Special Bids and Awards Committee (SBAC)

DESIGN, BUILD AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL FIBER BACKBONE - PHASE 1 (NFBP1)

Bid Bulletin No. 2

This Bid Bulletin clarifies queries raised during pre-bid conference, queries received by the SBAC through email until 05 March 2021, and other matters relative to the bidding for the aforementioned project.

I. Queries/Questions by Prospective Bidders

Issues Raised	Clarifications
1. Whether the project is full underground?	Yes.
2. Whether the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) will assist the winning bidder/contractor in the acquisition of Right of Way (ROW)?	Yes. Please refer to the permit matrix (annex E)
3. Whether G.652.D FOC can be considered?	Yes. G.652D can be considered for the 48-core and 144-core mini-FOC.
4. Eligibility says the bidder needs to have SLCC covering design portion. However, usually design is part of the project and a small portion of the project. Requesting design portion to be 50% of ABC sounds too high. Possible to lower or remove amount requirement for design portion.	The value of the design contract/s is/are not the basis for the required SLCC. It is not the design contract/s that should be 50% of the ABC. It is the project/s for which the design contract/s were done that should cost 50% of the ABC. There is the difference. Please refer to the Minutes of the 26 February 2021 Pre-bid Conference. Thus, the bidder can submit a design contract or a combination of design contracts for which the finished product is a project or a combination of projects which cost at least P625,000,000 (50% of the ABC). Project costs shall be verified during post-qualification.
5. Can a bidder participate only in one or two scope component/s?	No.
6. Who would give permits for the Cable Entrance Facility (CEF) and works inside NGCP or DICT?	The DICT shall be the one to process the access permits for DICT and NGCP sites. Please refer to the Permit Matrix (Annex E)

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7. On the requirement that the corporations, organizations, consortia or joint ventures must have at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, is it required that the outstanding capital stock of the parties or members in a JV or Consortium must be at least 60% Filipino? Is it sufficient that at least 60% of the contributions in a JV or Consortium is Filipino? In a JV or Consortium with two (2) parties or members who are a Filipino Company and a Foreign Company, who should comply the 60% Filipino interest ?	The requirement is only for a contractual (unincorporated) JV or Consortium. In a JV or Consortium, Filipino interest should be 60%. The Filipino Company should have 60% interest in the Consortium/JV. Please refer to RA 9184, the revised IRR, and issuances from GPPB.
8. Whether the Joint Venture can be in a form of contractual or incorporated?	Contractual JV only.
9. Please clarify the purpose of requiring manufacturer's authorization/authorized re-seller requirement. This appears to restrict the eligibility of other private sector participants, particularly in the context of the extremely short timetable within which to submit the eligibility documents and the technical/financial bid. We note that the bid documents were only released on February 17, 2021.	The requirement on Manufacturer's Authorization shall be required upon issuance of Notice of Award, and before issuance of the Notice to proceed. The Manufacturer's Authorization will ensure that support to the equipment is readily available and compatible with the submarine cable system An authorized resellers authorization may be used in lieu of manufacturer's authorization.
10. Assuming the authorized re-seller requirement will be maintained, could we clarify whether the authorized re-seller requirement can be complied with by the winning bidder AND/OR the winning bidder's nominated suppliers? This requirement may be too restrictive if it can be complied with only by the winning bidder, as only those entities who are already authorized re-sellers or who can	Please see response to item 9 of this Bid Bulletin No. 2. Please get in touch with the manufacturer(s), to obtain the authorization to resell.

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enter into a consortium with such entities will qualify for this procurement.	
11. Please confirm if the BCDA can consider extending the deadline for submission of eligibility documents and the technical/financial bid, considering that the bid documents were only released on February 17 and the complexity of the project. We likewise note that the submission of a bid requires the participating bidder to (a) submit designs and schedules for the implementation of the project, (b) secure manufacturer's authorization/authorized re-seller accreditation for components of the project, and (c) acknowledge that it has sufficiently conducted site inspection, verification and other activities, all of which will be extremely challenging within the current timetable and during the on-going pandemic.	No extension of the deadline for submission of bids per DICT directive.
12. May we request for the network diagram of the telephone room in the 20 NGCP substations where the DWDM will be installed?	Typical network diagram for the NGCP telecom room will be provided. See Annex B9.5
13. May we request for the network diagram of the two (2) CLS and the LA4 with markings where we can connect the DCN? What are the ports that are currently on site where we can integrate or connect DCN? What are the high level diagram of the current design of the 2 CLS where we will integrate the transponders.	The Network diagram is included in the Terms of Reference. DCN connection solution will be part of the scope of the bidder in order to realize the visibility of the transponders. All ports shall be supplied by the winning bidder as the first interconnection of the DCN is via the transponder as well as the NMS to manage the network elements. High level design is provided in the Terms of Reference.

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In order to provide the design, we would want to know the current environment or the current situation in the sites.	Status of the site can be confirmed through the site survey that will be conducted by interested bidders as agreed.
14. May we know the exact model of the existing CIENA equipment where we need to integrate?	The existing equipment model is Ciena 6500.
15. Who will shoulder cost for the survey in the LA4 USA? How many persons will be joining from DICT and how long?	The winning bidder shall shoulder the cost for the survey in LA4 USA. Maximum of three (3) personnel. Maximum of one (1) week.
16. May we clarify which are the sites that will be needing the rectifier and power systems and may we request for their power system diagram for us to assess the needed items per site?	1. For the Transponder part: rectifiers and battery banks are needed at San Fernando La Union Cable Landing Stations, Baler Cable Landing Station, and Sta. Maria Repeater Station. 2. For the Optical Transport Network part: (i) rectifier, battery banks, and gensets are needed at DICT Roces (ii) rectifier and battery banks are needed at DICT National Government Data Center in Subic 3. Refer to the attached Annex B9.4 - Typical Power System, for reference.
17. May we ask for a high level design for the DCN system that the BAC is looking at as a minimum design?	For transponder, it is included in the network diagram provided in the Terms of Reference. For OTN, the bidder should provide the design as stated in Annex B10-Technical Specifications, Section 3.1.9
18. May we ask for the DICT IP Network Diagram for the item 4.4.2.2 -Integration and Peering with DICT IP Network (Vol 2 page 73 of 86)	It will be terminated to DICT core switches in DICT Diliman.
19. Can we request for the editable excel file of the compliance sheet?	Yes. It will be available at the BCDA website at https://bcda.gov.ph/bids/design-build-and-establishment-national-fiber-backbone-phase-1
20. Vol 1, From #8, also refer to Volume 2 page 36 Section 2.2 on transponder Architecture, also Section 2.2.2.1 ("SLTE is	No, component 2 will not be a separate project.

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PRESCRIBING a technology set for transponder") - Since the Facebook Spectrum that will be enabled through the Baler landing station can only be enabled using Ciena Transponders, it may appear that only accredited resellers of Ciena can participate in the bidding. Will it be feasible to make component 2 as a separate project and only retain Components 1,3 & 4 for this bid?	It will not affect the bidder to offer other OTN brand.
21. What training is required? Instructor Led with certification or Customized will do? What is the total number of headcounts for the training participants, it only indicates 30/session.	Instructor Led with certification Minimum 30 DICT personnel per session.
22. Vol 2, Page 42, Section 2.2.4.2 - From this section, it implies that the brand for Transponders and OTN may not be necessarily the same. Please confirm.	Yes, we confirm that it is not necessarily the same. The bidder has the liberty to choose what to offer on the OTN solution.
23. Vol 2, Page 10, Section 6.8.1.b - The first step procedure is a pass/fail criteria. Judgement of the concept of approach, etc. seems to be subjective and open to varying interpretations. Could we request the BCDA/DICT to please clarify and explain further how the evaluation will be undertaken on an objective basis?	The Opening of Bids is just a preliminary evaluation of the submitted bids, using a simple presence/absence of documents. There is still a detailed/thorough evaluation of Financial and Technical Bids after the opening of financial bids. This is a pass/fail criteria. As there may be a variety of approaches and technology for the implementation of this project, the presentation of bidders shall help in the detailed evaluation of the bidders' implementation of the project.
24. For a Consortium partnership, is it acceptable to the SBAC if a non-construction firm or non-PCAB holder act as a lead partner?	Yes, as long as Filipino interest is at least 60% in the Consortium. Please see RA9184, its IRR and issuances of the GPPB.
25. Can we request DICT - BCDA to provide details of the existing Network Management System (NMS) of DICT including its supported integration and management protocols. This will provide	NBP Phase 1 NMS should interoperate with existing DICT NMS on the level of SNMP traps collection only. DICT's existing NMS brand is Extreme which supports SNMP ver 1, 2, and 3.

