2) contradictory i.e. "after	The PLS-CADD files were prepared based on the initial alignment, LiDAR data and necessary changes identified during pegging activities. Necessary addendum to the Bidding Document is already issued. Please refer Addendum 4 to the Bidding Document.

	ground survey and pegging activities" vs "before ground survey and pegging activities". Please review & clarify	
131.	**Cash Flow Projection :** Please refer following Cash Flow Projection relevant language on Page 206, Part-1 : Lump – Sum Payments (default standard method of payment for the Contract) (a) The lump sum payments by the deliverables against the timing milestones for the completion of the mobilization. (b) The lump sum payments based on deliverables and timing milestones set out in the Contract. Alternatively, the periodic payments should be based on measurements for the construction of the Works according to the proposed construction time schedule. We request you to elaborate / clarify the relevance of Lump – Sum Payments, as mentioned above, for this Contract for better understanding and Clarify.	The Lumpsum payments shall be paid against the milestones for the completion. For example, 80 % of the design service price will be paid upon the approval of design by the Engineer, which is a lumpsum payment. The Bidder's price is an all-included Lump-Sum Price to carry out the works and services as per the Employer's Requirements and Conditions of Contract, which will be paid on a lump sum basis as described in the Schedule of Payments.
132.	**Daywork Schedule :** As per Point no 7, Page 208, Section IV – Bid Submission Forms (Image given below) : 7. Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability document has been attached below as "Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability" to find the breakdown of the price, so that MCA-Nepal can access the reasonability of the quoted price during evaluation before recommending the award as per ITB Clause 31. Please note that Price Reasonability **is a mandatory requirement as per MCC Program Procurement Guidelines.** The bidder must fill the Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability and this information shall also be used for Custom clearance as well as price adjustment. While as per response at SN 21, Clarification-2 from MCA-Nepal : 21. Breakdown of Rates and Price Schedules, Page 246: As per schedule is mentioned "Total for Schedules 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 (to be carried forward to Schedule 4.0)" and in the Remarks it is indicated for 5 KM of route length. — Information and rates for 5 km of route length to be provided in Breakdown of Rates and Price Schedule shall only be used to establish price reasonableness (to be done by Employer) and to establish payments to the Bidder for possible additional works requested by the MCA Entity.	Please note that day works is a part of price schedule while the breakdown of price reasonability is not a part of price schedule. The Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability will be used for assessing the reasonability of the quoted price (to establish price reasonableness) and to establish payments to the Bidder for possible additional works requested by the MCA Entity. 1. The Price Schedule (along with the day work schedule) will be considered for financial evaluation. 2. The price for price reasonability will be considered for reasonability checking of price mentioned in Price Schedule.

	Does the quantity measurable at 5 KM multiplied with route length for respective lot and then derived at the Total Schedule No 4 and in that case any changes in measurable quantity will be paid as per actual executed	No. As stated above, information and rates for 5 km of route length to be provided in the Breakdown of Rates and Price Schedule shall only be used to establish price reasonableness and to establish payments to the Bidder for possible additional works requested by the MCA Entity.

Please confirm, whether Daywork Schedule will be used to check Price Reasonability of Bidders
OR BOQ given under "Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability" will be used for Price Reasonability Check. Please Clarify.

133.	**<u>Daywork Schedule :</u>** Please refer the various items under Daywork Schedule. There are various Items (like Micropiling / Steel Greelage Foundations….etc.) might not be used or not envisaged / assessed by the Bidders in their Design / BOQ. Still, Bidders required to quote their Unit Prices against those Items ???? Please Clarify. Whether Bidders allowed to modify / delete items in Daywork Schedule as per their assessment. Please Clarify	Yes, bidders are required to quote the unit prices for all requested items in the Schedule, which will be used in case that such items are needed during the implementation.
134.	Please refer below highlighted Item No 15, about Micropiling in Schedule No. 4.3 (Breakdown of Civil Works) of Daywork Price Schedule. **Breakdown of Rates and Prices Schedule No. 4. Installation and Other Services Included all Related Civil Works** 12 Bar Bending for different size of reinforcement — MT — 300 13 Detailed line survey, plan, longitudinal and cross sectional profiles, route maps, spotting of towers, staking of tower locations and approval by employer. — Km — 5 14 Soil investigation, including laboratory tests and submission of report. — Km — 5 15 Micropiling for large angle towers (30 to 60 degree and 60 to 90 degree towers) — No. — 15 16 Steel Grillage Foundation for different type of Foundations including supply of all materials. — MT — 3,000 17 Different Type and Size of Tree Clearance — No. — 1,000 18 Bush Clearance — Sq. Mtr. — 1,000 Total for Schedule No. 4.3 (carried forward to Summary) Remarks: The quantity has been assumed for 5 KM of route length. We understand that Bidders required to quote Unit Price of complete Micropiling type foundation for large angle towers.	Yes, the statement is correct.

	Quantity given "15 No" is like "15 Loc". Please Confirm.	
135.	**Currency of the Bid / Payment :** Please refer clause ITB Clause 16.1, Section-II Bid Data Sheet, Page 51, Part 1 : ITB 16.1 — The currency(ies) of the Bid shall be as follows: US$ (United States Dollar). The currency(ies) of the payment shall be as follows: US$ (United States Dollar) and the % in Local Currency if specified in the Letter of Financial Offer. We understand that Bidders to quote 100% their Prices in USD only and Bidder can also request 100% payment in Foreign Currency (USD) for Price Schedule No. 4 (Installation & Other Services), irrespective of currency of their costs incurred to procure local services from Nepal. Its not compulsion on Bidder to quote / accept payment in Local Currency. Please Confirm.	Yes, Bidder shall quote their price in USD. However, they can request certain percentage of the contract amount to be paid in local currency i.e. in Nepali Rupees (NPR). If the bidders wish to get paid part of the contract amount in NPR, then the bidder can mention xx% of contract price to be paid in local currency in their Letter of Financial Offer.
136.	**Geo Investigation Requirements :** As per clause no. 7.3 – Soil Investigation, Page No 7.18 of Annex D, Appendix 11 Construction Specification Rev 1 of Annex B1, Part 2 : 7.3 SOIL INVESTIGATION A. A geotechnical soil investigation and subsequent laboratory analysis has been performed at 60 locations in the vicinity of the new transmission line alignment. The final geotechnical report for these 60 locations has been provided to the Contractor. None of these 60 soil borings were taken at exact locations of new towers, the final geotechnical report was provided to display a sampling of the soil conditions along the length of the transmission line corridor. B. The Contractor shall examine soil excavated from foundation pits and develop procedures specifying how the soil will be classified. The classification procedures must be submitted and approved by the Employer. All soils shall be classified per ASTM D2487-17 "Standard Practice for Classification of Soils for Engineering Purposes (Unified Soil Classification System). C. Additionally, the Contractor is free to undertake additional soil investigations at tower locations where necessary as approved by the Employer. At a minimum, 5% of the total tower locations shall be explored with additional soil investigations.	Geo-Technical investigation report is already available (refer to Sevtion V/B1/ 6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08). The Bidder may consider the available Geo-Technical investigation report for preparation of their Technical and Financial Proposal.

	From the above points A,B,C of clause 7.3, it is quite confusing to assess the quantum of locations, where soil investigation needs to be carried out in each Lot during execution by the successful Contractor. As per standard industry practice, soil Investigation activity is carried out at least at one location for every 2.5 km in case of hilly terrain and 5 km in case of plain terrain besides critical locations like railway crossings, highway crossings, River crossings. Request you to please provide the specific guidelines, quantity & range in which Geotechnical Soil Investigations / SPT needs to be carried out, so that realistic estimations can be done, which also cover additional minimum 5% requirements mentioned at Point C. Please Review and Clarify the exact requirements.	
137.	**Clarification on Geo / Soil Investigation Report :** As per clause no. 10 (Recommendation) Table no. 50 of Annexure-R (Geotechnical Investigation Report) of ETP EIA Annexure of Annexure 8 EIA Document of Annexure B0 of B0 , Part2. SPT and Bearing Capacity values are not provided in the Geotechnical Report for the recommendation of deep foundation as specified in Table no 50 for below mentioned Borehole locations. Please review & provide.	The available information is already furnished as an annexure of Section V/B1 6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08). No further information is available at this stage.

B9	**B10**	**B11**	**B23**	**B24**	**B30**	**B46**	**B47**	**B59**	**B60**

Near Butwal Lot 3	Near Butwal Lot 3	Dhurkut - Lot 3	Lot 3	Lot 2	Near Chandi Bajyang Lot 2	Jayamire Sindhupalchowk Lot 1	Kaule Sindhupal pur -Lot 1	Near Hatuwa SS Lot 1	Near Hatuwa SS-Lot 1

Table 50. Recommendation of Deep Foundation based on geohazard conditions.

Borehole No.	Possible hazard	Location	Borehole No.	Possible hazard	Location
B 1	Flood and foundation settlement/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 10	Flood and river cutting/Liquefaction	Flat land
B 2	Flood and foundation subsidence/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 11	Slope instability	Foothill
B 3	Flood and foundation subsidence/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 23 & B 24	Flood and Foundation settlement/Liquefaction	River Terrace
B 4	Flood and foundation subsidence/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 28	Slope Instability	West facing Hill slope
B 5	Flood and foundation subsidence/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 30	Slope Instability	West facing hill slope
B 6	Flood and foundation subsidence/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 46	Slope Instability	South Facing hill slope
B 7	Flood and foundation subsidence/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 47	Slope Instability	North facing hill slope
B 8	Flood and foundation subsidence/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 59	Liquefaction	On river terrace
B 9	Flood and river cutting/Liquefaction	Flat land	B 60	Liquefaction	On river terrace

138. **Anti-Theft Arrangement (Bolt-Nut) requirements :**

As per clause no. 11.6 A & B of Annex D, Appendix 11 Construction Specification Rev 1, Annex B1, Part2. Image pasted below :

11.6 TIGHTENING OF BOLTS AND NUTS

A. All nuts shall be tightened properly using the correct size spanner and torque wrench. Before tightening, it will be verified that filler washers and plates are placed in relevant gaps between members, bolts of proper size and length are inserted, and one locknut is installed on each bolt. The tightening shall progressively be carried out from the top downwards, care being taken that all bolts at every level are tightened simultaneously. If, during tightening, a nut is found to be slipping or running over the bolt threads, the bolt together with the nut shall be replaced.

B. In locations where theft and/or vandalism is common, the Employer may determine that the threads of all the bolts except for Anti - theft bolts, projected outside the nuts shall be welded at two diametrically opposite places, the circular length of each welding shall be at least 10 mm. The welding shall be provided from ground level to bottom cross arm for double circuit towers. However, for towers, with +18 meter, +27 meter extensions and river crossing towers, the welding shall be provided from ground level to 30m height from stub level. After welding, zinc-rich primer having approximately 90% zinc content shall be applied to the welded portion. At least two coats of the paint shall be applied. The surface coated with zinc rich primer shall also receive two finish coats of high build enamel of the grade recommended by the manufacturer of the zinc rich primer. The cost of welding and paint including application of paint shall be deemed to be included in the erection price.

Both options are acceptable:

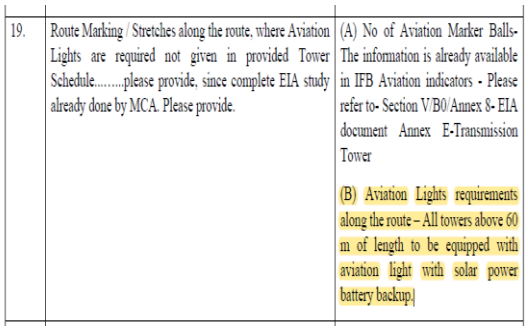
Welding (Tack-Welding) is also required at theft Prone area (the first two panels or 5 m above ground line)

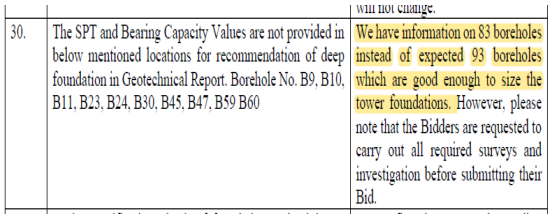
Or

Antitheft Bolts & Nuts to be also used for the first two panels or 5 m above ground line.

	While, as per clause no. 10 of 2.3 C (Fasterners), Page 2.12 of Annex D, Appendix 06 Tower Specification Rev 1, Annex B1 Part 2. Image pasted below : 10. Anti-theft bolts and nuts shall be required for t ground line, whichever is more stringent. Above mentioned clauses are contradicting with each other, Points of contradiction are specified below : i) As per clause no 11.6 A – Locknut is to be installed on each bolt. ii) As per clause no 11.6 B – Apart from Locknut, welding (Tack-Welding) also required at theft Prone area. iii) As per clause no. 10 – Antitheft Bolts & Nuts also to be used for the first two panels or 5 m above ground line. We request you to kindly arrange to clarify the followings: a) In Standard practice, one spring washer (IS: 3063 – 1994) is inserted under each nut for locking purpose and to avoid the loosening of nuts due to vibrations. But, as per document no. Annex D appendix 11-page no. 44 Cl. No. 11.6 A – one locknut is installed on each bolt. As we understood that locknut is combination nut with spring washer only and its not a kind of Special Locknut. Please clarify. If our above understanding not inline, please further clarify the followings: a) In which combinations or where to use Locknut and where to use Anti-theft Bolt Nut and where to use Normal Bolt-Nut (with Tack Welding). b) Whether welding (i.e. Tack Welding) also required in combination with Locknut on the same Bolt.	Your understanding is correct. Your understanding is correct. Welding (Tack-Welding) is also required at theft Prone area (the first two panels or 5 m above ground line) in addition to the locknut Or Antitheft Bolts & Nuts to be also used for the first two panels or 5 m above ground in addition to the locknut

	c) Please specify theft / vandalism prone areas along the provided Transmission Line route for proper consideration of cost. If Locknut required to be installed, please provide Technical Specifications of relevant Locknuts.	
139.	As per the bidding document part 2 B1, Annex C "Structure List, for line "NEW BUTWAL TO NEW DAMAULI", Note given in comments that Quad circuit towers are required from Str. 1 to Str. 18. The MCA-N 400 kV line will utilized the bottom two circuits while NEA will utilize the top two circuits. Total structure quantity given in schedule considering double circuit tower is 18 nos. as listed below. D1A – 2 nos. D1B – 4 nos. D1C – 4 nos. D1D – 0 nos. D1E – 7 nos. D1FS – 1 nos. Bidder has to design quad circuit tower for str. 1 to str. 18 with quad ACSR moose conductor on top circuit as well as bottom circuit. Please confirm, bidder can design only one tower type combining all tower type category for quad circuit line, as quantity is very less.	Please note that the bidders are free to propose their own design and tower family as per the design criteria mentioned in section V, B1 and its annexures. Please also note that the no. of quad circuit towers is 16 no instead of 18 no in New Butwal to New Damauli Section.
140.	As per the bidding document "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1", Table given for Soil Class / Soil Properties on page 52 and table given for overload & strength reduction factor for foundation design on page 53.	The bidders are free to propose their own design of foundations fulfilling all the criteria in Section V/ B1 and its annexures.

