



REPLIES TO BIDDER'S PRE BID QUERIES
PROCUREMENT OF PREPAID GAS METERS
AGCL/GMB/REP MTR/2020/III/22 Dated 07.12.2022
DATE : 06-01-2023



Sl. No.	Tender Clause No./ Annexures	Page No.	Tender Description	Bidder's Query	PLECO/ AGCL Response
1	Volume 1 7.0 BIDDER EVALUATION CRITERIA (BEC)	Page No 11	7.1.2 Definition of Service Provider: Any Service Provider having experience with CGD (For Meters) / other utility Companies (For Software) and providing services like supply, commissioning of meters, meter reading services, supplying software for meter reading with Prepaid and Post-paid options.	Pre-paid or post-paid modes are options for mechanism of payment. Any meter reading is undertaken by Head End System (HES). Such HES do not have any pre paid or post paid options. Moreover, the tender should focus on increasing participation from capable bidders that have the ability to provide software services. This will help in participation from larger number of players and ensuring efficient pricing. Hence, we request to amend the clause accordingly. Hence it is suggested that the existing provision should be revised to: Any Service Provider having experience with CGD (For Meters) / other utility Companies (For Software) and providing services like supply, commissioning of meters (with pre-paid and/ or post-paid options), meter reading services, supplying software for meter reading with Prepaid and Post-paid options.	Tender condition shall prevail
2	7.1.2.1 For Gas Meter Manufacturer	Page No 12	Bidder/ OEM shall have successfully supplied installed and commissioned the below mentioned minimum quantity for qualification column against each quoted group that are of same design type and equal in terms of design, size & rating under the tender in compliance with applicable codes and standards directly / indirectly to any established hydrocarbon company in previous 7 years reckoned from the schedule of bid submission date:	Existing provisions restrict participation from experienced players. Since smart metering/ pre-paid metering is a new system being implemented in the gas sector, experience from players operating in other infrastructure sectors such as power, water, telecom, etc. should be leveraged. This will enable the Utility to reap benefits from deployment experience and also ensure healthy competition leading to discovery of efficient pricing. Hence, it is suggested that the existing clause should be modified as stated below: Bidder/ OEM shall have successfully supplied installed and commissioned the below mentioned minimum quantity for qualification column against each quoted group that are of same design type and equal in terms of design, size & rating under the tender in compliance with applicable codes and standards directly / indirectly to any established hydrocarbon company Utility operating in Gas/Electricity/ Water/Telecommunication sectors in previous 7 years reckoned from the schedule of bid submission date: 1. Diaphragm based Domestic Prepaid Gas Meter G-1.6 with Bluetooth connectivity along with the AMR – Minimum 5000 Nos. Software services provided for prepaid / Post Paid Meter facility for any utility. – Minimum 5,000 Nos. 2. Diaphragm based Domestic Prepaid Gas Meter G-1.6 with RF connectivity along with the AMR – Minimum 5000 Nos. Software services provided for prepaid / Post Paid Meter facility for any utility. – Minimum 5,000 Nos. 3. Diaphragm based Domestic Prepaid Gas Meter G-1.6 with GPRS connectivity along with the AMR – Minimum 5000 Nos. Software services provided for prepaid / Post Paid Meter facility for any utility. – Minimum 5,000 Nos.	Tender condition shall prevail
3	2.0 BRIEF SCOPE OF SUPPLY Notes:		3: Owner reserve the right to select and order any one or more of the technologies found to be suitable based on location & financial viability.	Bluetooth is not comparable with GPRS and RF technology because it lacks two-way communication which is essential for pre-paid metering system. It is also having legacy issues which are prevalent in conventional meters such as manual intervention for meter reading, heavy dependence upon consumer's connectivity, etc. Moreover, Therefore, it is suggested that this technology should be considered as a fall-back arrangement for GPRS/ RF technology. Hence Groups A and D should be deleted.	Tender condition shall prevail
4	Clause 7.1.2.2.		For Authorized Gas Meter Supplier The Bidders who are sole selling agents/ authorized distributors/ authorized dealers/ authorized supply house of the manufacturers of prepaid Gas Meter are eligible to bid on behalf of the manufacturers.	We understand that this clause is not applicable for Service Provider. A Service Provider can participate through tie-up with meter manufacturer. Please clarify whether our understanding is correct.	No, Bidder has to be authorised supplier /dealer
5	Clause 7.1.2.2		Note: In case of tie-up with manufacturer, bidder shall provide the authorization letter from tie-up partner/s for entire duration of contract including extended two years after the contract duration of 10 Years. Duly signed and stamped copies of the authorization certificates from the manufacture must be submitted with the Technical Bid, and bidder must have at least 6-month-old association with them. The bidder can use manufacturer qualification record provided they meet all the BEC clauses specified under Clause no 7.0.	We understand that the authorisation letter for tie-up with meter manufacturer shall be submitted by the Service Provider. Please clarify whether our understanding is correct. Since proposed prepaid smart meter system is being proposed for latest technologies, it would not be possible to provide evidence of having 6-month old association with meter manufacturer for such technologies. Hence requirement of 6 month old association should be deleted as it will enable participation from meter OEMs who have delivered prepaid systems in other infrastructure sectors such as electricity, water, etc.	Refer reply no. 4 Tender condition shall prevail
6	7.1.3 For Consortium Bid: (1)	Page No 13	Each member in a consortium may only be a legal entity and not an individual person. Bid shall be made in the name of consortium. Accordingly, Bid Security, Performance Guarantee shall be submitted by Consortium. (max. no. of members in consortium shall not exceed 02 numbers).	Since proposed prepaid smart meter system is being proposed for latest technologies, availability of experienced players in Indian market is limited. Hence usage of foreign credentials becomes necessary. Therefore, it is suggested to increase maximum number of members in consortium from 2 to 3. This will enable OEMs with manufacturing unit in India to leverage experience of their parent/ Affiliate in international market.	Tender condition shall prevail
