



RULES OF REQUEST

n°B26-00327-TZ

**Pre-industrial equipment for Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD) of precursors
used in perovskite-based photovoltaics**

Key Steps of the Procedure:

Procedure Steps	Deadline (Cut-off Date)
Deadline for submission of applications	20 th July 2026, before 12:00 PM (noon)
Deadline for submission of bids (if your application is selected)	The bid submission deadline will be specified in the invitation to tender

Candidates are hereby informed that the bid submission date will be mutually agreed upon with the selected bidders. In the absence of an agreement, this deadline shall not be less than 10 days from the date the invitation to tender is sent.

ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSE

This consultation regulations define the conditions for the consultation regarding **pre-industrial equipment for Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD) of precursors used in perovskite-based photovoltaics**.

The successful bidder at the end of the procedure for the services defined in these regulations will be awarded a contract established by the **French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA)**.

Justification for Non-Allotment

The purpose of the contract is the purchase of a unique piece of equipment that does not allow for the identification of distinct services under Article L 2113-10 of the French Public Procurement Code.

ARTICLE 2 – APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

This procedure is governed, in descending order of priority, by the following documents:

- Safety regulations and their appendices (corresponding standards);
- The specific provisions set out in these consultation regulations;
- Technical specifications and their appendices (specifications referenced DTS/CDC/2026/007plans, etc.);
- The draft contract referenced B26-00327-TZ;
- The rules applicable to External Companies (contract holders or subcontractors), Index A, and the internal regulations;
- The CEA General Terms and condition of Purchase (January 2022 edition);
- Standard documents (standards, unified technical documents, etc.).

The bidder expressly acknowledges having taken note of these documents and accepted them.

The bidder's general terms and conditions of sale, except those arising from mandatory legal provisions, are not opposable to the CEA in any form. The CEA General Purchase Conditions (January 2022 edition) can be sent to bidders upon simple request.

The following appendices are an integral part of these consultation regulations:

- **Appendix 1** : Dematerialization of the procedure
- **Appendix 2**: Rules applicable to External Companies (contract holders or subcontractors)
- **Appendix 3** : Price breakdown

ARTICLE 3 – CONSULTATION CONDITIONS

3.1 – Procedure

3.1.1 – General Provisions

The selected procedure is a **formalized procedure with negotiation** under **Articles L.2124-3 and R.2124-3 of the French Public Procurement Code (CCP)**, as the need cannot be met without adapting immediately available solutions.

This procedure is divided into two phases: a **candidate application phase** and a **bid submission phase**.

Candidates will not be entitled to any compensation for the studies and various expenses they have incurred in preparing the bid.

Without engaging its liability, the CEA reserves the right to:

- Declare the consultation unsuccessful if it has received no bids or only irregular, unacceptable, or inappropriate bids under **Articles L2152-2 to L2152-4 of the French Public Procurement Code**;
- Not proceed with the consultation;
- Not proceed with the project after the bids have been opened, the confidentiality of which is guaranteed in all cases.

The CEA reserves the right to make **minor modifications** to the consultation file no later than **six (6) days before the bid submission deadline**. Bidders must then respond based on the modified consultation file without being able to raise any claim in this regard. If the bid submission deadline is postponed during the bidders' study of the file, the above provision will apply based on the new date.

The conditions for the execution of the CEA contract and the various applicable provisions are the subject of a draft contract attached to the consultation file. This draft, the financial terms of which are to be specified, corresponds to the document that will be proposed for signature by the selected company, subject to minor adjustments for the finalization of the contract.

3.1.2 – Bidders' Questions

Any questions from bidders must be communicated in writing and submitted via **PLACE** no later than **six (6) days before the application submission deadline**.

A written response from the CEA will be provided to all bidders.

3.1.3 – Minimum Requirements for Bids

As part of the negotiated procedure, bids must comply with the following **non-negotiable minimum requirements** (Art R2161-17 of the French Public Procurement Code):

Technical Requirements:

- The overall functionalities of the equipment as described in Section 7.1 of the specifications ("General Requirements").

Administrative Requirements:

- Contractual provisions relating to:
 - Documents to be provided (CE conformity certificate and safety instructions in French);
 - Maintainability;
 - Tax and customs regime;
 - Applicable law and competent jurisdiction.

3.1.4 – Variants

The CEA authorizes the submission of variants, either as a replacement or in addition to a compliant offer as per the Dossier de Consultation des Entreprises (referred to as the "base offer").

In this case, bidders must provide all necessary justifications regarding the feasibility of each proposed variant and its credibility compared to the base offer, if applicable.