	As per CBIP manual 323, only over load factor 1.1 to be consider for open cast foundation. Soil properties table given in chapter 10 on page 308 of CBIP manual 323 are inclusive of strength reduction factor. Please confirm, bidder can design open cast foundation as per the design philosophy given in CBIP manual 323. No strength reduction factor required to consider as per CBIP Manual 323.	
141.	Please refer clarification reply Sr No. 19, Annex C (Question & Answer), issued alongwith Minutes of Pre-Bid meeting dated 3rd Feb-23 (Image given below) :  Its guided that all towers above 60 mtr of length to be equipped with aviation light. We request you to kindly arrange to clarify, i) Is there any specific sections along the Transmission Line Route, which are in proximity with Airport & Aviation route, where required to install Aviation Lights? OR It is required to install on all the towers (above 60 m height) along the Transmission Line route, irrespective of Airport / Aviation Route. Please Clarify.	i. Please refer the EIA report i.e. Section V, B0, Annexure 8 EIA. ii. It is required to install on all the towers (above 60 m height) along the Transmission Line route irrespective of the presence of airports and aviation route. This is clearly mentioned in EIA document.
142.	Please refer clarification reply Sr No. 30, Annex C (Question & Answer), issued alongwith	The available information is already furnished as an annexure of Section V/B1 6. Annex

	Minutes of Pre-Bid meeting dated 3rd Feb-23 (Image given below) :  will not change. 30. The SPT and Bearing Capacity Values are not provided in below mentioned locations for recommendation of deep foundation in Geotechnical Report. Borehole No. B9, B10, B11, B23, B24, B30, B45, B47, B59 B60 We have information on 83 boreholes instead of expected 93 boreholes which are good enough to size the tower foundations. However, please note that the Bidders are requested to carry out all required surveys and investigation before submitting their Bid. Information available in Geotechnical Report is for 60 locations only. May we request you to arrange to provide the borehole information on balance 13 locations, if available for contractor's reference.	D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08). No further information is available at this stage.
143.	**<u>Bid Validity :</u>** Please refer ITB / BDS Clause 19.1 of Section II. Bid Data Sheet, Page No. 51 of Part 1 Bidding Procedures, where it is mentioned that ***"The Bid validity period shall be 240 days, until 20 December 2023".*** Whereas, as per our observation and calculation **Bid Validity Period shall be 22 November, 2023 instead of 20 December, 2023**. [i.e. Bid Submission Date (27 March, 2023) + 240 days = (22 November, 2023)] Kindly request you to please rectify Bid Validity Period and amend suitably the same in the Bid Documents accordingly.	The bid validity period has been corrected in Addendum #2. However, it may be extended if the deadline for bid submission is extended. Thus, bidders are requested to follow up through all issued addendums.
144.	Part-1, Section IV. Bid Submission Forms, Price Schedule for All Lots, Page 7 of 17. Item no. 2, Tower Foundations As per the price schedule, Bidder needs to offer tower foundation including revetment, stone gabion wall, stone / brick masonary as Lumpsum for a particular lot. Further Bidder needs to indicate the unit price per location for tower foundation including revetment, stone gabion wall, stone / brick masonary as Lumpsum in breakdown of price for price reasonability schedule.	The correct reference is page 7 of 17 "Breakdown of Rates and Prices Schedule No. 4. Installation and Other Services Included all Related Civil Works" (page 217 of pdf document). The bidders need to design all works including tower foundations (including rock anchoring, Piling, Micro- Piling, etc.) along with setting of stubs for towers using templates or props and other related works like Benching / Grading, excavations, dewatering, shoring and shuttering, reinforcement, concreting, curing, backfilling,

	Bidders' assessment in bidding stage and the employer requirement of revetment, stone gabion wall, stone / brick masonary during construction phase may vary and will lead to huge variation. This will have an adverse impact on the project progress due to the delay in the finalization of requirements for each tower location. There will be financial implication to the bidder if the quantity increases from the assessed quantity while bid submission. So, we request you to allow the bidder to indicate revetment, stone gabion wall, stone / brick masonary quantity assessed and its unit price in the breakdown of price for price reasonability schedule and same shall be paid at actuals during construction phase.	compaction, Revetment, Stone Gabion Wall, Stone / Brick masonry Wall, Stone/Concrete Drainage Ditch etc. as per the requirements, complete in all respect under different types of soil conditions. Given that this procurement is a design and build (based on the FIDIC yellow book Conditions of Contract), the bidders need to submit the bid for the entire design and completion of the works which must be accomplished by the Contractor. The Contractor will be fully responsible to obtain all resources for the completion of the entire design and construction works. Thus, the bidders are required to quote a Lump Sum price as per the provisions of the Bidding Document.
145.	Part-2, Section-V-B1 G – PLSCADD Backup Files We request you to provide the LIDAR data for the balance 30 Km route length for which detailed survey to be finalized.	LiDAR data for changed alignment of 30km route is not available with MCA-Nepal, however the contour data for the same has been issued as Addendum 4 to the Bidding Document.
146.	Minutes of Prebid meeting Annex C Questions and Answers. Sl No. 33 As per the reply • No new roads to access tower sites may be constructed on any land. This is to control erosion. • Existing roads may be upgraded, but not widened or extended. This is for the same reason. For the approximately 850 new lattice towers that will be needed for this project, about 45% to 50% are in locations where there is no accessibility for vehicles or construction equipment. The excavation volume for tower foundation is very high for constructing 400 KV Transmission Line. Without mechanical excavators, excavating the foundation pits will take huge amounts of time and it will be difficult to meet the time schedule fixed for the project.	No new access roads are to be constructed, but only foot trails up to 1.50 meters in width may be constructed with no cutting of trees. Experienced Bidders/Contractors should determine the best method to transport the construction material and equipment.

	We request you to allow bidders to construct new temporary access roads or widen the existing roads up to 3.0 to 3.5 meters for movement of mechanical excavators to tower location.	
147.	Part-2, Section-V-B1 G – PLSCADD Backup Files As per the PLS model received, Towers with normal base width tower approx. 15-23mts (suspension tower to heavy angle tower) are spotted. In such a case, it is observed that, the level variation between four legs is higher than 15mts at some locations. These locations. Will require higher benching volumes which will have more environmental impact during construction. Please confirm if shifting of such tower locations is acceptable during operating stage to reduce the environmental impact	As land acquisition for those towers' footprint will be initiated well before the check survey activities are started, generally no changes will be allowed. The bidders may consider combination of benching, leg extension as well as for raised chimney for those locations with necessary revetments and accordingly prepare their proposal (technical and financial). In areas where there would be benefit from moving the tower, then the Contractor should highlight this fact.
148.	'Annex D, Appendix 6 – Tower testing Specification – 'The towers for NEA's 400kV Transmission Line Project shall be tested in accordance with IEC 60652: Loading Tests on Overhead Line Structures, as well as guidelines from ASCE 10-15: Design of Latticed Steel Transmission Structures Please confirm the maximum body and leg extension to be taken as testing combination.	For each type of tower maximum body and leg extensions to be taken as testing combinations.
149.	Annex D, Appendix 6 – Tower Design and Fabrication Specification – Rev. 1 , Pg no. 1.2, Cl no 1.1, The towers shall be designed so as to be suitable for adding the body extensions / leg extensions for maintaining adequate ground clearances without reducing the factor of safety (actual stress / allowable stress) available for the members of tested extensions in any manner. Furthermore, the towers shall be designed taking into consideration that any combination (of adjacent or diagonal opposite legs) of minimum and maximum height can be used with a common part or with any tower body extension. Reference the tower drawings for necessary height combinations.	Your understanding is correct.

	To achieve the specification requirement, we understand that appropriate reductions in the design parameters shall be incorporated while designing of body/leg extensions higher than the testing combination.	
150.	'Part 2 - Employer's Requirements Particular Technical Requirements Section V - B1 5.A402.11. 'Drag Factor for Wind Load on Tower Drag factor shall be considered to each individual tower face exposed to wind action. For example, for a solidity ratio of 0.2, the total Wind Load on tower shall be obtained by considering the equivalent of a drag factor of 2 (faces) x 1.8 = 3.6, applied to the projected area of the windward force only However, for the body wind load calculation on tower body shall be calculated based on one face of exposed area multiplied by drag coefficient from IEC standard/CBIP because of mismatch in drag coefficient value furnished in IS 802-2015	Please use the IEC standard.
151.	'Part 2 , Section B1 , Annexure D,6. Annex D Technical Specifications Final Design Report-2019-11-08 'H. Slenderness ratio for members shall be computed in accordance with clause 6 of IS: 802 (Part-1 / Sec 2);2016 and ASCE 10-15. Slenderness ratios for members shall not exceed the values specified therein. The following maximum limit of the slenderness ratio i.e. the ratio of unsupported length of the section in any plane to the appropriate radius of gyration will be adopted: 1. For main corner leg members including the corner members of earth wire peak and the lower corner members of the cross-arms: 120 2. For other members having calculated stresses: 200 3. For redundant members: 250 4. For members having tensile stress only:	Please use the values of the ASCE 10-15.

	375 As per IS 802-2016 and ASCE 10-15, specifies the limiting values of kl/r. Please confirm whether the mentioned values are to be considered as kL/r or l/r.	
152.	Technical Data sheets - As 30-90 Full Dead-End tower functionality: (Anchor along the line or Terminal at SS): Please confirm whether D1D and D1E towers has to be designed with full dead condition with maximum line angle on line side. (i.e. no bisection)	Confirmed.
153.	Annex_B1-2. Final Design Report_2019-11-08, Cl:2.3 , Page 2.4 150-year return period per IS 802 reliability Level 2 • VR = Vb / K0 • Vb = 47 m/s for wind zone 4 • K0 = 1.375 per IS 802 Section 8.2 • VR = 47 / 1.375 = 34.18 m/s • Vd = VR x K1 x K2 • K1 = 1.12 per IS 802 Table 2 • K2 = 1.0 per IS 802 Table 3 • Vd = 34.18*1.12*1.0 = 38.28 m/s We understand that, Terrain Roughness coefficient has to be considered as 1.00 as per IS 802-Part1/Sec 1-2015 considering 150years return period. Please confirm.	Confirmed.
154.	Annex_B1-2. Final Design Report_2019-11-08, Cl:2.3 , Page 2.4 Small Angle Strain and Deadend Break any 2 phases or any 1 phase and 1 OPGW/OHSW under Extreme Wind and 36% Wind and Cold loading. Use 60% wind and weight span for broken wires. Use 100% tension for all wires. Large Angle Strain and Deadend Break any 3 phases or any 2 phases and 1 OPGW/OHSW under	Confirmed that loading calculation for security requirements shall be 100% as mentioned in the specified clause of the specification.

	Extreme Wind and 36% Wind w/ Cold loading. Use 60% wind and weight span for broken wires. Use 100% tension for all wires. As per Latest Revision of IS 802-Part1/Sec1-2015, under security requirements, 75% of wind pressure is considered in design for tension and terminal towers. Accordingly, tension corresponding to 75% wind pressure is considered for calculation of longitudinal load. Please confirm whether loading calculation for security requirements shall be as per 75% as mentioned in IS 802 or 100% as mentioned in the specified clause of the specification.	
155.	Annex_B1-2. Final Design Report_2019-11-08, Cl:2.3 , Page 2.4 Longitudinal Load: All wires broken (terminal towers) or 50% of the sagging tension (non-terminal towers) As per Latest Revision of IS 802-Part1/Sec1-2015, sagging tension is defined as 50% of the wire tension at everyday temperature and nil wind condition. Accordingly, please confirm whether 50% of the sagging tension or 100% of the sagging tension has to be considered in longitudinal load calculations.	Confirmed that 100% of the sagging tension must be considered in longitudinal load calculations.
156.	Annex_B1-2.Foundation Drawings Stirrups to be not less than 10mm and Main reinforcement in pad and chimney not less than 16m. Please confirm whether the selection of diameter of reinforcement bars shall be as per the actual design requirement or as per the minimum diameter mentioned in the foundation specifications.	Confirmed that the selection of diameter of reinforcement bars shall be as per the actual design requirements and not smaller than the minimum diameter mentioned in the foundation specifications.
157.	Part 2 - Employer's Requirements Section V - B1, 5- Tower Foundation Types, page no. 20 Bidders shall select the appropriate type of foundation at different tower locations, taking into account all appropriate geotechnical engineering considerations and ensuring reliable supports to all towers, in full compliance to all Employer's Requirements.	In addition to the existing data provided with the IFB, MCA-Nepal will soon issue additional information on geotechnical investigation for the 30km Section. MCA-Nepal is in opinion that the above information along with further field studies by the bidders, is sufficient to prepare the proposal (technical and financial) by the bidders. The bidders are free to conduct their own

	The geotechnical investigation report is not provided for all locations in the bid document. In the bidding stage Bidders selection of type of foundation and the actual requirement of type of foundation may change during construction phase. In the above condition, we request you to confirm how the change in the type of foundation will be compensated to the bidder during construction stage.	assessment and accordingly prepare their offer (technical and financial).
158.	Part-1, page no. 209, Price Schedule for All Lots The bidder shall use Schedule 1, 2, 3, and Schedule 4 for including all costs that they will incur under the Contract. The unit of measurement in these schedules is lumpusm and lot. We understand that for the purpose of payments as per schedule of payments of the bidding documents, MCA Nepal will use Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability schedule which is submitted by the bidder. Please confirm.	The payment schedule will be prepared by the Engineer based on i. the price schedule ii. price for price reasonability analysis Which will be agreed with the Contractor and shall be used for the payments.
159.	Part-1 Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 13.8 Adjustment for Changes in Cost. We request you to allow price adjustment for Rates and Prices Schedule No. 4. Installation and Other Services Included all Related Civil Works.	The bidding document shall not be amended.
160.	**Insulator:** Kindly refer Bid Document, Part-2 (B1), Annex D, Appendix 8- Insulator Specification, AssembY Requirement, PDF Pg.- 12.	It is recommended to use one type of insulators with matching hardware per tower type to avoid confusion during construction.

Voltage [kV]	400				
Assembly Type	Single Suspension 1 x 300 = 300 KN	Triple Tension 3 x 222 = 666 kN	Single Jumper String Suspension 1 x 120 = 120 KN	Single Suspension 1 x 400 = 400 KN	Single Suspension 1 x 530 = 530 KN
Material	Toughened Glass	Toughened Glass	Toughened Glass	Toughened Glass	Toughened Glass
Coupling ANSI Class	52-11	52-11	52-5-H	52-11	52-11
Coupling IEC Class	IEC 24	IEC 24	IEC 24	IEC 28	IEC 32
Coupling Type	Ball and Socket Type K	Ball and Socket Type K	Ball and Socket Type J	Ball and Socket Type K	Ball and Socket Type K
Special Zinc Sleeve	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Color of Band Painted on the Cap (Glass only) OPTIONAL (not required by ANSI or IEC standards)	Dark Red	Red	Yellow	Dark Red	Dark Red
Color of Glaze (Porcelain Only)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Requesting you to kindly clarify / confirm below mentioned points:

As per above-mentioned specification, it is specified that two different standards, mainly ANSI and IEC can be followed for respective Insulator Assemblies. Please confirm if the combination of both standards can be used for the selection of the insulator assemblies.

For e.g. if we propose any two types of insulator as per ANSI standard and remaining other types of insulators as per IEC standard, is it acceptable. Kindly confirm.

161.	**<u>Fall Arrest System:</u>** Kindly refer Bid Document- Part-1, Section-IV, Bid submission forms, TS.11 Fall Arrest System (PDF Pg.- 184). From the mentioned clause, Bidder need to provide technical data schedules of Fall arrest system. As per our understanding, Fall arrest system is a Personal fall arrest system which includes items like: Vertical Lifeline, Horizontal Lifeline, Retractable line pertaining to safe work practice at height. Further, fall arrester system does not mean that bidder need to be provided or to be considered any permanent provision in tower design. Please do confirm that our understanding is correct.	Your understanding is correct.