7	B. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF BIDS	Page No 32	22.0 PREPARATION OF BIDS	Identification of successful bidder: There are 6 groups for different technologies. Bids are being submitted for each group. Hence L1 shall be determined for each group. Please clarify, is our understanding correct?	Tender condition shall prevail
8	7.1.2.2 For Authorized Gas Meter Supplier	Page No 12	Page No 12 Bidder shall offer product of only one manufacturer and similarly one manufacturer can offer product through only one bidder.	Existing clause will eliminate chances of efficient price discovery and hence will lead to jacking of prices and eventually higher burden on consumers. Hence submission of bids with more than one OEM should be allowed.	Tender condition shall prevail
9	Clause 7.5	Page No. 17	A.2 Bidder is a supplier of Meter: Max Marks – 10 A.4 Bidder has its own vending Services- Max Marks – 10	The existing marking under QCBS selection does not envisage marking for a Service Provider. Separate marks for a Service Provider should be provided to put it in same level of evaluation.	Tender condition shall prevail
10	Clause 7.5	Page No. 17	A.3 Bidder is manufacture and has unit in India- Max Marks – 10	We understand that in case of Service Provider, this clause shall be applicable to meter OEM(s) through which the Service Provider ties up for supply of meters. We also understand that this requirement shall be met by any of the consortium member pursuant to clause 7.1.3 (6). Please clarify.	Applicable to Manufacturer only
11	Clause 7.5	Page No. 17	A.4 Bidder has its own vending Services- Max Marks – 10	Please elaborate on the meaning of vending services. Since the proposed prepaid metering system is envisaged to be delivered through latest technologies, other meter OEMs might not be having such vending services. Moreover, applicability of providing meter vending services to a Service Provider should be checked.	Refer specification for clarity in Tender Notice 1
12	2.0 BRIEF SCOPE OF SUPPLY	Page No 6	Notes: 2. Client may opt for CAPEX or OPEX model based on financial analysis of the bids.	Opex and capex models are very different and cannot be compared. In Capex model, all risks are to be borne by the Utility with all upfront payments that are made to the contractor. In Opex model all risks are borne by the Bidder till the end of the contract period with minimal risks to the Utility. Hence, it is requested that Client should select atleast one bidder from capex and one bidder from opex model.	Will be decided by client / PMC at later stage
13	2.0 BRIEF SCOPE OF SUPPLY	Page No 6	Notes: 4. Owner reserve the right to increase the quantity up to 50,000 numbers based on successful commissioning of Pilot Project and technology requirement of AGCL at the same terms and condition of the project on mutually agreed terms & conditions.	Please clarify if such expansion is applicable for each group?	AGCL may take decision based on the execution, installation and commissioning of 5000 no. of Meter
14	Payment Security Mechanism			Appropriate payment security mechanism shall ensure efficient price discovery: Payment security provide a better surety towards payment to the Bidders. This will help in ensuring lower risks and hence efficient pricing converting into lower bid rates. However, existing provisions do not provide any payment security. It is suggested to provide payment security through direct debit mechanism as provided in AMISP SBD notified by Ministry of Power. Alternatively, a revolving, unconditional and irrevocable LC may be provided for an amount equivalent to atleast 30% of the project cost during the built-up phase. On operational acceptance of the project, it can be revised to 6 months of Monthly Opex Charges.	Will be discussed with bidder in case of award

15	Usage of Parent Credentials			Usage of Parent credentials should be permitted: RFP does not allow Bidder to use its Parent/ Affiliate credentials for meeting both technical and financial eligibility requirements. Usage of Parent credentials ensures participation from bidders having technical expertise and investment capabilities in project implementation. Therefore, this provision has also been allowed in majority of large scale infrastructure project for example, AMISP (Advanced Metring Infrastructure Service Provider) SBDs (Standard Bidding Document) notified by the Ministry of Power after deliberating it with all stakeholders. In large-scale infrastructure projects undertaken through Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements in the country, usage of parent credentials has been allowed. It is noteworthy that PPP model based on parent credentials has seen a huge success in all infra segments of the country, be it the ports, highways, airports, power generation or power transmission. Hence usage of parent credentials for meeting technical and financial QR should be allowed. The Parent/Affiliate can be defined as: "Parent(s)" shall mean an entity that is either (i) a Company or an AIF or a Foreign Investment Fund that holds at least twenty six percent (26%) of the paid - up equity capital directly or indirectly in the Bidder, as the case may be; or (ii) an AIF or Foreign Investment Fund that has the power to direct the management and policies by operation of law or contract; "Affiliate" shall mean a company or AIF or Foreign Investment Fund that either directly or indirectly: i. controls or ii. is controlled by or iii. is under common control with a Bidder and "control" mean either (i) ownership by one company or AIF or Foreign Investment Fund of 26% of the voting rights of the other company or AIF or Foreign Investment Fund, as the case may be or (ii) an AIF or Foreign Investment Fund that has the power to direct the management and policies by operation of law or contract;	Tender condition shall prevail
16	Event of default and Termination			The important balancing framework like Utility event of default clause on failure to make payment or non-maintenance of payment security, assurance on timely payment, event of termination, etc. should be included in RFP.	will be discussed during installation
17	7.2.1.1 BEC CRITERIA	11-12 (VOL-I)	Diaphragm based Domestic Prepaid Gas Meter G-1.6 with Bluetooth connectivity along with the AMR - 5000	As pre-paid metering is a new concept in India. We request you to kindly accept supply of G1.6 Gas meters to qualify	Tender condition shall prevail
