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QUALIFYING DOCUMENTATION

TO PARTICIPATE IN COMPETITIVE BIDDING

*Acquisition of Seabed Massive Sulfide Data in the  
Norwegian Sea*

*(Ref. 2018/185)*

Company qualification in a two staged negotiated procedure cf. the Public Procurement Act and  
the Regulations relating to public procurement part I and III

*Submission deadline: 8 March 2018*

*12:00 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

#### 2.2.1 Background

The marine acquisition campaign described here is part of NPD's program for mapping the possible deep sea mineral resources of the Norwegian continental shelf. The data acquisition program will be administered by the NPD, funded through the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy.

#### 2.2.2 General description

The NPD intends to acquire a variety of geophysical data that may be used in the exploration for volcanic massive sulphide deposits in the seabed of the Mohns Spreading Ridge in the Norwegian Sea. The data should include spontaneous potential data (SP), multi-beam bathymetry (MBES), back scatter data, and routine grav/mag, preferably supplemented by high frequency seismic (HFS) and sub-bottom profiler (SBP) data. Possible ways for combining with the acquisition of electromagnetic (EM) and/or magnetotelluric (MT) data would also be of interest. In addition, geological samples are to be collected in areas of special interest. Samples may be collected by drop cores and/or video grab.

The water depth of the survey area varies in general between 2000 and 3300 meters, with some peaks up to 1500 meters.

The data are planned to be acquired along a set of semi regional survey lines parallel to the central rift valley in a part of the of the Mons Ridge (se Figure 1). The aim of the survey is to enhance the data base for mineral exploration in general, and to investigate how different data sets may be integrated to better identify possible sulphide mineral deposits.

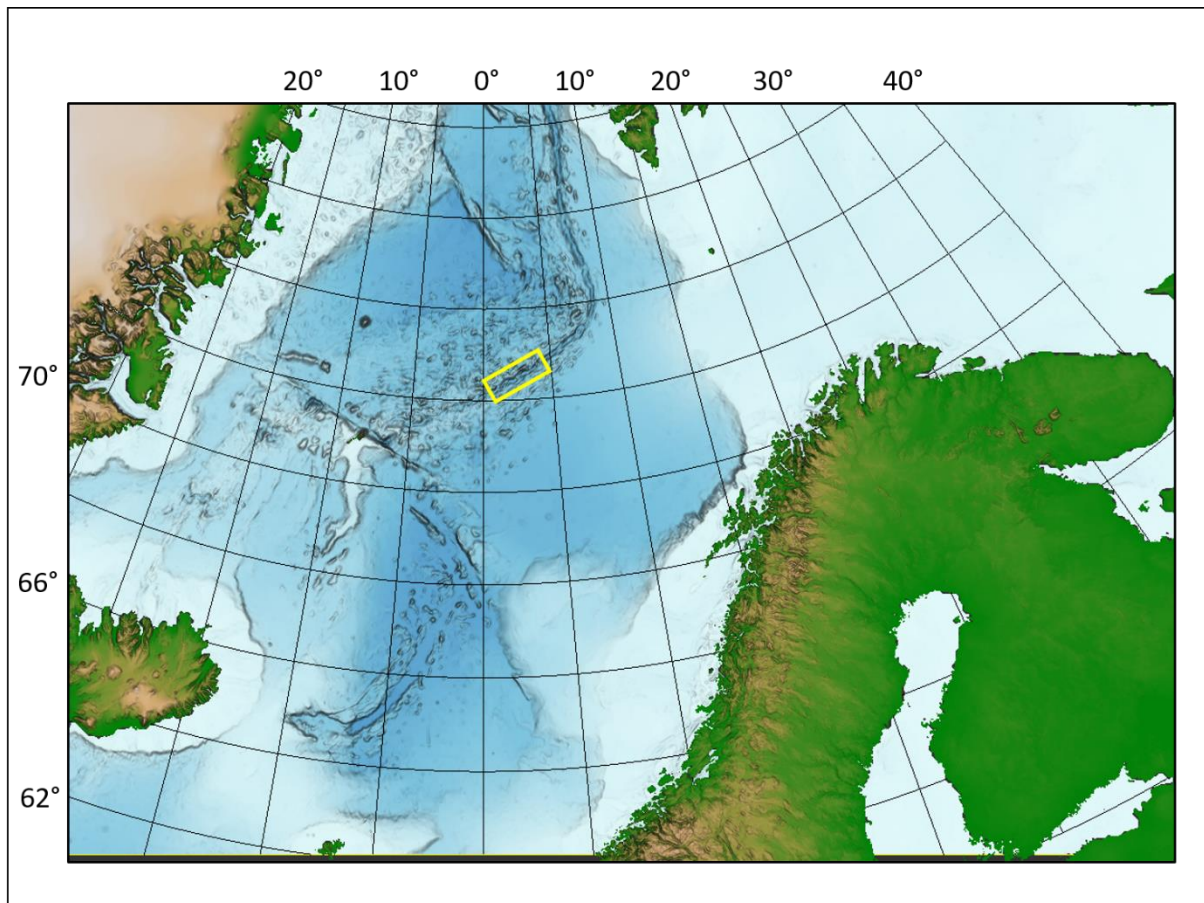


Figure 1. Regional map indicating the general location of the survey (yellow polygon).

### 2.2.3 Timing

The duration of the survey is expected to be approximately one month and to take place between late July and early September 2018.

### 2.2.4 Processing

Processing of all data types shall be in accordance with industry standards.

### 2.2.5 Data delivery and final products

The contractor shall deliver all raw, measured, pre-processed and final processed data and a set of maps and images. Deliverables with comprehensive reports shall be delivered with the data including onboard QC and calibration report (delivered on completion of field work), and acquisition and processing report (field report).

