

INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL MONITORS (IEMS)

Presently the panel consisting of the following Independent External Monitors (IEMs) have been appointed by AGL, in terms of Integrity Pact (IP) which forms part of AGL Tenders / Contracts.

- i) Dr. Sarat Kumar Acharya (Contact No. 9442118060 / 8754498285, Email id – sarat777@rediffmail.com)
- ii) Shri Satyajit Mohanty (Contact No. 9437110622, Email id – satyajitmohant88@gmail.com)

This panel is authorized to examine / consider all references made to it under this tender. The bidder(s), in case of any dispute(s) / complaint(s) pertaining to this tender may raise the issue either with the designated tender issuing officer or Nodal Officer (presently Head (C&P)- Email varender.sharma@aglonline.net in AGL or directly with the IEMs on the panel.

INTEGRITY PACT

(To be executed on plain paper)

Between Aavantika Gas Limited, a joint venture company of GAIL India Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (here-in-after referred to as “Principal”).

AND

_____ **(here-in-after referred to as “The Bidder/ Contractor”).**

(Principal and the Bidder / Contractor are here-in-after are referred to individually as “Party” or collectively as “Parties”).

PREAMBLE

The Principal intends to award under laid down organizational procedures, contract/s for _____. The Principal values full compliance with all relevant laws and regulations, and the principles of economic use of resources, and of fairness and transparency in its relations with its Bidder/s and Contractor/s.

In order to achieve these goals, the Principal will appoint Independent External Monitor (s) (in consultation with Central Vigilance Commission) who will monitor the tender process, the execution of the contract etc. for compliance with the principles mentioned above.

Section 1 – Commitments of the Principal

- 1.** The Principal commits itself to take all measures necessary to prevent corruption and to observe the following Principles in this regard:-
 - i) No employee of the Principal, either in person or through family members, including relatives, will in connection with the tender for or the execution of a contract, demand or accept a promise for or accept for him/herself or for a third person, any material or immaterial benefit to which he/she is not legally entitled.
 - ii) The Principal shall, during the tender process treat all Bidders with equity. The Principal undertakes and ensures that before and during the tender process shall provide and share the same information to all Bidders and will not provide to any Bidder confidential / additional information through which one particular Bidder could take an advantage in relation to the tender process or the contract execution.

- iii) In case, any misconduct on the part of any official (s) is reported by the BIDDER to the PRINCIPAL with full and verifiable facts and the same is prima facie found to be correct by the PRINCIPAL, necessary disciplinary proceedings, or any other action as deemed fit, including criminal proceedings may be initiated by the PRINCIPAL and such person shall be debarred from further dealings related to the contract process. In such a case, while an enquiry is being conducted by the PRINCIPAL the proceedings under the contract would not be stalled.
2. If the Principal obtains information on the conduct of any of its employees which is a criminal offence under the Anti-Corruption Laws of India, or if there be a substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform its Vigilance Office and in addition can initiate disciplinary actions.

Section 2 – Commitments and Undertakings by the Bidder/Contractor

1. The Bidder / Contractor commits and undertakes to take all measures necessary to prevent malpractices & corruption. He commits himself to observe the following principles during his participation in the tender process and during the contract execution till the validity of Integrity Pact:
- i) The Bidder / Contractor undertakes not to, directly or through any other person or firm offer, promise or give or influence to any employee of the Principal associated with the tender process or the execution of the contract or to any other person on their behalf any material or immaterial benefit to which he / she is not legally entitled in order to obtain in exchange any advantage of any kind whatsoever during the tender process or during the execution of the contract till the validity of Integrity Pact.
 - ii) The Bidder / Contractor undertakes not to enter into any undisclosed agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal with other Bidders. This applies in particular to prices, specifications, certifications, subsidiary contracts, submission or non-submission of bids or any other action to restrict competitiveness or to introduce cartelization in the bidding process.
 - iii) The Bidder / Contractor undertakes not to commit any offence under the relevant Anti-corruption Laws of India. Further, the Bidder / Contractor will not use improperly any information or document provided by the Principal as part of the business relationship regarding plans, technical proposals and business details, including information contained or transmitted electronically for the purposes of competition or personal gain and will not pass the information/document so acquired on to others.