18	7.2.1.1 BEC CRITERIA	11-12 (VOL-I)	Software services provided for prepaid / Post Paid Meter facility for any utility.	In case of service provider, only criteria for service provider is applicable. Kindly confirm.	No, Bidder has to be authorised supplier /dealer
19	8.2 Bid Security	19 (Vol-I)	Group wise EMD values	In case, a bidder quotes for more than one technology, what shall be the Bid security amount	Different for different groups (Refer clause no. - 8.2 of IFB)
20	7.1.2 PAYMENTTERMS	69 (VOL-I)	20% of invoice value shall be paid upon commissioning.	We request you to kindly clarify work considered under commissioning. After which 20% payment shall be released.	After supply of meter, Installations, working of Meter, Communication Protocol with server etc considered as commissioning part. Duly certified by EIC
21	7.1.3 PAYMENT TERMS	69 (VOL-I)	Balance 10% amount shall be paid upon contract closure.	As contract period is of 10 years services. We request you to kindly release this 10% upon commissioning of meters. As, Bidder will be submitting PBG as performance guarantee.	Noted, Tender condition shall prevail
22	2.0 BRIEFSCOPE OFSUPPLY	7 (VOL-I)	Group C - GPRS Technology	As GPRS technology is SIM basedtechnology, we request to kindly accept NB-IoT technology as wellAs, NB-IoT is also a SIM basedtechnology.	Tender condition shall prevail
23	7.3.5.	16 (VOL-I)	PESO Certificate for Commercial Meters, if required	PESO is not applicable for Domestic pre-paid meters. Kindly confirm	As required
24	Datasheet (29.)	17 (VOLII)	Communication between MIU- LoRa/GPRS/Bluetooth	We request to kindly allow NB-IoT which is also a SIM based technology.	Tender condition shall prevail
25	7.1.2.1 For Gas Meter Manufacturer:	11	2. Bidder/ OEM shall have successfully supplied installed and commissioned the below mentioned minimum quantity for qualification column against each quoted group that are of same design type and equal in terms of design, size & rating under the tender in compliance with applicable codes and standards directly / indirectly to any established hydrocarbon company in previous 7 years reckoned from the schedule of bid submission date:	We have supplied smart gas meter along with associated services to CGD companies, we understand through BQC that same design type of Domestic Diaphragm mechanical Gas Meter and size & rating of the same to be established for qualification. Kindly confirm if our understanding is correct and if not we request you to clarify the BQC clause.	Bidder to refer BOQ / Scope of Work (SOW) for more clarity of item required
26	BOQ		BOQ 1 to 6	Request you to clarify which technology M/s AGCL will accept and how it will get evaluated	Will be decided by client / PMC after evaluation
27	3.2 DELIVERY/ COMPLETION PERIOD	9	3.2.1 CAPEX model: Supply and commissioning of all 5,000 Nos. meters must be completed within 12 months from the date of LOI/ WO. 3.2.2 OPEX model: All the 5000 Nos. meters shall be installed & commissioned within 12 months from the date of LOI/ WO. Beyond the period of 12 months supply & commissioning of any meter will not be acceptable.	1. It is asked to supply and commission 5000 nos. meters to be completed in 12 months, we request you clarify whether the meters shall be procured in one shot or in lots. 2. Also, if it is in lots then please clarify how many minimum numbers of meter shall be accommodated per lot.	Whole quantity in 1 lot
28			BOQ	Bidder suggest to keep SIM cards in scope of M/s Gail Gas, however contractor will coordinate for network services.	Irrelevant
29		22	5. BIDDER has to ensure 100% availability of monthly meter reading of all the meters installed in service area on quarterly basis. AGCL shall depute his official for meter reading through a separate meter reading application as provided by the Vendor for those customers for which automatic reading is not received through LORA / Customer mobile application over Bluetooth. BIDDER shall provide required training to AGCL official for such meter reading.	1. We understand that at the black out area where network is not available then a official shall be deputed for taking the meter readings at those areas. Kindly confirm if our understanding is correct. 2. We also suggest to have secondary communication in smart modules so when primary communication will fails to communicate then secondary communication shall come into the picture for taking the readings. Kindly confirm	Methodology will be decided after award based on the tender condition
30	Payment Terms		Supply of Meters (CAPEX Model), 70% of Invoice value will be paid within 30 days through e-banking against receipt of materials against submission of Invoices as per GST act, in triplicate & after adjustment of PRS, if any, along with: 7.1.2 20% of invoice value shall be paid upon commissioning. 7.1.3 Balance 10% amount shall be paid upon contract closure.	Supply of Meters: 90%of Invoice value will be paid within 30 days through e-banking against receipt of materials. 10% shall be paid upon commissioning with 30 days or if, Commissioning is not completed within 120 days after supply (from the date of delivery of material at site / date of GRV) due to non availability of site/gas, payment against commissioning shall be released to the successful bidder	Tender condition shall prevail
31			Build Own and Operate scheme (OPEX Model) 100% payment towards commissioning and maintenance charges shall be made against number of meters supplied, installed and commissioned quarterly on pro-rata basis subject to condition that minimum 1250 Nos. of meters are commissioned in each quarter	100% Payment to be released against the commissioning and maintenance charges shall be made against number of meters supplied, installed and commissioned monthly on pro-rata basis	Tender condition shall prevail
32	WARRANTY PERIOD		Bidder/ OEM shall provide warranty of offered prepaid gas meter for a period of 10 years	Warranty period shall be twelve (12) months from the date of commissioning of the equipment or 18 months from the date of receipt of material at client's store	Tender condition shall prevail
33		7 OF 43	Bidder has to quote full quantity of quoted item mentioned above; partial quotation for the item shall be liable to rejection.	Please confirm whether the Bidder need to quote Both Capex & Opex model and for all the mentioned groups? OR Bidder can quote any one of the model and with any choice of group? Please explain in detail.	Bidder may quote for individual group, multiple groups or in all groups.
