



**MILLENNIUM
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CLARIFICATION NOTICE No. 1

**Consultancy to Develop Energy Act
Ref. No: MCA-B/EP/QCBS/26/3006**

Issue Date: 24 August 2026

No.	Reference of RFO	Question	Response
1.	Section IV B. Financial Offer Forms	Please confirm that we shall not consider VAT or any withholding tax or local tax in Belize, as part of the MCA contract to be signed for these Consultancy Services. It is understood that the Consultant is, of course, responsible for any related taxes to be paid in their tax residence.	We can confirm that, in accordance with the provisions of the MCC Compact and the applicable tax exemptions, no Belizean taxes, including Value Added Tax (VAT), withholding tax, customs duties, or other local taxes, duties, fees, or similar charges, will be paid under the Compact for eligible Compact-funded procurements. As you correctly noted, the Consultant remains responsible for complying with any tax obligations that may arise in its own country of tax residence or any other jurisdiction in which it is subject to taxation.
2.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria	For the Firm Experience criteria: Please confirm that also non-sovereign territories/associate members are considered also SIDS, for example: Puerto Rico, Sint Marteen.	Please note that this clarification may require a corresponding amendment to the RFO. If approved, Amendment No. 2 will be formally issued and circulated separately to all prospective Offerors. Until such issuance, the provisions of the



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			currently issued RFO remain applicable.
3.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria	For the Firm Experience criteria: Clarify if the experience of a subcontracted firm would be eligible to be assessed as part of the Firm's Experience?	Please note that this clarification may require a corresponding amendment to the RFO. If approved, Amendment No. 2 will be formally issued and circulated separately to all prospective Offerors. Until such issuance, the provisions of the currently issued RFO remain applicable.
4.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria	For the Firm Experience criteria: Can "Similar experience designing government departments or agencies (including organograms) by legal mandate" include references in non-energy sectors, such as water management public bodies?	MCA-Belize will not make an advance determination regarding the acceptability of any specific assignment. The Offeror must provide sufficient information in Form TECH-4 to demonstrate the relevance, nature, scope and complexity of the experience claimed. The assignment will be assessed during the formal evaluation in accordance with the criteria established in the RFO.
5.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	We understand that the allocation of on-site presence for workshops is to be defined, in extension and participation of experts, by the Bidder. Furthermore, we understand that the two-week training workshop is the only mandatory on-site tasks, with other tasks that might optionally be also on-site such as Kick-off meeting, etc. Is there any other relevant milestone that the Client wishes to have delivered in-person?	The kick-off meeting and the workshop associated with the final delivery and validation of the Energy Act are expected to be conducted in person. The Ministry MPUEL will provide Venue only for these 2 Meetings. Beyond these activities, the Offeror may propose the level and timing of additional on-site presence it considers necessary for the successful delivery of the assignment, including stakeholder consultations, working sessions, or



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			presentations. No other specific milestones are mandated to be delivered in person, although in-person engagement at key stages is encouraged where it would enhance the quality of outcomes and stakeholder participation.
6.	Form TECH-11. Curriculum Vitae (CV) for Proposed Key Professional Personnel	CV of Non-Key Experts Could you please confirm whether CVs of the Non-Key Experts are required to be submitted as part of the Technical Proposal?	According to Section I Instructions to Offerors (ITO), C. Preparation of Offers, Technical and Financial Offer Format and Content, 12.5 (I), CVs of the Key Personnel signed by the staff themselves according to Form TECH-11 are the required Curriculum Vitae; The CVs of the Non-Key Personnel are not included in the referred section nor Section II Data Sheet.
7.	ITO 12.4 (c)	Incidental Budget Could you please clarify whether the incidental expenditure for workshops and its related expenses is included in the USD 800,000 or it will be additional?	The MPUEL will provide Venue only for 2 Meetings, kick off Meeting and the validation closeout session. All other incidental expenditure are to be included in your proposed Financial Offer.
8.	ITO 12.4 (c)	Taxes and the USD 800,000 Budget Could you please confirm whether the stated budget of USD 800,000 is inclusive or exclusive of applicable taxes?	In line with answer to Question No. 1, the Estimated Budget does not include taxes.
9.	Form TECH-4. Experience of the Offeror	Project References Could you please clarify how many project references should be presented in the proposal?	The RFO does not prescribe a fixed number of references. Offerors should submit enough relevant assignments, within the 20-page limit for Form TECH-4, to demonstrate the experience claimed against the qualification and evaluation criteria.