- iv) The Bidder / Contractor will, when presenting his bid undertakes to disclose any and all payments made, is committed to or intends to make to agents, brokers or any other intermediaries in connection with the award of the contract.
 - v) The bidder (s)/ Contractor (s) of foreign origin shall disclose the name and address of the Agents/ representatives in India, if any. Similarly, the bidder (s)/ contractor (s) of Indian Nationality shall furnish the name and address of the foreign principals, if any.
 - vi) Bidder(s) / Contractor(s) who have signed the Integrity Pact shall not approach the Courts while representing the matter to IEMs and shall wait for their decision in the matter.
2. The Bidder/ Contractor shall not instigate or cause to instigate any third person to commit any of the actions mentioned above.
 3. The Bidder/Contractor commits to refrain from giving any complaint directly or through any other manner without supporting it with full and verifiable facts.
 4. The Bidder/Contractor shall not lend to or borrow any money from or enter into any monetary dealing or transactions, directly or indirectly, with any employee of the Principal.
 5. In case of any allegation of violation of any provision (s) of this pact or payment of commission, the Principal or its agencies shall be entitled to examine all the documents including the book of accounts of the Bidder and the Bidder shall provide necessary information and documents in English and shall extend all possible help for the purpose of such examination.
 6. The Bidder/ Contractor will not collude with other parties interested in the contract to impair the transparency, fairness and progress of the bidding process, bid evaluation, contracting and implementation of contract.
 7. The Bidder/ Contractor will not accept any advantage in exchange for any corrupt practice, unfair means and illegal activities.

Section 3 – Disqualification from tender process and exclusion from future contracts

1. If it is found that the Bidder / Contractor or any one employed by it has committed a transgression through a violation of any provisions of Section 2 so as to put his

reliability or credibility into question, the Principal shall be entitled to disqualify such Bidder / Contractor from the tender including banning such Bidder / Contractor from entering into any AGL's future contract/ tender processes for a specified period and also to terminate the contract, if already signed, on that ground as per provision of AGL's "CORRUPT AND FRAUDULENT PRACTICES". Further, the period of banning shall be as per AGL's policy and the decision of the Principal in this regard will be final and binding on the Bidder/ Contractor.

2. A transgression is considered to have occurred if the Principal after due consideration of the available evidence, concludes that there is a transgression of the provisions of the Pact.
3. The Bidder with its free consent and without any influence agrees and undertakes to respect and uphold the Principal's absolute rights to resort to and impose such exclusion and further accepts and undertakes not to challenge or question such exclusion on any ground, including the lack of any hearing before the decision to resort to such exclusion is taken. This undertaking is given freely and after obtaining independent legal advice.
4. Principal is entitled to recover all sums paid by Bidder/ contractor to any middleman or agent or broker with a view to securing the contract.

In cases where irrevocable Letters of credit has to be established in respect of any contract signed by the Principal with the Bidder, the same shall not be opened.

Principal is entitled to forfeit the Performance Bond clearly assigning reason in case Bidder/ Contractor violates this Pact.

Section 4 – Forfeiture of EMD / Security Deposits

1. If due to transgression as per the provisions of the Pact, the Principal has disqualified the Bidder from the tender process prior to the award in terms of Section 3, the Principal is entitled to forfeit earnest money deposit / bid security money. In addition to this, such Bidder/Contractor shall also be banned from the future business with Principal with consequential actions as per provisions of AGL's "CORRUPT AND FRAUDULENT PRACTICES".

Section 5 – Previous transgression

1. The Bidder declares that no previous transgression has occurred during the last three years immediately before signing of this Integrity Pact, with any other Company in any country in respect of any corrupt practices envisaged hereunder or with any other

Public Sector Enterprise / Undertaking or any Government Department in India that could justify Bidder's exclusion from the tender process.

2. If the Bidder makes incorrect statement on this subject, he shall be disqualified from the tender process or the contract, if already awarded, could be liable to be terminated on this ground and other actions can be taken by AGL as per AGL's "CORRUPT AND FRAUDULENT PRACTICES"

In case of any transgression in the last three years from the date of signing of Integrity Pact, Bidder to provide the details of same in their bid.

Section 6 – Equal treatment to all Bidders / Contractors / Subcontractors

1. The Bidder / Contractor undertakes to demand from all its sub-contractors, if any, an undertaking and commitment in conformity with this Integrity Pact, and to submit it to the Principal before signing of the contract.

In case of Sub-Contracting, the Principal Contractor shall take the responsibility of the adoption of Integrity Pact by the Sub-contractor.

2. The Principal will enter into agreements with similar conditions, as stipulated herein, with all Bidders, Contractors and Subcontractors.
3. The Principal shall disqualify from the tender process all Bidders who do not sign this Pact or violate any of its provisions.

Section 7 – Criminal charges against violating Bidders / Contractors / Sub-contractors

If the Principal obtains knowledge of conduct of a Bidder, Contractor or Subcontractor, or of an employee or a representative or an associate of a Bidder, Contractor or Subcontractor which constitutes corruption or an offence as defined in Chapter IX of the Indian Penal Code 1860 or prevention of corruption Act 1988 and amendments thereof or any other enacted statute for prevention of corruption, or if the Principal has substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform the same to the Vigilance Office / Department for initiating appropriate action for above.

