## CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION Ground Floor, Chanderlok Building, 36, Janpath, New Delhi - 110 001

No. RA/11020(11)/1/2021-CERC

Dated: 12.04.2023

Subject: Corrigendum to Bid No. GEM/2023/B/3295488 dated 22nd March, 2023 regarding Engagement of Consultant by Forum of Regulators (FOR) to prepare a study report on "Ceiling Tariff for Distribution Sector in India".

Reference: Pre-bid meeting held on 28.03.2023

Pre-bid meeting of the subject tender was held on 28.03.2023 at CERC. The firms who participated in the pre-bid meeting raised queries related to the terms and conditions indicated in the tender documents.

- A) In response to queries raised by the participants during the pre-bid conference, the following clarifications/amendments are hereby issued:
  - 1) S. No 1 (a) of the 2<sup>nd</sup> table "Criteria for Technical Evaluation" provided at Sub clause 3 of clause 7 of the TOR and S. No. 1 (a) of the table "Criteria for Technical Evaluation" attached under "Qualification Methodology Document" of the bid document at page 3 may be read as detailed below:

"Experience in regulatory assignments on matters involving Tariff Model, ARR petition, True Up petition, Tariff order, Tariff Regulation, business plan, and/ or financial/functional restructuring, cost optimisation for Distribution companies in India in the last Ten (10) years. i) 20 marks for 5 completed assignments in the last 10 years. ii) 2 marks for each additional assignment in the last 10 years" 2) The "Section II Fee Proposed" provided under the "DETAILED PROPOSAL FOR STUDY (FINANCIAL)" and attached at the "Price breakup format" of the bid document may be read as:

## " II Fee Proposed:

8. Amount of Fee proposed for conducting the study:

| S No | Particulars                             | Consolidated Amount (in Rs.) |
|------|---|------------------------------|
|      |   |                              |
| 1    | Consultant Charges (Inclusive of taxes) | ₹                            |
|      |   | (Amount in Words Rupees)     |

- ."
- 3) Note (b) at Sub clause 3 of clause 7 of the TOR and Note 1 (b) of the table "Criteria for Technical Evaluation" attached under "Qualification Methodology Document" of the bid document at page 3 may be read as detailed below:

"Under a retainership project/ long term project/ multi-year project, business plan/ tariff petition/ true up petitions/ tariff order/ tariff Regulations/ business plan/ Tariff Model/ financial restructuring /functional restructuring/ cost optimisation assignments completed during a year shall be considered as single assignment and can be quoted accordingly under 1(a) of the above table "Criteria for Technical Evaluation"

4) Sub clause 10 of clause 4 "Deliverables and duration of the Assignment" of the TOR may be read as:

"10. No abnormal delay would be tolerated for the reasons attributable to the bidder. In the case of non-completion of study/assignment within the stipulated time or extended time, as the case may be, the Performance Bank Guarantee shall stand forfeited."

5) The first para to clause 8 "Liquidated Damages" of the Agreement at Annexure IV of the ToR may be read as:

"The timelines for deliverables as per clause 4, above shall be strictly adhered by the consultant. The tasks should be completed in a phased manner and overlapping of one or more study shall not be a constraint for adherence to the timelines specified. In case of any delay in adhering to the timelines for the reasons attributable to the Consultant, of completion of study and error/variation in submitted report, liquidated damages shall be levied in the following manner."

6) The additional provision to sub clause 8.1 of clause 8 "Liquidated Damages" of the Agreement at Annexure IV of the ToR may be read as:

"In addition to the liquidated damages as specified above, warning may be issued to the Consultant for minor deficiencies noted by FOR. In the case of non-completion of study/assignment within the stipulated time or extended time, as the case may be, the Performance Bank Guarantee shall stand forfeited. In the case of significant deficiencies in services causing adverse effect on the Project or on the reputation of FOR, other penal action including debarring for a specific period may also be initiated."