34		7 OF 43	Vendor to facilitate one number of visits of 4 Nos. client/Consultant personnel for FAT or Training sessions or to visit Manufacturer parent company / own manufacturing facility of the meter for a week after award of contract. In case vendor has international presence then they shall facilitate 4 nos. client/Consultant personnel for 7 days visit to international site where the meters are installed for training purpose. Bidder to quote considering the above	It is highly difficult for any other client or gas company to allow representative of any other Gas Company at their site. Bidder can arrange training session of 4/7 days at their manufacturing facility (within India or foregin country). Please cofnirm.	Noted
35			Owner reserve the right to select and order any one or more of the technologies found to be suitable based on location & financial viability.	Kindly confirm the total quantity of meters to be orders against the tender.	Refer SOR / BOQ
36		7 OF 43		Please clarify the minimum order quantity against each group so as to achieve competitive costing. For eg. Whether 5000nos of LoRa technology meters will be ordered or 2500nos. Of Lora & 2500 nos. of GPRS type? Please explain in detail.	Refer SOW / Clause no. 12.0 and 13.0 of SCC
37		8 of 43	The supervision in installation especially in case of gateway shall be in bidder's scope. Also, bidder to study the location and suggest the suitable place for the best connectivity of gateway (wherever applicable).	Please explain in details what kind of Gateway is mentioned in the clause?	Bidder to explain what type of gateway they are offering
38				Supervision is possible only if proper scheduled visits are done by contractors or client-representatives at the time of meter-installation. From our past experience, we recommend that the Bidder must be allowed to train the Client representatives & contractors about handling & installation of Gas-meters and location of the installation must be close to Open windows, dry-balcony, etc. Please confirm.	Methodology will be decided after award based on the tender condition
39		8 of 43	Client will intimate the vendor regarding tariff changes for necessary updating in server	As we understand that the Tarrif changes must be done within 24 to 48 hours across all the Gas meter locations. Thus, every gas meter must update the credit balance and gas-rate as per the new updated tarrif, within 24 to 48 hours of intimation by Assam Gas. Please confirm.	will be decided during finalisation of methodology
40			Customer shall be able to pay through web application and mobile application. Entire payments shall be made to Client through payment gateway. Vendor shall demonstrate the same to entire satisfaction of Client.	As we understand and as per our past experience with other Indian CGD companies, the Bidder need to integrate the Client Payment Gateway to their Server. Consumer will access the web-application or mobile application to connet to the Client Gateway (using integration). Please confirm.	will be decided during finalisation of methodology

41			Provisions for negative balance shall also be provided in the meter in order to use the meter even the balance is null in case of emergency. Also, the web services and app services should be flexible enough to add, update or edit the vents or calendar which allow the end – customer to use the meter even the balance is null at night or at specific events or festivals. One time configuration in the gas meter along with a calendar of minimum 10 years period or more which allows the end-customer to use the meter even the balance is null at night or at specific events or festivals is also accepted.	As we understand, negative balance or emergency credit facility is expected in the prepaid gas meter. Please confirm.	will be decided during finalisation of methodology
42		10 of 43	vendor shall support the supplied web server/ app for entire duration of contract. In case any up gradation of the software/system is required, vendor will update the same without any additional cost to Client.	Bidder will consider upgrades or modification at free of cost for first six months of the installations. Software upgrade or modification is a Development Cost and not maintenance cost. It involves Man-hours and the upgrade or modification request by the Client representative could vary from entire design change to logo-placement change on the application. This cannot be estimated in the cost. Only certain Report addition or deletion could be considered while calculating the maintenance cost. Please confirm.	Tender condition shall prevail
43		11 OF 43	In case vendor fails to meet the requirement of data availability (like credited balance, alarms, consumption till last bill etc.) of 95% over a month period, this will result in penalty @ Rs.500 per day below 95% availability. This amount will be deducted from subsequent bill.	Every penalty clause must have a cap limit. In case of unavailability of data below 95% for a month then AGL may levy a penalty of Rs. 500/- per day per site for a maximum cap limit of 50% of the monthly invoice value per site.We have observed in the past that without cap limit there could be cases of ambiguity being unresolved and even site-related issues are pushed onto the vendors. Hence, any penalty clause must be capped.Please confirm	Tender condition shall prevail
44		22 of 43	BIDDER shall establish and demonstrate the signal communication between gas meters and cloud server and also to the client existing SAP server to AGCL system.	Such demonstration will be done during TPI and for the initial 2-3 installations at site. Kindly confirm.	bidder to establish and demonstrate the system