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vendors a basis on their interoperability compliance for their NMS offering.	
26. On item 10, (57 drums of 1 km 7 way HDPE Microduct), will this be the underground facilities of items 1-8? If yes, the pricing would be supply and install?	Yes. The pricing should be Design, Supply, and Build.
27. Vol 1, Page 14, Section 4.1 - IT mentions that Procuring Entity guarantees possession of all Sites. Does this include NGCP, and ROW thru government (both national and local) land? Refer also to Volume 2 Section 8.2 "Access to land property" Vol 2, Page 5, Section 5.1 - Acquisition of permits and ROW is for the bidder with assistance of DICT refers to Annex F. May we request for Annex F, which is not included in the bid documents.	Equipment co-location has been approved by NGCP. DICT will assist in the acquisition of ROW, ECC and Excavation permits with concerned government agencies. DICT will process access permits of winning bidder's implementation team to DICT sites and NGCP substations. The annexes are available in the BCDA website.
28. Will the BCDA consider extending or increasing the period of Completion of Works from the current requirement of 200days?	Period of Completion of Works is 200 days.
29. From Volume 1 Document, whether the warranty and support required for OTN/DWDM is five (5) years or two (2) years? It is stated in page 85 of Volume 1 document, the Warranty and Support for OTN is 5 years but it is also stated in the same page that "During the project deployment and the first two (2) years of the warranty and support, the contractor to provide at no cost to DICT, the three (3) service vehicles preferably 4x4 pickup trucks including but not limited to fuel, insurance and maintenance". Is it a different warranty for OTN and Service Vehicles Needed on the same Lot Component (Optical Transport Network)?	For OTN/DWDM - five (5) years The vehicles that will be provided is part of the warranty and support to be rendered by the bidder. No required warranty for the vehicles. The vehicles should support the warranty period. The vehicles shall be operational and maintained by the winning bidder during the NFB Phase 1warranty period.

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Will the winning bidder provide 5 years warranty and maintenance for OTN and 2 years for vehicle?	
30. Whether interested bidders can send additional queries via email apart from the questions raised during Pre-Bid Conference?	Yes, the bidders can send additional queries via email but the deadline for request for clarifications was last 05 March 2021.
31. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 2.2.6.1 Page 44. Please define the OTDR Range for this unit. The OTDR in FOC build was defined with 100-250km whereas the OTDR for Transponder/Muxponder was not indicated.	It should be the same as what has been defined for the OTDR specification in FOC which is 100-250Km.
32. Who would coordinate with NGCP for the location of the ODF and equipment locations?	DICT
33. Who would provide the specific of the NGCP fiber and are these the fibers to be terminated in the ODF? ODF 2 x 24 ports to be supplied and installed in the NGCP locations are not included in the BOQ.	DICT will provide the port assignments of the NGCP OPGW fibers terminated in NGCP ODF to the winning bidder. The fibers to be terminated in the project's ODFs are for the project's 48core and 144core miniFOC only. The project's ODFs locations are listed under the deliverable portion of the 48core and 144core airblown miniFOCs. The winning bidder must include the BOQ of the project's ODF. Please refer to the updated BOQ listing of FOC Build and OTN.
34. Of the 23 DWDM/ROADM NGCP sites, 3 (San Rafael, Subic, Currimao) are classified as "fiber-bypass" connections. Are all of these 3 sites merely passive fiber bypass or active bypass, i.e., with ILA, or combination? (ref pp 4,7)	These 3 sites are classified as Passive Fiber Bypass.
35. Can the winning bidder still change the initial network topology, e.g., addition of ILA site(s) in some FOC segment (if required) in the final design? (ref pp 4,7)	Yes, but additional ILA locations subject for DICT approval provided it will not incur additional cost to the project.

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36. Since all FOC segments between NGCP and DICT/BCDA sites are UG, what's the purpose of duct and aerial cable supply in the network design? (ref pp 20)	The bullet section (ref pp20) is an optional specification for the supply of aerial cables in nominal lengths per reel or drum of delivery. Supply and delivery of aerial cable and ducts is required *if* NGCP will not allow underground on some of their substations.
37. In addition to SFLU CLS, Baler CLS, and Equinix LA DC, do we need to supply TRANSPONDER/MUXPONDER system in Sta. Maria DICT site? (ref pp 41)	No Transponder is needed in Sta. Maria, only rectifier systems.
38. Please clarify section 2.3.2.1 (first bullet) "must be equipped with additional 200Gbps of spectral capacity between DICT Roces and DICT NGDC3", will this require 200Gbps TRANSPONDER/MUXPONDER at DICT Roces & NGDC3 sites? (ref pp 49)	Yes. This is an additional capacity requirement on top of the traffic matrix, such as ckt ID#8 Roces-NGDC3 1x10Gbps Each equipment node -DICT Roces and DICT NGDC Subic- must be equipped with additional (i) 2x100Gbps client cards and (ii) 2x100GbE/o pluggable transceiver modules, gray color.
39. Is CD-F required for single degree node? Can we propose CF for Phase 1?– Annex B4 Node Design Details	C-F for single degree but upgradable to CD-F or CDC-F for network expansion and upgrade. See attached revised Annex B4.
40. For sites Baler CLS, La_Trinidad, Laoag., the network diagram shows only 1 degree, but in the table (AnnexB4) it's a 2 degree node? Please help to clarify.	Corrected on the revised Annex B4, see attached. These three sites are 1 degree.
41. SFLU site is 2 degree node in diagram, whereas in the table (AnnexB4) it's a 1 degree node. Which should we follow in the design? Please help to clarify.	Corrected on the revised Annex B4, see attached. SFLU is a 2 degree node.
42. There are 8 sites in RFP (Araneta, Diliman, Balintawak, Bauang, Bolo, Nagsaag, Olongapo, RS2) where traffic doesn't have add/Drop in phase-1.	Yes, this is correct.
43. Is it mandatory to configure the sites CD-F at Phase1?	There are multiple configurations required please refer to revised Annex B4 for the configuration.
44. Can this be considered C-F configuration and later upgrade to CD-F when add-drop is needed? This will save cost significantly.	There are multiple configurations required please please refer to revised Annex B4 for the configuration.

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45. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 2.4.3 Page 59. Does DICT already have a /23 IPv4 and /32 IPv6 IP block, and ASN from APNIC?	DICT doesn't have IPs and ASN. The current setup is DICT IPs are provided by DOST. Another /23 shall be sourced out from other providers as APNIC can only issue one /23.
46. Transponder - Wavelengths equipment conforms to the specifications as defined in Annex E. May we request copy of Annex E?	Annex E pertains to the Permit Matrix. Technical specifications are already mentioned on the main Terms of Reference for transponder.
47. For the Transponder Portion, relative to the concern of the other prospective bidders. Since the Brand is Given which is CIENA, it will be difficult for other bidders if CIENA will not provide equal pricing footing. Hope the BAC Chair can consider having this LOT to be of separate tender.	DICT will try to request from the manufacturer, any assistance for the bidders to be able to provide their price in order to cost their bid but we recommend that bidders communicate directly with the manufacturer.
48. 700Gbps scalable to 2TB - Is this single channel 700Gbps scalable to 2T or aggregate capacity of multiple wavelength on a single fiber pair?	Physical cross-connection is via seven (7) pairs of 100Gbps optical pluggable modules, gray color and patch cords.
49. For the required service vehicles under the purchase or lease agreement, will it be acceptable if a bidder will submit an "Affidavit of Undertaking" on the bid submission while waiting for the result of the bid evaluation?	The IRR of Republic Act No. 9184 requires Owned Equipment, or Equipment which are under Purchase or Lease Agreement. Please see BDS 10.5 for the list of supporting documents.
50. The 48C fiber in the other locations. For example, NGCP Bacnotan, Mexico, San Esteban (located in page 54 of Volume 1)? We understand that these are already installed and ready to be terminated in the 2x24 core ODF? The bidder needs to test how many fiber core and if it fails, NGCP will be responsible to correct it? What would be the responsibility or accountability matrix for the usage of these cables.	The 48C fiber from NGCP telecom room to the tapping point outside its premises is not yet installed. 2.1.5.3.9 must supply, blow, splice, terminate, and test 48core FOC stub from ODF (supply and install at project's DWDM rack) to the optical joint enclosure (supply and install at project's service manhole) of the following NGCP equipment nodes with CEF implementation (refer to Vol2, section 2.1.6.3.14)
51. For the JV or Consortium, does it need to be registered with the SEC and/ or other equivalent government agency?	The Consortium or JV does not need to be registered with the SEC.

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	The Consortium or JV needs a Special PCAB License.
52. For clarification on the Manpower requirement, It indicates licensed Electronics and Communications Engineer. Does this also apply to Electronics Engineer. This revision is also consistent with Republic Act (RA) 9292, otherwise known as the "New Electronics Engineering Law of 2004.	Yes.
53. On the 8 locations for HDPE microduct, would it be the DICT specs of 16/12 mm 7 way? Please check page 55 as it shows OD = 25 +- 0.3mm and ID = 21 +- 0.3 mm, will this be the main duct? The outer sheet indicated is 3.0 mm HDPE	On the 8 locations, the project's "7way HDPE Microduct" specs is 25/21mm: OD/ID. Seven 25/21mm microducts are bundled together with 3mm thick outer sheath HDPE pipe forming a single run of 7-way conduit. The 7Way with 16/12 specs is an existing 250km underground conduit of the LBI.
54. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 2.2.2.3 Page 40 May we request BCDA - DICT to Provide layout for Baler Cable Landing Station, Sta. Maria Repeater Station 2 (RS2), and San Fernando, La Union Landing Station so vendors will be able to design appropriately the necessary cable tray, cable ladder, and other supporting facilities.	Site surveys in SFLU CLS, Rosario Repeater Station, and DICT Roces will be conducted by interested bidders as agreed during the pre-bid conference. Drawings/Layout will be made available by BCDA - DICT to bidders who purchased the Bid Docs for NFB Phase 1 Project. Status of the site can be confirmed through the site survey that will be conducted by interested bidders as agreed.
55. Warranty and Support for 5 years for transponder, with free four 4x4 pick up with free fuel, insurance and maintenance. How would we know the consumptions?	The usage of the vehicle will be part of the assumptions to be made by the winning bidder where every vehicle should at least cover a 250-km round trip on a daily basis where the local transponders will be installed.
56. Warranty and Support for 2 years for the FOC build, with free three 4x4 pick up with free fuel, insurance and maintenance. How would we know the consumptions?	The consumption of the vehicle will be part of fuel the assumptions to be made by the winning bidder where the vehicle can cover the areas of FOC installation on a daily basis.