7) The sub clause i of clause 9 "Termination of contract" of the Agreement at Annexure IV of the ToR may be read as:

"i. With 1-week notice:

The assignment may be terminated by the FOR, any time, by giving 1 week notice and after providing an opportunity to the consultant/professional expert to offer satisfactory explanation, if it has come to notice of FOR that the consultant/professional expert has been convicted for an offence involving moral turpitude or unethical professional practices. In such context, Performance Bank Guarantee amount will be invoked and encashed. Further legal action may also be taken against consultant."

B. Replies / Clarification to Bidders queries are placed at Annexure.

## **ANNEXURE**

| Sl.<br>No | Query<br>raised by | Clause Reference  | Query/Proposal from Prospective<br>Bidders  | Clarification   |
|-----------|--------------------|---|---|---|
| 1         | PWC                | Section 7 stipulates the<br>following:<br>Experience in regulatory<br>assignments on matters<br>involving Tariff Model, ARR<br>petition, True Up petition, Tariff<br>order, Tariff Regulation,<br>business plan, and/ or financial<br>planning for Distribution<br>companies in India in the last<br>five years.<br>i) 20 marks for 5 completed<br>assignment in last 10 years.<br>ii) 2 marks for each additional<br>assignment in the last 10 years | The clause mentions about providing<br>assignment details during last 5 years,<br>however, for marking it mentions<br>completed assignment in last 10 years.<br>It is requested to clarify whether we need to<br>submit the experience in the last 10 years or<br>in the last 5 years.  | The details provided at S. No 1 (a) of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> table<br>"Criteria for Technical Evaluation" provided at Sub<br>clause 3 of clause 7 of the bid may be read as<br>detailed below:<br>"Experience in regulatory assignments on matters<br>involving Tariff Model, ARR petition, True Up<br>petition, Tariff order, Tariff Regulation, business<br>plan, and/ or financial/functional restructuring, cost<br>optimisation for Distribution companies in India in<br>the last Ten (10) years.<br>i) 20 marks for 5 completed assignment in last 10<br>years.<br>ii) 2 marks for each additional assignment in the last<br>10 years" |
| 2         | PWC                | <ul> <li>Section 5 stipulates the following:</li> <li>Payment Schedule: <ol> <li>10% of the professional fee as advance of the total fee of the study at the time of signing agreement, subject to submission of an irrevocable Bank Guarantee for equal amount. If advance is not requested by the Consultant, 10% of the fee can be claimed</li> </ol></li></ul>  | Considering that the sub-clause 7 of Section<br>5 already mentions that the stage payment<br>shall not be released in case of<br>unsatisfactory work, it is requested that the<br>90% of the Fee may be released till<br>submission and acceptance of the Final<br>Report and only 10% of the fee may be<br>retained till end of the Contract.<br>Accordingly, we suggest that the payment<br>schedule may be revised as follows:<br><b>Payment Schedule:</b><br>1. 10% of the professional fee as advance of<br>the total fee of the study at the time of<br>signing agreement, subject to submission of | No change.<br>These are standard payment clauses adopted by<br>FOR.   |

| at the end of the contract        | an irrevocable Bank Guarantee for equal    |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| period on submission of the       | amount. If advance is not requested by the |  |
| final report.                     | Consultant, 10% of the fee can be claimed  |  |
| 2. 20% of the professional fee    | at the end of the contract period on       |  |
| on the submission of the          | submission of the final report.            |  |
| inception report of the Study;    | 2. 20% of the professional fee on the      |  |
| 3. 20% of the professional fee    | submission of the inception report of the  |  |
| on submission of first Draft      | Study;                                     |  |
| Report of the study;              | 3. 20% of the professional fee on          |  |
| 4. 20% of the professional fee    | submission of first Draft Report of the    |  |
| on submission of Final Report     | study;                                     |  |
| of the study;                     | 4. 40% of the professional fee on          |  |
| 5. 30% of the professional fee    | submission of Final Report of the study;   |  |
| on successful completion and      | 5. 10% of the professional fee on          |  |
| acceptance of the Final Report,   | successful completion and acceptance of    |  |
| at the end of the contract        | the Final Report, at the end of the        |  |
| period.                           | contract period.                           |  |
| 6. The Consultant shall provide   | 6  |  |
| an irrevocable Performance        | 7  |  |
| Bank Guarantee of 10% of          |  |  |
| amount stipulated in the          |  |  |
| agreement at the time of          |  |  |
| signing the agreement to be       |  |  |
| valid till 3 (three) months after |  |  |
| the expiry of the agreement. In   |  |  |
| the event of extension of         |  |  |
| assignment/ Contract, the         |  |  |
| Performance Bank Guarantee        |  |  |
| shall be suitably extended by     |  |  |
| the consultant at its own cost    |  |  |
| and extended Performance          |  |  |
| Bank Guarantee shall be made      |  |  |
| available to the FOR secretariat  |  |  |
| within 7 days of receipt of such  |  |  |
| extension Information.            |  |  |

