

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

iLembe Desalination Plant at Ilembe District Municipality

According to data sourced from the SA Weather Service the Ilembe District has been constantly receiving less than average rainfall over the past five years. As a result of the reduction of rainfall there has been a reduction in crop yields as well as a steady decline in water reserves. The departments of Water Affairs and Agriculture have done extensive investigations that have revealed that the district is currently in the early stages of a hydrological drought. In particular the municipalities of Maphumulo and Ndwedwe are experiencing extreme challenges with the provision of potable water to communities. As a result of the drying up of boreholes and the reduced flow of rivers and streams throughout the district, it is a constant challenge to ensure that communities in the district have access to a basic water provision. Ilembe District Municipality has applied for financial assistance from Provincial Treasury in order for the municipality to address and deal with the current water shortage problems in certain regions of their area of jurisdiction. The DM is presently engage in sourcing external funding for this exercise, and the award of this programme will be based on the success of procuring such funding.

Enterprise Ilembe, as the mandated development agency and infrastructure Project Management Unit of the Ilembe District Municipality invites all suitably qualified and experienced service providers/interested groups to submit expressions of interest in undertaking the above-mentioned project on a build, operate, train and transfer (BOTT) principle. In terms of the project concept, a selected service provider or implementing agent would be required to carry out all planning, prepare preliminary and detailed designs/reports, prepare costing, construct and establish, a 15MI/d Desalination Plant, including Bulk Mains and Bulk Storage, along the eastern boundary/coastline of the Ilembe District Municipality Region. As such, a concession agreement with a service provider is being contemplated. Such a "concession" will be in line with the principles contained within the Nationally agreed Framework for Restructuring of Municipal Services and other policy imperatives. The purpose of the EOI is to assess interest from the private sector in such a potential concession and initial approaches, innovations, capability and capacity for implementing.

Scope of the Assignment

The ultimate scope of the assignment contemplated with the selected service provider or implementing agent will include the following :

- Investigate, locate and determine the extent and optimum sizing of the Desalination Plant(Feasibility and Preliminary Design Stages inclusive of environmental and land/legal authorisations) and report on proposal and capacity. Anticipated sizing of the plant to be 15MI/d which is to augment the proposed Lower Tugela Bulk Water Supply Scheme, currently being planned off the Tugela River. A Map has been prepared which depicts certain preferred points of location for the plant and this can be made available to interested entities.
- Prepare and undertake the detailed designs and documentation, signing off, of the works in accordance with the Ilembe District Municipality Requirements.
- Construct and administer, certify and commission of plant and operations
- Operate the new Plant for a period, under Municipal regulations and requirements and where required, design, construct any new expansions to the works, to accommodate growth and development within the area of service;
- Revisit current studies which explore the possibilities to treat discharged water for the various uses, namely potable, industry, irrigation, etc

At no time will the concessionaire own the Desalination Plant or the associated works nor any of the assets that currently belong to Ilembe District Municipality.

The Expression of Interest submission must contain the following :

- A profile of the service provider/implementing agent, specifically describing the expertise and relevant experience which addresses the needs of the assignment;
- A description of the approach that the service provider/implementing agent will take towards the implementation of the assignment contemplated, showing value that will be added to the objectives of the District from the proposed approach;
- A high-level framework for implementation of the assignment, addressing methodological, institutional, legal and financial issues relating to the assignment;
- An explanation of the resource base, including financial resources, which the service provider/implementing agent will be able to deploy in executing the assignment.

-A briefing session will be held on 16 May 2011 at **Sangweni Tourism Centre, Cnr Link Road & Ballito Drive, Ballito, at 10h00** to expand on the concept

Please submit your Expression of Interest in a sealed envelope endorsed "EOI for iLembe Desalination Plant" to be placed in the Tender Box at Sangweni Tourism Centre, Cnr Link Road & Ballito Drive, Ballito on or before 12h00 Friday 17th June 2011.

Enterprise Ilembe will assess the submissions on the basis of expertise, relevant experience, legal and institutional integrity and innovation in approach, methodology, timeframes and framework, and may decide to shortlist the submissions before issuing a full request for proposals to such shortlisted parties.

Please note: Incomplete, faxed, emailed EOI's and EOI's received after the closing date WILL NOT be considered.

Technical queries regarding the EOI must be addressed to the Project Manager :

MR MJ BIGGAR : Technical Director- Project Management Unit/Enterprise Ilembe

Tel: 032-947 9815 /0716845544 Fax: 032-947 9816 Email: mjbiggar@blackbalance.co.za