162.	**<u>Tower Beacon Lights:</u>** Kindly refer, Bid Document, Section-V, B1 (Employer's Requirement), Clause 5.A407, Sub Clause 7 (Tower Beacons), PDF Pg-63. In the above mentioned Sub clause 7, it is written that *"The power input for the light system shall be supplied through solar power with back-up battery for **night time operation**."* However, in the same clause it is also written *"The system shall be able to deliver the light output during **day time, twilight and night time operations** automatically."* Both above mentioned statement seems contradictory with each other. Please clarify, whearher the Tower lights needs to be operational for ***day time, twilight and night time or*** it would be operational for ***night time only***.	Tower lights needs to be operational for daytime, twilight and night time, an addendum to the Bidding Document modifying this aspect will be issued soon.
163.	**<u>Galvanization (Zinc Coating) of Tower Parts:</u>** Kindly refer Bid Document, Part-2 (B1), Annex D, Appendix 6 - Tower Specification, Cl. 3.2 Galvanizing, Sub Cl. No.10 B (Galvanizing of Plates and Shapes), Point - 2, PDF Pg- 27: The above mentioned clause states that: Unless otherwise specified, the fabricated tower parts and stubs shall have a minimum overall zinc coating as specified in ASTM A123, Table 1, as detailed below: Material Thickness Minimum Average Coating Thickness < 1.6 mm - 45 microns 1.6 to < 3.2 mm -65 microns 3.2 to < 4.8 mm -75 microns 4.8 to < 6.4 mm - 85 microns ≥ 6.4 mm -100 microns However, as per Sub Cl. No. 10 B (Galvanizing of Plates and Shapes), Point - 1, PDF Pg- 26: All plates and shapes shall be galvanized after fabrication. After being cleaned, all materials, except as noted on the drawings, shall be zinc-coated (hot dipped galvanized) in accordance with **ASTM A-123, CSA G164, and IS: 4759**.	Confirmed.

<table>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the above stated clause, we understand that Bidder can do hot dipped galvanization (zinc coating) as per IS: 4759 also. Kindly confirm.

<table>
<tr><th>S. No.</th><th>Product</th><th>Minimum value of average mass of coating (g/m2)</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>5 mm thick and over</td><td>610</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>Under 5 mm, but not less than 2 mm</td><td>460</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>Under 2 mm, but not less than 1.2 mm</td><td>340</td></tr>
</table>
If yes, Bidder can do zinc coating as per IS: 4759 specified below:
Kindly confirm, if our understanding is correct.</td>
<td>Confirmed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>164.</td>
<td>Please find below Clarification asked by ACSR Conductor Manufacturer:
<table>
<tr><th>Sr. No.</th><th>Description</th><th>Required</th><th>Guaranteed/ Offered</th><th>Remarks</th></tr>
</table></td>
<td>Confirmed.</td>
</tr>
</table>

		1	**Standards for design (construction and Material)**	**AS per Technical DATA Schedules - Conductor** IEC 61089 - (ACSR), IEC 60888 - (Steel Core), IEC 60889 - (Aluminium Outer Strands), ASTM B498 - (ACSR), ASTM B609 - (Steel Core), ASTM B231 - (Aluminium Outer Strands)	**Manufacturer has offered Conductor as per:** IEC 61089 - (ACSR), IEC 60888 - (Steel Core), IEC 60889 - (Aluminium Outer Strands), *ASTM B232 - (ACSR), ASTM B498 - (Steel Core), ASTM B230 - (Aluminium Outer Strands)* **Note:** In the Data Sheet Of ACSR Moose, ASTM Standard name mentioned is for Aluminium wires & they are not applicable for ACSR Conductor.	Please confirm	

				We have offered the standards name which should be applicable.			The grease shall conform to the requirements of **IEC/BS/EN 50326, Type B.**
		2	**Grease Application**	**AS per Techanical Requirements-B. Mechanical Design-3.10.Grease.** The grease shall conform to the requirements of **IEC/BS/EN 50326, Type B** and shall not corrode the wires.	We are offering **Type A** Grease. SOP is attached for grease application, which is currently in use.	Please confirm	

		3	**Reels/Drum**	**AS per Technical DATA Scheules- Conductor for ACSR Moose Conductor** 1. Maximum Conductor Length on drum- 4600m 2. Maxium Gross Weight per drum incl. conductor- 10186kg. 3. Drum/Reel Size- FL= 2440, TR=1525mm, DR=1050mm, OW=1650 mm, AH=130mm, W=1000kg	**For ACSR Moose Conductor** 1. Maximum Conductor Length on drum- 2415m 2. Maxium Gross Weight per drum incl. conductor- Appox. 5000kg. 3. Drum/Reel Size- FL= 2100, TR=900mm, DR=730mm, OW=1100 mm, AH=105mm, W=1000kg Note:- We have offering conductor on our standard steel drums with flexi packing.	Please confirm		Please use the technical data provided in the specifications.
165.	**Arrangement of self-retracting device in Tower Design:**						Confirmed your understanding.

	Kindly refer, Bid Document, Part-2 (B1), Annex D, Appendix 6 - Tower Specification, Tower Drawings: The tower drawings which are provided for only our reference states that: Fall arrest anchorage(S) capable of supporting 22.2KN shall be provided above the grating along each cross arm. The required spacing between anchorages shall be such that a climber utilizing a self-retracting device can move from one anchorage to the next while maintain continuous attachment. Anchorage locations shall include consideration for maintaining minimum approach distance & controlling swing fall. Kindly confirm, if placing hook in certain distance across in line with grating in which climber can anchor double lanyard full body harness for continuous attachment. Please clarify our understanding in line with bid requirement.	
166.	**<u>Minimum Average Annual Design Turnover</u>** With reference to S. No. 8 Clarification 2 regarding Minimum Annual Design Turnover, it was clarified that Chartered Accountant Certification for Design Cost in US$XX is acceptable. However, it has already been brought to your kind notice during pre-bid meeting that EPC contracts involving Engineering & Design executed in Transmission segment are on turnkey basis and design the cost and revenue are not quantifiable, as the same are subsumed in unit product costs. Further, in the past, for projects with funding agency as MCC, Design Turnover Certificate in terms of percentage of total turnover had been accepted. In the view of above, we request for modification in S. No. 11 2. of Section III: Qualification and Evaluation Criteria i.e. Annual Average Turnover as follows: -	The certificate issued by your chartered accountant certifying that the design turnover was of value US$XXX will be acceptable. MCA-Nepal will review the proposal for amending the Annual Average Turnover and if acceptable, will issue an addendum.

Existing Clause	Proposed Modification
2. Minimum average annual design turnover of Lot 1: US$ 3.6 Million Lot 2: US$ 3.6 Million Lot 3: US$ 3.6 Million calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed within the last three (3) years. Values to determine annual design turnover are to be demonstrated in the audited financial statements (income statements) of the last three (3) years and are to be considered to be indicative. **To be eligible for award of more than one lot, the bidder needs to satisfy the total requirements for the lots in consideration.**	2. Minimum average annual design turnover of US$ 3.6 Million calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed within the last three (3) years. Values to determine annual design turnover are to be demonstrated in the audited financial statements (income statements) of the last three (3) years and are to be considered to be indicative. **To be eligible for award of more than one lot, the bidder needs to satisfy the total requirements for the lots in consideration, excluding Design Turnover requirements**

We request you to kindly accept modification as suggested above and confirm at an early date. If desired, we could have concall at a mutually convenient time and date, to explain the issue, if desired

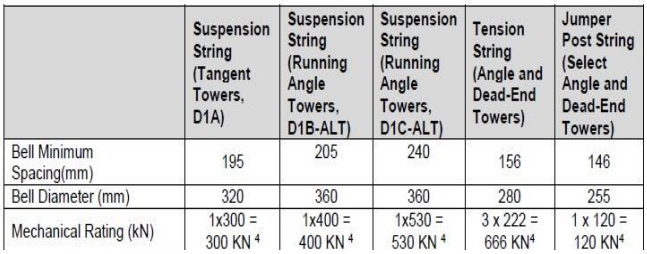
167.	**<u>Bid Submission in Hard Copy</u>** As per ITB Clause 21.3, Section II. Bid Data Sheet, Page No.51, Part 1 Bidding Procedures and also as per the Question No. 17 raised in Minutes of Pre-Bid Conference dated 19 January, 2023 regarding the number of Hard Copies the Bidder needs to submit along-with the Original Bid. According to the Bid Requirement, Bidder needs to submit **Five (5) Hard Copies** along-with **One (1) Original** for **Technical** as well as **Financial Offer**. As per the Bid Requirement the Contract consists of **three Lots (Lot-1, Lot-2 & Lot-3)** and if the Bidder participate in all the three lots then the Bidder needs to Prepare Technical as well as Financial offer for each Lot separately which will be a very challenging task for the Bidder in terms of Logistics & Transportation point of view to carry all the Lots Separately. As per the Bid requirement it seems that there are only some specific documents in the bid which needs to be submitted Lot wise (i.e. for each Lot – Lot-1, Lot-2 & Lot-3) such as Bid Security, Form TECH-1, Form TECH-2, Form TECH-3, Form TECH-4, Form TECH-5, Form TECH-6 & Form TECH-7 etc.., while rest of the documentation will be same / or common in the whole Bid for each Lot. Therefore, we humbly request you to please provide some relaxation to the Bidder and allow to submit Only One Consolidated Bid Proposal containing all the three Lots in which the Bidder will separately mention those documents which needs to Submit for each Lot. For example:- If Bidder needs to submit Bid Security, then the Bidder in the Bid will mention as -	For Number of copies to be submitted, please refer serial number 1, Addendum #4 to the Bidding Document. Please refer clarification #3, query #95 for submission related query.

	For Lot 1 (Separately on the 'Colour Separator') → Under the Separator Bid Security of **US$700,000** For Lot 2 (Separately on the 'Colour Separator') → Under the Separator Bid Security of **US$550,000** For Lot 2 (Separately on the 'Colour Separator') → Under the Separator Bid Security of **US$675,000** We request you to please allow the Bidder to submit the Bid Proposal in the manner as illustrated above, this kind act of yours will be highly obliged.	
168.	**Form CON-2: Compliance with Sanctions Certification Form** Please refer Form CON-2, Section IV. Bid Submission Forms, Page No. 111, Part 1 Bidding Procedures, where it is mentioned that:- The form is to be submitted to the MCA Procurement Agent at the time of Bid submission, and to the MCA Entity Fiscal Agent thereafter (MCANepalPA@dt-global.com (Procurement Agent) and babken.mnatsakanyan@dt-global.com (Fiscal Agent)) with a copy to MCC at: sanctionscompliance@mcc.gov. Kindly request you to please suggest that after Bid Submission how much time the Bidder required to submit Form CON-2 to :- **"(MCANepalPA@dt-global.com (Procurement Agent) and babken.mnatsakanyan@dt-global.com (Fiscal Agent)) with a copy to MCC at: sanctionscompliance@mcc.gov."**	The form is to be submitted to the MCA Procurement Agent before or at the time of Bid submission through email MCANepalPA@dt-global.com and copy to sanctionscompliance@mcc.gov.
169.	Low Frequency Dry Flashover Voltage Test ANSI C29.2B 300kN, 400kN and 530kN insulators does not fall under the ANSI standard, it is from IEC-60305. Please do confirm, whether we need to perform this test for Insulator from IEC standards.	You need to perform this test for Insulator from IEC standards.

170.	Steep-Front Impulse Voltage Test IEC 60672-2. Based on our understanding, this Steep-Front Impulse Voltage Test is the same as Impulse Puncture Test. Please confirm, if our understanding is correct. Given that IEC 60672-2 is for materials, Please explain the significance of this mention.	Your understanding is correct. IEC 60672-2 is for material and here refers to insulator.
171.	Wet Switching Impulse Voltage Test (for string) IEC 60383-2 This test is for insulator strings. In IEC 60383-1 which is about the unit insulator, this test is not reqired. However, we can perform this item for short string (5pcs) or under client required string type.	Wet Switching Impulse Voltage Test based on IEC 60383-2 for regular string is required.
172.	Impulse Puncture Test IECC 60383-1 In the type test report, sometimes called "Puncture Withstand Test" But if you looking at the test methods, it is same. Please Confirm, if our understanding is correct.	Your understanding is correct.
173.	Impact Test clause 8.2.8 of ANSI C29.2B The Impact Test is from ANSI standard, for IEC standard product, it is not required. Please confirm.	Impact test is required.
174.	Cement Expansion Test clause 8.2.10 of ANSI C29.2B We are using aluminate cements, so it is not applicable.	Confirmed.
175.	Cotter Key Test clause 7.3 of CSA C411.1 Please confirm, whether the test methods for clause 7.3 of CSA C411.1 is the same with the "Verificaition of the locking system" test in IEC standard.	Confirmed.
176.	Position of Locking Device CSA C411.1, clause 6.12 The Clause 3.18.2 (From Insulator specification, PDF Pg-30) states about the corrections for atmospherics conditions, which is impertinent with	Confirmed.

	the Position of Locking Device test. Please confirm.	
177.	kV Rating: 440 Corona Inception Voltage Specification clauses: Corona extinction voltage ≥ 440 kV Corona inception voltage≥ 500 kV. (Appendix 9 T2 Pg13) Manufacturer's Consideration: As per IEC Corona & RIV values shall be calculated as (1.2*440)/√3 = 304.84 kV. Therefore, Corona extinction voltage & RIV voltage should be considered 305 kV RMS for spacer damper & Fittings. Also, considering the inception voltage which shall be 120 percent of the extinction; this values arrives at 365 kV instead of ≥ 500 kV mentioned in the specification. We request you to confirm the values.	Confirmed, please use your calculations.
178.	kV Rating: 440 Breakaway Bolt Torque Specification clauses: Breakaway Bolt Torque - 135 Nm. (Appendix 9 T2 Pg11) Manufacturer's Consideration: At the outset we shall be providing breakaway cap instead of breakaway bolt. The Spacer dampers used for ACSR Moose conductor is our proven Type tested design which is supplied to varied utilities worldwide and is effectively in operation. The breakaway caps used with the bolts have a breakaway torque of 40 Nm instead of 135 Nm mentioned in the specification. Also, the reference drawing provided for Spacer damper have a breakaway torque of 40 Nm. Please clarify.	Please use a bolt breakaway torques of 40 Nm.
179.	Provided Arcing Distance = 2850 m Specification clauses: Dry Arcing Distance = 2850 (Appendix 9 T1 Pg10) Manufacturer's Consideration:	Confirmed.

	Altitude correction factor = 1.1454. (Appendix 9 T1 Pg10) Lightning Impulse withstand Voltage ' 1425 * 1.1454 = 1632.195 Therefore Min Arcing Distance shall be 3264 mm, please clarify	
180.	Counter weight material Specification clauses: Appendix 9 pg 87 Single I Suspension drawing Manufacturer's Consideration:. As per drawings in the specification the materials used for counter weight is forged steel We have been using cast iron balancing weights in our projects because it stands out as a cost effective solution and also fullfill the requirements. Please Clarify	As per the drawings in the specification the materials used for counterweight should be forged steel.
181.	Armour rod material Specification clauses: Aluminum Alloy / Galvanized steel Appendix 9 pg 83 Single I Suspension drawing Manufacturer's Consideration: As per specification the material for Armour rods shall be Aluminum alloy/Galvanized steer. Since the conductor's outer layer is Aluminum alloy therfore, it is highly recommended to use Armour rods of Aluminum alloy only to avoid bimetallic corrosion. Please confirm.	**Confirmed.**
182.	Shouldered ball link Manufacturer's Consideration: As per specification drawing insulator end fittings are with shouldered ball Y clevis & socket Y clevis, for maintenance purpose. However, we propose to use normal ball link with holes provided on Yoke plates suitable for hot line maintenance. This proposal is very cost effective. Please suggest.	Confirmed.
183.	Y Clevis Manufacturer's Consideration:	As per specification drawings the clevis should be Y type.