|   |     | <ul> <li>Performance Bank Guarantee will be kept as performance security and can be invoked to appropriate against breach of any terms of this Agreement or for non- performance.</li> <li>7. The stage payment shall not be released in case of unsatisfactory work and decision of FOR in this aspect shall be final.</li> </ul> |   |   |
|---|-----|--|---|---|
| 3 | PWC | Section 7 stipulates the<br>following:<br>Tie ups with think<br>tanks/Academic<br>institutes/researchers (having<br>P.hd.) with research expertise in<br>Regulatory Matters(in<br>distribution sector)   | Tie-up with external agencies / individuals<br>is a time taking exercise, as in our<br>organization, it has to essentially go<br>through a stringent quality, risk and legal<br>review and approvals thereof.<br>Accordingly, it is requested to consider<br>allowing the consultant's in-house experts<br>for the requisite qualification criteria to be<br>included in the team, instead of providing<br>scoring for tie ups with think<br>tank/Academic institutes/researchers<br>(having Phd.) with research expertise in<br>Regulatory Matters (in distribution sector).<br>Further, it is suggested that a wider<br>stakeholder consultation through webinar<br>may be incorporated in the Scope to be<br>undertaken by the Consultant firm under<br>the egis of FOR at the appropriate stage, to<br>bring in the suggestions, thoughts, ideas of<br>a larger expert group. | Consent letter expressing willingness by<br>independent researcher having P.hd. with research<br>expertise in Regulatory Matters shall also be<br>considered.<br>The requirement of internal expertise of the<br>consulting agency is already covered in sub clause 3<br>(a) to 3(c) of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> table "Criteria for Technical<br>Evaluation" of clause 7 of the TOR.<br>The consultant may develop its own approach and<br>methodology for the study. |
| 4 | PWC | Last date of Submission 12th<br>April 2023   | In section 7 it is mentioned to have tie-ups<br>with think tanks/Academic<br>institutes/researchers (having P.hd.) with   | Bid end date is extended by 2 weeks.  |

|   |     |  | research expertise in Regulatory Matters (in<br>distribution sector), the process of these tie-<br>ups is a time-consuming process, therefore<br>we request extend the date of submission of<br>the bid by 2 weeks.   |             |            |  |                            |
|---|-----|--|---|-------------|------------|--|----------------------------|
| 5 | PWC | Annexure-II<br>DETAILED PROPOSAL FOR<br>STUDY (FINANCIAL<br>In the financial proposal it is<br>mentioned that "(The amount<br>quoted should be exclusive of<br>statutory levies and taxes etc.<br>and should be in INR)" | It is requested to clarify wheth.er the<br>amount quoted in the financial proposal has<br>to be inclusive or exclusive of taxes, as in<br>the GeM portal there is only an option for<br>amount inclusive of taxes.  | "DI<br>(FII | ETA<br>NAI | AILED PROPOSA<br>NCIAL)" and attact<br>" of the bid may be<br>II. Fe<br>8. Amount o<br>conductin | ched at the "Price breakup |
| 6 | PWC | No clause in RfP on acceptance criteria  | <b>Suggestions</b><br>It is requested to include a clause on the acceptance criteria. We would like to propose:<br>"Within 10 days (or any other agreed period) from Client's receipt of a draft deliverable, Client will notify Consultant if it is accepted. If it is not accepted, |             |            | ovision in the TOR<br>t any change.  | t is adequate and does not |

