

It is hereby notified that sealed tenders in duplicate are invited for **Contract No. GE/2023/20, Ground Investigation Works at Northern New Territories (Northwest) (2023–25)**. The works mainly comprise:—

1. Ground investigation works with vertical drillholes, trial pits, groundwater monitoring, in-situ testing, laboratory testing and geophysical surveys.
2. Construction of test piles including large diameter bored piles, rock-socketed steel H pile and pile load testing.

The works are scheduled to commence in the November 2023 and will take about 24 months to complete.

Tenders must be clearly marked with the tender reference and the subject of the tender on the outside of the envelope (but should not bear any indication which may relate the tender to the tenderer) addressed to the Chairman, Public Works Tender Board, and placed in the Public Works Tender Box situated at Room 503, 5/F, Low Block, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong, before 12.00 noon on Friday, 20 October 2023. Tenders must be deposited in the tender box as specified in this tender notice ('Specified Tender Box') before the tender closing time. Late tenders and tenders not deposited in the Specified Tender Box will not be accepted. If tropical cyclone signal No. 8 or above is hoisted, or a black rainstorm warning signal or 'extreme conditions after super typhoons' announced by the Government is/are in force at any time between 9.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon on Friday, 20 October 2023, the tender closing time will be postponed to 12.00 noon on the first working day after the tropical cyclone warning signal No. 8 is lowered, or the black rainstorm warning signal or the 'extreme conditions after super typhoons' announced by the Government has/have ceased to be in force. In case of blockage of the public access to the location of the Specified Tender Box at any time between 9.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon on Friday, 20 October 2023, the Government will announce extension of the tender closing time until further notice. Following removal of the blockage, the Government will announce the extended tender closing time as soon as practicable. The above announcements will be made *via* press releases on the website of Information Services Department (<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/today.htm>).

Forms of tenders and further particulars are obtainable from Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd. at Level 5 Festival Walk, 80 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong (Telephone No.: (852) 2908 4728; Fax No.: (852) 2268 3970; Email Address: jack.yiu@arup.com).

Selective tendering is adopted. Contractors on the List of Approved Suppliers of Materials and Specialist Contractors for Public Works in Group II for the Land Piling Category or joint ventures with participation of local and/or overseas contractors with the lead participant or the major shareholder being a contractor on the List of Approved Suppliers of Materials and Specialist Contractors for Public Works in Group II for the Land Piling Category who also meet the qualifications and conditions for participation stipulated in the tender documents are invited to tender.

The detailed requirements for joint ventures with participation of local and/or overseas contractors, if applicable, are stipulated in the tender documents.

Contractors not yet on the List of Approved Suppliers of Materials and Specialist Contractors for Public Works in Group II for the Land Piling Category may also submit a tender if they submit a request for participation together with a duly completed application for inclusion in the above-mentioned approved list/category by 3 October 2023 to Chief Geotechnical Engineer/Mainland West, Geotechnical Engineering Office, 6/F, Civil Engineering and Development Building, 101 Princess Margaret Road, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon, meet the qualifications and conditions for participation, and the application for inclusion is duly approved on or before the tender closing date. Details for making the application are available at: (http://www.devb.gov.hk/en/construction_sector_matters/contractors/index.html).

Contractors will be liable to have their names removed from the approved list(s) if they fail or refuse to implement an accepted tender.

This tender is covered by the Agreement on Government Procurement of the World Trade Organization and will not involve electronic auction. This notice also serves as a summary notice required under the Agreement on Government Procurement of the World Trade Organization.

A charge will be levied for delivery of tender documents where the delivery of tender documents is requested by a tenderer. A written request must be made.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region does not bind itself to accept any tender irrespective of whether the tender is the lowest bid or where the assessment of tenders is based on a marking scheme or formula approach, the tender with the highest overall score.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region reserves the right to negotiate with any tenderer about the terms of the offer.

Details of the award of this contract will be published on the Internet at (<https://pcms2.gld.gov.hk/>).

8 September 2023

Michael H. S. FONG Director of Civil Engineering and Development