	As per specification drawings the clevis' are Y type. However, our clevis' are straight type as per IEC 61284. We understand that this is acceptable, Please Confirm.	
184.	Volume B1 Annex D Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification Rev 1  We have Following Queries in this regard 1. Here mechanical strength of insulators required for Suspension Stringing (Running Angle Tower D1C-ALT) is 530kN, which is not in manufactruing range of many of the pretigious insulators manufacturers and procurement of same will be a tremendous challenge. We request you to please replace it with twin string of 300kN Insulator. Please Confirm. 2. Specification has proposed Di-Electric material as Porcelain, however in alsomost all of the 400kV transmission line in Nepal under similar weather and terrain are gettng installed with composite insulators for the ease of transportation and installation, as installation of procelain / glass insulators in challenging terrain is very difficult. Please Allow composite insultors also.	1. MCA-Nepal will review the request and if acceptable issue an Addendum to the Bidding Document. 2. Only Glass insulator will be accepted.
185.	Volume - 1 "Section - IV Letter of Technical Bid" "We are not participating, as a Bidder or as a subcontractor, in more than one Bid in this bidding process in accordance with ITB Sub-Clause 5.8 (d)." Since this has been clarified, request you to please amend this clause accordingly.	This is standard language in the MCC Standard Bidding Document related to Conflict of Interest and shall not be modified. All bidders need to confirm that they are not participating, as a Bidder or as a subcontractor, in more than one Bid in this bidding process in accordance with ITB Sub-Clause 5.8 (d).
186.	Standards for design (construction and Material) AS per Technical DATA Scheule s-Conductor	Confirmed.

	Suspension String (Tangent Towers, D1A)	Suspension String (Running Angle Towers, D1B-ALT)	Suspension String (Running Angle Towers, D1C-ALT)	Tension String (Angle and Dead-End Towers)	Jumper Post String (Select Angle and Dead-End Towers)
Bell Minimum Spacing(mm)	195	205	240	156	146
Bell Diameter (mm)	320	360	360	280	255
Mechanical Rating (kN)	1x300 = 300 KN [4]	1x400 = 400 KN [4]	1x530 = 530 KN [4]	3 x 222 = 666 KN[4]	1 x 120 = 120 KN[4]

	IEC 61089- (ACSR), IEC 60888- (Steel Core), IEC 60889- (Aluminium Outer Strands), ASTM B498- (ACSR), ASTM B609- (Steel Core), ASTM B231-(Aluminium Outer Strands) IEC 61089- (ACSR), IEC 60888- (Steel Core), IEC 60889- (Aluminium Outer Strands), ASTM B232- (ACSR), ASTM B498- (Steel Core), ASTM B230-(Aluminium Outer Strands) Note: In the Data Sheet Of ACSR Moose ASTM Standard name mentioned of Aluminium wires & ACSR Conductor is not to standard which is applicable to ACSR Conductor. We have offered a standard name which should be applicable. Please Confirm?	
187.	Grease Application AS per Techanical Requirements-B. Mechanical Design-3.10.Grease. The grease shall conform to the requirements of IEC/BS/EN 50326, Type B and shall not corrode the wires. We are offering Type A Grease. SOP is attched for grease applice also which is currently in use. Please Confirm.	The grease shall conform to the requirements of IEC/BS/EN 50326, Type B.
188.	Reels/Drum AS per Technical DATA Scheules-Conductor for ACSR Moose Conductor 1. Maximum Conductor Length on drum-4600m 2. Maxium Gross Weight per drum incl. conductor- 10186kg. 3. Drum/Reel Size- FL= 2440, TR=1525mm, DR=1050mm, OW=1650mm, AH=130mm, W=1000kg For ACSR Moose Conductor	Please use the technical data provided in the specifications.

	1. Maximum Conductor Length on drum-2415m 2. Maxium Gross Weight per drum incl. conductor- Appox. 5000kg. 3. Drum/Reel Size- FL= 2100, TR=900mm, DR=730mm, OW=1100mm, AH=105mm, W=1000kg Note:- We have offering conductor on our standard steel drums with flexi packing. Please Confirm	
189.	Technical Spec Corona Inception Voltage Corona extinction voltage ≥ 440 kV Corona inception voltage≥ 500 kV. (Appendix 9 T2 Pg13) As per IEC Corona & RIV values shall be calculated as (1.2*440)/√3 = 304.84 kV. Therefore, Corona extinction voltage & RIV voltage should be considered 305 kV RMS for spacer damper & Fittings. Also, considering the inception voltage which shall be 120 percent of the extinction; this values arrives at 365 kV instead of ≥ 500 kV mentioned in the specification. Request to confirm the values from client	Please use your own calculations.
190.	Technical Spec Breakaway Bolt Torque Breakaway Bolt Torque - 135 Nm. (Appendix 9 T2 Pg11) At the outset we shall be providing breakaway cap instead of breakaway bolt. The Spacer dampers used for ACSR Moose conductor is our proven Type tested design which is supplied to varied utilities worldwide and is	Please use a bolt breakaway torque of 40 Nm.

	effectively in operation. The breakaway caps used with the bolts have a breakaway torque of 40 Nm instead of 135 Nm mentioned in the specification. Also, the reference drawing provided for Spacer damper have a breakaway torque of 40 Nm. Please clarify.	
191.	Hardware Fittings Technical Spec Provided Arcing Distance = 2850 m Dry Arcing Distance = 2850 (Appendix 9 T1 Pg10) Altitude correction factor = 1.1454. (Appendix 9 T1 Pg10) Lightning Impulse withstand Voltage ' 1425 * 1.1454 = 1632.195 Therefore Min Arcing Distance shall be 3264 mm, please clarify	Please use your own calculation.
192.	Hardware Fittings Technical Spec Counter weight material Appendix 9 pg 87 Single I Suspension drawing As per drawings in the specification the materials used for counter weight is forged steel We have been using cast iron balancing weights in our projects because it stands out as a cost effective solution and also fullfill the requirements. Please Clarify	As per drawings in the specification, the material used for counterweight should be forged steel.
193.	Counter weight material (6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08, Appendix 9 pg 87 Single I Suspension As per drawings in the specification, the material used for counter weight is forged steel. We have installed counter weights with cast iron balancing weights in some of our projects because it stands out as a cost effective solution and also full fills the requirements. Counter weights with cast iron balancing weights shall be acceptable. Please confirm.	As per drawings in the specification, the material used for counterweight should be forged steel.
194.	Hardware Fittings Technical Spec	Confirmed.

	Armour rod material Aluminum Alloy / Galvanized steel Appendix 9 pg 83 Single I Suspension drawing As per specification the material for Armour rods shall be Aluminum alloy/Galvanized steer. Since the conductor's outer layer is Aluminum alloy therfore, it is highly recommended to use Armour rods of Aluminum alloy only to avoid bimetallic corrosion. Please confirm.	
195.	Hardware Fittings Technical Spec Shouldered ball link As per specification drawing insulator end fittings are with shouldered ball Y clevis & socket Y clevis, for maintenance purpose. However, we propose to use normal ball link with holes provided on Yoke plates suitable for hot line maintenance. This proposal is very cost effective. Please suggest.	Confirmed.
196.	Hardware Fittings Technical Spec Y Clevis As per specification drawings the clevis' are Y type. However, our clevis' are straight type as per IEC 61284.	As per specification drawings the clevis should be Y type.
197.	2.3 Materials B. Structural Steel Steel grade & standard is not specified, Please confirm C. Fasteners, Bolts, Nuts and Washers: Bolt grade & standard is not specified – we propose Bolt as per IS 12427 / IS 1367 Part-III / ISO 898-I Grade 5.6 or 6.8 or 8.8/8 Nut Grade DH - we propose Nut as per IS 14394 / IS 1367 Part-VI / ISO 898-II Grade 5 or 6 or 8 Kindly Confirm 7. Heavy helical lock-washers compliant to ANSI B18.21.1 (for imperial series) or B18.21.2M (for metric series) shall be required on all bolted connections We propose spring washers	Galvanized steel tower bolts and nuts shall conform to strength requirements of ASTM A-394 Type 1 or equivalent. ASTM A394, Standard Specification for Steel Transmission Structure Bolts. Round washers and bevel washers shall be ASTM F436, Type 1 hardened steel washers. Helical spring lock washers shall meet the requirements of the ASME Standard B18.21.1 for regular helical spring lock washers or equivalent. ASTM F436/F436M, Standard Specification for Hardened Steel Washers Inch and Metric Dimensions.

	as per IS 3063 Type B in place of ANSI B18.21.2M / ANSI B18.21.1. Kindly confirm: 8. Step bolts shall comply with the more stringent of ASTM A449 Type 1, IEEE 1307, or IS: 10238, except as follows: We propose step bolt as per IS 10238, Kindly confirm if this is acceptable. E. Silicon Content: 1. All structural steel used in the tower shall have silicon content of 0.00% to 0.06% or 0.15% to 0.25% and shall adhere to the requirements of ASTM A385. We propose Silicon content in range of 0.15% to 0.25%, Kindly confirm, if this is acceptable.	Step bolts shall conform to ASTM A307 or equivalent. Galvanizing for step bolts and fall arrester attachment clip shall meet the requirements of ASTM A153 or equivalent. This is to confirm that Silicon content in range of 0.15% to 0.25%, is acceptable.
198.	3.1 Fabrication B. Shearing and Cutting: 1. Shearing and cutting shall be performed carefully and all portions of the work shall be finished neatly. Copes and re-entrant cuts shall be filleted before cutting. Angles within another angle shall be neatly chamfered on the heel to clear the fillet at lap slices. Manually guided cutting torches shall not be used. F. Bending: 1. All bent plates and members shall be bent hot and allowed to cool in still air. The forming and bending shall not allow embrittlement or loss of strength of the material being worked. We follow manual guided torch cutting for critical cuts where machine cuts are not feasible and this is further followed with grinding. Kindly Confirm, if this is acceptable. We will follow IS 802 Part-II to bend the tower parts using Hot and Cold media for restricted thickness. Same is followed in all our International and National projects. Kindly Confirm, if this is acceptable.	The proposed fabrication process & bending processes are confirmed.
199.	3.2 Galvanizing	The proposed fabrication process & bending processes are confirmed.

	9. Post Treatment: 9.1. The article may be quenched in water. The quench water is to be changed / drained periodically to prevent corrosive salts from accumulating in it. If water quenching is not done then necessary cooling arrangements should be made. The galvanized articles shall be dipped in a solution which provides corrosion protection similar to that provided by chromate coatings described in IS 1340. However, chromate solutions shall not be used due to environmental concerns pertaining to the leaching of heavy metals. Contractor shall propose an alternative such as phosphate solutions to retard white rust attack. The articles shall not be stacked immediately after this treatment. It shall be ensured that the articles are dry before any further handling operation. We have Polymer based passivation alternate to Chromate. Same is acceptable in other international orders. Kindly Confirm, if this is acceptable.	
200.	Clause no. Form CON-2 Compliance with Sanctions Certification Form We understand that details required in 1) "ALL BIDDERS/CONTRACTORS TO CHECK THE APPLICABLE BOX BELOW" are to be submitted during the tendering stage. 2) "INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE COMPLIANCE WITH SANCTIONS CERTIFICATION FORM" in the referred Form CON-2 are to be submitted during the contract execution stage. Please confirm	Your understanding and interpretation of the Form is not correct. The Compliance with Sanctions Certification Form shall be completed and submitted at the time of Bid submission. If the Bidder is awarded the Contract, then this Form shall be submitted within 28 days of receipt of the letter of acceptance. During contract implementation the Compliance with Sanctions Certification Form shall be submitted as per the dates mentioned in the first paragraph of the Form. The Consultants are encouraged to read carefully the instructions in the Form.
201.	Clause no. Annex.D,Appendix 11,Clause no: 7.5 Point D Annex.B,Appendix 1, FDN-DR-1-1 Note C Annex.B,Appendix 2	Please use an average value of 400 mm for both cases or adjust it based on the actual foundation design requirements.

	As per clause 7.5, Chimney height must be at least 225mm above ground level whereas, as per Annex B,Appendix 1 on foundation drawing MC shall not be less than 400mm. Also, as per appendix 2, on line diagram muff height is 300mm for hilly terrain and 500mm for paddy terrain. Please confirm the minimum muff height to be considered .	
202.	Clause no. 230203 Minutes of Pre-Bid Meeting-Final, Annex C -Q&A 31 Annex.D,Appendix 11,Clause no: 7.5 Point C, I As per Q&A 31: Foundation depth was confirmed to be 3.5m but, as per foundation drawing FDN-PC-1-1, Note no.6, the stub depth below ground level is given as 3300mm and as per Annex.D,Appendix 11,Clause no: 7.5 Point (C) stub clearance given is 150mm and as per point (I) minimum lean concrete given is 75mm based on this stub depth below ground level becomes 3.275 (3.5-0.15-0.075=3.275). Please clarify and confirm the required stub depth below ground level.	The stub depth below ground level should be based on the foundation design to provide the required capacity to resist the uplift load. The given foundation depth of 3.5 m is a nominal value.
203.	Clause no. We have installed counter weights with cast iron balancing weights in some of our projects because it stands out as a cost effective solution and also full fills the requirements. Inception Voltage Corona extinction voltage ≥ 440 kV Corona inception voltage≥ 500 kV. (6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08, Appendix 9 T2 Pg13) As per IEC Corona & RIV values shall be calculated as (1.2*440)/√3 = 304.84 kV. So corona extinction voltage & RIV voltage should be considered 305 kV RMS for spacer damper & Fittings.	Please use your own calculations.

	Also, considering the inception voltage which shall be 120 percent of the extinction; this values arrives at 365 kV instead of ≥ 500 kV mentioned in the specification. Request you to confirm the values.	
204.	Clause no. Breakaway Bolt Torque - 135 Nm. (6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08, Appendix 9 T2 Pg11) At the outset we shall be providing breakaway cap instead of breakaway bolt. The Spacer dampers used for ACSR Moose conductor is a proven Type tested design which is supplied to various utilities worldwide and is effectively in operation. The breakaway caps used with the bolts have a breakaway torque of 40 Nm instead of 135 Nm mentioned in the specification. Also, the reference drawing provided for Spacer damper have a breakaway torque of 40 Nm. Please clarify.	The breakaway torque should be provided by the supplier.
205.	Clause no. Dry Arcing Distance = 2850 (6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08, Appendix 9 T1 Pg10) As specified Altitude correction factor = 1.1454. (Appendix 9 T1 Pg10) Lightning Impulse withstand Voltage 1425 * 1.1454 = 1632.195 So, Min Arcing Distance shall be 3264 mm. Please clarify.	Please use your own calculation.
206.	Clause no. Counter weight material (6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08, Appendix 9 pg 87 Single I Suspension drawing)	As per the drawings in the specifications, the material used for counterweight should be forged steel.