45		23 of 43	BIDDER's server shall be subjected to audit conditions as prevailed in ISO 27001. BIDDER shall hire a third-party and shall conduct cloud server audit once in each financial year. Intimation of audit shall be conveyed to CLIENT to witness the audit. A random audit shall be conducted by CLIENT once in each financial year; CLIENT shall provide intimation of such a random audit to BIDDER in advance.	Kindly note that with third-party cloud hiring service providers, they generally do not allow any client or external personnel to be present during such ISO audits. Audit is done as per ISO 27001 procedures. Hence, certification could be shared at the end of the audit.	will be finalised during methodology
46		31 of 43	Diaphragm meter shall be provided with Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) and either integral or external Electronic Volume Corrector (EVC). Refer meter and EVC datasheet for exact specifications.	As we understand that this is a low pressure metering requirement with Prepaid Functionality. Hence, EVC is not required for such application. Please confirm.	Tender condition shall prevail
47		36 of 43	Testing and Inspection - TPI	In case of Service provider/AMR System OEM/Authorised dealer, the TPI shall be done at their respective premises. Inspection shall be done based on reviewing the documents in their Indian warehouse. AMR functionality will be demonstrated on 5nos of Gas meters per batch. Meter manufacturer shall provide the declaration of carrying all the tests as per the production-QAP. Please confirm.	Tender condition shall prevail
48		Vol II	Deployment & Services of Vending Machines	As per our prepaid AMR solution, Physical vending machines may not be installed. We can provide dashboard login to AGCL and the same could be installed or accessed in their regional offices. Thus, end-consumer can visit their respective offices and recharge the credit by paying cash/cheque. Otherwise mobile application is already covered for the end-consumer opting for online payment methodology. Please confirm.	will be finalised during methodology
49				As per our past & technological experience, Vending machines are required for Card-based or NFC based or physical Token-based system. Please confirm.	will be finalised during methodology
50		22 of 43	BIDDER has to ensure 100% availability of monthly meter reading of all the meters installed in service area on quarterly basis. AGCL shall depute his official for meter reading through a separate meter reading application as provided by the Vendor for those customers for which automatic reading is not received through LORA / Customer mobile application over Bluetooth. BIDDER shall provide required training to AGCL official for such meter reading.	Kindly note that mobile application for meter-reading services will be Android based only. Such services shall be rendered by field executive using affordable phones and the same is available with Android Option only. End-consumer application could be Android/iOS based. Please confirm.	will be finalised during methodology
51		22 of 43	In case of failure of automatic reading collection, reading shall be collected manually and submit to AGCL on the fixed date of every month.	As we understand that the requirement is for Prepaid Metering system. Hence, meter-reading collection services need not be done. Please confirm or clarify with example.	Tender condition shall prevail
52		22 of 43	Meter reading data should contain event related flags at the head end system. BIDDER shall provide the report of consumption data, event data, vending data,	As we understand tha the real-time or instantaneous alarms or alerts are not required. Please note that in case of any major alert/alarm due to the tamper situation, the end-customer ends up huge gas consumption then Bidder shall not be held liable. It will be difficult to claim such consumption charges from the end-customer.	Tender condition shall prevail
53		11 of 91	Bidder/ OEM shall have successfully supplied installed and commissioned the below mentioned minimum quantity for qualification column against each quoted group that are of same design type and equal in terms of design, size & rating under the tender in compliance with applicable codes and standards directly / indirectly to any established hydrocarbon company in previous 7 years reckoned from the schedule of bid submission date	Kindly note that the SOR quantities per group is 5000nos. And the minimum qualification criteria is also the same quantity. Kindly review the same.	Tender condition shall prevail
54				Kindly note that prepaid system is a relatively new concept in India as compared to Postpaid AMR system. We would also like to bring to your notice that most of the Meter OEMs or AMR system suppliers have developed product & applications in the recent years. Thus, AGCL shall ask for general Postpaid AMR system experience with minimum 25000nos. gas meters. Please confirm.	Tender condition shall prevail
55		Cl 26.1.1, Pg 60 of 91	Deductions shall apply as per following formula: In case of delay in delivery of equipment/materials or delay in completion, total contract price shall be reduced by ½ % (half percent) of the total contract price per complete week of delay or part thereof subject to a maximum of 5% (five percent) of the total contract price.	Please clarify with example on application of PRS for both Opex Model and Capex Model.	Tender condition are already very clear
56				The PRS must be applicable only on the supply part pertaining to the Undelivered portion only of the PO.	Tender condition shall prevail
57			In a supply contract, the portion of supply completed in all respect which can be used for commercial operation shall not be considered for applying PRS, if delivered within contractual delivery period. The remaining supplies which are completed beyond the contractual delivery shall attract price reduction schedule @½ % per week of delay or part thereof of the delayed delivery value maximum upto 5% of the total order value.	The requirement is for Gas meters. Gas meters could be directly installed and utilised by the client. Hence, the PRS must be applicable only on the undelivered portion. Please confirm.	Refer reply 56