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10.	Section IV B. Financial Offer Forms	Withholding Tax and Tax Exemption Kindly clarify whether withholding tax payable in Belize for services provided by non-resident consultants is covered by the applicable tax exemption.	We confirm that taxes related to services provided by non-resident consultants contracted in relation to the resulting consultancy contract will be covered by the applicable tax exemption granted by the Compact.
11.	Section IV B. Financial Offer Forms	Treatment of Withholding Tax, if Applicable If withholding tax is applicable, kindly clarify: - whether MCA-Belize will serve as the withholding agent; and - whether the Consultant should list the withholding tax separately in the Financial Proposal or incorporate it into the experts' rates.	- MCA-Belize will not serve as tax withholding agent - No indication of taxes is required in the Financial Offer nor in the Key Personnel and None-Key Personnel rates.
12.	Firm Experience - Section III.A.4.	The first criterion refers to similar experience drafting energy legislation at National/Federal level (Energy Acts, Electricity Acts, or equivalent). Would experience drafting subsidiary legislation — regulations, licences, market rules or codes made under a national Electricity or Energy Act — qualify as "or equivalent", or is experience on primary legislation (a Bill or Act) required?	The criterion remains unchanged. Offerors shall rely on the requirements set out in the RFO.
13.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria	Lead Legal Expert. The criterion requires an advanced degree (LL.M or higher) in Energy Law or related field. Would an advanced degree in energy regulation, economics or a comparable discipline satisfy "or related field"? Can you list the related fields?	MCA-Belize will not make an advance determination on whether a particular academic credential qualifies as a "related field." Offerors shall submit sufficient supporting information to demonstrate compliance with the RFO. The proposed qualification will be assessed during the formal evaluation.
14.	Section III. Qualification and	Senior Energy/Regulatory Policy Expert. The criterion requires an undergraduate degree in Engineering or related field.	MCA-Belize will not make an advance determination on whether a particular academic



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	Evaluation Criteria	Would a degree in economics, energy economics or regulation satisfy this requirement?	credential qualifies as a “related field.” Offerors shall submit sufficient supporting information to demonstrate compliance with the RFO. The proposed qualification will be assessed during the formal evaluation.
15.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR) Phase 3	Phase 3 — Stakeholder Engagement and Validation. Could you clarify how many in-country missions to Belize are envisaged for the Technical Working Group meetings, the eight thematic workshops and the national public consultation forum? Are any of these activities expected to be conducted virtually? Given that Form FIN-2 requires fully loaded prices inclusive of international travel, any indicative guidance to support accurate cost estimation would be appreciated.	Refer to Response No. 5.
16.	ITO 12.4 (c)	Estimated price budget. Does the estimated price budget of USD 800,000 indicated under DS ITO 12.4(c) include the optional six-month extension (Phase 5), or does it refer to the 47-week base contract only? Please also confirm how Offerors should structure the Financial Offer (Form FIN-2) with respect to pricing the Option Period.	Yes. The estimated budget of USD 800,000 includes both Base Services and Optional Services. Offerors are requested to separate the Financial Offer in Base Services and Optional Services, using Form FIN-2.
17.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Optional extension. Could you clarify the criteria and expected timeline for MCA-Belize's decision to exercise the six-month optional extension, and how much advance notice the Consultant would receive?	The estimation is to commence the Optional Services after the finalization of Base Services Phase 4: Finalization & Implementation Roadmap. MCA-Belize reserves the right to exercise the Optional Services any time before the finalization of the Base Services, however, if exercised, the final terms will be discussed with the selected consultant with sufficient time in advance.