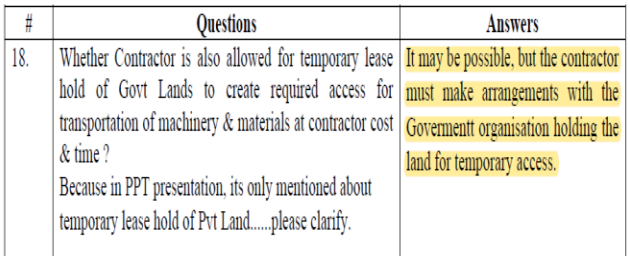
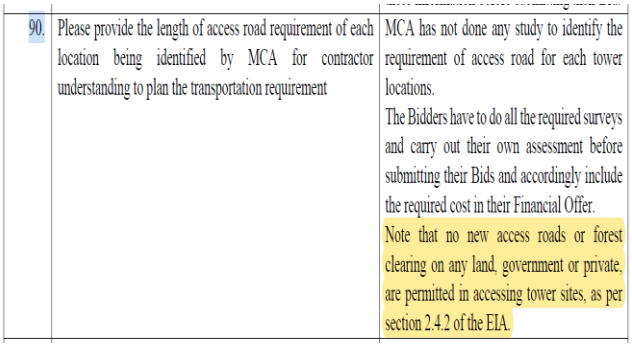
	As per drawings in the specification, the material used for counter weight is forged steel. We have installed counter weights with cast iron balancing weights in some of our projects because it stands out as a cost effective solution and also fullfills the requirements. Counter weights with cast iron balancing weights shall be acceptable. Please confirm.	
207.	Clause no. Armour rod material Aluminum Alloy / Galvanized steel (6. Annex D_Technical Specifications_Final Design Report-2019-11-08, Appendix 9 pg 83 Single I Suspension drawing) As per specification the material for Armour rods shall be Aluminum alloy / Galvanized steel. Since the conductor's outer layer is Aluminum alloy, it is highly recommended to use Armour rods of Aluminum alloy to avoid bimetallic corrosion. Please confirm.	Confirmed.
208.	Clause no: Shouldered ball link As per specification drawings insulator end fittings are with shouldered ball Y clevis & socket Y clevis, for maintenance purpose. We propose to use normal ball link with holes provided on Yoke plates suitable for hot line maintenance. This proposal is very cost effective. Please confirm.	Confirmed.
209.	Clause no. Y Clevis As per specification drawings the clevis are Y type. Please confirm straight type clevis as per IEC 61284 shall be acceptable or not.	As per specification drawings the clevis should be Y type.

210.	**Price adjustment for Tower & Conductor:** **Kindly refer ITB 15.10, Section-1, Part-1 (PDF Pg-27):** 15.10. In the case of Adjustable Price, prices quoted by the Bidder shall be subject to adjustment during performance of the Contract to reflect changes in the cost elements such as labor, material, transport and Contractor's equipment in accordance with the procedures specified in the corresponding Appendix to the Contract Agreement. A Bid submitted with a fixed price quotation will not be rejected, but the price adjustment will be treated as zero. Bidders are required to indicate the source of labor and material indices in the corresponding Form in Section From the above, we understand that Bidder shall also allowed to propose offers for Tower & Conductor on below mentioned manners: i. Tower on FIRM basis and Conductor on VARIABLE basis or Vice Versa. Kindly Confirm. ii. Both Tower & Conductor on firm basis. Kindly confirm.	Your understanding is not correct. You can submit the bid as fixed bid price or as per the provision under GCC Sub-Clause 13.8.
211.	**Kindly refer ITB 15.10, Section-1, Part-1 (PDF Pg- 27):** 15.10. In the case of Adjustable Price, prices quoted by the Bidder shall be subject to adjustment during performance of the Contract to reflect changes in the cost elements such as labor, material, transport and Contractor's equipment in accordance with the procedures specified in the corresponding Appendix to the Contract Agreement. A Bid submitted with a fixed price quotation will not be rejected, but the price adjustment will be treated as zero. Bidders are required to indicate the source of labor and material indices in the corresponding Form in Section IV. Bid Submission Forms, so as to justify the indices and weightings. From the above, we understand that, bidders are required to submit Price adjustment form to indicate the source of material indices.	Your understanding is not correct. You are not allowed to submit the indices as the indices are already indicated. Subjected to approval of MCA-Nepal authority, an addendum to this provision will be issued.

	However, in the Bid Document Price adjustment form has not been provided, requesting you to provide the same.	
212.	**<u>Taxes & Duties relevant:</u>** **a. Kindly refer, Section 2.8 & Annex VII, MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE COMPACT:** We understand that all the exemptions provided under the Compact (Section 2.8 read with Annex VII) shall be applicable for this Project and override the clauses of Particular Conditions of the Contract, in case of any conflict. Please confirm our understanding. **b. Kindly refer, Annex VII, MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE COMPACT:** Annex VII of the Compact provides for application to Ministry of Finance by the beneficiary to obtain letter of exemption from taxes. In case such exemption letters are not awarded, we understand that the Client will refunded all direct and indirect taxes, custom duties and any other taxes paid by the Contractor or sub-contractor as the case may be. Please confirm our understanding. **c. Kindly refer, Annex VII, MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE COMPACT:** Schedule D of Annex VII of the Compact provides that Tax Exempt entity not registered under the laws of Nepal that may have Permanent establishment in Nepal and MCA Nepal will arrange for registration with IRD to ensure all exemptions are granted to Tax Exempt Entity including its permanent establishment.	a) The Compact shall be read along with the PCC. However, in case of any conflict, the Compact shall prevail. b) Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. MCA-Nepal shall provide the Tax exemption letter in compliance with Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules for the Goods imported for the purpose of the Compact. c) Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. The bidder needs to assess the application of taxes on its own depending on its status of incorporation and prior registration in Nepal.

	Please confirm, in case the Contractor already has an existing permanent establishment in Nepal registered with IRD, will such permanent establishment be eligible for all the tax exemptions provided in the Compact. Further the term Exempt Entity excludes legal persons that are legal entities registered under law of Nepal and accordingly such entities shall be subject to taxes in Nepal. Please confirm, if the existing permanent establishment of the Contractor shall be eligible for all tax exemptions provided under Schedule VII of the Compact **d. Kindly refer, Clause 21.1 (a), Section- VII (Particular Condition of Contract), Part-1:** Clause 21.1 (a) of the PCC provides for tax exemptions for enterprises other than nationals or permanent residents of Employer's Country. Please confirm, if existing permanent establishment of the Contractor in Nepal will be considered as national or permanent resident and accordingly not eligible for exemptions **e. Kindly refer, Section 2.8, MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE COMPACT:** Compact Clause 2.8(c) provides, if any taxes are paid in contrary to provision of Compact, government will refund promptly to MCC. Please confirm, will the refund for taxes paid if any will be made to the Contractor or MCC? How will the Contractor receive refund if Government pays directly to MCC	All entities will be eligible for all the tax exemptions provided in the Compact, however subject to Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules The Bidder are requested to go through the MCC Compact carefully and understand the different requirements to be eligible for Tax exemptions under Value Added Tax, Custom Duties, Excise Duties, Corporate Income and Withholding Tax and other taxes mentioned in Schedule VII of the Compact d) Yes, existing permanent establishment of the Bidder in Nepal will be considered as National and Permanent resident with respect to exemption provision relating to income taxes, withholding taxes, and other profit or business taxes imposed on individuals, organizations, or enterprises. e) Section 2.8 (c) of the Compact relates to relationship between the Government of Nepal and MCC and this section will not be applicable for Bidders (future Contractor).

213.	we would like to bring to your kind notice that we are still carrying out walk over survey and design related work. Further, we are still awaiting responses to pre-bid queries and inputs as discussed in pre-bid meeting. We may seek additional clarifications after issuance of above mentioned documents, which may require more time for study and raise queries for competent working. In the view of above and with reference to Clause ITB 8.1 of BDS (illustrated below) it has been mentioned that clarifications may be requested by email, not later than 45 days before deadline for Bid submission, we understand that we can submit further clarifications pertaining to bid documents and its corresponding addenda already issued 45 days before the revised Bid Submission deadline i.e. up to 03.03.2023. Please confirm.	Please refer to Addendum #3 to the Bidding document through which the deadline for submission has been extended.
214.	1. Access Road for Transportation of Materials & Construction Machinery: a. As per understanding based on Pre-Bid Meeting discussions (Power Point Presentation) :- "No new road construction is allowed and the Contractor should use the existing roads. However, the Contractor is also allowed for temporary lease hold of the Private Lands for transportation of construction materials at their cost and time as defined in ESHSMP document (refer to Section V/B0/Annex 10). Construction of new foot trails to a maximum width of 1.25 meter is also allowed and to be rehabilitated at the time of site closure." As per above clause, we understand that Contractors will be allowed to temporary lease hold Private Land only, for transportation of construction material & machinery (i.e. Access Road).	The opening of vehicular access on either private land or government owned public land is illegal without an environmental permit. MCA-Nepal's permit does not include it. To minimize the environmental impact no new road construction will be allowed in this project. However, the contractor may use the existing trails or construct new trails of 1.5m width both in government and private lands for transportation of materials, equipment and as well as for the movement of the working personals. For transportation of heavy machineries, the contractor may consider use of heli crane or similar equipment.

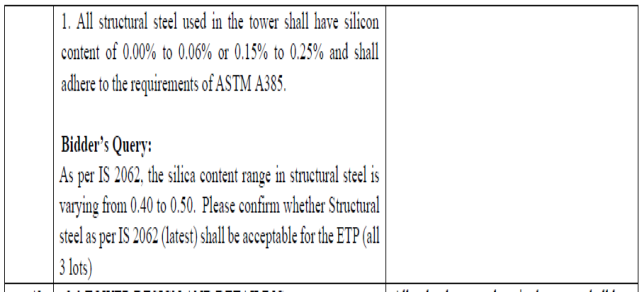
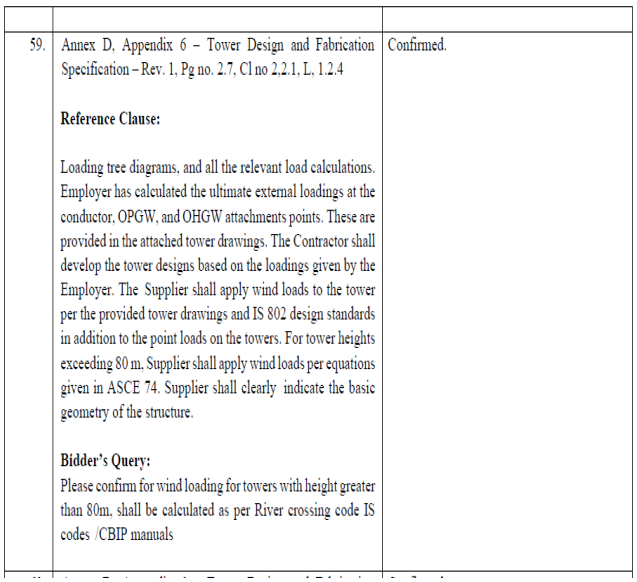
	However, construction of new foot trails to a maximum width of 1.25 meter only allowed in Govt. / Forest Land.	
215.	b. Please refer the answers against Sr. No. 18 (Annex C – Questions and Answers), issued along with "Minutes of Pre-Bid Meeting-Final", image given below :  As per above Answer, we understand that Contractor is also allowed to create required temporary access in Government & Forest Land at their cost and time	Please see the response to the previous question. To minimize the environmental impact no new road construction will be allowed in this project either in government or in private land.
216.	c. Please refer the answers against Sr No 90 (Clarification # 3), image given below :  As per above Answer, Contractor is not allowed to create any new temporary access roads on any land (government or private). Above answers are quite confusing & contradicts with each other. However, as per the above point a & b, we understand that there will not be any kind of restrictions on Contractor to create required new	The opening of vehicular access on either private land or government owned public land is illegal without an environmental permit. MCA-Nepal's permit does not include it. To minimize the environmental impact no new road construction will be allowed in this project. However, the contractor may use the existing trails or construct new trails of 1.5m width both in government and private lands for transportation of materials, equipment and as well as for the movement of the working personals. For transportation of heavy machineries, the contractor may consider use of heli crane or similar equipment.

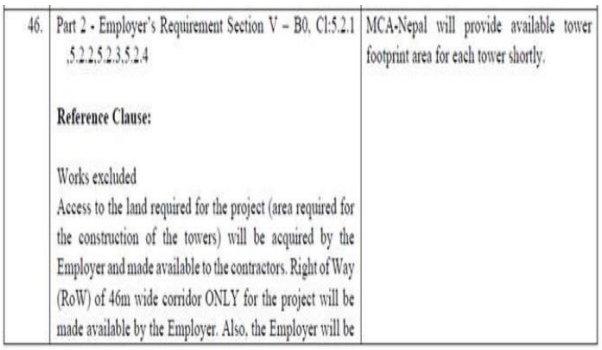
	temporary access road or widen the existing road / foot trails on temporary basis on any land (government / forest / private). Contractor has to make the necessary arrangement with the relevant Forest / Government / Private Organisation holding the land for the required temporary access, at their Cost and Time. Please confirm about our understanding.	
217.	**2. Daywork Schedule :** Please refer the various Schedules under Breakdown for Day work Rates (Civil Works / Contractor's Equipment…etc.) There are various typical Items (like "Use of Helicopter for Transportation of Material, Machinery and Erection of Towers" / "Micro piling" / "Steel Grillage Foundations"….etc.), which might not be used or requirement not envisaged by the Bidders to carry-out their Scope of Work as per Employer's Requirement in this Project. Further, at this stage, it's also not clear what kind of additional work & under what circumstances (i.e. place / locations…etc.) its required to be executed by the Contractor, for which these invited Daywork rates will be implemented / used for Payment. In this case, it's quite difficult for the Bidders to assess the realistic Unit Rates against various Items in Daywork Schedule. Please Clarify, how Financial Bid will be evaluated, if Bidder did not quote against few items (like Usage of Helicopter / Micro piling / Grillage Foundation…etc.) in Daywork Schedule in their Price Offer. Please Clarify.	Under the current procurement process, MCA-Nepal/Employer is looking for an experienced contractor who has been working in this field and has experience and knowledge about the works to be carried out and related works to be executed under the Transmission Line Construction. Thus, you as an experienced Contractor is expected to propose Daywork rates based on your experience and knowledgeable of Transmission Line and associated works. Omitted items and items against which no price is entered by the Bidder will not be paid for by the Employer when executed and shall be deemed to be covered by the prices for other items. During evaluation the rates of these items will be considered included in other items.

	We request you to review the above concern and allow Bidder's to not to quote the Unit Rates against various items, which contractor not willing to execute as an additional work (may be due to difficulty in assessment of realistic cost / not having required expertise….etc.). Further, in Daywork Schedule No. 4.5: Other Installation Services, it's also invited Contractor to list the additional items, which are also difficult to assess at this stage for Additional Scope of Work. In view of above, we request that the Price quoted under Daywork Schedule shall not be considered for Price Evaluation purpose (i.e. to decide lowest Financial Bid.). This will further facilitate bidders to quote against various items as per their expertise & willingness to execute the same as an additional work.	MCA-Nepal is looking for an experienced Contractor who has experience and capability to carry out the works and is willing to carry out the works successfully, including additional works required under the Contract. Thus, Bidders are requested to quote for the Daywork rates as per requirement of the Bidding Document. Schedule No. 4.5: Other Installation Services: MCA-Nepal will review the request and if acceptable and approved by the authority amend the Price Schedule by deleting the Schedule No. 4.5: Other Installation Services .
218.	**3. <u>OPGW:</u>** Please refer Section IV-Bid Submission Forms, Page 161, Part-1, Technical DATA Schedules – Overhead Optical Ground Wire, Item 7.1:	These electrical characteristics values are for guidelines only, they are not primary required values. The most important values are the geometrical & mechanical parameters & the short circuit values that need to be met.