- The CEA authorizes the submission of one (1) environmental variant consisting of an alternative offer that meets the performance criteria described in the specifications.

This will involve equipment manufactured with recycled or refurbished spare parts, with the same warranty period and meeting the same technical specifications.

This can only be a solution whose results must at least be equivalent to or better than those expected and described in the specifications. In this case, bidders must provide all necessary justifications regarding the feasibility of each proposed technical variant and its credibility compared to the base offer.

Non-exhaustive list of elements that may be submitted:

- Environmental impact indicators used for the selection of refurbished parts (resource depletion, particle emissions, waste production, water requirements, etc.);

- Data related to the more virtuous environmental impact of the refurbishment process: the collection and procurement of parts to be restored, the production of replacement parts, the disposal of used parts, etc.;
- If applicable, any additional documents or information that facilitate the understanding of the proposal.

The total number of environmental variants is limited to 1.

3.2 – Subcontracting

Bidders are informed that any activity they entrust to a subcontractor, only after obtaining the CEA's prior express written consent, may not be further subcontracted by the subcontractor, except in the case of an exceptional waiver granted by the CEA.

If the bidder intends to subcontract part of the service, they must indicate, when submitting their bid, the identity, address of their subcontractor(s), and the nature of the subcontracted parts. Subcontractors may also be declared during the execution of the contract. Subcontracting will be carried out under Law 75-1334 of December 31, 1975.

The CEA reserves the right to request the communication of the subcontracting contract(s) and/or not to accept a proposed subcontractor(s).

3.3 – Confidentiality

Confidentiality obligations are governed by Article 11 of the CEA General Purchase Conditions. The consulted companies must not use or transmit information from this consultation to third parties for any purpose other than responding to this consultation.

The bidder undertakes never to communicate or publish, in France or abroad, without the prior written authorization of the CEA, the results of the studies in which its employees have participated, as well as any information of any kind of which they have become aware during this consultation, particularly information relating to Installations Classified for Environmental Protection (ICPE).

The bidder must specify which information in their bid is confidential. They must indicate how this information may be used, the duration of the confidentiality obligation, the persons bound by secrecy, and the persons to whom the information must not be transmitted.

3.4 – Validity of Bids

Bids remain valid for a period of **six months** from their submission deadline.

3.5 – Use of the Dematerialization Platform (PLACE)

The terms of use of the dematerialization platform are set out in **Appendix 1** of these consultation regulations.

ARTICLE 4 – PRESENTATION OF THE APPLICATION AND BID

4.1 – "Application" File

The application file must imperatively include the elements mentioned in the **Contract Notice** published in the **Official Journal of the European Union** and specified as follows:

- The **DC1 form** (Application Letter and Authorization of the Mandatory by its Co-contractors) or an application letter signed by a person authorized to commit the candidate or authorizing the mandatory of a consortium to represent the consortium, accompanied by a sworn statement containing all the information requested on page 3 of this form;
- The **DC2 form** (Declaration of the Individual Candidate or Member of the Consortium) or equivalent.

These forms are available on the following website:
<http://www.economie.gouv.fr/daj/formulaires-marches-publics>

or a **European Single Procurement Document (ESPD)** available at <https://ec.europa.eu/tools/espd/filter?lang=fr>.

- If the candidate belongs to a group, a certificate attesting to its commercial autonomy and competitive position with respect to the other companies in the group.

The following documents must be provided by the selected candidates before the CEA sends the invitation to tender and within the deadline set by the latter:

- Certificates and attestations issued by the competent administrations and bodies proving that the candidate has fulfilled its tax and social obligations, or equivalent documents in the case of foreign candidates, dated less than six months old.

Economic and Financial Capacity:

- A declaration concerning the candidate's overall turnover and, where applicable, the turnover in the field of activity covered by the public contract, for a maximum of the last three available financial years, depending on the date of creation of the company or the start of the economic operator's activity, insofar as information on these turnover figures is available;
- Appropriate bank statements or, where applicable, proof of insurance for relevant professional risks.

If, for a justified reason, the economic operator is unable to provide the requested information and documents, they are authorized to prove their economic and financial capacity by any other means.

Technical and Professional Capacity:

- A list of the main deliveries made or the main services provided over the last three years, indicating the amount, date, and public or private recipient. Deliveries and services are proven by attestations from the recipient or, failing that, by a declaration from the economic operator;
- Descriptions or photographs of the range of equipment proposed.