|   |     |   | Client will let Consultant know the<br>reasonable grounds for such non-<br>acceptance, and Consultant will take<br>reasonable remedial measures so that the<br>draft deliverable materially meets the<br>agreed specifications. If Client does not<br>notify Consultant within the agreed time<br>period or if Client uses the draft<br>deliverable, it will be deemed to be<br>accepted."  |  |
|---|-----|---|---|--|
| 7 | PWC | No clause of third-party<br>disclaimer  | <b>Suggestions</b><br>It is requested to include a clause on the third-party disclaimer. We will be providing services and deliverables to you under the contract. We accept no liability to anyone, other than you, in connection with our services, unless otherwise agreed by us in writing. You agree to reimburse us for any liability (including legal costs) that we incur in connection with any claim by anyone else in relation to the services. Please confirm our understanding is correct. | No change.   |
| 8 | PWC | Annexure-IV Clause 9.1<br><i>i.</i> Without any notice<br>The assignment may be<br>terminated by the FOR, any<br>time, with immediate effect, if it<br>has come to notice of FOR that<br>the consultant/professional<br>expert has been convicted for an<br>offence involving moral | It is requested to uphold the principles of<br>natural justice, we request client to give us<br>a rectification period of at least 15 days,<br>prior to invoking this clause.   | Clause 9.i of the Agreement at Annexure IV of the<br>ToR may be read as:<br><i>i. With 1-week notice:</i><br><i>The assignment may be terminated by the FOR, any</i><br><i>time, by giving 1 week notice and after providing an</i><br><i>opportunity to the consultant/professional expert to</i><br><i>offer satisfactory explanation., if it has come to</i><br><i>notice of FOR that the consultant/professional</i><br><i>expert has been convicted for an offence involving</i><br><i>moral turpitude or unethical professional practices.</i> |

|    |          | turpitude or unethical<br>professional practices. In such<br>context, Performance Bank<br>Guarantee amount will be<br>invoked and encashed. Further<br>legal action may also be taken<br>against consultant.   |   | In such context, Performance Bank Guarantee<br>amount will be invoked and encashed. Further legal<br>action may also be taken against consultant.  |
|----|----------|--|---|--|
| 9  | Deloitte | Clause 7.<br>Application and Evaluation<br>Criteria.<br>Criteria for Technical<br>Evaluation - Tie ups with think<br>tanks/Academic<br>institutes/researchers (having<br>P.hd.) with research expertise in<br>Regulatory Matters (in<br>distribution sector) | We request FOR to consider replacing this<br>requirement with a Regulatory Team<br>Member of the consulting firm's<br>organization.<br>Instead of tie-ups, stakeholder consultations<br>may be held with think tanks/ academic<br>institutes/ researchers to get their views on<br>the draft report/ suggestions.<br>Also this requirement is in contravention to<br>the provisions mentioned under document<br>'Profile of the Consultant' which states that<br><i>'Each member of the team deployed for the<br/>said assignment shall be a fulltime<br/>employee or contractual staff on full time<br/>basis of the applicant'.</i><br>Suggestions:<br>Regulatory Team Member<br>Qualification Criteria - B. Tech with MBA<br>with 5 years or more experience in<br>distribution sector regulatory matters.<br>< 5years' of relevant experience – 0 marks<br>>Between 5-7 years of relevant experience<br>– 5 marks<br>>7 years of relevant experience – 10 marks | Consent letter expressing willingness by<br>independent researcher, having P.hd., with research<br>expertise in Regulatory Matters shall also be<br>considered.<br>The requirement of internal expertise of the<br>consulting agency is already covered in sub clause 3<br>(a) to 3(c) of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> table "Criteria for Technical<br>Evaluation" of clause 7 of the TOR. |
| 10 | Deloitte | We request FOR to clarify if hard copy submissions are   |   | Physical copy of the EMD (in form of Demand<br>Draft only) should be submitted at the FOR  |