58			Vendor to first install and commission minimum 5000 nos. of meters of above configuration as pilot project in order to check the accuracy and functionality of the meter within a month. In case of quantities are awarded to two parties i.e., L1 and L2 then both the parties should successfully complete the pilot project. Also, only after the success of pilot project the quantities in lot shall be awarded.	We have supplied more than 38lakh G1.6 meter in India since the commencement of our Plant India in 2006. We have also supplied more than 2.5lakh smart gas meter along with associated services to CGD companies. Major CGD(Gail Gas BPCL,HPCL,IGL) in India is currently using the Smart Postpaid meter & mechanical meter. Smart Meter is the one which has a 2way communication(Primary communication: LoRa ,GPRS, NB-IoT Secondary Communication : Bluetooth). All the Tender currently floated in India for Smart Gas Metering solution in CGDs are allowing the OEM of meter manufacture who have supplied mechanical meter or Smart Meter (G1.6 Meter with AMR). We will request Assam Gas/ PLECO to consider mechanical/ Smart Gas Meter experience When same is already considered in software experience also in BEC. Land Boarder clause was a way of providing the India Manufacturer an extra cushion against the China & foreign supplier and promote MAKE in INDIA . But the said tender doesn't provide any consideration to the domestic experience. We would request PLECO/ Assam Gas to consider the domestic experience of supply of Postpaid Smart Gas meter / Mechanical G1.6 meter which are in use in India.	Tender condition shall prevail
59			SOR: BOQ1,BOQ4,BOQ5	We understand that Assam Gas intend to buy Smart Meter with 3 different Technology :Our Smart meter is line with the PNGRB guideline of having 2-way communication ie.LORA/GPRS as the primary communication and Bluetooth communication. The Bluetooth communication can only be considered only as the addition communication as the same is not a 2-way communication mode. Which will help full incase the network is down. PNGRB Guideline : A meter shall be considered to be a smart meter for the purpose of this regulation if it has – an in-built feature of sending the meter reading and diagnostic data to the entity in a two-way communication between the entity and the customer. With one way communication Assam Gas will not be able to communicate/ push data (Price Change , holiday calendar, Notification alarm ,ON/OFF Valve) and will have to manually collect data whenever required. We would request Assam Gas to consider smart meter with 2-way communication (Primary comm.: LoRa/GPRS and Secondary Communications: Bluetooth)	Tender condition shall prevail

60	Clause 6.0, point 6.11	PDF page - 11 Volume I of II, IFB	Presentation on Gas Meters: On 26.12.2022 from 1100 HRS. IST onwards at AGCL's	Date of presentation mentioned as 26.12.2022 is before bid submission date. Please clarify bidder to give presentation before bid submission date OR the date will communicate later after bid opening.	Bidder have to give presentation before bid submission on 06-01-2023 at AGCL
61	Clause 8.2.6	page - 19 Volume I of II, IFB	Method of paying online EMD/ Bid Security is following: EMD/ Bid security in the form of Bank Guarantee may also be submitted and shall be valid for sixty (60) days beyond the validity of the bid. Original copy of Bank Guarantee to be submitted at Consultant's office within 07 days of Unpriced Bid Opening.	Apart from paying online EMD; we understand EMD in the form bank guarantee is accepted as per form F-2, kindly confirm	Bidder understanding is correct.
62	Clause 30.2	page-35 Volume I of II, ITB	30.2 Any deviation/unconformity on following conditions will result in summarily rejection of the bid: • Contract Performance Bank Guarantee as per tender.	We understand that CPBG shall be submitted after award of contract and it is not required along with bid submission. kindly confirm	Bidder understanding is correct.
63	Clause no. 38	PDF page-64 Volume I of II, GCC	Fall Clause 38.1 The price charged for the materials supplied under the order by the supplier shall in no event exceed the lowest price at which the supplier or his agent/principal/dealer, as the case may be, sells the materials of identical description to any Persons/Organizations including the Purchaser or any Department of the Central Govt. or any Department of a State Govt. Or any Statutory Undertaking of the Central or State Govt. as the case may be, during the currency of the order 38.2 If at any time during the said period, into force of such reduction or sale or offer of sale shall stand correspondingly reduced.	We would like to draw your kind attention that prices of supply & commissioning are governed by various factors like Geographical spread of area, quantity, area of operation, specifications, quantum of work involved, etc. Hence, looking at various aspects the prices may vary for different utilities/persons/organizations or any department of central govt. or any department of the state govt. in different areas of operation. Therefore, we request you to please delete this clause or amend the clause as follows: FALL CLAUSE If certain quantity of the equipment ordered under this specification remains unsupplied up to finalization of next/subsequent tender, if the rates received for the same item(s) are found to be lower, then the balance ordered quantity may be accepted at the lower rates only.	Clause No. 38 of GCC (Fall Clause) has been deleted.
