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15th February, 2024

TL2024/0215/1A

Chief Engineer,
Electricity Operation Division Kotli,
Electricity Department of Azad Kashmir,
Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir,
District Kotli, Azad Kashmir.

Subject: <u>Violation of AJ&K PPRA Rules 2017, Electricity Operation Division Kotli, Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir, District Kotli's Tender Notice for Works.</u>

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to your tender notice appeared in daily 'Nawaiwaqt' newspaper on 10th February, 2024. The said advertisement is in violation of AJ&K Public Procurement Rules, 2017, Rule No. 28(1) 'Opening of bids'.

In the tender notice, only the date and timings for opening of bids is mentioned, which is, 26.02.2024, however the date and timings for submission of bids is not given. It is a violation of AJ&K PPRA Rules 2017, Rule 28(1) 'Opening of Bids', which clearly states that the date for opening of bids and the last date for the submission of bids shall be the same, and bids shall be opened at the time specified in the bidding documents which shall not be less than thirty minutes after the closing time for the submission of the bid.

The Rule is quoted below for your reference;

28. Opening of bids.— (1) The date for opening of Bids and the last date for the submission of Bids shall be the same. Bids shall be opened at the time specified in the Bidding documents. The Bids shall be opened at least thirty minutes after the deadline for submission of Bids.

Also, as per PPRA Tender Guidelines, the tender notice should essentially include closing date and time of submission of bids (ANNEX-A).

Chief Engineer, Electricity Operation Division Kotli, is requested to rectify the violation and issue corrigendum in accordance with AJ&K PPRA Rules 2017 to avoid mis-procurement under Rule 50.

Transparency International Pakistan is striving for across the board application of Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop corruption, and achieve against Zero tolerance against corruption.

Regards,

Advocate Daniyal Muzaffar,

Trastee/Legal Advisor

Transparency International Pakistan

Copies forwarded for the information with request to take action under their mandate to:

1. Chief Secretary, Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

2. Managing Director, AJK PPRA, Azad Jammu and Kashmir.



Note:

This is to clarify that Transparency International Pakistan is not a complainant, it acts as a whistleblower and operate under Article 19-A, of the Constitution of Pakistan which gives the right to public to know how government is being run by public officers. Article 19-A makes the right to access of information pertaining to a public authority a fundamental right, and a three member bench in case of Mukhtar Ahmad Ali vs the Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad, headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa in the landmark judgment on 16 October 2023, in CP No. 3532/2023, has declared that

"What previously may have been on a need-to-know basis Article 19A of the Constitution has transformed it to a right-to-know, and the Access to information is no longer a discretion granted through occasional benevolence, but is now a fundamental right available with every Pakistani which right may be invoked under Article 19A of the Constitution"

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© Newspaper (10 Feb, 2024)



Annex -A

AJAKPPRA

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About Us • Procurement •

Downloads

Black Listed Firms

Guide les

FAGS

Contact

AZAD JAMMU & KASHMIR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT REGULATORY AUTHORITY (AJ&K PPRA)

PPRA Guidelines

Following are some general Guidelines which should be followed: for Advertisement: of any procurement.

- 1. Mention Procedure i.e single stage single envelope, single stage two envelope etc.(Adopted procedure will follow the rules for that perticuler procedure) (RULE 20)
- 2. Mention Closing Date and Time of Bid Submission (Minimum Response Time for any procurement is 15 days after publication of advertisement. Incase the advertisement is published in both PPRA website and in Newspaper the response time will be calculated from the date of advertisement in newspaper) (Rule 13)
- 3. Mention opening time of the Bid which shall not be less than 30 mins of the closing time (Rule 13)
- 4. Mention Bid Security which is to the extent from 2% to 5% of the bid price (Rule 25)
- 5. Cost of the bidding document shall restrict to printing and providing cost only. (Rule 23 (5) Explanation)
- 6. Avoid any conditions which are in conflict with any other AJ&KPPRA Rules 2017.

Useful Link	About PPRA	Downloads	Address
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