|    |          | required of the proposal. Please<br>clarify the list of documents<br>required to be submitted in hard<br>copy along with deadline for its<br>submission.                 |  | Secretariat located in CERC office in Delhi within 2 days from the "Bid end date".   |
|----|----------|--|--|--|
| 11 | Deloitte | 4.10<br>No abnormal delay would be<br>tolerated. In case of any such<br>contingency, the study would be<br>conducted from alternate source<br>at the cost of the bidder. | We request FOR to accept the suggested<br>changes<br>Suggestion:<br>No abnormal delay would be tolerated for<br>the reasons solely attributable to the bidder.                         | Clause 4.10 of the TOR may be read as:<br>"10 No abnormal delay would be tolerated for the<br>reasons attributable to the bidder. In the case of<br>non-completion of study/ assignment within the<br>stipulated time or extended time, as the case may be,<br>the Performance Bank Guarantee shall stand<br>forfeited."                       |
| 12 | Deloitte | Annexure-II<br>II. Fee Proposed:<br>(The amount quoted should be<br>exclusive of statutory levies and<br>taxes etc. and should be in INR)                                | The GEM portal requires to enter price<br>inclusive of taxes while bid document<br>requires price exclusive of taxes. We<br>request FOR to please suggest which price<br>to be quoted. | The "Section II FeeProposed" provided under the "DETAILED PROPOSAL FOR STUDY (FINANCIAL)" and attached at the "Price breakup format" of the bid may be read as:         "         II.       FeeProposed:         8.       Amount of Fee proposed for conducting the study:         S No       Particulars         Consolidated Amount (in Rs.) |

|    |          |   |   | 1       Consultant Charges       ₹         (Inclusive of taxes)       (Amount in Words         Rupees)      )         ."   |
|----|----------|---|---|--|
| 13 | Deloitte | 6. ii) The consultant further<br>affirms and confirms that<br>he/she/it shall hold all<br>Confidential Information in<br>confidence and with the same<br>degree of care he/she/it uses to<br>keep his/her/its own similar<br>information confidential, but in<br>no event shall it use less than a<br>reasonable degree of care; and<br>shall not, without the prior<br>written consent of FOR, disclose<br>such information to any person<br>for any reason at anytime | We request FOR to modify the clause as<br>suggested.<br>Suggestion:<br>The consultant further affirms and confirms<br>that he/she/it shall hold all Confidential<br>Information in confidence and with the<br>same degree of care he/she/it uses to keep<br>his/her/its own similar information<br>confidential, but in no event shall it use less<br>than a reasonable degree of care; and shall<br>not, without the prior written consent of<br>FOR, disclose such information to any<br>person for any reason at anytime. The<br>confidentiality obligations shall survive the<br>termination of this Contract / completion of<br>services for a period of one (1) year. | No change.<br>These are standard clauses adopted by FOR.   |
| 14 | Deloitte | 8. The timelines for deliverables<br>as per clause 4, above shall be<br>strictly adhered by the<br>consultant. The tasks should be<br>completed in a phased manner<br>and overlapping of one or more<br>study shall not be a constraint<br>for adherence to the timelines<br>specified. In case of any delay in<br>adhering to the timelines, of<br>completion of study and   | We request FOR to modify the clause as<br>suggested.<br>Suggestion:<br>The timelines for deliverables as per clause<br>4, above shall be strictly adhered by the<br>consultant. The tasks should be completed<br>in a phased manner and overlapping of one<br>or more study shall not be a constraint for<br>adherence to the timelines specified. In case<br>of any delay in adhering to the timelines for<br>the reasons solely attributable to the   | The first para of clause 8 "Liquidated Damages" of<br>the Agreement at Annexure IV of the ToR may be<br>read as:<br>"The timelines for deliverables as per clause 4,<br>above shall be strictly adhered by the consultant.<br>The tasks should be completed in a phased manner<br>and overlapping of one or more study shall not be a<br>constraint for adherence to the timelines specified.<br>In case of any delay in adhering to the timelines for<br>the reasons attributable to the Consultant, of |