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57. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 3.9.14 Page 69 due to lack of time to survey all sites, can we request BCDA - DICT to provide list of sites which requires Earthing Works.	DICT Roces site and the NGDC in Subic will require Earthing Works.
58. (For OTN Portion) Can we clarify on the traffic requirement, from Annex B5 circuit ID 19 to 22 Client rate is 1x50G. Is this 5x10G or 1x100G client with 50G bandwidth?	1x100G with 50G bandwidth
59. Can the company issue an undertaking to procure the equipment if it wins the bid, instead of proof of ownership?	If not owned, the bidder has 2 more options: enter into a Purchase Agreement or enter into a Lease Agreement. Please see BDS 10.5 for the supporting documents. But make sure that the Certificate of Availability of the Equipment for the project will be signed by the Seller or Lessor, as the case may be, and submitted as part of the Bid documents.
60. DICT shall arrange access passes but it would be the winning bidder who would do the leg work and payments. Payments are all inclusive of the ABC?	ROW, ECC and excavation permit fees are inclusive of the ABC. The winning bidder shall not encroach in private properties and areas with private-property-rights to avoid ROW issues.
61. Training even from those in the region shall be shouldered be the winning bidder, including airfare and hotels?	Yes.
62. Will you allow different and independent payment milestones for each of the 4 project components?	Monthly progress billing is the mode of payment for this project. After the first billing, the progress billing may be from the different components, except Component 4.
63. what is the difference between a consortium and a JV? I noticed that in the proforma consortium document, the word "joint venture" was mentioned.	Joint Venture and Consortium both require a Special PCAB license. Filipino interest for both JV or Consortium should be at least 60%. For JV, all members should have an individual PCAB license~~,~~ and at least one should be AAA Large B for General Engineering, General Building, Electrical Works, or Communications Facilities.

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	For Consortium, at least one member should have an individual PCAB license AAA, Large B for General Engineering, General Building, Electrical Works, or Communications Facilities and it should be the constructor that possesses the required PCAB license. Please see RA9184, its IRR, and issuances of the GPPB.
64. Please confirm if a PCAB License Large B requirement in any one of the following: General Engineering, General Building, Electrical Works, Communications Facilities, will be sufficient. In other words, the bidder is not required to have a Large B license in all of the above works.	Yes, any of those will be sufficient.
65. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 2.2.2.3 Page 40 "The Winning Bidder shall install fiber cable trays, ladders, and spooler from SLTE equipment room to Transponder/Muxponder equipment room at Equinix LA4 Data Center, Baler, and San Fernando Cable Landing Stations in the Philippines." Provide layout for Baler Cable Landing Station, Sta. Maria Repeater Station 2 (RS2), and San Fernando, La Union Landing Station so vendors will be able to design appropriately the necessary cable tray, cable ladder, and other supporting facilities.	The information needed can be sourced from the site survey to be conducted by the interested Bidders. Drawings/Layout will be made available by BCDA - DICT to bidders who purchased the Bid Docs for NFB Phase 1 Project.
66. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 2.2.6.1 Page 44 "Two (2) units of Optical Time-Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) test set." Please define the OTDR Range for this unit. The OTDR in FOC build was defined with 100-250km whereas the OTDR for Transponder/Muxponder was not indicated.	Same answer as item#31 It should be the same as what has been defined for the OTDR specification in FOC which is 100-250Km.
67. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 2.4.3 Page 59	Same answer as item#45

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"The Winning Bidder must cover the maintenance and support of 100 Gbps IP transit, acquiring IPv4/IPv6 Addresses, Autonomous System Number (ASN) to APNIC, and cross-cable connection to DICT Equipment for 12 months in Equinix LA4, Los Angeles, California, USA." Does DICT already have a /23 IPv4 and /32 IPv6 IP block, and ASN from APNIC? APNIC does not provide /22 to a single entity and biggest they offer is /23. /23 Can only be given to an entity once, if DICT already have a /23 from APNIC, bidders will now secure the IPv4 addresses to other APNIC certified providers.	DICT doesn't have IPs and ASN. Current setup, DICT IPs are provided by DOST. Another /23 shall be sourced out from other providers as apnic can only issue one /23.
68. Vol 2 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: 3.9.14 Page 69 "The Winning Bidder must design, supply, install, test the earthing system at project sites following the grounding recommendations of the Philippine Electrical Code." BCDA and DICT to provide list of sites which requires Earthing Works. Earthing works will involve excavation and installation of the ground ring below earth's surface of not less than 750mm. If bidders will provide Earth Works to all sites, then it means we will do excavation works on all sites as well? Are we going to be allowed specifically to NGCP sites?	Earthing works will be required in DICT Roces site and the NGDC site in Subic (same answer as item#57) NGCP substations have existing grounding system
69. We'd also like to raise that BCDA and DICT should commit that all sites have sufficient floor area / space for the required components per site on this RFI (i.e. DWDM/OTN nodes racks, rectifier system and its racks, battery banks, generator sets, air conditioning system, etc.).	For DICT sites, we have sufficient floor area for DWDM/OTN components, rectifiers and battery banks. DICT Roces has sufficient floor area for two (2) air-conditioning units NGCP sites allocated 1 sqm for DICT equipment racks. DC supply is already available on all DICT sites.

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70. Provide list down all staging sites that will serve the project sites involved. And indicate which staging site requires road works.	Identification of staging sites and its corresponding access roads will be under the responsibility of the winning bidder.
71. The contract we will present to comply with the SLCC is covered by an NDA with our client. As such, we are prohibited to divulge its contents as these are critical information. In lieu of the contract, can we present the sales invoice and receipts to prove the existence and validity of the contract. In addition, thereto, we can also present the contract during the post qualification to the BAC but we cannot allow the latter to make copies of the contract. We would like to ask if this suggestion will be allowed?	This is a design and build contract, and the bidding documents are patterned after the format for infrastructure projects which requires that the proof of the SLCC will be the contract and certificate of final acceptance, thus, other documents will not be acceptable. Please refer to provision nos. 23.4.2.4 and 23.4.2.5 of the Revised IRR of RA 9184. We suggest that you request permission from the project owner of the contract with the NDA to use the same as proof of your SLCC.
72. Vol 1 - NFBP1 Bidding Documents: Bid Data Sheet Page 11 "I. The bidder should be able to show a Design Contract for a project, within the last ten years, of at least 50% of the ABC (P625,000,000) or at least 2 Design Contracts for projects within the last ten years, with an aggregate total of at least 50% of the ABC (P625,000,000) involving any or a combination of the following:" Does this mean we can provide 2 or more design and build project for SLCC?	Yes.
73. Manufacturer's Authorization Volume 2 Bid Document, item 6.4 page 10 "Bidder must provide Manufacturer's Authorization that the Bidder is an accredited reseller of the following proposed equipment to be supplied: 1. Optical Transport Network System 2. Transponders 3. Fiber Optic Cable 4. HDPE Ducts 5. Generator Sets	Yes, only one member of the Consortium may have the Manufacturer's Authorization.

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For the Manufacturer's Authorization requirement of all the 5 items mentioned above, is it acceptable that the Manufacturer's Certificate is between the Manufacturer and one of the "Consortium" members only who have the direct reseller agreement to the manufacturer considering the sharing of qualifications under a consortium partnership agreement?	
74. Manufacturer's Authorization Can we suggest for a Per Component Milestone of Payment from BCDA?	Monthly progress billing is implemented for this project.
75. Manufacturer's Authorization Can we invite our technology partners to be part of an oral Technical Proposal presentation to BCDA/DICT?	Yes
76. Manufacturer's Authorization Is the oral Technical Proposal presentation to BCDA/DICT on-site or virtual?	BCDA - DICT prefers to conduct this virtually but the bidder has the option to present on-site, if preferred.
77. Manufacturer's Authorization Given that the covid situation will restrict the trainer to travel from overseas to the Philippines, will the DICT/BCDA allow the local training to be on a virtual set-up instead of personal training in the Philippines?	Yes.
78. Manufacturer's Authorization On the required Certificate for tools/equipment mentioned on "Item 13, Tab M, and page 97 of Volume 1 NFBP1 Bid Document". Will it be acceptable for a bidder to submit an affidavit of undertaking with a commitment to purchase or lease the tools/equipment while waiting for the bid evaluation result?	The Purchase or Lease Agreement should address that. The agreement should contain the commitment to purchase or lease the tools/equipment if or when the bidder is awarded the contract. The equipment should be available for inspection during post-qualification.

