

Pre-bid Queries to RFP No. ONGC/RFP/ANK/JAMBUSAR/2

Query No.	Section	Sub-Section	Clause No.	Clause	Requirements	Bidder's Query	ONGC's Reply
1	Section A	6. Biddable Parameters and Bidding Process	6.5	Bid parameters and bidding rounds	B. Initial Price Bid: The starting price bid for the bidding process needs to be quoted by the bidder. Starting / Initial premium over Reserve Gas Price needs to be positive, non-matching, non-zero. Minimum initial bid shall be USD 2/MMBTU. In case other bidder attempts to put initial premium already quoted by another bidder, he will be prompted by system to put non-matching premium. In such a case, such bidder needs to put increased non-matching initial premium in multiple of USD 0.10/MMBTU.	The requirement of a minimum initial bid of USD 2/MMBTU appears to be on the higher side, particularly considering the prevailing higher base price of gas. Such a high minimum initial bid may restrict participation and consequently limit healthy competition in the bidding process. It may be noted that in the recent previous bids, the minimum initial bid was fixed at USD 1/MMBTU, against which partial quantities were successfully allocated. In the interest of uniformity, wider participation and ensuring a competitive bidding process, we request that the minimum initial bid requirement in the present tender may kindly be revised from USD 2/MMBTU to USD 1/MMBTU, in line with the earlier bidding process. We request your kind consideration of the above and suitable amendment to the tender conditions.	Not Acceptable
	Section A	6. Biddable Parameters and Bidding Process	6.5	Bid parameters and bidding rounds	-	With reference to the current bidding process for sale of natural gas from the concerned Gas Field, we respectfully request your kind consideration regarding the provision of “Positive non-zero & non-matching Premium over the Reserve Gas Price”, wherein the minimum initial bid has presently been specified as USD 2.00/MMBTU. We understand that in the previous auction/bidding process, the minimum initial bid premium was USD 1.00/MMBTU. The increase of the minimum initial bid premium from USD 1.00/MMBTU to USD 2.00/MMBTU represents a significant increase in the starting premium for prospective buyers. Considering the nature of the gas supply arrangement, the commercial commitments involved, and the various obligations to be undertaken by the Buyer under the Gas Supply Agreement, we respectfully request ONGC to reconsider and restore the minimum initial bid premium to USD 1.00/MMBTU, as applicable in the earlier bidding process. We believe that retaining the minimum initial bid at USD 1.00/MMBTU would encourage wider participation and enable a more competitive and transparent bidding process, while still ensuring that the premium remains positive, non-zero and non matching over the Reserve Gas Price. We therefore request your good office to kindly review the above matter and consider allowing: Minimum Initial Bid Premium: USD 1.00/MMBTU instead of the presently specified: Minimum Initial Bid Premium: USD 2.00/MMBTU.	Not Acceptable

	Section A	6. Biddable Parameters and Bidding Process	6.5	Bid parameters and bidding rounds	-	1. Statement of Issue: The present tender is a re-tender issued following the cancellation/annulment of the earlier tender for the Jambusar field. The previous tender was cancelled due to administrative/technical reasons (technical glitch on the portal) without any substantial change in the scope of supply or market dynamics. However, in the revised RFP, ONGC has doubled the starting/minimum premium from USD 1.00/MMBtu to USD 2.00/MMBtu. 2. Violation of CVC Guidelines & GFR 2017 Principles: • Fairness & Equal Opportunity (CVC Manual on Public Procurement / GFR 2017 Rule 173): As per standard public procurement principles enshrined in the General Financial Rules (GFR) 2017 and CVC Procurement Guidelines, when a tender is re-floated purely due to technical glitches or process failures, the fundamental commercial terms should remain consistent. Arbitrarily doubling the floor price in a re-tender alters the commercial baseline, penalizes legitimate prospective buyers, and restricts fair competition. • Level Playing Field (Article 14 of Constitution of India): Raising the entry threshold to USD 2.00/MMBtu disproportionately impacts MSMEs and local consumers like Dwarkadhis Agro Center, violating the core mandate of transparency, equity, and non-arbitrariness in public sector procurement. • Absence of Cost/Scope Revision: There has been no material change in the gas field characteristics, calorific value, delivery point, or operational parameters between the cancelled tender and the current re-tender. Therefore, doubling the base premium floor lacks justified commercial or legal grounds. 3. Specific Pre-Bid Queries / Requests: • Query 1: What is the technical/commercial rationale for increasing the starting premium from USD 1.00/MMBtu to USD 2.00/MMBtu in a re-tender that was caused by a technical glitch on the portal rather than a failure of market discovery? • Query 2 / Request: In the interest of fair play, transparency, and encouraging maximum competitive bidding as mandated by CVC guidelines, ONGC is requested to amend Clause 6.5.2(B) via a Corrigendum to restore the starting premium to USD 1.00/MMBtu.	Not Acceptable
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