|    |          | error/variation in submitted<br>report, liquidated damages shall<br>be levied in the following<br>manner.  | Consultant, of completion of study and<br>error/variation in submitted report,<br>liquidated damages shall be levied in the<br>following manner.   | completion of study and error/variation in submitted<br>report, liquidated damages shall be levied in the<br>following manner."  |
|----|----------|--|--|--|
| 15 | Deloitte | 8.1.<br>In addition to the liquidated<br>damages as specified above,<br>warning may be issued to the<br>Consultant for minor<br>deficiencies noted by FOR. In<br>the case of non-completion of<br>study/ assignment within the<br>stipulated time or extended time,<br>FOR shall have the right to get<br>the study / assignment<br>completed at the risk and cost of<br>the Consultant. In the case of<br>significant deficiencies in<br>services causing adverse effect<br>on the Project or on the<br>reputation of FOR, other penal<br>action including debarring for a<br>specific period may also be<br>initiated. | We request FOR to modify the clause as<br>suggested.<br>Suggestion:<br>In addition to the liquidated damages as<br>specified above, warning may be issued to<br>the Consultant for minor deficiencies noted<br>by FOR. In the case of significant<br>deficiencies in services causing adverse<br>effect on the Project or on the reputation of<br>FOR, other penal action including<br>debarring for a specific period may also be<br>initiated. | The additional provision to clause 8.1 "Liquidated<br>Damages" of the Agreement at Annexure IV of the<br>ToR may be read as:<br>"In addition to the liquidated damages as specified<br>above, warning may be issued to the Consultant for<br>minor deficiencies noted by FOR. In the case of non-<br>completion of study/ assignment within the<br>stipulated time or extended time, as the case may be,<br>the Performance Bank Guarantee shall stand<br>forfeited. In the case of significant deficiencies in<br>services causing adverse effect on the Project or on<br>the reputation of FOR, other penal action including<br>debarring for a specific period may also be<br>initiated." |
| 16 | Deloitte | 9.iii)<br>The FOR and the Consultant<br>have the option to terminate the<br>assignment on mutual consent<br>by giving notice of one month to<br>the other  | Suggestion:<br>The FOR and the Consultant have the<br>option to terminate the assignment on<br>mutual consent by giving notice of one<br>month to the other.<br>The Consultant may suspend or terminate<br>the Contract, by not less than thirty (30)<br>days in case:<br>• • Client does not make the payment   | No change.<br>These are standard clauses adopted by FOR.   |

|    |          |  | <ul> <li>to the Consultant</li> <li>Does not adhere to the arbitration judgement</li> <li>If Bidder determines that a law, regulation or anything having similar import, or a circumstance (including cases where client's ownership or constitution has changed), makes Bidder's performance of the Contract impermissible or in conflict with independence or professional rules applicable to Bidder.</li> </ul>   |   |
|----|----------|--|---|---|
| 17 | Deloitte | 12-i.<br>In the event of arbitration,<br>FOR shall appoint sole arbitrator<br>which shall be binding on the<br>Consultant.   | Suggestion<br>In the event of arbitration, each party<br>shall appoint one Arbitrator and the former<br>two shall select a third Arbitrator and the<br>same shall be binding on the Parties   | No change.<br>These are standard clauses adopted by FOR.  |
| 18 | Mercados | S. No. 1 (a), Criteria for<br>Technical Evaluation:<br>"Experience in regulatory<br>assignments on matters<br>involving Tariff Model, ARR<br>petition, True Up petition, Tariff<br>order, Tariff Regulation,<br>business plan, and/ or financial<br>planning for Distribution<br>companies in India in the last<br>five years.<br>i) 20 marks for 5 completed<br>assignments in last 10 years.<br>ii) 2 marks for each additional<br>assignment in the last 10<br>years" | <ul> <li>Proposed Clause:</li> <li>Experience in regulatory assignments on matters involving Tariff Model, ARR petition, True Up petition, Tariff order, Tariff Regulation, business plan, and/ or financial planning, turnaround plan, benchmarking studies, cost optimisation, for Distribution companies in India in the last ten years.</li> <li>i) 20 marks for 5 completed assignments in last 10 years.</li> <li>ii) 2 marks for each additional assignment in the last 10 years.</li> <li>ii) to years</li> <li>Rationale/Suggestions:</li> <li>It is observed that in all the clauses of the tender document FoR has sought</li> </ul> | The S. No. 1 (a), Criteria for Technical Evaluation,<br>may be read as:<br>"Experience in regulatory assignments on matters<br>involving Tariff Model, ARR petition, True Up<br>petition, Tariff order, Tariff Regulation, business<br>plan, and/ or financial/functional restructuring, cost<br>optimisation, for Distribution companies in India in<br>the last ten years.<br>i) 20 marks for 5 completed assignments in last 10<br>years.<br>ii) 2 marks for each additional assignment in the last<br>10 years" |