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18.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Local legal expertise. The Terms of Reference require that all draft legislation be submitted in a format compatible with Belize's legislative drafting standards as advised by the Attorney General's Ministry, and Form TECH-6 refers to legal drafting assistants familiar with those guidelines. Is local (Belizean) legal expertise on the team required or preferred? If so, is such a role expected to be proposed as Key Personnel or as non-key support staff?	No, Local legal expertise is not required, Refer to Key Personnel section.
19.	Form TECH-4	Form TECH-4. The reference template requests a reference letter from the client for each assignment. Where such a letter cannot be obtained, may other documentation — for example the contract itself or Final Reports— be submitted instead? Could you also confirm whether reference letters or substitute documents count within the 20-page limit applicable to Form TECH-4?	Offerors are allowed to submit all the available support documentation to demonstrate their experience and compliance with specific requirements. MCA-Belize reserves the right to evaluate the information and request clarifications in accordance with ITO 23. We clarify that the 20-page limit is applicable to the information to be included in the form and is not applicable to the support documentation.
20.	Section IV B. Financial Offer Forms	Should the financial proposal include applicable local taxes in Belize?	Please refer to the response given to Question No. 11.
21.	Form TECH-12	Under TECH-12, it is stated “the form is to be submitted to the Accountable Entity's Procurement Agent at the time of Offer submission, and to the Fiscal Agent thereafter [email addresses for Accountable Entity Procurement and Fiscal Agents to be inserted here] with a copy to MCC at: sanctionscompliance@mcc.gov.” However, the email addresses for the Accountable Entity Procurement and Fiscal Agents were not inserted. Could you please clarify to	The form states: <i>“In satisfaction of Clause G of the Additional Provisions at Annex B of the Contract, this form is to be completed by the Offeror upon submission of the Offer and, if selected, within 28 days of receipt of Letter of Acceptance and Contract Agreement, and subsequently thereafter on the last business day prior to the last</i>



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		who we should send the Sanctions Certification Form?	<i>day of each quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, December 31) after the signature of an MCC-Funded Contract, for the duration of the Contract."</i> We clarify that the form shall be filled in and included in the offer. Only the selected consultant will be requested to update and submit the form as described for the period after issuance of the Letter of Acceptance and Contract Agreement, including the submission to the Fiscal Agent.
22.	Section III Qualification Table	I also refer to Question 3 recorded in the Pre-Offer Conference Minutes, concerning whether a prime consultant may rely on the corporate experience of a specialised sub-consultant to satisfy the firm's experience requirements. The Minutes indicate that this question should be submitted through the formal clarification process. I Whether, grateful for clarification on the application of the qualification and evaluation requirements relating to the use of sub-consultants. The Qualification Table under Factor 4.2, General & Specific Experience, appears to state that, for a joint venture, each member must meet each discrete requirement except for requirements to be met by specialised sub-consultants, if allowed by the Accountable Entity, and that a sub-consultant may be allowed by the Accountable Entity to meet at least one	Answer for questions No. 1, 2 and 3: Please note that this clarification may require a corresponding amendment to the RFO. If approved, Amendment No. 2 will be formally issued and circulated separately to all prospective Offerors. Until such issuance, the provisions of the currently issued RFO remain applicable. Answer for question No. 4 Key Personnel are not considered sub consultants. Experience Requirements for Key personnel and the Consultant (Firm) are different.



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		specialised requirement that can be met by specialised sub-consultants. Could you please clarify: 1. whether an Offeror submitting as a single entity may rely on the experience of a specialised sub-consultant to satisfy any of the discrete requirements under Factor 4.2; 2. whether, where an Offeror submits as a single entity with specialised sub-consultants, the experience of those specialised sub-consultants may be considered for the scored Firm Experience and Relevant Portfolio criterion, including: - similar experience drafting energy legislation at the national/federal level in SIDS or developing economies; - similar experience designing government departments or agencies by legal mandate; and - experience establishing legal frameworks for energy information systems or dedicated universal access funds; 3. which requirements, if any, must be satisfied by the prime Offeror or by a joint venture member, and which may be satisfied through a specialised sub-consultant; and 4. whether the same approach applies to key personnel experience, firm experience, and specialised institutional or technical experience, or whether these are treated differently for evaluation purposes.	
23.	DS ITO14.1	I refer to DS ITO 14.1 of the Request for Offers for the Consultancy to Develop Energy Act, which provides that a Sub-	1. For the purpose of this RFO, the terms Key Personnel and Key Expert are



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		consultant may not participate in more than one Offer as a Sub-consultant, while an individual expert may participate in more than one Offer as an individual expert. For purposes of correctly interpreting this provision and ensuring compliance, please clarify: 1. whether the term “individual expert” includes both Key Experts and non-key experts; 2. whether a firm may participate in more than one Offer as a member of a Joint Venture or Association; and 3. whether an individual expert who is also a director, shareholder or principal of a consulting firm participating as a member of a Joint Venture or Association in one Offer may be proposed in another Offer solely in her individual capacity, provided that the firm does not participate in the other Offer and all applicable conflict-of-interest and confidentiality requirements are observed.	interchangeable when referring to the personnel that is subject of evaluation (Excluding Non-Key Personnel). The term individual expert is defined by the context where is applied. 2. Please refer to ITO Conflict of Interest 5.8 (d): <i>“participate in more than one Offer in this process; participation by an Offeror or any party constituting the Offeror in more than one Offer will result in the disqualification of all Offers in which the party is involved;”</i> 3. Please refer to ITO, Conflict of Interest 5.8. MCA-Belize.
24.	ITO 18.1	May we kindly request an extension of 2 weeks from August 21 to September 4? Several key team members are on leave for the summer, and given the complex nature of the work, we would appreciate more time to develop our methodological approach	Please refer to Amendment No. 1 to the RFO.
25.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria	For the Senior Energy/Regulatory Policy Expert, would a legal or economics bachelor's degree suffice as a related Field?	Please refer to the response given to Question No. 14 above.
26.	TECH-4	Can you confirm if form TECH-4 should be completed by subcontractors filling key positions? If so, some of the fields are challenging to complete for an individual, particularly if they were a development bank staff member or a subcontractor and	The experience of an individual expert is not applicable to determine the experience of the offeror.



