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# TENDER DOCUMENT

*Core drilling of  
Seabed Massive Sulphides  
in the Norwegian Sea*

*Ref. no 2020/429*

**Open tendering competition cf. the Norwegian Public Procurement Act and the Regulations  
relating to public procurement part I and III**

***Submission deadline: 19 June 2020***

***15:00 noon local time (Norway)***



**NORWEGIAN PETROLEUM  
DIRECTORATE**

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## **2 General description**

### **2.1 About the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate**

The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) is a governmental specialist directorate and administrative body established in 1972.

The paramount objective of the NPD is to contribute to creating the greatest possible values for society from the oil and gas activities by means of prudent resource management based on safety, emergency preparedness and safeguarding of the external environment.

For more information about NPD, visit our website [www.npd.no](http://www.npd.no).

### **2.2 Scope of procurement**

The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) intends to sample geological core material from the Mohns Ridge in the Norwegian Sea. Several shallow cores will be planned for by using drilling vessel or seafloor drilling equipment, and the total depth drilled and cored at each defined drill location will not exceed 200 meters below seafloor.

The drilling campaign shall be completed within late September 2020, preferably within early to mid September. Total operation time (mobilization - demobilization) is expected to be about six weeks.

The total cost with all included shall not exceed NOK 60 000 000 ex. VAT.

Reference is made to appendix 1 for detailed description.

### **2.3 Financial**

The project is subject to funding from the Norwegian Government. NPD therefore reserves the right to stop the bidding process or declare it null and void or reduce the volume of the programme due to budgetary reasons or unforeseen circumstances outside NPD's control.

### **2.4 Public announcement**

Tender competition is announced in the Merccell database, DOFFIN-database and in the TED database.

## **3 Competition rules**

### **3.1 Procedure**

Open tendering competition, cf. the Norwegian Public Procurement Act and Regulations relating to public procurement. This type of procedure does not allow for contract negotiations. Only bidders that fulfil the qualification requirements will have their tenders evaluated. Bidders are not allowed to change the tender after the submission deadline.

### **3.2 Negotiations**

This tender competition does not allow negotiations.

### 3.3 Confidentiality

The supplier and its employees are required to prevent others from gaining access to or knowledge of information regarding technical devices and procedures or operations and business relationships that for competitive reasons can be important to keep secret, cf. Regulations regarding public procurement § 7-4, cf. § 13 in the Norwegian Public Administration Act.

### 3.4 Sub-Contractors/suppliers

When use of sub-contractors, NPD recommend that the supplier attach a declaration from the subcontractor(s) documenting that the supplier has possession of the offered resources from the subcontractor(s). The declaration must be signed by person(s) who has/have right to sign for or otherwise has/have the power to commit the sub-contractor. If the supplier intends to use sub contractors, this shall at least be stated clearly in the tender.

### 3.5 Reservations and non-conformity

If the supplier has reservations regarding parts of the tender documentation, required specifications, contract or other tender documents, it shall be clearly stated in the bid. Any reservations must be specified, including consequences for performance, prices or other conditions.

The same applies to non-conformity. Reservations and non-conformities shall be stated precisely and unambiguously. They shall be stated in the bid letter in such a manner that the contractor can evaluate them without it being necessary to contact the supplier, cf. Section 24-8 of the Public Procurement Act. Substantial reservations, and reservations or non-conformities that can result in uncertainty regarding evaluation of the bid compared to other bids, will result in the bid being disallowed, cf. Section 24-8 of The Public Procurement Act.



If the supplier's reference to standardized terms of delivery, or something similar, deviates from existing tender or contract provisions, it will be regarded as a reservation.

The supplier can not make any reservation against the contract section 26, Wage and Working Conditions – Prohibition against Social Dumping. This is a statutory requirement that NPD must include in their contracts. Any reservation or non-conformity to this contract section will result in the bid being disallowed.

### 3.6 Abidance

The bidder must abide by his tender until three months after the submission deadline.

### 3.7 Communication during the tender process

All communication during the process shall be routed via the Merccell-portal, [www.merccell.no](http://www.merccell.no). This is to assure that all communication will be logged. When you are logged on to the competition, choose the flag marked "Communication", click on the symbol  "New message". Enter the information to the NPD and then click . The NPD will then receive your message. If the question regards all bidders, the NPD will answer the inquiry anonymously by giving the answer as additional information. Additional information is available under the flag "Enquiry", then the flag "Additional information". You will also receive an e-mail with a link to the additional information.