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79. Manufacturer's Authorization Do we need to provide the detailed Summary BOM to BCDA/DICT or we will just follow the Tab X - Bill of Quantities as provided by BCDA?	Bidder should submit the BOM following the prescribed form provided under Tab X - Bill of Quantities. Once the design has been submitted, the total, final BOQ should not exceed the bid submitted.
80. Manufacturer's Authorization How will you treat the project delay particularly caused by the site acquisition, permitting, non-readiness of site and IATF compliance due to current pandemic?	Site acquisition, permitting, and site readiness have already been considered in the 200 day timeframe. Furthermore, the DICT has coordinated with other government agencies and project stakeholders to expedite the implementation of the NFB Phase 1 Network. On grounds for contract extension, penalties, et.c, kindly refer to the RA 9184, its revised IRR, and issuances from GPPB.
81. For Fiber Optic Cable Build (Component 1) May we request for the floor plans of all the sites that will be covered for this project?	NGCP floor plans are not available. Typical floor plan will be provided. DICT Roces and NGDC in Subic floor plans were provided as Annexes B9.1, B9.2 and B9.3. Site surveys to SFLU CLS and RS in La Union will be conducted as agreed. Drawings/Layouts will be made available by BCDA - DICT to bidders who purchased the Bid Docs.
82. For Fiber Optic Cable Build (Component 1) How many conduits will be laid from the SMH to the Cable Room for the CEF?	Single run of 7way HDPE microduct.
83. On the FOC (component 1) "Tab S" Eligibility & Technical Component No. Description, page 98 (Volume 1 - NFBP1 Bid Doc). Please elaborate more on the details of the following: a. Preliminary Conceptual Design Plans in accordance with the degree of details specified by the Procuring Entity? b. Shall we just put only the FOC Routing for the middle mile and 250km backbone?	a. Please refer to Annex C of the TOR for the technical details of the requirement b. Include middle mile and CEF on the design. The 250km Fiber Installation by blowing should conform to the design of Luzon Bypass Infrastructure (LBI) conduit. Single Line Diagram of LBI was provided in Annexes C2, C3 and C4.

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84. On the FOC (component 1) "Tab S" Eligibility & Technical Component No. Description, page 98 (Volume 1 - NFBP1 Bid Doc). Please DICT elaborate more on the details of the Value Engineering Analysis of the Design and Construction Method, may we request for a copy of this document as a reference?	Value Engineering is part of Design and Build Contracts, particularly in the Design phase of the project. Value Engineering is used in projects to provide a clear and detailed analysis of how best to meet the goals of the project. Value Engineering, when used with cost estimating, allows for an independent review of the entire project. This process is focused on one common goal: to provide the highest value at the lowest cost, and to meet the deadline. There is no form/document prescribed for Value Engineering.
85. On the Fiber Optic Specification (Volume 1 - NFBP 1 doc, summary of technical specifications , component 1 Fiber Optic Cable Build, Item 2, Page 47; Item 2, Page 51. Optical Fiber: Consist of 144 cores of single-mode, low loss cut-off shifted fiber (CSF), glass core, glass cladded fibers complying fully with ITU-T Recommendation G.654.A Will you consider a 652.D fiber optic cable as an alternative to a G.654A fiber optic cable based on the following reasons: ● G.654.A standard FOC is used for long-haul undersea application while G.652.D standards FOC is a commonly used fiber short-haul terrestrial application. ● For the middle mile (8 segments), it is recommendable to use G.652G standard FOC because the distance for this project ranges from 2km to 15km which is considered a short-haul. ● The price of G.654.A FOC does not it your approved budget considering its extremely high price. ● The availability of G.654A FOC requires longer timeline being un	Please see response to Item No. 3 Yes. G.652D can be considered for the 48core and 144core airblown mini-FOC.

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common as compared to G.652D which are commonly available.	
86. Transponder Component (Component 2) On the Transponder Component (component 3) "Tab T" Eligibility & Technical Component No. Description, page 98 (Volume 1- NFBP1 Bid Doc), Please elaborate more or give description on the details of the: a. Design and construction methods; b. Value engineering analysis of design and construction method.	Since this is a Design and Build project, the bidder is the one to submit their design and construction method to use, and the value engineering analysis.
87. On the Transponder Component (component 3) "Tab T" Eligibility & Technical Component No. Description, page 98 (Volume 1- NFBP1 Bid Doc), Kindly provide us with a copy of "Annex E" that was referred to in the Statement of Compliance of "Component 2"; Row11.	Technical compliance referring to annex E is now Contract Implementation Guidelines for the Procurement of Infrastructure Projects. The previous content for Annex E regarding the technical specifications are now part of the main Terms of Reference for Transponder. Annex E was changed to the Permit Matrix.
88. Optical Transport Network (Component 3) On the Optical Transport Network (component 3) "Tab U" Eligibility & Technical Component No. Description, page 98 (Volume 1- NFBP1 Bid Doc). Can DICT elaborate more or give description on the details of the: a. Design and construction methods; b. Value engineering analysis of design and construction method.	Since this is a Design and Build project, the bidder is the one to submit their design and construction method to use, and the value engineering analysis.
89. Optical Transport Network (Component 3) Vol. 1, under section "Spares Deliverables", we have: "To provide sufficient in-country pool of spares for Spare Parts exchange within two (24) hours in times of non availability of Spare Parts at DICT side due to non-repair or non- arrival of repaired equipment at DICT's premises".	This is a typographical error, it should be twenty-four (24) hours

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Is the time limit 2, 24, or 48 hours?	
90. Optical Transport Network (Component 3) Vol. 1, under section "Optical Transport Network Component", we have: "Hardware replacement and return within sixty (60) days upon shipment of defective item/component otherwise an advanced hardware replacement will be required. The contractor should have an advanced hardware replacement available on hand to replace the faulty hardware under warranty within twenty-four (24) hours". This time limit here is 24 hours; what is the relationship to the time limits in question?	same limit, twenty-four (24) hours
91. Optical Transport Network (Component 3) In general, we observe only a few requirements on performance, stability, or resilience. There are e.g. BER tests mentioned but not much on specific levels. Are Contractors expected to suggest applicable.	Yes. Test plans are part of the documentation requirements.
92. Optical Transport Network (Component 3) Annex B10, Technical specification: For NMS requirement, it mentioned support for IP/MPLS (LAYER 3), May we know the details for IP/MPLS (how many sites and capacity required)?	Phase 1 will use the DICT Router in NGDC in Diliman for the distribution. IP/MPLS network will be implemented in succeeding phases.
93. Eligibility documents: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) We would like to clarify if the submission of an NFCC (a financial document) by the consortium partner would suffice or complies for a Consortium partnership proposal.	One member of the consortium may submit the compliant NFCC.

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94. Eligibility documents: Consortium Partnership Please confirm if two (2) companies both majorities owned by a single individual is eligible to participate in the bidding as consortium partners?	The consortium must at least have 60% Filipino interest. It may participate in the bidding and it needs to meet all the eligibility requirements of the bidding.
95. Eligibility Requirements. Bid Documents May we request for confirmation that the checklist of documents contains all documents which should be submitted on the bid submission date?	The checklist is a guide, and the bidder must review the Bidding Documents thoroughly and review the Bid Bulletins that are issued by the SBAC. One example for this is the Form for the Detailed Cost Estimates, which was discussed during the Pre-Bid Conference.
96. Eligibility Requirements. Bid Documents Are there prescribed forms/templates for the following documents: (a) Authority of the Signatory for Corporations/Consortia; and (b) NFCC Computations.	No prescribed form for Authority of Signatory. This usually is in the form of a Board Secretary's Certificate designating a representative for the corporation to bid in the project, and to sign the documents relative thereto. The NFCC computation is as follows: **NFCC** = [(Current assets minus current liabilities) (K)] minus the value of all outstanding or uncompleted portions of the projects under ongoing contracts, including awarded contracts yet to be started coinciding with the contract to be bid. Where K=15 (for contracts more than 1 year, up to 2 years)
97. Eligibility Requirements. Manufacturer's Authorizations Please clarify the purpose of requiring manufacturer's authorization/authorized re-seller requirement. We reiterate our request to remove this requirement considering that this appears to restrict the eligibility of other private sector participants, particularly in the context of the extremely short timetable within which to submit the eligibility documents and the technical/financial bid.	Please see response to Item/Query No. 9 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2

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We note that the bid documents were only released on February 17, 2021.	
98. Eligibility Requirements. PhilGEPS Platinum Certificate of Registration. Kindly confirm if PhilGEPS registration is required for each consortium member.	Yes. Required for each consortium member, the consortium members may opt to submit the Annex "A" of the PhilGEPS Platinum Certificate (PCAB License if applicable, Business Permit, DTI or SEC Certificate of Registration, Tax Clearance, Audited Financial Statement) The individual PCAB license may be submitted during Post-Qualification. For Consortia and JVs, the Special PCAB license must be valid on the deadline of the Bid Submission.
99. Eligibility Requirements. Statement of on-going contracts. Is this requirement applicable for all private and government project for each member of consortium or just the construction member? Is there a threshold value for contracts which need to be disclosed?	All members of the JV/Consortium should submit a statement of all ongoing government and private contracts. No threshold.
100. Eligibility Requirements. PCAB/Special PCAB Please confirm if a PCAB License Large B requirement in **any one** of the following: General Engineering, General Building, Electrical Works, Communications Facilities, will be sufficient. In other words, the bidder is **not** required to have a Large B license in all of the above works.	Please see response to Item/Query No. 64 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
101. Eligibility Requirements. Manufacturer's Authorizations Assuming the authorized re-seller requirement will be maintained, could we clarify whether the authorized re-seller requirement can be complied with by the winning bidder AND/OR the winning bidder's nominated suppliers?	Please see response to Item/Query No. 9 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2