Section 8 – Independent External Monitor / Monitors

1. The Principal appoints competent and credible external independent Monitor for this Pact. The task of the Monitor is to review independently and objectively, whether and to what extent the parties comply with the obligations under this agreement.

2. The Monitor is not subject to any instructions by the representatives of the parties and performs his functions neutrally and independently. He reports to the Chairperson of the Board of the Principal.
3. The Bidder/ Contractor accepts that the Monitor has the right to access without restriction to all Project documentation of the Principal including that provided by the Contractor. The Contractor will also grant the Monitor, upon his request and demonstration of a valid interest, unrestricted and unconditional access to his project documentation. The same is applicable to Sub-contractors. The Monitor is under contractual obligation to treat the information and documents of the Bidder / Contractor / Sub-contractor with confidentiality.
4. The Principal will provide to the Monitor sufficient information about all meetings among the parties related to the Project provided such meetings could have an impact on the contractual relations between the Principal and the Contractor. The parties offer to the Monitor the option to participate in such meetings.
5. As soon as the Monitor notices, or believes to notice, a violation of this Pact he will so inform the Management of the Principal and request the Management to discontinue or heal the violation or to take other relevant action. The monitor can in this regard submit non-binding recommendations. Beyond this, the Monitor has no right to demand from the parties that they act in a specific manner, refrain from action or tolerate action. However, the Independent External Monitor shall give an opportunity to the bidder / contractor to present its case before making its recommendations to the Principal.
6. The Monitor will submit a written report to the Chairperson of the Board of the Principal within 10 days as far as possible from the date of reference or intimation to him by the 'Principal' and should the occasion arise, submit proposals for taking corrective measures..
7. Remuneration payable to Monitor (s) shall be borne by Principal .
8. If the Monitor has reported to the Chairperson of the Board a substantiated suspicion of an offence under relevant Anti-Corruption laws of India, and the Chairperson has not, within reasonable time, taken visible action to proceed against such offence or reported it to the Vigilance Office, the Monitor may also transmit this information directly to the Central Vigilance Commissioner, Government of India.
9. The word 'Monitor' would include both singular and plural.
10. Independent External Monitor shall be required to maintain confidentiality of the information acquired and gathered during their tenure / role as Independent Monitor. Any breach in this regard would be subject to the legal judicial system of India.

11. The Independent External Monitors shall be responsible to oversee the implementation of Integrity Pact Program to prevent corruption, bribes or any other unethical practices in the AGL.
12. The monitor has also signed declarations on 'Non-Disclosure of Confidential Information' and of 'Absence of Conflict of Interest'. In case of any conflict of interest arising at a later date, the IEM shall inform Chairperson of the Principal and recuse himself / herself from that case.
13. In case of any complaints referred under IP Program, the role of IEMs is advisory and would not be legally binding and it is restricted to resolving the issues raised by an intending bidder regarding any aspect of the tender which allegedly restricts competition on bias towards some bidder.
14. Issues like warranty / guarantee, etc. shall be outside the purview of IEMs.

Section 9 – Pact Duration

The provisions of this Pact shall come into effect from the date of signing of this Pact by the both parties. It expires for the Contractor 12 months after the last payment under the respective contract, and for all other Bidders 6 months after the contract has been awarded.

If any claim is made / lodged by either party during this time, the same shall be binding and continue to be valid despite the lapse of this pact as specified above, unless it is discharged/determined by the Chairperson of the Principal.

Section 10 – Miscellaneous provisions

1. This agreement is subject to Indian Law. Place of performance and exclusive jurisdiction is the Registered Office of the Principal, i.e. Indore. The Arbitration clause provided in main tender document / contract shall not be applicable for any issue / dispute arising under Integrity Pact.
2. Changes and supplements as well as termination notices, if any, need to be made in writing. Side agreements have not been made.
3. If the Contractor / Bidder is a partnership concern or a consortium, this agreement must be signed by all partners or consortium members.
4. In case any or several of the provisions of this agreement turn out to be void, the remainder of this pact shall remain valid. The parties to this pact however, shall strive to come to an agreement to their original intentions in such a case.

5. The actions stipulated in this Integrity Pact are without prejudice to any other legal action that may follow in accordance with the provision of the extant law in force relating to any civil or criminal proceeding.

(Name & Designation)
For the Principal

(Name & Designation)
For the Bidder/Contractor

Place -----

Witness 1: -----

Date -----

Witness 2: -----