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		not the consultant firm on the referenced projects. It is OK to put "not applicable" where those fields do not have clear values/answers (such as contract value, reference letters, or mobilization details).	For TECH-4 must be filled with the information of the offeror, as a Single Entity or the members of a Joint Venture/Association.
27.	TECH-4	I am following up with another question about TECH-4. TECH-4 says "provide reference letter from client" for all projects. Is it sufficient to provide contact information to the client for some or all projects so a reference can be obtained if needed? If you need a letter from each client, do you have a reference form or preferred content, and may letters be put in an annex (outside of the 20-page limit for tech-4)?	MCA-Belize encourages offerors to provide reference letters. No specific format is required if the letter contains information to clearly determine the experience. MCA-Belize reserves the right to request additional information from the referees indicated in the said letters. If a reference letter cannot be provided, Offerors are required to provide updated contact information.
28.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Workshop logistics and costs: Could MCA-Belize confirm whether it will arrange and cover venue, participant logistics, catering and other local costs associated with the TWG meetings, thematic workshops, national public consultation, and the proposed two-week in-person training (under the optional services scope) or whether these costs should be included in the Consultant's financial proposal?	Refer to Response No. 5.
29.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Status and schedule of the parallel Grid Code consultancy: Could MCA-Belize provide the expected timeline for availability of the draft and final transmission, distribution, generation and demand-side Grid Codes, including the anticipated points at which they will be made available for review by this Consultant during the 47-week project delivery period?	Grid Code is expected to be concluded by the end of 2026.



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30.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Electricity Market: Could MCA-Belize clarify if the requirement is to only establish the licensing framework as part of the Energy Act and the overall electricity market structure would be provided to the Consultant by MCA-Belize, MPUEL, PUC, BEL, or another relevant stakeholder?	Yes, Firm will need to liaise with relevant authorities to gather information. MCA and MPUEL will assist where possible.
31.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Depth of Universal Access and Electrification Fund design: Could MCA-Belize clarify whether the assignment is expected to develop only the legal/institutional framework and identify potential capitalization sources for the Fund, or whether detailed financial analysis is also expected, such as estimation of funding requirements, sizing of any electricity surcharge, financial projections, disbursement mechanisms and/or a financial model?	The Energy Act is a legal document thus the assignment is expected to develop the legal/institutional framework that will allow the sector to be able to formulate comprehensive projects/programs. Thus the following does not have to be explicitly included but should be readily permitted: financial analysis, estimation of funding requirements, sizing of any electricity surcharge, financial projections, disbursement mechanisms and/or a financial model in the future of any project / program.
32.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Legislative drafting responsibilities: Could MCA-Belize clarify the expected division of responsibility between the Consultant and the Attorney General's Ministry for legislative drafting? Specifically, is the Consultant expected to deliver Bills fully conforming to Belize's legislative drafting conventions and ready for introduction, or will the Attorney General's Ministry subsequently undertake formal legislative/Parliamentary Counsel drafting?	The consultant is expected to deliver Bills fully conforming to Belize's legislative drafting conventions
33.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Existing licences, PPAs and concessions: Could MCA-Belize indicate the approximate number of existing licences, PPAs and concessions that will need to be reviewed for purposes of grandfathering and	Consultant to make that determination. Documents will be made available and can be found on PUC website.