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	This requirement may be too restrictive if it can be complied with only by the winning bidder, as only those entities who are already authorized re-sellers or who can enter in to a consortium with such entities will qualify for this procurement.	
102.	Eligibility Requirements. NFCC Computations How is NFCC computed? We note that the bid documents refer to Section 23.4.2.6 of the 2016 revised IRR of RA 9184 but do not provide for any form or template. May we request for a sample computation?	Please see response to Item/Query No. 96 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
103.	Eligibility Requirements. Bid security Please confirm that the Bid Security shall be issued to BCDA and not DICT. If the Bid Security is in the form of a letter of credit, can any of the consortium members issue such letter of credit?	All documents submitted for this bidding shall be addressed to: Ms. Aileen An. R. Zosa SBAC Chairperson BCDA Yes, any of the consortium members can issue such letter of credit. An option for the bidder is to submit a Bid Securing Declaration.
104.	Eligibility Requirements. Org Chart for Contract to Bid Does this refer to the consortium organizational chart or the project management organizational chart?	This refers to the Project Management Organizational Chart.
105.	Technical. FOC Build (Component 1) Will the BCDA consider extending or increasing the period of Completion of Works from 200 days to 300 days?	Please see response to Item No. 28 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
106.	Technical. Preliminary Conceptual Design Please confirm if the BCDA can consider extending the deadline for submission of eligibility documents and the	No extension for submission of bids per DICT directive.

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	technical/financial bid, considering that the bid documents were only released on February 17 and the complexity of the project. We likewise note that submission of a bid requires the participating bidder to: (a) submit designs and schedules for the implementation of the project, (b) secure manufacturer's authorization/authorized re-seller accreditation for components of the project, and © acknowledge that it has sufficiently conducted site inspection, verification and other activities, all of which will be extremely challenging within the current timetable and during the on-going pandemic.	
107.	Technical. Design and construction methods Vol 1, Page 14, Section 4.1 - The Bidding Documents state that Procuring Entity guarantees possession of all Sites. Does this include NGCP, and ROW thru government (both national and local) land? Please refer to Volume 2 Section 8.2 "Access to land property" which provides that DICT shall arrange with agencies concerned with the Project for the free and unimpeded access by the winning bidder's personnel to all lands and properties in respect of which access is required for the performance of the services.	Please see response to Item No. 27. Equipment co-location has been approved by NGCP. DICT will assist in the acquisition of ROW, ECC and Excavation permits with concerned government agencies. DICT will process access permits of winning bidder's implementation team to DICT sites and NGCP substations.
108.	Technical. Value engineering analysis. Vol 2, Page 5, Section 5.1 provides that acquisition of permits and ROW shall be the responsibility of the bidder with assistance of DICT and refers to **Annex F**. May we request for **Annex F**, which is not	All annexes are now available to be downloaded from the BCDA website. Annex F has been changed to Annex E.

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	included in the bid documents.	
109.	Technical. Transponder (Component 2) Vel 1, From #8, also refer to Volume 2 page 36 Section 2.2 on transponder architecture, also Section 2.2.2.1 ("SLTE is PRESCRIBING a technology set for transponder") - Since the Facebook Spectrum that will be enabled through the Baler landing station can only be enabled using Ciena Transponders, it may appear that only accredited resellers of Ciena can participate in the bidding. Will it be feasible to make component 2 as a separate project and only retain Components 1, 3 & 4 for this bid?	No, it cannot be a separate project. It will not affect the bidder to offer another OTN brand.
110.	Technical. Preliminary Conceptual Design. Vol 2, Page 42, Section 2.2.4.2 - From this section it implies that the brand for Transponders and OTN may not be necessarily the same. Please confirm.	Yes, this is correct.
111.	Technical. Design and construction methods. Vol 2, Page 62, Section 3.4 - Since operating cost (fuel, insurance and maintenance) of service vehicle seem to be vague, can we put a cap to this cost in the bid?	The bidder must ensure the fuel sufficiency when needed.
112.	Technical. Transponder warranty for 5 years. This additional OPEX involves training of people and assignment of vehicles. Kindly describe the intended use further since this is an on-going OPEX.	Please refer to the warranty and support on pages 80-81 of the TOR released.
113.	Technical. Certificate of IP transit provision.	100Gbps IP Transit is a service subscription. The bidder may issue its own certification

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Is there a form for the Certificate of IP transition provision?	attesting to the inclusion of 100Gbps IP transit in its bid submission.
114. Technical. Annex B5 - Traffic Matrix Nov 23 1. We need to know the detailed service matrix information of "Component 3: Optical Transport Network". Kindly confirm if the traffic information from "Annex B5 - Traffic Matrix Nov 23" will be part of the BOQ? 2. In the "Annex B5 - Traffix Matrix Nov 23", does the rate in the traffic matrix refer to the line side rate or the client/bidder side rate?	1. The Traffic Matrix information is part of BOQ. 2. The rates specified in "Annex B5 Nov23" are client rates.
115. Technical. Annex B2 - NBB Network Map Ph1_Dec2 May we request for the distance of the links? Do the vendors need to calculate the distance by google earth by themselves?	Distance of OPGW segments (links) are available in Annex B6.
116. Financial. Financial Bid. Is there flexibility in increasing the ABC of the project from P1.25B to P2B?	No.
117. Implementation Concerns. Bid submission deadline extension. Given the scope of the bid and the continuing pandemic, the March 15 deadline for submission is very challenging. Can we request that the submission of the bid be moved to June 30, 2020?	No extension for submission of bids per DICT directive.
118. Implementation Concerns. First step procedure. Vol 2, Page 10, Section 6.8.1.b - The first step procedure is a pass/fail criteria.	Please see response to Item No. 23.

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	Judgement of the concept of approach, etc. seems to be subjective and open to varying interpretations. Could we request the BCDA/DICT to please clarify and explain further how the evaluation will be undertaken on an objective basis?	
119.	Implementation Concerns. Change in design docs. Vol 2, Page 14, Section 9 provides that any changes on the Design documents shall be at no charge to DICT. Can we limit this to "reasonable" changes?	During implementation, any changes on the design will be subject for approval of DICT. Reasonable changes can be accepted as long as it does not defeat the objective of the project to have a working NFB Phase1 network.
120.	Implementation Concerns. Step in clause. Vol 2, Page 78, "Step-in clause" How will the work of the nominated vendor be fairly priced?	It will be priced based on the BOM or BOQ submitted during bid, with the benefit of appropriate evaluation of work.
121.	Eligibility - SLCC compliance As a SBAC response to the subject pre-bid clarification, they explained: if a bidder has a two (2) Build and Design contracts with a total value of P400,000,000.00 and a separate 1 or 2 contracts for Build Implementation with a value P100,000,000.00 or more a bidder can combine those contracts to come with a total amount of P625,000,000.00 track record for the SLCC. Can we have a formal confirmation on the above affirmation from the BAC, allowing a combined aggregate contracts such as OSP Build & Design and Build Implementation contracts of similar projects in telecom OSP work as verbally explained by the BAC during the pre-bid meeting?	Please see the Bid Data Sheet Clause on SLCC. The SBAC can only evaluate documents that are submitted.

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122. Eligibility. It is stated in the bidding documents under Volume II, Section 3.2 Manpower, Project Manager, Minimum Qualifications "**Preferably** a license Electronics and Communications Engineer". Does the word "**Preferably**" mean a license Electronic & Communication Engineer is required or is it is an option for all bidders to pledge a non-license Electronics and Communications Engineer.	It is an option for the bidder not to submit a non-licensed ECE as long as the required qualifications mentioned are complied.
123. Eligibility. Under Bidding Document Volume 1, Checklist and Tabbing Requirements of Bidding Documents, page 97, item 13, Tab "M", List of required equipment (Owned, Under Purchase Agreement, and/or Under Lease Agreement). Please provide the minimum capacity of the equipment to be pledged for the project.	Please see Vol. II of the Bidding Documents, Section 3.3, page 62. The capacity of the equipment should be proposed by the bidder and any additional equipment, in order to meet the 200-day implementation of this project.
124. Optical Transport Network (Component 3). From Annex B4 Node Design Details, Is CD-F required for single degree node? Can we propose CF for Phase 1?	Please see response to Item No. 39.
125. Optical Transport Network (Component 3). For sites Baler CLS, La_Trinidad, Laoag., the Network Diagram shows only 1 degree but in the table (Annex B4) it's a 2 degree node? Can we confirm which feature to use for our design?	Please see response to Item No. 40.
126. Optical Transport Network (Component 3). SFLU site is 2 degree node in diagram, whereas in the table (Annex B4) it's a 1 degree node.	Please see response to Item No. 41.