64	Clause 7.1,	PDF page-69 Volume I of II, SCC, 7.1	7.1.1 70% of Invoice value will be paid within 30 days through e-banking against receipt of materials against submission of Invoices as per GST act, in triplicate & after adjustment of PRS, if any, along with: 7.1.2 20% of invoice value shall be paid upon commissioning. 7.1.3 Balance 10% amount shall be paid upon contract closure.	We would like to draw your kind attention that successful bidder will be providing performance Bank guarantee (PBG) of the total order value and valid till contract closure, hence we request to please amend the payment clause as follows: - Supply of meter 7.1.1 : 90% of Invoice value will be paid within 30 days through e-banking against receipt of materials against submission of Invoices. 7.1.2 : Balance 10% of invoice value shall be paid upon commissioning on pro-rata basis or with-in 3 months from the date of supply, whichever is earlier. -PBG of total contract value submitted and valid till contract closure should be considered against the retention amount.	Tender condition shall prevail
65	Clause 7.1	PDF page-69 Volume I of II, SCC, 7.1	7.1.2 20% of invoice value shall be paid upon commissioning.	As installation is under scope of AGCL and commissioning of meter is linked with gasification which is not in bidder's control hence we request you to amend the clause as below - 20% of invoice value shall be paid upon commissioning or within 3 months from the date of supply, whichever is earlier.	Tender condition shall prevail
66	Clause 7.1	PDF page-69 Volume I of II, SCC, 7.1	7.1.3 Balance 10% amount shall be paid upon contract closure.	As this clause is related to supply of meters; we understand that the contract closure means the completion of supply of total ordered quantity. Kindly confirm	This included installation and commissioning
67	Clause 1.0	Page 3 of 14 Volume II of II, Material requisition	Description of goods: The scope of supply covers design, engineering, manufacturing, testing, inspection, documentation, commissioning at site (installation shall be done by Client under supervision of bidder), preparation for shipment and transportation of the Domestic Diaphragm Prepaid Gas Meters with Bluetooth along with the integrated AMR / MIU or the case may be, warranty and associated services like Prepayment vending, web services, app services etc., for 10 years, as per technical specification requirements, MR and scope of work for City Gas Distribution Project of Assam Gas Company Ltd.	We request Assam Gas to provide the following details: - -Districts wise quantity details, wherein the prepaid Gas meters are planned to be installed & commissioned Above mentioned details are very critical and required to estimate the quantum of work involved and requirement of manpower for commissioning of prepaid Gas meter and timely execution of the project. May request to please provide the above details.	will be provided to successful bidder after evaluation
68		Page 5 of 14 Volume II of II, Material requisition	NOTES: 1. Accessories for Meters shall be supplied as specified in the Specifications attached with the material requisition.	We understand that the accessories of meter includes meter mounting clamp as well. Kindly confirm	this is the part of accessories and must be supplied along with meter
69	Clause 1 Notes: Point No. 5	Page 6 of 14 Volume II of II, Material Requisition for Procurement of Prepaid Gas Meter	Vendor to first install and commission minimum 5000 nos. of meters of above configuration as pilot project in order to check the accuracy and functionality of the meter within a month. In case of quantities are awarded to two parties i.e., L1 and L2 then both the parties should successfully complete the pilot project. Also, only after the success of pilot project the quantities in lot shall be awarded.	This clause does not seem to be relevant because as per clause 3.2 of IFB; supply & commissioning of all 5000 Nos. meters must be completed within 12 months from the date of LOI/WO. Please confirm our understanding and request to please delete this clause.	Tender condition shall prevail
70	Clause 2.1	Page 7 & 8 of 14 Volume II of II, Material Requisition for Procurement of Prepaid Gas Meter	The supplier shall comply to local statutory regulations of Legal metrology.	We understand that gas meter model should be approved from Legal Metrology Department - Weights and Measures, India for domestic meter (G 1.6). Further we understand that local statutory regulation of legal metrology is not applicable for domestic diaphragm gas meter. Kindly confirm	will be finalised. Normally weight and measures requirement to be fulfilled. In case of only local regulation required, it will done by the bidder.
71	Clause 2.1	Page 7 of 14 Volume II of II, Material Requisition for Procurement of Prepaid Gas Meter	Customer shall be able to pay through web application and mobile application. Entire payments shall be made to Client through payment gateway. Vendor shall demonstrate the same to entire satisfaction of Client.	We understand that AGCL already has techno-commercial agreement with payment gateway (billdesk/paytm) for existing meters and the same shall be continued for the meters supplied under this contract. AGCL shall provide merchant ID to the successful bidder for establishing the technical integration for successful commissioning of prepayment system. Relevant customer data / database shall be shared with payment gateway service provider by the successful bidder with whom Assam Gas has a techno-commercial agreement. Please confirm	No, Bidder has to established separately.