	Section IV. Bid Submission Forms **Technical DATA Schedules – Overhead Optical Ground Wire** **Item** | **Description** | **Unit** | **Required** | **Bidder Guaranteed** AC Resistance at 25^{0}C, max | Ω/km | 0.5642 AC Resistance at 75^{0}C, max | Ω/km | 0.6626 Inductive Reactance (at 0.3 m, 50 Hz frequency) | Ω/km | 0.3041 Capacitive Reactance (at 0.3 m, 50 Hz frequency) | MΩ*km | 0.1806 As per OPGW Manufacturer's understanding, the above-mentioned parameters are not applicable for OPGW. Kindly confirm if their understanding is correct & provide amended Technical data sheet for OPGW.	
219.	**4. <u>Clarification required against point 2 of Clarification-3 received from MCA, Nepal</u>** 2. Regarding selection of tower including extensions for Tower Testing Please clarify, which type of tower and tower combination (Basic body+.....body extn+.....Leg Extn) shall be considered for full scale tower test. | Full scale testing of tower with highest body extension of maximum overturning moment, maximum uplift in maximum loading condition to be done as per CBIP-3223 (2014 with latest amendment) and IS-802 (2015 with latest amendment)- one Tower per type per lot. In case multiple lots are awarded to the contractor then one tower per type for all lots will be required, provided the same tower design is considered for the type in all lots. Please also note that the contractor is free to propose their own design as per the design criteria mentioned in section V, B1 and its annexures. As per clarification tower to be tested with maximum body + leg extension and contractor is free to propose their own design. General transmission industry practise is to test the maximum quantity body extension tower not full height tower as full height tower quantity will be very less. Testing with full height (maximum body + leg extension) may not be possible in each & every test bed. Very rare test bed centre has the capacity to test the tower with full height & this is not industry practice. We propose to carryout	Tower Testing with full height (up to maximum body + leg extension) that are possible to be tested within a typical testing facility.

	tower testing of NT+9m. (Normal tower+9m extension) Please confirm.	
220.	**5.Clarification required against point 12 of Clarification-3 received from MCA, Nepal** 12. As per Table B1, page 29 of "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1" Reference wind pressure under IS-802, Extreme wind case is 879 Pa. This is considering terrain category 2 as per IS 802 Table 4. Whereas per 5.A402.10, Page 35 of "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1", Terrain roughness coefficient K2=1.08 would be applicable to this project. This is considering terrain category 1. Please confirm bidder has to consider terrain category 2 (wind pressure 879 Pa) with an additional factor of 1.08 (1.08 * 879 = 950 Pa) for sag tension and loading calculation. — Consider terrain category 2 (wind pressure 879 Pa) with an additional factor of 1.08 (1.08 * 879 = 950 Pa) for sag tension and loading calculation. Confirm that 1.08 is also applicable for wind with ice loading condition as per IEC. Please confirm this 1.08 additional factor also applicable for wind with ice loading condition as per IEC. 1.08 factor is on wind speed. For wind pressure this will be 1.08*1.08. Please confirm that wind pressure to be increase by 1.08 * 1.08 = 1.1664 for sag tension calculation. (i.e. 879 * 1.1664 = 1025.2656)	Confirmed.
221.	**6.Clarification required against point 40 & 41 of clarification-3 received from MCA, Nepal** 40. Particular Technical Requirements Section V - B1 Annex D Cl: C-3 Pg No: 3.22 **Reference Clause:** Charpy "V" Notch Test: All structural steel and bolts shall meet Charpy "V" notch energy values of 20 Joules at -20°C. The testing shall be in accordance with CSA-83, "Communication and Power Line Hardware." **Bidder's Query:** Please confirm whether Structural steel Quality C as per IS 2062 is acceptable for the complete ETP (all 3 lots) — Confirmed 41. Particular Technical Requirements Section V - B1 Annex D .3 MATERIALS Pg No 2.13 **Reference Clause:** E. Silicon Content: — Structural Steel as per IS 2062 is not acceptable.	Confirmed. It should be ensured that requisite certification is provided.

	 1. All structural steel used in the tower shall have silicon content of 0.00% to 0.06% or 0.15% to 0.25% and shall adhere to the requirements of ASTM A385. **Bidder's Query:** As per IS 2062, the silica content range in structural steel is varying from 0.40 to 0.50. Please confirm whether Structural steel as per IS 2062 (latest) shall be acceptable for the ETP (all 3 lots) Many transmission lines have been constructed in snow region of India and Nepal with steel properties as per IS 2062 and BSEN 10025. BSEN 10025 is widely used & acceptable steel material in the world. Many suppliers rolled steel as per BSEN 10025 in India. Please confirm that steel material as per IS 2062 and BSEN 10025 is acceptable. We will comply Technical specification requirement including silicon percentage and Impact test for tower steel with certification as per IS 2062. The same will be acceptable or not. Please confirm.	
222.	**<u>7.Clarification required against point 59 of clarification-3 received from MCA, Nepal</u>**  59. Annex D, Appendix 6 – Tower Design and Fabrication Specification – Rev. 1, Pg no. 2.7, Cl no 2,2.1, L, 1.2.4 **Reference Clause:** Loading tree diagrams, and all the relevant load calculations. Employer has calculated the ultimate external loadings at the conductor, OPGW, and OHGW attachments points. These are provided in the attached tower drawings. The Contractor shall develop the tower designs based on the loadings given by the Employer. The Supplier shall apply wind loads to the tower per the provided tower drawings and IS 802 design standards in addition to the point loads on the towers. For tower heights exceeding 80 m, Supplier shall apply wind loads per equations given in ASCE 74. Supplier shall clearly indicate the basic geometry of the structure. **Bidder's Query:** Please confirm for wind loading for towers with height greater than 80m, shall be calculated as per River crossing code IS codes /CBIP manuals CBIP manual for river crossing tower given the gust values for terrain categary-1 only. AS per specification we have to design towers for terrain	Confirmed.

	category-2. Please confirm for terrain categary-2 bidder can extrapolate the values given in IS 802 2015 for height above 80m	
223.	**8.Clarification required against point 46 of Clarification-3 received from MCA, Nepal**  46. Part 2 - Employer's Requirement Section V – B0, Cl:5.2.1 5.2.2.5.2.3.5.2.4 — MCA-Nepal will provide available tower footprint area for each tower shortly. **Reference Clause:** Works excluded Access to the land required for the project (area required for the construction of the towers) will be acquired by the Employer and made available to the contractors. Right of Way (RoW) of 46m wide corridor ONLY for the project will be made available by the Employer. Also, the Employer will be Due to width restriction there may be high possibility of pile foundation may be required for execution of the work. However, as per specification construction of new road restricted maximum 1.5 mtr width in that situation mobilization of required T&Ps and heavy machinery at site would be a challenge to contractor. Therefore, We request to MCA-Nepal to provide foot print area for each tower considering all aspects technically as well as feasible for site execution.	1. MCA-Nepal has issued the tentative area for each tower footprint through Addendum #2 to the Bidding document. 2. The proposed towers to be accommodated within the footprint area. 3. The area has been considered as excavated foundation pit back-to-back plus additional clearance in all sides to maintain proper slope for pits during excavation and movement of workers**.**
224.	1. Kindly confirm whether IS 2062 E250C & IS 2062 E350C Grade of Steel for Mild Steel & High Tensile Steel Sections respectively, shall be used as materials for Tow er Parts for all the 3 Lots of the said Package. 2. We understand that IS 2062 grade for steel for Transmission Line Towers can be used for the said Packages. However, regarding galvanizing of Tower Parts, it is mentioned that minimum Zinc Coating shall be as per ASTM A123, Table 1 which is mentioned in Annexure D, Appendix 6 Technical Specification . Kindly confirm whether IS Code for galvanizing of Tower Part s which is 610 gm/sqm is acceptable or not and can be considered or not.	1. Confirmed 2. This is to confirm that Structural Steel as per ASTM A572 or IS 2062 (latest version) are acceptable.

	3. Please find enclosed list of Technical Clarifications pertaining to Line Hardware Fittings as Annexure 1. Request you to kindly clarify the same. Request you to kindly clarify the above clarifications at the earliest for us to start preparing our techno- commercial Offer.	3. The enclosed list of Line Hardware Fittings specs should be followed. No proposed list from the bidder is included for review.
225.	Tower alignment schedule attached under Section V-B1, Annex H1 Reference Clause: Tower alignment schedule attached under Section V-B1, Annex H1 Bidder's Query: Please confirm the maximum, minimum, every day and ambient temperatures for the line. CLARIFICATION # 3 FOR PROCUREMENT OF PLANT DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF LOT 1: LAPSIPHEDI-RATMATE-NEW HETAUDA 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE LOT 2: RATMATE-NEW DAMAULI 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE LOT 3: NEW DAMAULI-NEW BUTWAL 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (BASE) AND NEW BUTWAL -NEPAL/INDIA BORDER 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (OPTION) Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/003 In response to the bidder's query, employer has clarified as below. Max 32C Min -5C Everyday 20C However, as per the Sag tension wire limits of Tower alignment schedule attached under Section V-B1 and MCA-Nepal 400 kV ETP - Tension Limit Criteria, every day temperature is given as 32 deg. Please confirm whether everyday temperature for sag tension calculation shall be 32 deg or 20 deg for conductor and shield wire.	This is to confirm that **everyday temperature** for sag tension calculation shall be 20C deg for conductor and shield wire.
226.	Section IV. Bid Submission Forms, Technical DATA Schedules – Insulator Strings -3.1-Pg No 167 of 396	GLASS insulator to be considered for the entire project.

	CLARIFICATION # 3 FOR PROCUREMENT OF PLANT DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF LOT 1: LAPSIPHEDI-RATMATE-NEW HETAUDA 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE LOT 2: RATMATE-NEW DAMAULI 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE LOT 3: NEW DAMAULI-NEW BUTWAL 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (BASE) AND NEW BUTWAL -NEPAL/INDIA BORDER 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (OPTION) Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/003 In Sl no: 35 of the clarification issued, ETP has confirmed the type of insulator as Glass whereas in In Sl no: 148 of the clarification issued, ETP has confirmed the type of insulator as Porcelain. Please confirm whether Glass insulator or porcelain insulator to be considered in the ETP.	
227.	Particular Technical Requirements Section V - B1 Annex D Cl: C-3 Pg No: 3.22 CLARIFICATION # 3 FOR PROCUREMENT OF PLANT DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF LOT 1: LAPSIPHEDI-RATMATE-NEW HETAUDA 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE LOT 2: RATMATE-NEW DAMAULI 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE LOT 3: NEW DAMAULI-NEW BUTWAL 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (BASE) AND NEW BUTWAL -NEPAL/INDIA BORDER 400KV D/C TRANSMISSION LINE (OPTION) Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/003 In Sl no: 40 of the clarification issued, ETP has confirmed the use of Structural steel Quality C as per IS 2062 is acceptable for the complete ETP (all 3 lots) .	This is to confirm that the structural steel to ASTM A572 or IS 2062 (latest revisions) are acceptable. Also, this is to confirm that material to any other **Equivalent** code can be considered in the tower designs.

	However, in Sl no: 41 of the clarification issued, ETP has confirmed Structural Steel as per IS 2062 is not acceptable due to variation in silicon content. It may be noted that , as per ASTM -A572 also, maximum silica content in structural steel is 0.40 which is similar to the IS 2062 requirement (0.40 for E250 and 0.45 for E350). Hence, Please confirm the structural steel to be confirming to ASTM A572 or IS 2062 (latest revisions). Also, please confirm whether material confirming to any other Equivalent code can be considered in tower designs.	
228.	'Technical Data sheets – '1.2 Design and calculations correspond with the specification and standards set out hereto. - ASCE 10-15 + IS 802: 2015 as modified per B1 Please confirm whether the body wind load calculation shall be as per IS 802-2015 as per the below equation. F_{wt} TRANS = $Pd \times (1 + 0.2 \times \sin^2 2\alpha) (A_{eL} \times C_{dtL} \times \cos\alpha) G_T$ F_{wt} LONG = $Pd \times (1 + 0.2 \times \sin^2 2\alpha) (A_{eT} \times C_{dtT} \times \sin\alpha) G_T$	Confirmed.
229.	Annex_B1-2. Final Design Report_2019-11-08, Cl:2.3 , Page 2.4 Longitudinal Load: All wires broken (terminal towers) or 50% of the sagging tension. (non-terminal towers) As per Latest Revision of IS 802-Part1/Sec1-2015, sagging tension is defined as 50% of the wire tension at everyday temperature and nil wind condition. Accordingly, please confirm whether 50% of the sagging tension or 100% of the sagging tension has to be considered in longitudinal load calculations.	All wires broken for terminal towers or 50% of the sagging tension for non-terminal towers
230.	Annex_B1-2. Foundation Drawings	This is to confirm that the selection of diameter of reinforcement bars should be as per the actual design requirement but not smaller than the

	Stirrups to be not less than 10mm and Main reinforcement in pad and chimney not less than 16m Please confirm whether the selection of diameter of reinforcement bars shall be as per the actual design requirement or as per the minimum diameter mentioned in the foundation specifications.	minimum diameter mentioned in the foundation specifications.
231.	As per classification III issued by you on 17th Feb, (Sr. N – 49), you have referred to section V-H1 for tower height. However, the minimum tower height requirement is not available in the provided document. So, we request you to share the latest updated complete document on this.	Please refer Addendum # 4, serial number 7 and related Annex Annex H2_ Latest route alignment (KmZ), latest tower schedule/structure list and tower footprint details for minimum Tower Height against each tower.
232.	230217 Clarification#3_Design and Build_Transmission Line Point no 49 Point no 156 As specified in point no-49 "The Latest tower schedule including the latest line length will be issued to the bidders shortly. The bidders should prepare their offer based on the latest tower schedule. Any change of route length, tower number and tower type during check survey will be considered as Variation (positive or negative) (subject to approval by Engineer)." As specified in point no-156 "Please refer to Breakdown of Price for Price Reasonability for type of tower and also please refer Section 5, B1. However, Contractors are free to do their own assessment and propose tower types." The above referred clarification responses are contradictory. Please clarify.	The following example will clarify your concern. Refer to tower no. 15 of Ratmate to New Damauli line tower type has been mentioned as D1C (C-type tower 15-30 degree) based on preliminary design. The bidder may conduct their own assessment and prepare their own tower family and accordingly propose for different class for tower no. 15 (for example D 30- 60 degree type tower). The same has to be reflected in the price reasonability analysis. Any change of route length, tower number and tower type during check survey (which will be reviewed and approved by the Engineer only) will be considered as Variation positive or negative subject to approval by Engineer. Please also note that the bidder must submit the work plan and methodology (which will be reviewed by the technical evaluation team and attract scoring) wherein the bidder has to clearly indicate the reason for such changes of type of tower.
233.	230217 Clarification#3_Design and Build_Transmission Line Point no 49 Point no 100 As specified in point no-49 "The Latest tower schedule including the latest line length will be issued to the bidders shortly. The bidders should prepare their offer based on the latest tower schedule. Any change of route length, tower	The actual situation during construction will be analyzed by the Engineer and will be dealt as per the provision of the Contract such as Variation (subject to approval by Engineer).

	number and tower type during check survey will be considered as Variation (positive or negative) (subject to approval by Engineer)." As specified in point no-100 "This is a Lump Sum contract in line with FIDIC Yellow book Conditions of Contract. The bidders are required to carry out all required survey and investigation to calculate the quantities of various items required to carry out the Work identified under Employer's Requirement as per Conditions of Contract before submitting their Bid." The above referred clarification responses are contradictory. Please clarify. We understand that payment will be made as per the actual supplied and installed quantity of all the transmission line items / services carried out during the execution of the contract, in accordance to the prices quoted in the Price Schedule. Please Confirm.	The Contract will have a Lump Sum Contract Price, please refer Conditions of Contract Sub-Clause 14.1. This is a Design and Build Contract, you are required to carry out all required surveys and investigation to calculate the quantities of various items required to carry out the Work identified under the Employer's Requirement, while following Conditions of Contract. This procurement is based on FIDIC yellow book Conditions of Contract. The Price Schedule and price reasonability analysis will be basis for the billing schedule which will be prepared by the Engineer after award of the contract and will be agreed with the successful bidder.
234.	230217 Clarification#3_Design and Build_Transmission Line Point no 49 As specified in point no-49 "The Latest tower schedule including the latest line length will be issued to the bidders shortly. The bidders should prepare their offer based on the latest tower schedule. Any change of route length, tower number and tower type during check survey will be considered as Variation (positive or negative) (subject to approval by Engineer)." We understand that payment will be made as per the actual supplied and installed quantity of all the transmission line items / services carried out during the execution of the contract, in accordance to the prices quoted in the Price Schedule. Please Confirm.	This procurement is based on FIDIC yellow book Conditions of Contract. The Price Schedule and price reasonability analysis will be the basis for the billing schedule which will be prepared by the Engineer after award of the contract and will be agreed with the successful bidder.
235.	230217 Clarification#3_Design and Build_Transmission Line Point no 35	Only Glass insulator to be considered for the entire project.