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Which should we follow in the design?	
127. Optical Transport Network (Component 3). There are 8 sites in RFP (Araneta, Diliman, Balintawak, Baunag, Bolo, Nagssag, Olongapo, RS2) where traffic doesn't have add/Drop in phase-1. Is it mandatory to configure the sites CD-F at Phase1?	Please see response to Item No. 42.
128. Fiber Optic Cable Build (Component 1) Are we required to attach the detailed FOC build design on the bid submission considering the bidders limited preparation time?	High-level FOC build design is acceptable on bid submission. The winning bidder will provide the detailed FOC Build Design.
129. Fiber Optic Cable Build (Component 1) Since ROW (Right of Way) legworks is part of the contrator, is this included in 200 days completion of the whole project?	Yes.
130. 100Gbps IP Transit (Component 4) On the 100Gbps IP Transit (Component 4), page 98 (Volum 1- NFBP1 Bid Doc), stated under Checklist and Tabbing Requirement of Bidding Documents, under item 22, 100 Gbps IP Transit (Component 4), section "a) Certificate that the **bidder** can provide the required IP Transit", Please provide us a sample or template for this requirement.	Please see response to Item No. 113.
131. 100Gbps IP Transit (Component 4) May we know the brand and model of the existing DICT Core router mentioned?	Huawei NE40E-X8 Universal Service Router.
132. 100Gbps IP Transit (Component 4) May we know the power source available for the L2 switch that we will provide?	AC power

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133. May we request for the network diagram of the telephone room in the 20 NGCP substations where the DWDM will be installed?	Please see response to Item No. 12. Typical network diagram for NGCP telecom room will be provided. See Annex B9.5.
134. May we request for the network diagram of the two (2) CLS and the LA4 with markings where we can connect the DCN?	Please see response to Item No. 13.
135. May we know the exact model of the existing CIENA Equipment where we need to integrate?	Please see response to Item No. 14.
136. Who will shoulder cost for the survey in the LA4 USA? How many persons will be joining from DICT and how long?	Please see response to Item No. 15.
137. May we clarify which are the sites that will be needing the rectifier and power systems and may we request for their power system diagram for us to assess the needed items per site?	Please see response to Item No. 16.
138. May we ask for a high level design for the DCN system that the BAC is looking at as a minimum design?	Please see response to Item No. 17.
139. May we ask for the DICT IP Network DIagram for the item 4.4.2.2 - Integration and Peering with DICT IP Network (Vol 2 page 73 of 86)?	Please see response to Item No. 18.
140. Can we request for the editable excel file of the compliance sheet?	Please see response to Item No. 19.
141. What training is required? Instructor Led with certification or Customized will do?	Please see response to Item No. 21.
142. What is the total number of headcounts for the training participants, it only indicates 30/session?	Please see response to Item No. 21.
143. Of the 23 DWDM/ROADM NGCP Sites, 3 (San Rafael, Subic, Currimao) are classified as “fiber-bypass” connections. Are all these 2 sites merely passive fiber bypass, i.e., with ILA, or combination (Vol 2 pages 4 and 7 of 86)?	Please see response to Item No. 34.

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144. Can the winning bidder still change the initial network topology, e.g., addition of ILA site(s) in some FOC segment (if required) in the final design (Vol 2 pages 4 and 7 of 86)?	Please see response to Item No. 35.
145. Since all FOC segments between NGCP and DICT/BCDA sites are UG, what is the purpose of duct and aerial cable supply in the network design (Vol 2 page 20 of 86)?	Please see response to Item No. 36.
146. In addition to SFLU CLS, Baler CLS, and Equinix LA DC, do we need to supply TRANSPONDER/MUXPONDER system in Sta. Maria DICT Site (Vol 2 page 41 of 86)?	Please see response to Item No. 37.
147. Please clarify section 2.3.2.1 (first bullet) "must be equipped with additional 200Gbps or spectral capacity between DICT Roces and DICT NGDC3", Will this require 200Gbps TRANSPONDER/MUXPONDER at DICT Roces and NGDC3 sites (Vol 2 page 49 of 86)?	Please see response to Item No. 38.
148. Would the winning bidder have unrestricted access at the designated 23 NGCP sites for surveys validation purposes to create `k design (Vol 2 page 50 of 86)?	All survey and implementation activities will still be coordinated and scheduled with NGCP through DICT.
149. Fiber Optic Cable Build (Component 1) Inclusion of "NGCP Subic" in the CEF list (Vol2 section 2.1.6.3.14). NGCP Subic CEF is a project part under Annex C1.1 Middle Mile, Segment No.3 (Subic-NGDC3).	2.1.6.3.14 On Cable Entrance Facilities: The Winning Bidder must include the construction of cable entrance facility at the following twenty-seven (27) project sites: ○ NGCP Subic Likewise, the "twenty-six (26)" CEF figure must also be changed to twenty-seven (27). The affected lines of "Vol2 NFBP1 Bid Docs" are as follows: 2.1.6.1 … twenty-seven (27) 2.1.6.3.1 .. twenty-seven (27) 2.1.6.3.6 .. twenty-seven (27)

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		2.1.6.3.14 ..twenty-seven (27) The affected lines of "Vol1 NFBP1 Bid Docs" are as follows: p54: General Description .. twenty-seven (27) p57: Scope of Works, line1 & line7 . twenty-seven (27) p59: For Cable Entrance Facilities, the Contractor must include the construction of cable entrance facility at the following twenty-seven (27) project sites: -NGCP Subic
150.	Summary of Technical Specifications Component 1 - Fiber Optic Build Item No. 2: Minimum Requirements, Optical Build The requirement as stated is G.654.A. May we know if there is a specific reason for this requirement? The most common that are available in the market is G.652D. Can we propose this instead?	Please see response to Item No.3 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2. Yes. G.652D can be considered for the 48c and 144c mini-FOC.
151.	Summary of Technical Specifications Component 1 - Fiber Optic Build Item No. 2: Minimum Requirements, Optical Build For the Color Coding requirement of the loose tubes, the specifications states that it should be compliant with TIA 598C. May we ask the rationale for this compliance requirement?	To make it congruent with the color coding being used or to be used by the rest of the project and for future line identification. To also standardize the color coding in compliance with international global standards.
152.	Summary of Technical Specifications Component 1 - Fiber Optic Build Item No. 2: Minimum Requirements, Optical Build Comment: Our perspective, BCDA-DICT is limiting the brands and/or vendors that	Okay to use G.652D. For TIA 598C—please refer to the response in item 151 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.

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can comply with the above requirements. We did our research on the most popular and in-demand brands in the market. They are non-compliant. Should BCDA-DICT insist on the above, our cost will be higher because we cannot buy these in volume as there are no other use except for this project, hence offer price may be higher. So cost savings for the government through lower bid price may not be realized at all. Allowing us to offer G.652D and taking out the TIA 598C compliance will not in any way affect the performance and manageability of the project once in operation.	
153. For item 10.4, list of Key Personnel. In the event that our company and partner forms a Joint Venture (JV), with our company being the Prime, can its JV partner provide the key personnel as required?	Yes, as long as the nominated key personnel meets the minimum requirements.
154. Are we required to submit, as part of the bidding documents/bid proposal, the narrative qualifications of the Project Manager, Senior Telecommunications Engineers, Safety Officer?	Narrative qualifications are not part of the minimum requirement, but the bidder may submit this as part of their CV/Resume.
155. Who will issue the work permits for the CEF and works within the premises of NGCP and DICT?	DICT will facilitate the processing of access permits at DICT and NGCP sites. Please see response to Item No. 6 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
156. On item 10, (57 drums of 1 km 7 way HDPE Microducts), are these the underground facilities of item 1-8? Will this include the cost of installing it?	Please see response to Item No. 26 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
157. Who would coordinate with NGCP for the location of the ODF, Equipment and the NGCP fiber? The ODF 2 x 24 ports to be supplied and installed in the NGCP locations are not included in the BOQ. Which fiber will be terminated in these ODF?	Please see response to Item No. 32.

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158. What is the 48C fiber in the other locations aside from the 8 with UG build. For example, NGCP Bacnotan, Mexico, San Esteban? Are these cables already been installed and would just need to be terminated? In the event that it is already been installed and terminated, is the bidder still required to perform testing?	Please see response to Item No.50 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
159. On the 8 locations for HDPE microduct, would it be the DICT specs of 16 / 12 mm 7 way? Please validate the specs. It states OD = 25 +- 0.3mm and ID = 21 +- 0.3 mm, will this be the main duct? The outer sheet indicated is 3.0 mm HDPE.	Please see response to Item No. 53.
160. Warranty and Support for 5 years for transponder, with provision of four 4x4 pick up with free fuel, insurance and maintenance. How would we know the actual fuel consumptions?	Please see response to Item No. 55.
161. Warranty and Support for 2 years for transponder, with provision of the three 4x4 pick up with free fuel, insurance and maintenance. How would we know the actual fuel consumptions?	Warranty and Support for transponder is 5 years. Warranty and support for FOC is 2 years. Fuel consumption for FOC, please refer to Item No. 56.
162. Warranty and Support for 2 years for OSP 8 segments + 250 kms Luzon By-pass transponder, with provision of four 4x4 pick up with free fuel, insurance and maintenance. How would we know the actual fuel consumptions?	Please see response to Items No. 56 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
163. How many liters of fuel for the vehicles required every month?	Please see response to Item Nos. 55, 56, 111 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
164. DICT shall arrange access passes but it would be the winning bidder who would do the leg work and payments. Is it right to assume that payments are all inclusive in the bid price?	Please see response to Item No. 60 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.