| - |   |
|---|---|
|   | experience of assignments in the last 10      |
|   | years and also the same has been sought in    |
|   | the present sub-clauses (i) & (ii) as well.   |
|   | However, we believe that a typo may have      |
|   | remained in the Main clause which still       |
|   | specifies as "five years". Hence, we suggest  |
|   | that the same may be rectified and made       |
|   | "ten years" consistent with the entire        |
|   | document.                                     |
|   | Further, It is respectfully submitted that    |
|   | bidder's experience in the area of            |
|   | turnaround plan, benchmarking studies and     |
|   | cost optimisation for distribution companies  |
|   | are key subject areas affecting               |
|   | competitiveness of the tariff especially in a |
|   | parallel licensing scenario. For example: -   |
|   | BEST Undertaking while designing its          |
|   | Tariff Petition (including Tariff Rates) in   |
|   | the past, aspects of benchmarking,            |
|   | efficiency of costs, etc. gets evaluated      |
|   | against the competitor distribution licensees |
|   | and these aspects remain key to               |
|   | design/propose the tariff. Therefore,         |
|   | separate assignments for cost                 |
|   | competitiveness                               |
|   | studies/support for distribution companies    |
|   | such as benchmarking, cost optimisation,      |
|   | etc. is also suggested to be included in the  |
|   | qualified assignments in the scoring          |
|   | criteria.                                     |
|   | Further, support to distribution companies    |
|   | for preparing turnaround and action plan      |
|   | under government funded schemes or            |
|   | otherwise, includes financial projections     |
|   | and financial planning. Accordingly, such     |
|   | and imancial planning. Accordingly, such      |

| -  | 1        |                                  |   |  |
|----|----------|----------------------------------|---|--|
|    |          |                                  | assignments on turnaround plan and action     |  |
|    |          |                                  | plan is also suggested to be included in the  |  |
|    |          |                                  | qualified assignments in the scoring criteria |  |
|    |          |                                  | either under financial planning or in         |  |
|    |          |                                  | alternate as separate assignments.            |  |
|    |          |                                  | Query:  |  |
|    |          |                                  | We understand that the bidders experience     |  |
|    |          |                                  | in assisting various stakeholders including   |  |
|    |          |                                  | consumers or consumer associations in the     |  |
|    |          |                                  | regulatory matters of tariff/ARR petitions    |  |
|    |          |                                  | of the power distribution companies shall     |  |
|    |          |                                  | also be considered for evaluation. We         |  |
|    |          |                                  | believe that the end beneficiary of the       |  |
|    |          |                                  | ceiling tariff is only consumers and they     |  |
|    |          |                                  | play a vital role in creating the competition |  |
|    |          |                                  | scenario. Hence, the perspectives as well as  |  |
|    |          |                                  | challenges of the consumers in competition    |  |
|    |          |                                  | scenario needs to be considered in arriving   |  |
|    |          |                                  | at the ceiling tariff study result.           |  |
| 19 | Mercados | Note 1 (b), Criteria for         | Proposed Clause:                              | The assignments completed during a year of the           |
|    |          | Technical Evaluation,            | Under a retainership project / long term/     | ongoing retainership project/ long term/ multi-year      |
|    |          |                                  | multi-year engagements whether                | engagements may be considered as single completed        |
|    |          | "Under a retainership project,   | ongoing/ completed business plan/ tariff      | assignment corresponding to that year. However, the      |
|    |          | business plan/ tariff petition/  | petition/ tariff order assignments carried    | completion certificate as indicated at Note 1(c),        |
|    |          | tariff order assignments carried | out/completed during a year shall be          | Criteria for Technical Evaluation, Page No. 2 must       |
|    |          | out during a year shall be       | considered as single assignment and can be    | be provided for such assignments for consideration       |
|    |          | considered as single assignment  | quoted accordingly under 1(a) of the above    | for evaluation.  |
|    |          | and can be quoted accordingly    | table "Criteria for Technical Evaluation"     |  |
|    |          | under $I(a)$ of the above table  | Rationale/Suggestions:                        | Note 1 (b), Criteria for Technical Evaluation, may       |
|    |          | "Criteria for Technical          | It is humbly requested that under an          | be read as:  |
|    |          | Evaluation""                     | ongoing retainership contract of 2 years and  |  |
|    |          |                                  | more, each year of completed work may be      | "Under a retainership project/ long term project/        |
|    |          |                                  | considered as a single assignment and         | multi-year project, business plan/ tariff petition/ true |
|    |          |                                  | allowed to be quoted under 1(a) of the        | up petitions/ tariff order/ tariff Regulations/ business |
|    |          |                                  | above table "Criteria for Technical           | plan/ Tariff Model/ financial restructuring              |