## 4 Qualification requirements

### 4.1 General requirements

Requirement	Documents required
Circumstances regarding the bidder's tax remittances shall be in order (this only applies to Norwegian companies).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax certificate</li> <li>• VAT certificate</li> </ul> <p>More information: <a href="https://www.skatteetaten.no/en/forms/rf-1316-certificate-for-tax-and-value-added-tax/">https://www.skatteetaten.no/en/forms/rf-1316-certificate-for-tax-and-value-added-tax/</a></p>

### 4.2 Company registration

Requirement	Documents required
The bidder shall be registered in the "The Register of Business Enterprises" in Brønnøysund or registration in a trade register or the like as set out in the laws of the country of registration of the bidder.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of Company Registration Certificate or similar.</li> </ul>

### 4.3 Financial strength

Requirement	Documents required
Sound financial strength	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of company annual accounts or extracts thereof, with notes from an authorised public accountant as well as the last two available quarter results. NPD may accept any other documentation that confirms financial strength.</li> </ul>

## 4.4 Experience

Requirement	Documents required
<b>The tenderer must have relevant experience from similar assignments.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statement from the tenderer indicating the company's experience from relevant/similar drilling assignments, including overview of relevant Track Record.</li> </ul>

## 5 Award criteria

Only tenders that are submitted by qualified bidders and that meet the requirements and specifications given in the tender document with appendices will be considered.

NPD will choose the most economically advantageous tender, based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Weight	Documents required
<b>5.1 Prices, cf.pts.2.1-2.7 in Appendix 1.</b>	20 %	NPD refer to the information in appendix 1 regarding how prices shall be stated.
<b>5.2 Drilling and rock sampling equipment</b>	20 %	Specification of tools, description of operation and amount of data.
<b>5.3 Drilling and coring efficiency</b>	30 %	Expected and documented record of meters cored material recovered, number of drillholes and expected time consumption.
<b>5.4 Knowledge-based understanding of the assignment and plan for performance of the drilling operations</b>	30 %	Detailed description of how the work is proposed to be performed. Risk mitigation and contingency plans in case of poor core recovery will also be evaluated.

## 6 Submission and disposition of tender

### 6.1 Submission of tender

All tenders shall be submitted electronically via the Mercell portal, [www.mercell.no](http://www.mercell.no) by the tender deadline. Tenders delivered after the deadline will not be accepted. (The system does not permit tenders to be sent electronically via Mercell after the tender deadline.)

If you are not a Mercell customer, or you have questions regarding how the application functions, e.g. how to submit a tender, please contact Mercell Support at tel +47 21 01 88 60, or by e-mail to [support@mercell.com](mailto:support@mercell.com). It is recommended to submit the tender in adequate time before the deadline. A minimum of 1 day before the deadline is recommended.

If NPD should provide additional information that results in you wanting to change your tender before the deadline, you can access your offer, open it, make the necessary changes and send it again right up to the deadline. The last submitted tender will be regarded as the final one.

## 6.2 Disposition of tender

The tender shall be enunciated in English and as in this disposition:

File name	Contents
<b>Qualification requirements</b>	<b>Documents are to be enclosed in the step Kvalifikasjonskrav/Qualification requirements when you submit the tender in Mercell.</b>
<b>Q01 - Tax certificate</b>	Cf. section 4.1 in this tender document.
<b>Q02 - VAT certificate</b>	Cf. section 4.1 in this tender document.
<b>Q03 - Company Registration Certificate</b>	Cf. section 4.2 in this tender document.
<b>Q04 – Financial strength</b>	Cf. section 4.3 in this tender document.
<b>Q05 - Relevant experience and track record</b>	Cf. section 4.4 in this tender document.
<b>Documents required</b>	<b>Documents are to be enclosed under the tab Dokumenter/Documents when you submit the tender in Mercell.</b>
<b>DOC01 – Cover page</b>	Signed by a responsible/liable representative for the bidder. Confirmation that the NPD's contract terms are accepted, ref. Appendix 2. Reservations with reference to specific contract clauses must be quoted with alternative proposals. Name and contact information of the bidder.
<b>DOC02 – Prices</b>	See award criterion 5.1 and appendix 1
<b>DOC03 – Drilling and rock sampling equipment</b>	See award criterion 5.2 and appendix 1
<b>DOC04 - Drilling and coring efficiency</b>	See award criterion 5.3 and appendix 1
<b>DOC05 – Knowledge-based understanding of the assignment and plan for performance of the drilling operations</b>	See award criterion 5.4 and appendix 1.

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## **7 Appendices**

### **7.1 Appendix 1 - Scope of work**

Appendix 1 is enclosed in a separate PDF-file.

### **7.2 Appendix 2 – Contract terms**

Appendix 2 is enclosed in a separate PDF-file.