Subcontracting:

If the candidate uses subcontracting, they must provide the same documents concerning this subcontractor. Furthermore, to justify that they have the subcontractor's capacities for the execution of the contract, the candidate must provide proof by any appropriate means.

4.2 – "Bid" File

The bid file must imperatively include the following elements:

Administrative Bid:

- Certificates of civil and professional insurance currently in force;
- The fully completed draft contract and the specifications as contractual documents, duly initialed and signed, attesting to the bidder's acceptance of their terms;
- For each proposed subcontractor, the bidder must indicate in their bid the amount and nature of the services they intend to subcontract.

Technical Bid:

The technical bid must at least present the following points:

- All the characteristics of the proposed equipment, in accordance with the requirements of the specifications;
- The deadlines listed in the corresponding article of the draft contract;
- A description of the proposed training (content, duration of the different modules, etc.);
- All the characteristics of the proposed options in accordance with the requirements of the specifications;
- The details of the hardware configuration of the equipment, dimensions, and footprint; particular attention will be paid to the optimization of these characteristics;
- A technical bid detailing the maintenance contracts (Preventive, Corrective, and Full Service) that you must propose at the end of the equipment warranty;
- The details of the organization put in place to carry out the installation operations of the Equipment on the CEA site;

- An indication of the supply chain management and monitoring systems that the bidder will implement during the execution of the contract.

Environmental Bid:

The bidder **must** present an **environmental proposal** describing the elements they deem relevant, with regard to the proposed Equipment, to demonstrate their approach to reducing environmental impacts implemented to meet the requirements of **Section 12 of the specifications**.

This proposal may include, but is not limited to:

- Elements relating to the bidder's environmental approach or policy, including any certifications or standards applied;
- Actions or best practices implemented concerning the design, manufacture, or assembly of the Equipment (e.g., choice of materials, repairability, durability, scalability, limitation of hazardous substances, or reduction of consumption);
- Measures adopted to reduce the environmental impact related to packaging, delivery, logistics, and energy consumption in idle mode.

We draw your attention to the fact that your price must also include the provision, in French, of all documentation relating to the installed materials (user manual, maintenance manual, safety instructions, etc.).

Commercial Bid:

A commercial bid established with **firm and fixed prices**, detailed according to the breakdown grid in **Appendix 4** of these consultation regulations:

- The detailed price of the equipment - **FCA (Incoterms® ICC 2020)**;
- The bidder must indicate the approximate weight and volume of the equipment and whether it requires special transport precautions (air cushion), as well as the origin of the equipment;
- If the equipment comes from a third country outside the European Union, the bidder must indicate the **customs nomenclature number (HS code)** of the equipment.

The bidder may also provide:

- A complete list of spare parts as well as an exhaustive list of consumables necessary for the operation of the equipment, with the functions, reference, and price of each component. These lists can serve as a basis for establishing a contract for the supply of spare parts and consumables. The contractor must specify the standard delivery time as well as the time in case of an emergency situation.

ARTICLE 5 – SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND BIDS

5.1 – Deadline for Submission of Applications and Bids

Candidates' applications must be submitted no later than **20th July of 2026 before 12:00 PM (noon)** (strict deadline).

Any application file received after this date will be automatically rejected.

The deadline for the submission of bids will be communicated later in the invitation to tender.

Candidates are hereby informed that the bid submission date will be mutually agreed upon with the selected bidders. In the absence of an agreement, this deadline shall not be less than 10 days from the date the invitation to tender is sent.

5.2 – Form of Submission of Applications and Bids

5.2.1 – Dematerialized Version

Bidders must submit their application and bid via the **CEA's dematerialized procurement procedure platform (PLACE)**, accessible at the following URL: <https://www.marches-publics.gouv.fr>

The procedures to follow are indicated in **Appendix 1** of these consultation regulations. **Bidders are requested to comply with the formalities for presenting bid and application files as indicated in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of this Appendix 1.**

It is specified that for the submission of a bid via the CEA's dematerialized tender platform, the bid (in **.ZIP** format) must not exceed **200 MB** after ZIP compression.

Backup Copy

The bidder may send, in parallel, a backup copy of the documents that were transmitted electronically, either on paper or on electronic media.

The backup copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope bearing the legible mention: **"Backup Copy"**.

It must be sent within the deadlines set for the submission of applications and bids to the following address:

CEA Grenoble

Procurement and Contracts Service

17, rue des Martyrs
38054 GRENOBLE Cedex 09
Attn: Thomas ZEMERLI

The backup copy will be opened:

- If malicious software is detected in the applications and bids transmitted electronically;
- If the applications and bids transmitted electronically have not been received within the submission deadlines or could not be opened by the CEA (provided that the backup copy was received within the submission deadlines).