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		transition analysis, and confirm whether complete documents will be made available to the Consultant at the beginning of the diagnostic phase, subject to any required confidentiality arrangements?	
34.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria	Academic qualifications: Could MCA-Belize clarify which other related academic fields, in addition to a Degree in Engineering, are eligible for the Senior Energy/Regulatory Policy Expert position? For instance, economics, certificate or diploma in utility regulations, etc.	MCA-Belize will not make an advance determination on whether a particular academic field or credential qualifies as a “related field.” Offerors shall submit sufficient supporting information to demonstrate compliance with the RFO. The proposed qualification will be assessed during the formal evaluation.
35.	Form TECH-4	Form TECH-4 includes a reference letter from the client for each assignment. Is such a letter mandatory for every assignment listed, or may the Offeror provide client contact information if the letter cannot be obtained before the submission deadline?	Please refer to Response No. 27.
36.	Form TECH 1. Technical Offer Submission Form	Is a letter of intent or MoU to execute a Joint Venture agreement, accompanied by a copy of the proposed agreement, acceptable? Could the Accountable Entity indicate the minimum content expected in the agreement?	Yes. Section III permits either an executed Joint Venture agreement or a signed letter of intent to form a Joint Venture. A separate proposed agreement need not be executed at Offer stage. The letter of intent must identify all members and the lead member, confirm the intended legal structure, authorize the lead representative, and confirm that all members will be jointly and severally liable for Contract performance if awarded. It must be signed by every proposed member.
37.	GCC 36.1	GCC 36.1 requires insurance "against the risks, and for the coverage specified in the	MCA-Belize clarifies that, since in SCC there is no indication of



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		SCC and in Annex B." The Special Conditions of Contract in this RFO do not address GCC 36. Could the Accountable Entity specify the required categories of insurance (professional indemnity, commercial general liability, workers' compensation, travel and medical, motor vehicle) and the minimum coverage limits for each?	coverages, this Sub-Clause GCC 36.1 is not applicable.
38.	GCC 36.1.	Are there any restrictions regarding the insurance policy country of origin, provided MCC and MCA-Belize are named as additional insureds in accordance with Annex B, Clause I?	The RFO does not specify any restriction regarding the country of origin of the insurance policy. The reference in the question to naming MCC and MCA-Belize as additional insureds is not an insurance requirement established under GCC 36.1.
39.	--	Is a performance security or performance bond required for this Contract? Annex B, Clause I refers to performance bonds "as appropriate," but the RFO does not specify one.	No performance security is required for this RFO.
40.	TECH-3 TECH-4 TECH-6 TECH-11	Form TECH-3 is limited to 5 pages and Form TECH-4 to 20 pages. Do CVs (Form TECH-11), client reference letters, corporate documents and Powers of Attorney count towards those page limits? Is there an overall page limit for Form TECH-6?	We confirm that support documentation is additional and not considered as part of the indicated limit of pages for filling out the forms.
41.	ITO 11.1	Is it required to provide a certified translation of legal documents (originally in Spanish), or will supporting English transcripts be sufficient?	According to ITO 11.1 <i>"The Offer, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the Offer exchanged by the Offeror and the Accountable Entity, shall be written in the language specified in the DS. Supporting documents and printed literature that are part of the Offer may be in another language provided they</i>



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			<i>are accompanied by an accurate translation of the relevant passages into the language specified in the DS, in which case, for purposes of interpretation of the Offer, such translation shall govern.”</i>
42.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria	Regarding experience in drafting energy legislation The evaluation criteria assign points for experience in drafting energy legislation in SIDS or developing economies. Could you clarify what types of work qualify as “energy legislation drafting”? Specifically, will experience in preparing draft bills, reports for the Ministry of Energy and/or the Senate on regulatory improvements in energy matters, regulations, legislative reforms, or sector-specific regulatory proposals be considered, even if the consultant was not responsible for the processing or final approval of the legislation?	For the purposes of this evaluation, the definition of "energy legislation drafting" will be considered is the direct, primary creation of the Energy Act, Electricity Act, or core Regulatory Acts themselves—and even then, prior processing or final approval is not required.
43.	Section III Qualification Table.	Experience of Joint Venture Members: If a Joint Venture or Association submits a bid, can the experience of all its members be aggregated for the purposes of evaluating the “Firm Experience and Relevant Portfolio” criterion, or must certain requirements be demonstrated individually by the lead member of the association? This seems very important to me in deciding between a partner structure.	Please refer to Section III Qualification Table.
44.	Section III. Qualification and Evaluation Criteria and Section III Qualification Table.	Experience of Related or Affiliated Companies Can a bidder or member of a consortium demonstrate experience gained by professionals on its team through projects previously executed for other firms, or does the “Firm Experience and Relevant Portfolio” criterion consider only projects	Experience of individual experts cannot be considered to demonstrate experience of the offeror or any member of the offeror.