	Point no 148 As specified in point no-35 "Glass insulators should be used" As specified in point no-148 "All insulators string will be of Porcelain type" The above referred clarification responses are contradictory. Please confirm the exact requirements for insulators and insulator strings.	
236.	Section II-Bid Data Sheet, Page 51, Part-1, Clause ITB 21.3 For BID Submission, we request you to accept 1 original + 2 hard copies + 5 USB Soft Copies instead of 5 Hard Copies to avoid logistic difficulties in handling big boxes, as there are Three Lots which shall also ease all Bidders documentation requirements. Please confirm.	Please refer to serial number 1 of Addendum # 4 issued on 03 March 2023 through which this provision of the Bidding Document was modified.
237.	IEC size for glass insulators Please confirm the exact IEC size for 120 KN, 400 KN and 530 KN insulators	Please follow the IEC standards or the ANSI standards. Use one insulator standard type with the proper hardware per tower type to avoid confusion during construction.
238.	230131 Clarification#2_Design and Build_TL Point no-5 220916_TowerSchedule: For India Border to New Butwal: Tower no 15 to 22 & 40 to New Bhutwal S/S has not been finalised. For New Butwal to New Damauli: Tower 143 to 149 & 198 to 200 has not been finalised. For 2 to 6, 86 to 89, 111 to 115, 172 to 189, 234 to 247 and balance two lines, the route alignment finalised has not been defined. Please provide details for the above.	All available details shared as Addendum #4 to the Bidding Document.
239.	230217 Clarification#3_Design and Build_Transmission Line	

Description BOQ	UTS	IEC size	TDS	Annex D Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification Rev 1	Normal IEC Standard	Confirm size of i Coupling size /
Toughened Glass disc Insulators		(mm)				
300 KN, ANSI 52-11, IEC 24 Dark red	300 KN	24	IEC 24	IEC 24	IEC 24mm	
222 KN, ANSI 52-11, IEC 24 ,red	222 KN	24	IEC 24	IEC 24	IEC 24mm	
120 KN, ANSI 52-5-H, IEC 24, yellow	120 KN	24	IEC 24	IEC 24	IEC 20mm or IEC 16mm	
400 KN, ANSI 52-11, IEC 28 Dark red	400 KN	28	IEC 24	IEC 28	IEC 28mm	
530 KN, ANSI 52-11, IEC 32 Dark red	530 KN	32	IEC 24	IEC 32	IEC 32mm	

	Point no 102,103,104,105, 132 We understand that prices to be mentioned in the "Letter of Financial offer" by the bidder shall be completely exclusive of income taxes, withholding taxes, customs duties, tariffs, import ,export taxes or other taxes imposed on import, usage and re-export of goods, sales tax, valued added tax, excise tax, property (real or personal) transfer tax, local / domestic taxes. Please confirm our understanding is correct. Also, please provide Compact Section 2.8 with Annex VII – Tax Schedules A,B,D provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes.	The Price in the Letter of Financial Offer should not include any taxes exempted under Section 2.8 of the Compact. The Compact may be downloaded from the following link: **https://assets.mcc.gov/content/uploads/compact-nepal.pdf** **Section 2.8 along with all schedules are available in the Compact.** The Consultant is encouraged to review the provisions of the Compact in Section 2.8 and Annex VII with the corresponding schedules related to taxes and assess the application of the different exemptions of taxes. .
240.	Volume - B1 Scope of Works Main Tower Types : This clause specifically explains about design of double circuit towers There is no clarity on designing of multi circuit tower i.e. D1A (QC) and D1D (QC). Please confirm if these towers are to be designed by contractor or will it will owner designed towers. If Multicircuits tower design is in scope of contractor, then request you to please provide tower spotting data and other necessary details needed for tower design.	The design of the multi circuit tower is in the scope of the Contractor. The bidder must do their own assessment fulfilling the binding requirements specified by the Employer in B1. At this point the available data has already been furnished in the IFB.
241.	Volume - B1 Annexure D, Appendix - 11. Clause 7.4 The foundations shall be designed to withstand the specific loads of the superstructure and the full foundations reactions obtained from the structural stress analysis in conformity with the relevant resistance factors. If bidder proposes Micro Pile / Rock Anchor / Grillage type of foundation, then how employer will utilise day work schedule for the payment of foundation type which is not pad and chimney type. Please Clarify	This procurement is based on FIDIC yellow book concept. The Price schedule and price reasonability analysis will constitute the billing schedule which will be prepared by the Engineer after awarding the contract to the successful bidder. The bidder may conduct their own assessment and propose suitable foundation type in price reasonability analysis. There will be no additional payment for any type of foundation and the Bidder financial proposal should include this price.

		Please also note that the bidder must submit the work plan and methodology (which will be reviewed by the technical evaluation team and attract scoring) wherein the bidder must clearly indicate the reason for selecting such foundation type.
242.	Clarification No. 03, Sr. No. 79 As MCA-Nepal will acquire land for the tower's footprint prior to check survey, there is restriction for base width of all towers. The maximum available area for tower footprint for all towers will be issued shortly to the prospective bidders based on which the bidders should estimate. It is important to highlight that, without base width restriction details, geometry of tower cannot be finalised and hence design of tower is critically dependent on base width restriction. It will take minimum 2 months for tower designing and preparation of technical proposal after clarity on base width. Hence we request you to please let us know limitation of maximum base width as soon as possible.	All available details were already issued as an Addendum # 4 to the Bidding Document.
243.	Clarification No. 03, Sr. No. 35 & 148 Response of these clarifications are contradictory, where employer has confirmed for both type of insulating material i.e. Porcelain and Glass. Please confirm, which one is correct.	Only Glass insulator to be considered for the entire project.
244.	Clarification No. 03, Sr. No. 30 & 41 All structural steel used in the tower shall have silicon content of 0.00% to 0.06% or 0.15% to 0.25% and shall adhere to the requirements of ASTM A385. And We understand that when structural steel design is confirming to IS standards, the permissible stresses for structural members and bolts and nuts shall be confirming to relevant IS codes (latest). Please confirm. Response of these queries are contradictory, here employer has confirmed for both standards i.e. ASTM & IS, please confirm, which one to follow.	Please follow ASTM A385.
245.	Clarification No. 03, Sr. No. 40 & 41	Confirmed.

	Response of this clarification is contradictory, please confirm, which one is correct.	
246.	Volume - B1 Cl. No. Annex D, Appendix 8 As per your spec. tension proof requirement is 65% As per ANSI 29.2B of Porcelain Insulators it will be 50%, please confirm	As per spec. tension proof requirement is 65%.
247.	Volume - B1 Cl. No. Annex D, Appendix 8 As per your spec. Impact strength requirement is 45N-M for the all items As per ANSI Standard of 29.2B impact strength is 10N-M for 52-11 & 7N-M for 52-5 , please confirm	As per spec. Impact strength requirement is 45N-M for all items.
248.	Volume - B1 Cl. No. Annex D, Appendix 8 As per your spec. two types Ball Pin are require i.e. IEC 24 & IEC 28 for 400kN) & Type K Ball & Socket for 52-11 item As per ANSI Standard Type K means = 22mm Ball Pin & Socket , AS per IEC Standard IEC 24 & IEC 28 means 24mm and 28mm Ball Pin respectively. Please confirm which is your needed	You may use either standard with the proper hardware. Use one insulator standard type with the proper hardware per tower type to avoid confusion during construction.
249.	Volume - B1 Cl. No. Annex D, Appendix 8 As per your spec. two type Ball Pin are requirement i.e IEC 24 & Type J Ball & Socket both for 52-5 Please note Type J means = 18mm Ball Pin & Socket as per ANSI Standard and As per IEC Standard IEC 24 means = 24mm Ball Pin, please confirm which is correct	You may use either standard with the proper hardware. Use one insulator standard type with the proper hardware per tower type to avoid confusion during construction.
250.	Volume - B1 Cl. No. Annex D, Appendix 8 As per your spec. for 120kN Disc Insulators Ball Pin requirement is 24mm i.e. IEC Standard & 18mm i.e. Type J As per ANSI Standard (both are requirement) Please confirm which is correct	You may use either standard with the proper hardware. Use one insulator standard type with the proper hardware per tower type to avoid confusion during construction.
251.	As per classification III issued by you on 17th Feb, (Sr. N - 49), you have referred to section V-H1 for tower height. However, the minimum tower height requirement is not available in the provided document.	All details available were issued as an Addendum #4 to the Bidding Document.

	So, we request you to share the latest updated complete document on this.	
252.	**2. <u>Insulator</u>** **:** a. As per Annex D, Appendix 8 – Insulator Specification – Rev. 1 page 2.6 The combined M&E strength (M&E) and proof routine test load are loads specified by the Supplier that must be verified during an electrical-mechanical load test. Our Query According to IEC 60383 Table 3 cross reference list of tests for String Insulator Units -- M&E Test is applicable only on Porcelain (Ceramic Disc) and not on Toughened Glass Disc Insulators Kindly confirm b. As per Annex D, Appendix 8 – Insulator Specification, Cl. 3.2. Routine Tests: Hot to Cold Thermal Shock Test – All insulators shall be subjected to Hot to Cold thermal shock test in accordance with clause 24 of IEC 60383-1 Our Query According to IEC 60383 Table 3 cross reference list of tests for String Insulator Units – Thermal Shock Test is a sample test on Toughened Glass Disc Insulators. It is not possible to conduct it on 100% of units.	Confirmed, use either IEC or ANSI standards. Confirmed, However, it should be ensured that proper Test Certification should be provided by the Manufacturers.

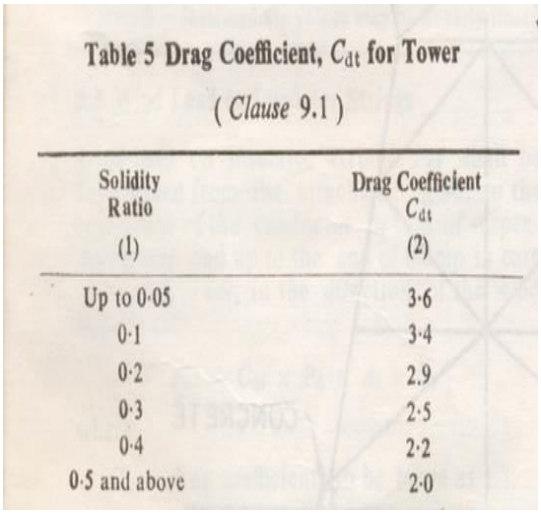
	100% of Glass Shells are tested for thermal shock tests – which is conducted by glass shell-manufacturers. Kindly confirm the acceptance.	
	c. As per Annex D, Appendix 8 – Insulator Specification, Cl. 3.2. Routine Tests: Flashover Voltage Test – All glass insulators shall be subjected to a flashover voltage test in accordance with clause 13 in IEC 60383-1. Our Query As per IEC 60383-1, clause 13 is a type test and not sample or routine test. It is not possible to conduct it on 100% of units, as it would not be feasible.	The test mentioned as per clause 13 in IEC 60383-1 is a dry lightning _withstand voltage test and not a flashover test.
	d. As per Annex D, Appendix 8 – Insulator Specification – Rev. 1 page 2.7 Clause-2.2, E 3.5 – "Only hot cured alumina type cement shall be used in insulator assembly. Sulpho aluminate or Portland cement is not allowed." However, as per Clause - 3.16. (Cement Expansion Test) in page 3.14 – "The cement expansion test shall be carried out according to clause 8.2.10 of ANSI C29.2B (only for Portland type cement)." The above mentioned clause (3.16) provides clear provision of the cement expansion test which shall be carried out according to clause 8.2.10 of ANSI C29.2B.	Alumina type cement.

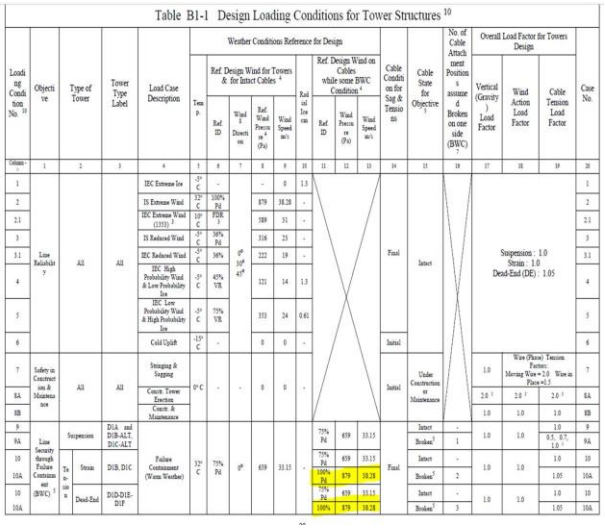
	Kindly clarify, which type of cement shall be consider by Insulator manufacturer's i.e. Portland type Cement or Alumina type cement.	
253.	**Reference** Section V - B1, Cl. 2, Pg-41 Annex-D, OPGW Spec-R1, Pg-10 **Existing Clause** Required Maximum Reel Length : **6500 m** (wood reel); **7000 m** (steel) **Clarification Required / Proposal** For better safety of OPGW Cable we would like to propose as follows :- Required Maximum Reel Length : **3500 m** (wood reel); **3500 m** (steel) Kindly confirm if the same shall be accepted.	It will be acceptable, but the contractor will end up with double the splice boxes and more expensive installation.
254.	**Reference** Annex-D, OPGW Spec-R1 Cl. 2.2.1, (Table 3) Pg-20 **Existing Clause** Excess Fiber Length (EFL) : Minimum: 0.5% **Clarification Required / Proposal** No Fiber Supplier is willing to guarantee 0.5% EFL at SUS Tube. At SUS tube 0.2~0.3% is guaranteed by supplier and since the optical unit is helically stranded we can confirm the EFL of 0.5% after cabling. Kindly confirm if the same shall be accepted.	Confirmed.
255.	**Reference** Annex-D, OPGW Spec-R1 Cl. 2.2.3, (C) Pg-22 **Existing Clause** The OPGW starting temperature for short circuit is 210°C. This is the maximum possible temperature during summer and the maximum allowed temperature during a short circuit for the metallic elements (wires, stainless steel or aluminum tubes/pipes). This is because the tensile strength tests performed following **10 short-circuit tests** on the same sample of OPGW cable, showed that aluminum wires cannot go over 210°C, because at about that temperature they start having a permanent loss in strength. Therefore, the cable	Confirmed to follow IEEE 1138-2021 standard.

