



Guidelines for SMR deployment in Bulgaria – the request for proposal

Ivan Hinovski, PhD, Nucl. Eng.

Power engineering consultant



1. Request for Proposal – scope and content

2. Attachments:

A: Project Information

B: Project Development Agreement Principles

C: Contents of Proposal

D: Site Information Package

E: List of Potential Local Suppliers

The PD could request in RfP to be included different options:

Option 1 : One unit + option for 1 next within next period (to be specified)

Option 2 : Two units built in a staggered approach (to be specified)

Estimated price for 3rd and 4th unit series



Recent news from US DOE /March, 2025:

"The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) re-issued a \$900 million solicitation to support the deployment of small modular reactors to better align with President Trump's bold agenda to unleash American energy and AI dominance".

"America's nuclear energy renaissance starts now," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright.



“PD” – Bulgarian project developer

“RfP” - Request for proposal

“Site” – Nuclear site for deployment of nuclear installation

“BNRA” – Bulgarian Nuclear Regulatory Authority

“ASUNE” – Act for safe use of nuclear energy

“PDA” - Project Development Agreement

“NTSP” - National Territory Spatial Plan

“COD” – Commencement of Development

„EPC”- Engineering, procurement & construction phase



1. PD has to proceed with the RfP if:

- There is acquisition of data for available licensed or close-to-licensed technology available on the market for reference SMR plant;
- Availability of data and preliminary feasibility analyses of available SMR technology implementation for own technology purposes;
- A nuclear site for targeted project is selected and is in advance phase of licensing at least;

2. The PD could request a Proposal for different options, for example:

Option 1 : One unit + option for 1 next within fixed period (to be specified)

Option 2 : Two units built in a staggered approach (to be specified)

3. Estimated price for Option 1, Option 2, as well for 3rd and 4th unit series, if PD project scope needed.



- The objective of **RfP** is to select an SMR technology and vendor for the Project and with whom **PD** will enter into a **PDA** for the **NTSP** process and future design works.
- Expected results from **NTSP**: official determination of the site, site layout and plant rated power for the Project.
- The majority of the Front-End Engineering and Design study has to be performed during the **NTSP** process under the **PDA**.



- **PD** has to expect as result of approval of **RfP** to enter into a **PDA** with the winning Vendor and to engage it in pre-licensing cooperation and the development of the future **EPC** Contract.
- Following this first phase, and based on **NTSP** - Phase 1 (site selection approved by the **BNRA**) mature design completion of the Vendor's design and developed **EPC** Contract terms have to be presented and agreed;
- **PD** will then request a formal commercial bid for **SMR** construction, based on which **PD** and its shareholders will decide to commit to the **EPC** Contract.



1.Examination of Documents

2.Confidentiality and export controls

3.Validity

4.Language

5.Proposal Submission Requirements

6.Proposed Project Development Agreement Principles and Term Sheet



Details about 6:

All Proposals must be split into two packages and contain the following:

Package 1 – Technical

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Executive Summary, with emphasize on all safety aspects
- Corporate Information, as set forth in Part 1 of Attachment C
- Technical Information, as set forth in Part 1 of Attachment C
- Proposed list of Subcontractors (if any)
- Confirmation of Compliance with Any Export Controls Requirements.

Package 2 – Financial

- Financial Information, as set forth in Part 2 of Attachment C
- Project Development Agreement Term Sheet



7. Award Criteria

The primary criteria upon which Proposals will be evaluated include:

- **SMR Deployment Schedule.** PD and Bulgaria seeks to deploy SMR technology in the country as soon as it is technically feasible. The expected date of commercial power generation and the viability of such date are crucial factors.
- **Vendor Technical Capability.** The Vendor shall submit a Proposal that demonstrates the competitive advantages of the proposed SMR design, this includes: deployment status, design completion for deployment in EU, plans with respect to the reference plant, maturity of supply chain and ability to execute multiple international projects.
- **Commercial and Financial Terms.** PD will consider proposed fee structure and price estimates for the Project Development Agreement. Preferentials are: fixed-price, turnkey EPC Contract for the Project. Proposals must be submitted priced in Euro. Further financial requirements are set forth in Attachment C.
- **Supply Chain Capacity, Preparedness and Localization.** PD has to target engaging local Bulgarian supply chain and contractors in SMR deployment (as described in Attachments A and E).

8. Further Information

PD may request further information from any Vendor at any time after Proposal submission.

9. Schedule



Project information to be provided for RfP by PD – Part 1

1. Project Expectations

- The target COD for the Project is specified.
- Reference plant to have received a construction license (or equivalent) by the date of.....
- Significant export credit financing available for supplies and services for deployment in Bulgaria.

2. Description of Site(s)

- Site characterization - to be specified in Attachment D “Site Information Package”.
- Single site or more sites (?) for all units shall be assumed in the Proposal.



Project information to be provided for RfP by PD - Part 2

3. Expected Owner's Scope

- 3.1. Site acquisition – status, licensing status;
- 3.2. Site preparation (communications, site power, sewage, roads, etc.;
- 3.3. Power grid connection;
- 3.4. Heat distribution network;
- 3.4. Office and visitor center.

4. Host Country Supply Chain

Examples of Bulgarian supply chain, civil construction and engineering companies:

Attachment E: “List of Potential Bulgarian Suppliers”, provided that the list of given companies is not final and serves only as a list of potential Bulgarian participants in the supply chain.



Project information to be provided for RfP by PD – Part 3

5. Relevant Bulgarian Law and Regulations for expected planning, licensing, construction and governmental decision-making processes

Key Bulgarian legal framework documents:

- o Integrated National Plan Energy & Climate

<https://www.moew.government.bg/bg/proekt-na-aktualiziran-integriran-plan-v-oblastta-na-energetikata-i-klimata-na-bulgariya-aktualizaciya-ot-2024-g/>

- o Energy Act

<https://www.me.government.bg/bg/library/zakon-za-energetikata-256-c25-m258-1.html>

- o Spatial Planning Act,

<https://www.mrrb.bg/bg/zakon-za-ustrojstvo-na-teritoriyata-84665/>

- o ASUNE

<https://bnra.bg/bg/istoriya-na-ayar/>

Thank you for
the attention!

**We are on your disposal to consult
your nuclear investment initiative!**

Dr.Ivan Hinovski,

Bulgarian Energy and Mining Forum

ihinovski@gmail.com