|  | assista<br>preser<br>contra<br>assista<br>and co<br>reques<br>well, e<br>consid<br>allowe<br>above<br>Evalue | er, multi-y<br>ance to Di<br>atly exists<br>act may be<br>ance comp<br>orrespondi<br>st that in s<br>each year<br>lered as a<br>ed to be qu<br>table "Cr<br>ation". Fo | vear contracts<br>stribution Con<br>and even thou<br>of or 2 years of<br>prise of each y<br>ing payments.<br>uch assignme<br>of completed<br>single assign<br>uoted under 1<br>iteria for Tech<br>or example: - A | mpanies<br>ugh the<br>r more,<br>rear mile<br>Theref<br>nt contr<br>work m<br>nent and<br>(a) of th<br>mical<br>A distrib | the<br>estones<br>ore, we<br>racts as<br>ay be<br>d<br>ne<br>pution | /functional restructuring//cost optimisation<br>assignments completed during a year shall be<br>considered as single assignment and can be quoted<br>accordingly under 1(a) of the above table "Criteria<br>for Technical Evaluation" |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|
|  | consu  |  | ave appointed<br>r a 3-year con<br>: -<br>Completio<br>n Date<br>(Tariff<br>Order   |   |   |   |
|  | 1  | True-<br>up of<br>FY<br>2020-<br>21.<br>APR<br>of FY<br>2021-<br>22 and<br>ARR<br>&Tarif   | date)<br>31st<br>March<br>2022  | Yea<br>r 1  |   |   |

|  |   | f for<br>FY<br>2022-<br>23   |                       |            |  |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|------------|--|
|  | 2 | True-<br>up of<br>FY<br>2021-<br>22,<br>APR<br>of FY<br>2022-<br>23 and<br>ARR<br>&<br>Tariff<br>for FY<br>2023-<br>24 | 31st<br>March<br>2023 | Yea<br>r 2 |  |
|  | 3 | True-<br>up of<br>FY<br>2022-<br>23,<br>APR<br>of FY<br>2023-<br>24 and<br>ARR   | 31st<br>March<br>2024 | Yea<br>r 3 |  |

| &<br>Tariff<br>for FY<br>2024-<br>25   |
|--|
| From the above table, it is evident that there<br>are three petitions which are to be filed in<br>each of the years and the completion<br>timelines are also separate. This<br>engagement work completion nature is<br>same as retainership projects, wherein each<br>year of assistance will result into a single<br>petition/Order (tariff proceeding for one<br>year). Therefore, as on the date of bidding<br>work for Year 1 and Year 2 will be<br>completed and can be considered as single<br>assignment for qualification in the tender. |