72	Clause 2.8	Page 10 of 14 Volume II of II, Material Requisition for Procurement of Prepaid Gas Meter	Penalty clause: In case vendor fails to meet the requirement of data availability (like credited balance, alarms, consumption till last bill etc.) of 95% over a month period, this will result in penalty @ Rs.500 per day below 95% availability. This amount will be deducted from subsequent bill.	The penalty has no ceiling limit. We request you to amend as maximum penalty applicable shall be limited to 5% of the monthly invoice value and also we understand that "in case vendor fails to meet the requirement of data availability of 95% over a month period attributable to Bidder, then this will result in penalty. Please confirm.	Tender condition shall prevail
73	Clause 5.0,	Page 13 of 14 Volume II of II, Material Requisition for Procurement of Prepaid Gas Meter	Material certificate EN 10204, Cert. 3.2	Referring to CGD industry practice, we would like to inform that Certificate 3.2 is for stage wise inspection & generally asked for fabrication/assembly of product tenders (i.e. Metering skid etc.) Whereas, in case of supply of diaphragm gas meter, batch manufacturing done through automation process 3.2 certification will not be practically feasible. In view of this, we request Assam Gas to accept 3.1 certification and confirm the same, which is standard CGD practice	Any pressure containing parts shall have 3.2 certification
74	Notes point 6	Page 3 of 3 Volume II of II, Data sheet	Gas Meter Datasheet The meters shall be indelibly marked with details of minimum flow, maximum flow, direction of flow, maximum operating pressure, name of manufacturer, model serial number, date of manufacturing etc.,	We understand as per EN 1359 marking of year of manufacturing is mentioned. Hence, requesting to please amend the "date of manufacturing" as "year of manufacturing" in this clause. Please confirm.	Ok, Noted
75	clause 7.0	Page-36 Volume II of II, standard specification for gas meter	INSPECTION AND TESTING The Supplier shall provide calibration certificate and accuracy at MAOP of the diaphragm meter for the following flow rates: QMIN 0.1QMAX QMAX	We understand that accuracy test at MAOP is not applicable as per the technical data sheet of gas meter. Accuracy test certificate as per EN 1359 will be provided. Please confirm our understanding.	confirmed
76	clause 5.1	Page-31 Volume II of II, standard specification for gas meter	Diaphragm meter Meter shall be provided with a device in the outlet to prevent reverse flow. Over flow protection device (Restriction Orifice) shall be provided at the downstream of meter. Material of construction of restriction orifice shall be PTFE and shall be suitable for natural gas application. Vendor shall provide brass adaptor with 1" inlet / outlet connection. Washer shall be of PTFE material of construction and provided along with restriction orifice.	We understand that this clause is not applicable for domestic diaphragm gas meter as it is not specified in Gas Meter Data Sheet. Restriction orifice is required for commercial Diaphragm meters by all the CGD in general practice. In view of above we understand that restrictive orifice not required in Domestic diaphragm meters. Please confirm.	Noted
77		Page -41 Volume II of II	LIST OF RECOMMENDED THIRD-PARTY INSPECTION AGENCY (TPIA)	We understand the published list is indicative and all PNGRB approved TPI will be eligible and acceptable to AGCL. Kindly confirm	As per tender TPI List
78		PDF Page 42 of 43 Volume II of II, QAP	Quality assurance plan for G1.6 gas meters (prepaid or postpaid)	We understand that the current QAP has been designed based on prevailing practices used with conventional postpaid gas meters and manufacturing setup. With the advancement of gas metering technology coupled with electronic unit & prepayment along with innovation in production to achieve efficiency; We request to allow successful bidder to submit QAP for further approval from AGCL. Kindly confirm.	Noted
79		PDF Page 42 of 43 Volume II of II, QAP	Remark Column: At least 5% to be witnessed by TPIA	We would like to draw your kind attention that Sampling plan should be 1% AQL as per IS 2500. Request to please amend the clause accordingly and confirm the same.	Tender condition shall prevail

80	Sr. No. 2, Assembly	PDF Page 42 of 43 Volume II of II, QAP	Leak test	Bidder is referring to CGD Industry practice to check the leak test & would like to inform that leak test can be conducted by soap solution only at the time of final stage inspection (once the meter gets ready). In view of above, bidder requesting Assam Gas to accept leak test via soap solution at the time of Third Party Inspection.	Tender Condition shall be prevail.														
81	Sr. No. 2, Assembly	PDF page 42 of 43 Volume II of II, QAP	Total mean pressure loss- P.A < 2mbar Mechanical pressure loss- M.A <0.62mbar	<p>Bidder is referring to BS-EN1359:2017, page17/76 & would like to inform that as per table 3 of EN standard, mean pressure absorption (2.5m3 to 16 m3 inclusive) should not be more than 2 mbar & bidder is unable to find the Mechanical pressure loss <0.62 in BS-EN1359:2017.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 3 — Pressure absorption</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="991 281 1623 477"><thead><tr><th rowspan="2">Q_{max} m^3h^{-1}</th><th colspan="2">Maximum permissible values for mean pressure absorption</th></tr><tr><th>Initial mbar</th><th>Subsequent mbar</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2,5 to 16 inclusive</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">2,2</td></tr><tr><td>25 to 65 inclusive</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">3,3</td></tr><tr><td>100 and 160</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">4,4</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>In order to above, bidder requesting Assam Gas to confirm conducting pressure loss test as per table 3 of BS-EN 1359:2017.</p>	Q_{max} m^3h^{-1}	Maximum permissible values for mean pressure absorption		Initial mbar	Subsequent mbar	2,5 to 16 inclusive	2	2,2	25 to 65 inclusive	3	3,3	100 and 160	4	4,4	Noted, Bidder can follow the standard BS-EN1359:2017 guidelines.
Q_{max} m^3h^{-1}	Maximum permissible values for mean pressure absorption																		
	Initial mbar	Subsequent mbar																	
2,5 to 16 inclusive	2	2,2																	
25 to 65 inclusive	3	3,3																	
100 and 160	4	4,4																	

1. Bidder to submit signed and stamped copy of this Reply to Pre-Bid Queries along with Un-Price Bid .