	shall be rated to operate at 80°C continuously and at intermittent short-term temperatures (during a short-circuit) up to 210°C without any degradation of performance. **Clarification Required / Proposal** According to IEEE 1138:2021 standard, there should be **5 official pulses** performed on OPGW Cable. The Technical Specifications mention 10 short-circuit tests which exceeds the requirement of IEEE standard. We would propose to consider the IEEE 1138:2021 standard as reference and accept 5 shots instead of 10 shots. Kindly confirm if the same shall be accepted.	
256.	**Reference** Annex-D, OPGW Spec-R1 Cl. 2.2.5, (A) Pg-24 Cl. 3.1 (Notes), Sr.11, Pg-32 **Existing Clause** The OPGW design shall include the polynomial coefficients for stress-strain and creep curves, used for sag and tension calculations in PLS-CADD or SAG10 software programs (SAG10 chart number). This can be provided in a .wir file format for PLS-CADD (In case the OPGW will be used as a OPT-NC (optical neutral conductor) or an OPT-PC (optical phase conductor), the .wir file should also include the following parameters: emissivity coefficient [-] (typical 0.5); solar absorption coefficient [-] (typical 0.5), and the heat capacity [Watt-s/ft-deg F] separate for outer strands and core). The polynomial coefficients for stress strain curve, must be derived from actual stress-strain tests, performed per IEEE 1138 and IEC 60794 standards. The polynomial coefficient for creep curve must be derived from actual creep tests, performed per IEEE 1138 and IEC 61395. **Clarification Required / Proposal** We do not have a type tested .wir file of the required OPGW Cable. Hence after order	Confirmed.

	allotment we can perform Type Test on offered OPGW Cable for the generation of .wir file (To be done by Kinectrics, Canada with a lead time of 4 months along with extra cost). Hence, as of now we shall submit the sag tension report using linear model .wir file of OPGW Cable without polynomial coefficients. Kindly confirm if the same shall be accepted.	
257.	**Reference** Section V - B1, Cl. 5.A402.4, Table B1-1, Pg-30 **Existing Clause** Loading Conditions for Tower Structures : Design Loading Conditions for Tower Structures **Clarification Required / Proposal** We have assumed the initial tension condition of OPGW at 20% of UTS. Please provide sag-chart of Conductor or Kindly confirm if the above statement shall be accepted.	Confirmed.
258.	**Point Mentioned** 3.2. Routine Tests Flashover Voltage Test - All glass insulators shall be subjected to a flashover voltage test in accordance with clause 13 in IEC 60383-1 **Our Query** in IEC 60383-1 clause 13 Is a type test, not sample or routine test Moreover the test mentioned as per clause 13 it's dry lightning withstand voltage test and not flashover test	Confirmed.
259.	**Point Mentioned** Annex D, Appendix 8 - Insulator Specification - Rev. 1 page 2.7 2.2 E 3.5 - says Only Aluminums Cement is to be used and Portland is not allowed. Clause - 3.16.1. in page 3.14 - provides clear provision of The cement expansion test which shall be carried out according to clause 8.2.10 of ANSI C29.2B	Only Aluminums Cement is to be used.

	Our Query As a matter of commitment to our customers for best performance we use Portland Cement and will conduct the expansion test as per the specification. Kindly confirm the acceptance of the same.	
260.	**Point Mentioned** Zinc Sleeve **Our Query** You have mentioned zinc sleeve - but not mentioned tests on zinc sleeves. This would create an unfair competition among insulators with non-standard zinc sleeves and standard sleeves. Request your kind attention toward the same & kindly advise.	The specification calls for Zinc Sleeve.
261.	**Point Mentioned** This point is not for MCC - for TPL Requirement of Type Tests on Complete String **Our Query** Its not mentioned. Kindly consider that any and every type test would attract additional cost which is needed to be preplanned. Kindly examine the specification fully and share the list of tests if required and do let us know the kind of support you may need in evaluation and estimation to arrive lowest possible expense of string type tests with our insulators.	Please follow the specifications for the required type tests. The Employer may accept the existing design test reports offered by the Supplier in the Supplier's Proposal.
262.	As per the bidding document we received "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1" and "Final design report and final technical specifications". Design loading conditions (Over load factors) provided in above two documents are not matching. Please confirm that bidder has to design tower and foundation considering requirement furnished in "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1".	Confirmed

263.	As per Table B1, page 29 of "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1" Reference wind pressure under IS-802, Extreme wind case is 879 Pa. This is considering terrain category 2 as per IS 802 Table 4. Whereas per 5.A402.10, Page 35 of "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1", Terrain roughness coefficient K2=1.08 would be applicable to this project. This is considering terrain category 1. Please confirm bidder has to consider terrain category 2 (wind pressure 879 Pa) with an additional factor of 1.08 (1.08 * 879 = 950 Pa) for sag tension and loading calculation. Please confirm this 1.08 additional factor also applicable for wind with ice loading condition as per IEC.	Confirmed
264.	As per 5.A402.11, page 35 of "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1", for solidity ratio of 0.2 - drag factor is 3.6 given in specification. Whereas per IS 802-1995 drag factor is 2.9 for solidarity ratio of 0.2.  **Table 5 Drag Coefficient, C_{dt} for Tower** *(Clause 9.1)* Solidity Ratio (1) / Drag Coefficient C_{dt} (2) Up to 0·05 — 3·6 0·1 — 3·4 0·2 — 2.9 0·3 — 2·5 0·4 — 2·2 0·5 and above — 2·0 Please confirm that bidder has to consider drag factors as per IS 802-1995 for various solidarity ratios. Refer screen shot below (Drag factors in IS 802-2015 is not correct)	Confirmed.

265.	As per part 1, Bidding procedures, Section IV Bid Submission Forms, page 146 to 155, Wind span values indicated for minimum and maximum deviation angle is same. Normally, when towers are spotted with lesser deviation angle compared to maximum design deviation angle, we can increase the wind span without reduction in tower strength. Bidder can apply the same philosophy for this project. Please confirm our understanding is correct.	Confirmed.
266.	As per table B1-1, page 29 of "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1", for broken wire case Pd = 100 % indicated. Refer below screen shot with yellow marker text. Whereas per IS 802, Pd=75 % under broken wire case.  Table B1-1 Design Loading Conditions for Tower Structures [10] Please confirm that bidder has to consider Pd=75 % under broken wire case.	Confirmed.
267.	As per page 69 of "Section V – Particular technical requirements, Employer's Requirement B1", clearances to structure/insulator swing, clearance values given. Please confirm clearance values given are including of altitude effect.	Confirmed.

<table>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>268.</td><td>In Document No. part 2 – B0--- Annex 1 Requirement for deliverable Page No. 1
<table>
<tr><th>No.</th><th>Type of Document</th><th>Providing with Bid Submission</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td colspan="2">General</td></tr>
<tr><td>102</td><td>Control Schedule</td><td>E+6P</td></tr>
<tr><td>107</td><td>Project Execution Plan</td><td>E+6P</td></tr>
<tr><td>113</td><td>Schedule Development and control</td><td>E+6P</td></tr>
<tr><td>115</td><td>Control Schedule Baseline Document</td><td>E+6P</td></tr>
</table>
All the document (No.102, 107, 113 & 115) represent Schedule Plan, please clarify what is the difference between these four deliverables and is the same document we will have to submit.</td><td>The same document will have to be submitted.</td></tr>
<tr><td>269.</td><td>In document no. Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/003 in Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria- , page no. 65

Bids will be ranked according to their combined technical (St) and financial (Sf) scores according to the formula: S = St x T% + Sf x P%
The formula for determination Technical Score St is not defined.</td><td>Please refer Part 1, Page 62, Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria. Bottom of the Table under <u>D. Technical Evaluation Criteria for each Lot. The Points obtained under this Technical Evaluation will be St.</u></td></tr>
<tr><td>270.</td><td>As per Form TECH -2: Method Statement in Bidding Document Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/003, Page no. 92
The Method statement shall, therefore, include, but shall not necessarily be limited to the following:
Description of arrangements which the Bidder proposes to adopt to address the need for phased relocation of peoples and properties located within the limits of Site and phased right of access to, and possession of the Site as described in the Contract and, therefore, the need to plan the</td><td>Land acquisition, relocation of people and properties, etc are not in the scope of the present IFB. These activities have already been started by a separate consultant. However, the bidder must submit a plan in their method statement describing the requirements of acquisition of land and relocation of people and properties for tower foundations and RoW areas in a phased manner so that the construction activities are started and completed effectively.
The required plan – best thought of as a phased land access plan – should describe the required timing of access to each parcel of land at each</td></tr>
</table>

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<td></td>
<td>execution of the Works accordingly within the Time for Completion.
While, as per Part 2 - Employer's Requirement Section V – B0 - page no. 6 to 9
Cl. No. 5.2.1 Double circuit 400kV transmission line Lapsiphedi Substation to Ratmate Substation and Ratmate Substation to New Hetauda Substation – Lot1
Cl. No. 5.2.2 - Double circuit 400kV line Ratmate Substation to New Damauli Substation–Lot 2
Cl. No. 5.2.3 -Double circuit 400kV line New Damauli Substation to New Butwal (Base) Substation – lot3
Cl. No. 5.2.4 Double circuit 400kV line New Butwal Substation to Nepal India Border
<u>Work Excluded</u>
Access to the land required for the project (area required for the construction of the towers) will be acquired by the Employer and made available to the contractors. Right of Way (RoW) of 46m wide corridor ONLY for the project will be made available by the Employer.

= Hence, the relocation peoples and properties is not applicable to bidder scope, requested to please clarify.</td>
<td>pylon site, so that the resettlement consultants can best plan their work so as to meet the construction modalities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>271.</td>
<td>In Document No. part 2 – B0--- Annex 1 Requirement for deliverable Page No. 1
<table>
<tr><td>No.</td><td>Type of Document</td><td>Providing with Bid Submissio n</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td colspan="2">General</td></tr>
<tr><td>101</td><td>Contractor Document Listing</td><td>E+6P</td></tr>
</table>
Please Clarify regarding Contractor Document Listing (No. 101) is the index of the documents providing with the Bid or any other document.</td>
<td>Contractor Document Listing (No. 101) is the index of the documents provided with the Bid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>272.</td>
<td>Regarding Aircraft Warning Spheres (Marker Balls), Bird Diverters, Aircraft Lighting System & Avian Protection Devices
Please provide detailed technical specifications for the said supply items since drawing is only</td>
<td>The Contractor needs to work with the suppliers to provide the required Aircraft Warning Spheres (Marker Balls), Bird Diverters, Aircraft Lighting System & Avian Protection Devices</td>
</tr>
</table>

	available for the same. However, we are required to furnish technical Data Schedules in detail for which detailed specification is required.	
273.	Clause No. Annex H2- Tower foot Print details Description Tower foundation Footprint calculation for various Type of Towers of various Height. Footprint width @12% average slope. Query Please confirm 12% average slope is not madatory to follow, Only base width restriction is to be followed	Confirmed, only base width restriction is to be followed
274.	Clause No. Annex H2- Tower foot Print details Description Tower foundation Footprint calculation for various Type of Towers of various Height. Query Please confirm Footprints values mentioned for various tower are back to back distance of Tower stubs & Diagonal Radius values mentioned are from center of tower on ground level upto back of stub.	Confirmed
275.	Clause No. Annex B- Appendix-1 Foundation Drawing Description Depth of foundation Query As per Drg No. FDN-SH-1-1, depth of foundation is different for each group of pad and chimney foundation , So kindly confirm whether different	Confirmed that different foundation depth can be considered for foundation design

	foundation depth can be considered for foundation design or not.	
276.	Clause No. Annex B- Appendix-1 Foundation Drawing Description Connection of Tower leg with pile cap Query As per Drg No. FDN-MP-1-1, The tower leg is connected to the pile cap with a base plate & Anchor bolt arrangement. Kindly confirm whether stub arrangement can be considered in place of baseplate or not.	Confirmed that stub arrangement can be considered in place of baseplate.
277.	Addendum #4, Serial #12: Part 2 Employer's Requirement: B1, 221023_Section-V-B1, 5.A406 Structures, Page 47 f. The towers must be tested in accordance with IEC 60652 and subjected to the loads as derived from the structure spotting, Design Criteria, IS 802, and IEC 60826. The proposed structure types, Design Criteria and test program must be submitted to the Engineer. **has been replaced by:** f. Full scale testing of tower with highest body extension of maximum overturning moment, maximum uplift in maximum loading condition to be done as per CBIP-3223 (2014 with latest amendment) and IS-802 (2015 with latest amendment)- one Tower per type per lot. In case multiple lots are awarded to the contractor then one tower per type for all lots will be required, provided the same tower design is considered for the type in all lots. The contractor is free to propose their own design as per the design criteria mentioned in section V, B1 and its annexures. Overload factor of 1.2 to be	The Bidder need to abide by the requirement stated until and unless there is any amendment/addendum to the Bidding document is issued.

	considered in the design of non-tested towers and their foundation. Query As per clarification/addendum 4, over load factor of 1.2 to be considered in the design of non-tested towers and their foundation. As per standard industry practise overload factor 1.2 to be considered in design of non-tested towers only. Overload factor 1.2 not required to consider in foundation design. Please confirm.	
278.	**IFB reference** As per above clause, for Suspension Tower, V-Shaped Insulator String required to be adopted, not I-shaped. 2- Type-Transmission I-String: All structures except D1B-ALT and D1C-ALT tower types for which V-Strings are mandatory. . V-String: V-String are now required on D1B-ALT and D1C-ALT tower types. See B1 Section 5.A404.5 Horizontal Post: N/A Horizontal Jumper Post: N/A Vertical Jumper Post: Angle and Deadend structures **Query** However, from the various relevant clauses in Section V-B1 (except above Point D. Exception to Section 2.10.2), we understand that for Suspension Towers (except Alternate Running Angle Towers), Bidder has to adopt Single Suspension I-String (with 300KN Insulator Units) Only. Please confirm, whether our above understanding are in line with Bid Documents requirements or not.	All Suspension Tower shall be with I-String, except D1B-ALT & DIC-ALT tower. Please use the proper Insulators capacity based on the design loading requirements.
279.	**IFB reference** Please refer Section II-Bid Data Sheet, Page 51, Part-1, Clause ITB 20.2 : *"The Bid Security shall be in the amount of **US$700,000** for Lot 1, **US$550,000** for Lot 2 and **US$675,000** for Lot 3 or Employer's local currency equivalent only, with an exchange rate*	Selling Exchange Rate

	based of Nepal Rastra Bank dated 28 days before bid submission date stated in this bid document." **Query** In case of Bid Security in Employer's Local Currency equivalent, then whether to consider Selling Exchange rate or Buying Exchange rate of Nepal Rastra Bank. Please Clarify.	
280.	**IFB reference** Please refer Section II-Bid Data Sheet, Page 51, Part-1, Clause ITB 21.3 As per Bidding Documents, huge documentation required to be prepared to comply against various requirements. Further, there are three Lots & separate Bid required for each Lot (Original + 5 Copies). It seems quite huge volumes & documentation requirements. **Query** May we request you review following proposals, if workable: a. Reduce no of Copies requirements with Original Bid, may be 1 or max 2. b. Allow Bidders to submit common documentation for various Lots participated, wherever possible, like common documentation for Qualification Criteria for Bidder, for Subcontractors / Manufacturers…etc. Allow Bidder to submit additional Bid Copies at later stage, i.e. after deadline of Bid Submission.	a. Please refer to serial number 1 of Addendum # 4 issued on 03 March 2023 through which this provision of the Bidding Document was modified. b. Please refer to response of query #95 under Clarification #3 issued by MCA-Nepal/Employer.
281.	**IFB reference** We request you to kindly arrange to provide searchable PDF files or World / Excel file of following reports : Part-2 > B0 > Annex_B0 > Anne_8_EIA_Document (Volume1_ETP_EIA_MainReport and Volume2_ETP_EIA_Annexes)	Such document is not available with MCA-Nepal since the Ministry has approved the document in hardcopy with stamps so, the provided copy is an approved document from Ministry.

	Query Searchable version of above documents will certainly help us to work more effectively duly ensuring compliance with various EIA / Bidding requirements. Please arrange to provide, if possible.	