Reminder:

Economic operators are required to submit their applications and bids electronically via **PLACE**, except in the cases provided for in Articles R2132-12 and R2132-13 of the French Public Procurement Code.

ARTICLE 6 – SELECTION OF APPLICATIONS AND EVALUATION OF BIDS

6.1 – Verification of Applications

The CEA verifies that candidates meet the participation conditions indicated in the **Contract Notice** and recalled in **Article 4.1** of the consultation regulations. The CEA does not wish to limit the number of economic operators applying. A minimum of **3 applications** is desired. However, if the number of candidates meeting the participation conditions is less than the indicated minimum number, the CEA may continue the procedure with these candidates.

6.2 – Award Criteria

The bidder's offer will be analyzed according to the following **weighted selection criteria**:

Criteria	Weighting
Economic Criteria:	
Price of the equipment with selected options	50%
Technical and Environmental Criteria:	
Appropriateness of the proposed design and layout with regard contamination control of CMRs (Carcinogenic, Mutagenic, or Reprotoxic substances)	30%
Relevance and consideration of sustainable development in the proposed design (Section 12 of the Specifications)	5%
Performance in terms of speed, reproducibility, and uniformity of vapor deposition of precursors used to form the perovskite layer (photovoltaic research field)	10%
Optimization of the proposed equipment dimensions	5%

To this end, the bidder must ensure that the points concerning these criteria are clearly specified and/or developed in their bid.

Regarding Negotiation

After examining the initial bids and establishing a first ranking of the regular bids, the contracting authority will enter into negotiations with the **3 bidders whose bids are the highest rated** according to the above evaluation criteria, subject to a sufficient number of bids received.

It is specified that the CEA reserves the right to negotiate or not to negotiate the bids after the submission of the initial bids under this consultation.

The negotiation may cover all or part of the candidates' bids. The negotiations may take place in successive phases to reduce the number of bids to be negotiated by applying the above-determined award criteria.

Bidders are hereby informed that any irregular or unacceptable bid may be regularized during the negotiation, and that only an irregular bid may be regularized in the absence of negotiation. On the other hand, any inappropriate bid will be systematically eliminated.

Any bid remaining irregular may be regularized within an appropriate timeframe.

A bid may be corrected in the event of a purely material error of such a nature that no one could invoke it in good faith, without violating the principle of the intangibility of bids.

ARTICLE 7 – DOCUMENTS RELATING TO COMPLIANCE WITH TAX AND SOCIAL REGULATIONS TO BE PROVIDED BY CANDIDATES ADMITTED TO TENDER OR PARTICIPATE IN DIALOGUE

In accordance with **Article R2144-5 of the French Public Procurement Code**, candidates selected by the CEA will only be able to access the consultation phase and be invited to tender on the condition that they transmit to the CEA, in accordance with **Articles R2143-6, R2143-7, and R2143-9** of the aforementioned Code, before the sending of the invitation to tender and within the deadline set by the CEA, the following documents:

- Certificates and attestations issued by the competent administrations and bodies proving that the candidate has fulfilled its tax and social obligations (Order of March 22, 2019, establishing the list of taxes, contributions, or social contributions giving rise to the issuance of certificates for the award of public contracts);
- A **K-Bis extract** or **D1** dated less than 3 months old, or equivalent documents in the case of foreign candidates.

If the selected candidate does not provide these documents within the specified timeframe, their application will be rejected without further formalities.

ARTICLE 8 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For any clarification and/or additional information, bidders are requested to use the **CEA's dematerialized procurement procedure platform (PLACE)**.

The CEA's dematerialized procurement procedure platform is accessible at the following URL: <https://www.marches-publics.gouv.fr>

The procedures to follow are indicated in **Appendix 1** of these consultation regulations.

This consultation is managed by:

8.1 – Technical Contacts

- **Polyxeni TSOULKA** – DES/LITEN/DTS/SCPV/LCT – Tel.: +33 (0)4.79.79.29.33

8.2 – Commercial Contacts

- **Thomas ZEMERLI** – Procurement and Contracts Service – Tel.: +33 (0)4 38 78 11 86
- **Anne MANGIN** – Procurement and Contracts Service – Tel.: +33 (0)4 38 78 11 05 26

ARTICLE 9 – SUPPLIER MONITORING

To monitor its suppliers, the CEA has an evaluation tool relating to the execution of its contracts. In this context, the CEA may carry out audits and/or request corrective action plans from its suppliers.