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165. Training even from those in the region shall be shouldered be the winning bidder, including airfare, meals and hotels? Please confirm.	Please see response to Item No. 61 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
166. Can we provide three (3) aggregated contracts for the SLCC?	Yes, as long as it meets the criteria as stated in the Bid Data Sheet - Clause on SLCC.
167. Will you be providing the bid form for the NFCC?	There is no bid form for the NFCC. It is a document which shows the computation as stated in the response to Item/Query No. 96.of the Bid Bulletin No. 2.
168. Will you be providing the bid form for the CEPS Rating requirement per contract for the SLCC?	The CPES Report is mandatory for all completed government infrastructure project, thus, no bid form is necessary.
169. Item 2.3.2.1 required the following traffic matrix: * DICT Roces - NGDC : 100Gbps * SFLU CLS - Baler CLS : 600 Gbps * SFLU CLS - NGCP Concepcion : 700Gbps * NGCP Concepcion - DICT Roces : 50Gbps * NGCP Concepcion - NGCP La Trinidad : 50Gbps * NGCP Concepcion - NGCP Clark : 100Gbps * NGCP Concepcion - NGCP Bataan : 50Gbps * DICT Roces - NGDC1 : 100Gbps What is required client port in the traffic matrix above, 10GE or 100GE port?	Required Client Port (Component3: OTN) * DICT Roces - NGDC in Subic: 2x100GE/o and 1x10GE/o * SFLU CLS - Baler CLS : please refer to Component2 Transponder for the 600Gbps link detail * SFLU CLS - NGCP Concepcion : 5x100GE/o * NGCP Concepcion - DICT Roces : 1x100GE * NGCP Concepcion - NGCP La Trinidad : 1x100GE/o * NGCP Concepcion - NGCP Clark : 1x100GE/o * NGCP Concepcion - NGCP Bataan : 1x100GE/o * DICT Roces - NGDC1 : 1x100Gbps/o
170. Kindly confirm that the Annex B5 is additional traffic matrix 2.3.2.1.	Annex B5 is the only Traffic Matrix provided.
171. Active Components Kindly confirm that wavelengths 35.5 or 95 Gbaud as single channels is for Baler CLS and Los Angeles equipment only	The wavelengths specified must support all the transponder system between San Fernando La Union, Philippines to Equinix LA 4 Data Center in Los Angeles, U.S.A.
172. Active Components Who will do the Node (site) development in all 25 DWDM/ROADM sites:	At NGCP DWDM sites, NGCP will do the site readiness or room fit-out, provide cooling

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* Room fit-out * Cooling system * Rectifier * Back-up power time * Genset	system, rectifiers, back-up power time and genset. At DICT DWDM sites (Roces, NGDC in Subic, LBI facilities), DICT will do the site readiness or room fit-out. The Bidder will do the cooling system, rectifier, back-up power time and genset at DICT sites specified on the Bid Docs.
173. Active Components Who will be in charge of site maintenance of NGCP developed nodes?	If Site Maintenance refers to the telecom room, it will be maintained by NGCP.
174. Active Components Who will be in-charge of rectification of NCGP fiber if the attenuation of fiber is lower than the submitted value during bidding?	NGCP will rectify the OPGW fiber.
175. Active Components Who will be in-charge of rectification and repairs of microducts damages found at the LBI which have not been caused by the fiber blow activities of the winning bidder?	Rectifications and repairs will be by the DICT.
176. Active Components How many personnel from DICT will be joining the site survey in LA (USA)?	Maximum of three (3) personnel.
177. Active Components Can we request the editable file of the Summary of Requirements so that we can easily input our compliances and reference points?	The bidder may download it on the BCDA website.
178. Vol. 1 NFBP1 Bid Doc, item 15, Equipment under Purchase/Lease Agreement. Is it acceptable to BCDA SBAC that the Purchase or Lease Agreement between equipment Manufacturer (Seller or Vendor or Lessor) and one of the consortium	Yes.

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partners?	
179. As per ocular inspection conducted at the SFLU, CL, Rosario RS, and DICT Roces sites. As discussed with DICT personnel who assisted during the site inspection the following technical document important for the design concept and commercial cost preparation has been committed to be made available to bidders; (1.) Existing Facilities Electrical Diagram, Network Diagram, Floor Lay out of the SFLu & Baler CLS, Repeater Stations, and DICT Roces; (2.) Existing Man-hole Dimension in between RS.	Floor Layout of DICT Roces was provided on the TOR as Annex B9.1 and B9.2 Also, please see response to item #65 of the Bid Bulletin No. 2
180. As per ocular inspection conducted at the SFLU, CL, Rosario RS, and DICT Roces sites What is the required Battery Run-Time of Rectifiers? say 4 or 8 hours? Should be included on the Bill of Materials.	DICT Roces and NGDC in Subic require Battery Bank run-time of 1000AH. Rectifier battery run time is 8 hours in San Fernando and Baler Cable Landing Stations, and 4 hours at Sta. Maria RS due to space limitation.
181. As per ocular inspection conducted at the SFLU, CL, Rosario RS, and DICT Roces sites. DICT ROCES: (1.) We notice that it is only using window type air conditioning. Due to the critical application of the project, the room where the equipment shall be placed should have Redundant Precision Aircon of at least 2X8 TR, Floor Mount In-row. Should be included in the Bill of Materials; (2.) Tapping point for the 2X80KVA Genset is very old and entails high-risk of point of failure in the project. Given the critical application of the project DICT should provide a new tapping point electrical service entrance from Meralco; (3.) How many hour is the external day tank for the 2x80KVA Genset?	1. ACU specs is redundant 5 tonner, floor mounted, with controller at Roces node (please refer to Volume 2, Section 2.3.3.1.). 2. Final tapping point for the 3-phase mainline at Roces Node will be provided to the winning bidder. 3. minimum external day tank size for the 2x80KVA gensets shall be 24 hours.

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Please include in the Bill of Materials the Day Tank.	
182. For commercial cost preparation, what are those equipment subject to Factory Acceptance Test?	DWDM/ROADM, Transponders/Muxponders, Microducts, FOC cables are subject to FAT.
183. Bid Data Sheet. Design and Build Contract for a project within the last ten years of at least 50% of the ABC (P625,000,000) or at least 2 Design and Build Contract with an aggregate of 50% of the BAC, involving any or a combination of the following: 1. Laying down of an aggregate of 25km of Fiber Optic Cable with Equipment; 2. Optical Transport Network; 3. ICT Network and Telecommunications Facilities; 4. Civil Works of roads with provision for underground electrical power or telecom utilities or installation of underground electrical power or telecom underground utilities. Does at least 2 Design and Build Contracts applies for each items of 1 to 4 as stated above then aggregated to equal the 50% of the ABC?	Yes, any or a combination of items 1 to 4 is acceptable.
184. May we ask for the extension of the opening of the bid - to be pushed beyond March 15 (say April 06) to give time to prepare the technical proposals and study the diagrams provided by DICT. We would be needing at least two weeks to prepare Special PCAB license for JV/Consortium.	No extension for submission of bids per DICT directive.
185. 4.4. Component 4: 100Gbps IP Transit (Page 10) Supply, Delivery, Testing, Integration, and Acceptance of 100 Gbps IP Transit from Los Angeles, California, USA Internet Service Providers (herein referred to as "100Gbps IP Transit"). ▪ Is the IPLC to Philippines and backhaul from CLS will be provided by BCDA?	IPLC between Equinix - Baler CLS - SFLU CLS will be accomplished by the winning bidder by implementing the transponder system in this project utilizing the Terrestrial Line Terminal Equipment (TLTE) and Submarine Line Terminal Equipment (SLTE) system. Backhaul and IPLC will be built and to be commissioned by the winning bidder.

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<table>
<tr>
<td>186. 6.4.1 Minimum Technical Requirements (Page 45)

Preference will be given for the provider(s) who can fulfill and provide all corresponding connectivity, security services, and Service Level Agreement via the provider's wholly- owned network(s) in North America.

▪ Should be any Tier 1 provider.</td>
<td>Yes but the bidder must submit a notarized certification attesting to their commitment to supply the 100Gbps IP transit from a Tier 1 provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>187. Tier-1 IP transit provider warrants the Master Service Agreements (MSA), Service Level, and Service Credit to be approved by DICT.