### 2.2.6 Client's representative

NPD will hire a clients representative on board for quality control and daily reporting to NPD.

NPD also reserves the option to send representative(s) to participate in the operations on board.

### 2.2.7 Time schedule for procurement process

The anticipated time schedule is:

1. Deadline for requests to participate – 8 March 2018 at 12.00 (noon)

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2. Selection among qualified participants – Mid March 2018
  3. The selected participants receive the tender document (which includes further information about the scope of work, award criteria, the NPD contract terms) – Late March 2018
  4. Deadline for submitting a tender - Mid/late April 2018
  5. NPD selects companies for negotiation - Late April / early May 2018
  6. Negotiations – Mid May 2018
  7. Selection of contractor - June 2018
  8. Signing of contract- June 2018

### **2.2.8 Reservations**

The project is fully subject to funding and approval from the Norwegian National Assembly ("Stortinget") and the Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy . The 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 and other unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the NPD.

### **2.2.9 Tendering costs**

Tenderer shall cover all the costs of preparing and submitting the request for participation.

## **2.3 Public announcement**

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

# **3 Competition rules**

## **3.1 Procedure**



NPD's procurement is regulated by the Norwegian Public Procurement Act of 16 July 1999 no 69 with amendments, and the Norwegian Public Procurement Regulation of 1 January 2017 sections I and III, with amendments.

The procedure is a two staged negotiated procedure with publication of a contract notice, cf. the Norwegian Public Procurement Regulations § 13-2 c). This means that the competition will be conducted as a two stage process.

The first stage is a prequalification stage based on this qualifying document. All companies wanting to participate in the tender must deliver a written request for participation in accordance with this qualifying document. The requests for participation shall be submitted to NPD within the submission deadline on the front page of this document. Tenders shall not be submitted at this stage. The requests for participation must include all the requested documentation, cf. section 6.2.

The second stage is initiated when NPD has evaluated the requests for participation in relation to the qualification requirements, cf. section 5. Then the tender documents will be distributed to the qualified/selected participants. The participants shall then prepare, make and submit their tenders based on the tender documents.

### 3.2 Communication during the qualification process and tender process

All communication during the process shall be routed via the Mercell-portal, [www.mercell.no](http://www.mercell.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 enquiry 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

Bidders must fulfil these conditions to be eligible for participation in the competition.

### 4.1 General requirements

Requirement	Documents required
<b>Circumstances regarding the bidder's tax remittances shall be in order (this only applies to Norwegian companies).</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax certificate (requirement for Norwegian bidders)</li> <li>• VAT certificate (requirement for Norwegian bidders)</li> </ul> <p>More information: <a href="http://www.skatteetaten.no/no/Alt-om/Skatteattest/">http://www.skatteetaten.no/no/Alt-om/Skatteattest/</a></p>

### 4.2 Company registration

Requirement	Documents required
<b>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.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of company registration Certificate or similar.</li> </ul>

### 4.3 Financial strength

Requirement	Documents required
<b>The tenderer must have financial</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of company annual accounts or extracts thereof for the last three years, with notes from an authorised public</li> </ul>

<b>strength sufficient of performing the specified services.</b>	accountant. NPD may accept any other documentation that confirms financial strength.
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#### 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 Selection of tenderers

Access to the second stage is limited, as the NPD will limit the number of participants based on the qualification requirements. Only the best qualified participants in the first stage will be invited to submit a tender in the second stage. If more than five companies register for participation, NPD will select the three best qualified based on the following qualification requirement: "Relevant experience from relevant/similar assignments", cf. section 4.4. These providers will receive the tender documents and be allowed to submit their tenders in the second stage.

In the second stage, after the deadline for submitting a tender, NPD will negotiate with qualified tenderers. NPD will choose which tenderers to negotiate with after an evaluation of the tenders based on the award criteria as they will be presented in the tender documents.

## 6 Submission and disposition of request for qualification

### 6.1 Submission of tender

All requests for qualification shall be submitted electronically via the Mercell portal, [www.mercell.no](http://www.mercell.no) by the tender deadline. Requests 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 request for qualification in adequate time before the deadline. A minimum of 2 hours before the deadline is suggested. Be aware that the deadline is in local (Norwegian) time.

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

The tender requires an electronic signature when it is submitted. When sending the tender electronically, an electronic signature will be requested to confirm that you are the actual bidder

who has submitted the tender. An electronic signature can be obtained at [www.commfides.com](http://www.commfides.com), [www.buypass.no](http://www.buypass.no) or [www.bankid.no](http://www.bankid.no).

We would like to remind you that it can take some days to acquire an electronic signature, and therefore recommend that this process be initiated as soon as possible.

## 6.2 Disposition of request for qualification

The request for qualification shall be enunciated in English or Norwegian and as in this disposition:

File name	Contents
<b>Qualification requirements</b>	Documents are to be enclosed in the step Kvalifikasjonskrav/Qualification requirements when you submit the request for qualification in Mercell.
<b>K01 - Tax certificate</b>	Cf section 4.1 in this qualifying documentation
<b>K02 - VAT certificate</b>	Cf section 4.1 in this qualifying documentation
<b>K03 - Company registration certificate</b>	Cf section 4.2 in this qualifying documentation
<b>K04 - Financial statement</b>	Cf section 4.3 in this qualifying documentation
<b>K05 - Experience</b>	Cf section 4.4 in this qualifying documentation
<b>Documents required</b>	Documents are to be enclosed under the tab Dokumenter/Documents when you submit the tender in Mercell.
<b>DOK01 – Cover page</b>	Signed by a responsible/liable representative for the bidder. Name and contact information of the bidder.