

ITT No.186

Invitation to Tender

Restricted Commercially Confidential



“Expert support and training on in-situ Composite-Blade-Repair”

1 SUMMARY

Renewables East (“RE”) is engaged in programmes with both the East of England and East Midlands Development Agencies (EEDA & EMDA) to accelerate the route to market of very early stage renewable energy technologies, in particular, those relevant to offshore wind, wave and tidal, increasing both the quantity and quality of investable concepts capable of growing across the two regions.

2 Background

The East of England is the leading English region for renewable electricity, currently producing 8% of the electricity it uses from renewable sources. It benefits from wide scale deployment of bio energy (for example the world’s first chicken litter electricity plant at Thetford, the UK’s first bio ethanol plant at British Sugar Wisington, and the world’s fastest biofuelled car at Lotus in Norfolk) and 2007 saw a record year for deploying on shore renewable energy. The region’s coast is also surrounded by the majority of the UK’s offshore wind installations, with around £50 billion capital investment anticipated by 2020 as well as further R&D innovation capacity in wave and tidal technologies. As a result, the region is well on target to meet its 2010 target of 14% electricity from renewable sources and has also been engaged by the East Midlands Development Agency to increase exploitation of the sector growth.

RE has been approached by a E.Midlands based SME (Small to Medium Sized Enterprise) which is developing novel new Wind Turbine Monitoring Systems and for which a value-added component will be to not only monitor the condition of these onshore and offshore power generating assets, but also to offer high-quality, in-situ blade repair services.

This invitation to tender seeks support from experts in the types of composites used for wind turbine blades to assist the regional SME in their development of an overall customer solution which will minimise asset down-time and hence maximise low-carbon generation.

3 About Renewables East

Renewables East is a private company delivering the services associated with being the renewable energy agency for the East of England. The Company is funded by the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) and officially designated as an EEDA sister organisation. For the year 2008/09, **RE** has been allocated £2-4M from various sources including EEDA, EMDA, EU, Local Authorities and central government to continue its mission.

The objectives of the Company are:

- a. To enable the East of England to meet its adopted target for the production of energy from renewable resources, within the context of national energy policy and the need to move towards a lower carbon economy; and
- b. To maximise the rate of growth of the renewable energy sector and the economic benefits to the East of England and East Midlands' regions, especially through stimulating investment and job opportunities, supply chain development and innovation.
- c. **RE's** primary work areas are Bioenergy (Biomass and Biofuels,) Offshore/Onshore Wind, Planning, Supply Chain Development and the Mass Market Renewables agenda. If you have not already done so, you may find a visit to our web-site useful www.renewableseast.org.uk.

4 Scope of work

The successful bidder will be expected to provide and deliver:

- Consultancy services in respect of the high-quality in-situ repair of the composite structure used in today's wind turbine blades, incl:
 - Materials;
 - Resins;
 - Equipment (need to carry out such repairs);
 - Methodologies (how to use the equipment to effect high quality repairs).
- Support in up-skilling the employees of the regional SME to be able to deploy the in-situ repair techniques consistently and in a timely fashion by themselves, out in the field.
- A thorough Method Statement for in-situ repair of composite wind turbine rotor blades (note – access techniques to be detailed by others).
- A thorough Risk Assessment specifically detailing risks involved in proposed rotor blade repair techniques (as above, access techniques documented by others), together with materials used and associated control measures to mitigate those risks identified (including Control of substances hazardous to health – “COSHH”, etc)

- A scheduled programme to document up-skilling methods to ensure employee competence is achieved as efficiently as possible
- A fully detailed quotation from a recommended and preferred supplier(s) of all necessary equipment required to enable rotor blade repair to be undertaken as per Method Statement
- A fully detailed quotation from a recommended and preferred supplier of materials required to enable rotor blade repair to be undertaken as per Method Statement

5 Tender Details

Responses to this tender must be received by **Renewables East** no later than **1600 hours on Monday 13 October 2008**. They should be sent via email to:

John Heath
Delivery Manager
Renewables East
ZICER Building
School of Environmental Sciences
University of East Anglia
Norwich
NR4 7TJ

Responses should be submitted electronically, and should include your total fees (including the number of people involved, their daily rates, plus any expenses and VAT), outline proposals on the form and type of training session and supporting materials you would develop, evidence of previous experience, and any additional value you can add.

The successful applicant will be notified by **16th October 2008** at the latest and must be in a position to start work immediately upon notification.

The materials produced will be the property of **Renewables East** and will need to be supplied in formats (hard copy and/or electronic) that can be reproduced by us without further project cost.

6 Tender Process & Assessment

Tenders should be no longer than ten pages, including a two page executive summary. Further information can be included in the form of an appendix. The tenders will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Evidencing of expertise and a track record in similar work
- Understanding economic drivers in SME businesses

- Knowledge of wind turbine supply chain (vis-a-vis Blades & Composites)
- Evidence of ability to pass on expertise to others in a structured fashion, with support material where necessary

Any information provided will be treated with total confidentiality.

7 Fees

The budget available for this work cannot exceed GBP£10,000.00 (“Ten Thousand”) including VAT and any materials/expenses incurred in the course of this work and will be released in line with tangible evidence of progress against milestones, such as:

Evidence of Successful Development of Repair Technique

Successful review meeting with the regional SME and RE

Successful completion of a relevant & credible training programme for the employees of the regional SME

Successful completion of all required documentation, including recommendations for all equipment and material suppliers.

8 Further Information

Should you require any further information on this brief to complete your tender submission, please contact John Heath by e-mail or post:

JohnHeath@RenewablesEast.org.uk

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