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		contracted directly with the bidding legal entity?	
45.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Interpretation of the Academic Requirement for the Lead Legal Expert Regarding the requirement “Advanced degree (LL.M. or higher) in Energy Law or a related field,” could you confirm which disciplines are considered “related fields”? In particular, are graduate degrees in Administrative Law, Public Law, Economic Regulation, Economic Law, or other legal specialties closely related to energy regulation considered eligible?	Please refer to Response No. 13.
46.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Modeling and technical studies: Could you confirm that the scope of the consultancy does not include the development of dispatch models, power flow models, generation or transmission expansion models, stability studies, interconnection studies, grid design, or other electrical engineering studies, and that the technical aspects necessary for the preparation of the Energy Act will be provided by existing studies and/or the parallel Grid Codes consultancy?	The Scope does not contemplate the development of models.
47.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Integrated Resource Planning and Least Cost Planning The Terms of Reference (ToR) state that the new Department of Energy will have responsibilities related to Integrated Resource Plans and Least Cost Expansion Plans. Is the Consultant required to develop or run energy planning or expansion models as part of this consultancy, or is its responsibility limited to designing the legal and institutional provisions that will enable the Department of Energy to carry out these functions?	Please Refer to Response No. 46.
48.	Section V. Terms of	Design of the Independent System Operator Could you confirm that the scope regarding the future Independent System Operator is	Scope is limited to designing the enabling legal provisions and the



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	reference (TOR)	limited to designing the enabling legal provisions and the legal roadmap for its future creation, and that the Consultant is not expected to develop the technical, operational, economic, or detailed governance design of the ISO?	legal roadmap for its future creation.
49.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	The ToR themselves state that the consultancy must create the enabling provisions without designing or proposing the ISO. Even so, it is worth confirming this because it may have a material impact on price and staffing.	Please Refer to Response No. 48.
50.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Coordination with the Grid Codes Consultancy: What is the anticipated timeline for the delivery of draft and final versions of the Grid Codes by the parallel consultancy, and how will any delays on the part of that consultancy that may affect the deliverables or deadlines of the Energy Act Consultant be managed?	Please Refer to Response No. 29.
51.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	In-person missions during the base period In addition to the activities that the ToR expressly identify as requiring in-person attendance, is there an expected minimum number of missions to Belize during the 47 weeks of the base contract? Can monthly progress meetings and other coordination meetings be held virtually, except when physical presence is determined to be necessary?	Monthly progress meetings and other coordination meetings can be held virtually.
52.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Stakeholder workshops and public consultation: Are all thematic workshops and the national public consultation planned for Phase 3 expected to be conducted in person in Belize? If so, can you indicate the approximate number of in-person sessions or events that should be factored into the financial proposal?	Please Refer to Response No. 5.
53.	Section V. Terms of	Workshop organization costs: Will the costs of organizing workshops and	Please Refer to Response No. 5.



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	reference (TOR)	consultations—including venue rental, catering, audiovisual equipment, printing of materials, and other logistical costs—be borne directly by MCA-Belize, or must they be included within the fixed price offered by the Consultant?	
54.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Access to Existing Legislation, Contracts, and Background Information: Will MCA-Belize provide the Consultant, at the start of the engagement, with consolidated and updated versions of all relevant legislation, regulations, licenses, and other documents necessary for the Gap Analysis and the grandfathering analysis, or is the Consultant expected to independently obtain some of this documentation?	MCA Belize and the MPUEL will facilitate the provision of available documentation but here may be instances where the consultant will have to look for documentation independently.
55.	Section V. Terms of reference (TOR)	Role of the Attorney General’s Ministry: What will be the role of the Attorney General’s Ministry during the drafting process? Specifically, will it review and comment on drafts as they are prepared, or only once the Draft Energy Act has been submitted, and what review timelines should be included in the Work Plan?	The Role of the Attorney General’s Ministry will be a partner of the Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy and Logistics. Thus, they will actively participate in the stakeholder engagement, including validation and provide guidance to the Ministry.
56.	ITO 12.4 (c)	Budget and Optional Extension: Does the indicative budget of USD 800,000 cover only the 47-week base contract, or does it also include the optional six-month extension? Given that the RFO states that options must be fully priced and will be evaluated at 100%, we would appreciate confirmation as to whether there is a separate indicative budget for the optional phase.	Please refer to Response No. 16.

These clarifications are issued for interpretative purposes only and do not constitute an amendment to the RFA document. All terms and conditions remain unchanged.