▪ We would like to request a copy of the MSA.</td>
<td>MSAs can be acquired from different Tier 1 IP Transit Providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>188. Must guarantee and not exceed Network Service Level Agreement defined in MSA: Packet Success Rate > 99.9%

▪ We would like to request a copy of the MSA.</td>
<td>SLAs can be acquired from different Tier 1 IP Transit Providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>189. Latency adheres to the Service Level Agreement reflected in MSA North America to Asia < 140 ms
North America to Europe < 85 ms
Intra-North America < 45 ms
Intra-Europe < 35 ms

▪ We are proposing if we can consider the below average roundtrip delays per month:
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>POP-to-POP</th><th>Average Round Delays</th></tr>
<tr><td>Intra – Asia</td><td>Hong Kong – Mainland China</td><td>60ms</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Singapore – Mainland China</td><td>100ms</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Hong Kong – Singapore</td><td>43ms</td></tr>
<tr><td>Asia – Europe</td><td>Hong Kong – Frankfurt</td><td>279ms</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Hong Kong – Paris</td><td>293ms</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Hong Kong – London</td><td>271ms</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Hong Kong – Amsterdam</td><td>232ms</td></tr>
<tr><td>Asia – USA</td><td>Hong Kong – Los Angeles</td><td>186ms</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Singapore – Los Angeles</td><td>229ms</td></tr>
<tr><td>Intra – Europe</td><td>Intra Paris, London, Amsterdam and Frankfurt</td><td>35ms</td></tr>
</table>
</td>
<td>Bidders should check several SLA from different Tier 1 IP Transit Providers who can meet the Packet Success Rate = or > 99.9%

The latency rate which has below the average roundtrip delays will not be allowed.</td>
</tr>
</table>

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190. 6.4.2. Detailed Work (Page 46) Must handle the APNIC application, processing, securing, and sourcing out IP Address Version 4 & 6 (IPv4 & IPv6) for IPv4 Addresses /22 (or equivalent) one thousand twenty-four (1024) Public IP addresses and IPv6 Addresses /32 sixteen million seven hundred seventy-seven thousand two hundred sixteen (16,777,216) of /56 subnets Public IP addresses and an Autonomous System Number (ASN). ▪ Who is the owner of the ASN? The Tier 1 provider or DICT? Please clarify.	DICT shall own the IP addresses and ASN once acquired.

II. Other Clarifications from SBAC

a. The Form for the Detailed Unit Price Analysis is replaced with the Form for Detailed Cost Estimates (see BCDA website for the downloadable forms), to simplify the submission on the requirements of Financial Component. **The items in the Detailed Cost Estimates (DCE) should be the same as all items in the Bill of Quantities/Materials (BOQ).**

b. The Single Largest and Completed Contract (SLCC) required for the Project is P625,000,000.

c. The interested bidder who cannot meet the requirement for SLCC may partner with another company/interested bidder who has the required SLCC and form a Joint Venture or Consortium

d. Please take note of the changes in the BOQ and DCE (See attached Forms)

e. Senior Telecommunications Engineer, he/she should have an experience of at least five (5) years as Senior Telecommunications Engineer and should be a licensed engineer.

III. Reminders from SBAC

a. Key Personnel

- The bidder should have at least one (1) key personnel nominated for each position and that nominated key personnel should not be nominated to another position.
- Nominating two (2) personnel then adding/combining their work experience to qualify/satisfy the required number of years of experience for one (1) position, is not acceptable.
- The work experience of the nominated personnel should be for the position he/she is nominated for, i.e. if the engineer is nominated for a Senior Telecommunications Engineer, he/she should

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have an experience of at least five (5) years as Senior Telecommunications Engineer and should be a licensed engineer.

- The work experience of the nominated personnel shall not be counted if he/she is not licensed during the time when he/she gained the experience required of the position where he/she is nominated.
- The bidder which has a nominated key personnel whose number of years of experience lacks even just one (1) day of the required experience shall be disqualified.
- The number of years of experience of key personnel shall be computed from the start of the project up to the completion of the project. If the nominated personnel has two or more projects at the same time, the experience shall be computed as one.

b. Equipment

- If owned, supported by proof of ownership and Certification of Availability of Equipment for the duration of the project signed by the bidder;
- If leased, supported by Lease Agreement and Certification of Availability from the equipment lessor for the duration of the project. Proof of ownership of the Lessor should be included in the Technical Proposal;
- The nominated equipment should not be leased from a lessor who shall also lease the equipment from another lessor.
- If the bidder is leasing the equipment, the bidder should submit the Certificate of Availability from its lessor, not from the lessor of its lessor.
- If under purchase agreement, supported by Agreement to Purchase and Certification of Availability of Equipment from the equipment vendor and the bidder for the duration of the project.

c. Joint Venture (JV)/Consortium

- A consortium or Joint Venture is allowed to bid for the project but at least 60% of the interest belongs to Filipino citizens. A foreign bidder is allowed to bid but its interest in the JV or Consortium must only be up to 40%.
- The PCAB licenses for JV and Consortium have different requirements. A Special PCAB License is required for JV, and all JV partners must secure a PCAB License. On the other hand, in the case of a Consortium, a Special PCAB License is required for Consortium but PCAB requires PCAB License only for at least one company or partner in a Consortium and it is the constructor which shall possess the PCAB License. Consortium means there is a constructor, a financier, or a supplier.

d. Contract period is for 200 days.

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e. The bidders must be registered with PhilGEPS under Platinum Membership, otherwise the bidders will be rated "FAILED" which shall result in declaring them as "INELIGIBLE". However, per GPPB Circular No. 07-2017, prospective bidders may opt to submit their PhilGEPS Certificate of Registration or their Class "A" Eligibility Documents, or a combination thereof, during the bid submission. The Platinum Membership remains as a post-qualification requirement to be submitted in accordance with Section 34.2 of the 2016 Revised IRR of RA 9184.

f. Visiting or calling the members of the SBAC the TWG, the Secretariat (except for administrative matters relating to the project), or anyone working for BCDA is not allowed and will not be entertained. All queries should be addressed to the SBAC Chairperson but emailed to the Secretariat. In some cases where it is necessary to talk to the Secretariat for a query, e.g., involving or pointing to a design, the query should be followed up with a written query.

g. Submission of Photocopied (Xerox/Scanned) Documents

All xeroxed or scanned documents being submitted as supporting documents must be clear and readable. Also, the entire document being copied is completely captured.

h. The bid documents can be accessed in the PhilGEPS and BCDA Websites. Those who have purchased the Bid Documents will be provided with soft copy of the same (PDF Format) and editable forms.

i. The bidders must purchase the bid documents before they are allowed to submit their bids. They can still purchase the document until the deadline of submission.

j. The **deadline for the submission** of Eligibility/Technical and Financial Proposals for the **Design, Build and Establishment of National Fiber Backbone – Phase 1** is at **12:00 noon** on **15 March 2021** at the BCDA Central Receiving and Releasing Area (CRRA) located at the 2nd Floor Bonifacio Technology Center, 31st St. cor. 2nd Avenue Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City. **Late bids or those submitted after 12:00 noon of 15 March 2021 shall not be accepted.**

Online Bid Submission is not allowed.

k. The computer system clock at the CRRA that is set to Philippine Standard Time (PhST) shall be used as reference in determining the time for the submission of bids. Hence, participating bidders are advised to synchronize their timepieces with the said computer system clock.

l. Bidders may submit their bid proposal a day before the deadline for bid submission to avoid the possibility of being late for submission.

m. The **Opening of Technical Proposals** for the **Design, Build and Establishment of National Fiber Backbone – Phase 1** shall be at **1:00 PM** on **15 March 2021** at the BCDA Corporate Center, 2nd Floor Bonifacio Technology Center, 31st St. cor. 2nd Avenue Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City.

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n. The **Opening of Financial Proposals** for the **Design, Build and Establishment of National Fiber Backbone – Phase 1** shall be at **10:00 AM** on **19 March 2021** at the BCDA Corporate Center, 2nd Floor Bonifacio Technology Center, 31st St. cor. 2nd Avenue Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City.

o. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders. However, the Bidders' attendance during the Opening of Bids is not compulsory but it is advised that Bidders send their representative to assist the SBAC and answer clarifications, if any.

p. Each and every page of the Financial Bid Form/s must be appropriately signed by the bidders or the bidder's authorized representative. The authorization should also be attached. **Failure to do so shall be a ground for the rejection of the Bid.**

q. The SBAC expects the bidders to exercise due diligence in going through the bidding documents to be able to prepare their bids intelligently.

r. The bidders are requested to use tabs in compiling their bid documents for quick and easy identification and verification.

s. The computation of the bid security shall be based on the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC).

t. All licenses, permits and other required clearances should be valid at the time of the submission of bids, Post-Qualification evaluation, and signing of the contract.

u. The following documents are required to be NOTARIZED:
   i. Omnibus Sworn Statement
   ii. Bidder's Representative Authorization (as provided in Paragraph 2 of the Omnibus Sworn Statement)
   iii. Bid Securing Declaration

v. The bidders may submit a notarized Bid Securing Declaration in lieu of other forms of bid security. It is important to note, however, that although the Bid Securing Declaration does not require cash, its enforcement will include automatic blacklisting and payment of certain fines in the event that the bidder violates any of the conditions set forth in the bidding documents.

w. The bid should not be more than the ABC, otherwise the bidder will be disqualified.

x. NFCC Computation should be based on the Audited Financial Statements for the year 2019 or 2020 whichever is available, and should be at least equivalent to the (ABC).

y. BCDA reserves the right to waive minor defects in forms and requirement as long as they do not affect the genuineness and authenticity of the documents submitted.

z. BCDA reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

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All provisions, conditions and statements in the bidding documents inconsistent with this Bid Bulletin are either modified or rendered ineffective, as the case may be.

Issued on 08 March 2021.

SPECIAL BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE FOR NFBP1

AILEEN ANUNCIACION R. ZOSA
Chairperson

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