



Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

## Response to Tender Questions

### Non-ionising Radiation

### Site Survey Programme 2007

<b>Document No:</b>	07/16
<b>Date:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2007

**An Coimisiún um Rialáil Cumarsáide**

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## **1 Introduction**

On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2007, the Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) issued an Invitation to Tender in order to engage contractor(s) to assist it in its Non-Ionising Radiation Measurement Programme by conducting NIR measurements at 120 sample sites countrywide during 2007. A revised Invitation to Tender was issued on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2007 in order to extend the latest time for Notification of Interest to 5 p.m. on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007 and to extend the latest time for Receipt of Questions to 12 noon on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2007.

Section 5 of that Invitation to Tender made provision for an opportunity for prospective tenderers to request clarification on issues specific to the submission of a competitive tender based on the Non-Ionising Radiation Measurement Programme. Clarifications could be sought in the period 5<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2007.

This document responds to questions received in this period and is being circulated to parties who have signalled an interest in tendering. ComReg is not disclosing the identity of any party which has posed a question.

Whilst every endeavour is made to accurately inform potential respondents of the requirements for the contract relating to the Non-Ionising Radiation Measurement Programme, tenderers should form their own conclusions about the methods and resources needed to meet those requirements. ComReg cannot accept responsibility for the tenderers' assessment of this assignment.

## 2 Response to Questions

### Question 1

**Will all the sites in one location be given in one group or is it likely that the same area will have to be revisited at a later time?**

Sites in one location will not be assigned in one group. For example, not all sites in, say, Co. Cork would be scheduled for survey in April.

The intention is to have a proportional spread by county over the four segments of the year as indicated in the IFT.

For example if there are to be a total 30 sites surveyed in Co. Cork, then the 30 sites would be spread over the four segments:

i.e. segment 1: 4 sites in Cork

segment 2: 7 sites in Cork

segment 3: 10 sites in Cork

segment 4: 9 sites in Cork

That would be the case with most counties. During each segment, it is likely that there will be a good geographic spread in the sites assigned for survey.

### Question 2

**How many points of measurements will be required at any one site?**

As stated in the IFT, the surveys will be conducted in accordance with CEPT ECC Recommendation ECC/REC/(02)04. For examples of how the surveys are conducted, please refer to reports of previous ComReg site surveys which have been published on [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie) in the section 'NIR Site Reports'. For each survey, it is first required that the point of highest emissions is located by means of a walk-around using a field strength meter with an isotropic probe attached. At the point of highest emissions a 6 minute broadband scan of emissions is recorded using the field strength meter. Then a more in-depth narrowband study of particular bands of interest using a spectrum analyser with directional antennas is conducted. It may be the case in some instances that one or two additional broadband scans are required adjacent to a particular site, e.g. within a room of a building near a mast.

### **Question 3**

#### **Will you stipulate the co-ordinates of the measurement place?**

Locations of the sites to be surveyed will be chosen by ComReg and communicated to the contractor. In most instances ComReg will supply the geographic coordinates for the transmission stations to be surveyed. Otherwise a location description will be given. Please note that the geographic co-ordinates do not relate to the point of highest emissions of non-ionising radiation. The coordinates only relate to the location of the station (e.g. GSM base station) around which the point of highest emissions is to be located by the surveyors within a publicly accessible area.

### **Question 4**

#### **Will there be a right of access for a vehicle to the exact measurement place?**

Any right of access for vehicles to a particular site will have to be negotiated with the relevant property owner.

### **Question 5**

#### **Is there any flexibility on the timing of the first series of measurements?**

No. The first series of measurements must be completed by the end of April 2007. This is in order for ComReg to meet its schedule of public deliverables.

### **Question 6**

#### **Is it required that the measurements be taken at ground level on all sites or will there be a requirement for rigging personnel to climb the structures and obtain measurements at height?**

The requirement is for measurements to be taken in places where members of the public might be exposed to non-ionising radiation emissions. Given that occupational exposure (i.e. to radio engineers) is not being assessed, there will be no requirement for surveyors to climb telecommunications structures, such as masts, in order to obtain measurements at height. Most of the measurements will be taken at ground level. However there may be a requirement in some instances to take measurements on a particular floor of a building or on the roof of a building to which members of the public have ready access, e.g. a roof garden, roof smoking area etc.

### **Question 7**

**Is the latest time for Notification of Interest the same as the deadline for Submission of Tenders?**

No.

The latest time for Notification of Interest is 5 p.m. (Irish Time) on Monday 26th March 2007.

The deadline for Submission of Tenders is 12 noon. (Irish Time) on Tuesday 27th March 2007.

### **Question 8**

**Is there a tender document for completion other than the document on the Comreg website?**

The same Invitation to Tender has been published on [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie) and [www.etenders.gov.ie](http://www.etenders.gov.ie). The relevant document is ComReg 07/14r.

### **Question 9**

**Is there a weighting matrix for tender evaluation purposes?**

In relation to the Evaluation of Tenders and Award Criteria, a weighting matrix will be applied. However the weightings will not be published in advance of or on the final date for submission of tenders.

### **Question 10**

**Is further information available with regard to what specific measurements are required to be carried out under the programme? Are assessments of radio frequency signal strength produced by local transmitters at the measurement locations required?**

As stated in the IFT, the surveys will be conducted in accordance with CEPT ECC Recommendation ECC/REC/(02)04, in particular Case 2. For examples of how the surveys are conducted, please refer to reports of previous ComReg site surveys which have been published on [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie) in the section 'NIR Site Reports'. For each survey, it is first required that the point of highest emissions is first located by means of a walk-around using a field strength meter with an isotropic probe attached. At the point of highest emissions a 6 minute broadband scan of emissions is recorded using the field strength meter.

A more in-depth narrowband study of particular bands of interest using a spectrum analyser with directional antennas is conducted. In the case of both the broadband scans, using the field strength meter and probe, and the narrowband scans using the spectrum

analyser, it is measurements of the field strength of non-ionising radiation emissions from the chosen sites that are required.

### **Question 11**

**Is it acceptable for a company which is non-resident in Ireland to submit a tender, or will tenders from Irish registered companies only be entertained?**

Companies which are non-resident in Ireland may submit tenders. Please note that a successful non-resident contractor or sub-contractor will be required to produce a 'Statement of Suitability for Tax Purposes' (in lieu of a Tax Clearance Certificate) from the Irish Revenue Commissioners confirming suitability on tax grounds to be awarded the contract. See page 11 of the Invitation to Tender\* for the requirements relating to the 'Financial Status of Successful Contractors'.

Please note also that there is a requirement for 15 sites to be surveyed in April 2007. The successful contractor must be capable of performing the 15 surveys in Ireland during April 2007.

\* Document ComReg 07/14r: Revised Invitation to Tender - Non-ionising Radiation Site Survey Programme 2007 – available on [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie) and [www.etenders.ie](http://www.etenders.ie).

### **Question 12**

**Given the extension of the latest time for Notification of Interest and the extension of the latest time for Receipt of Questions, as outlined in the revised Invitation to Tender, as published on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2007, will the reporting periods (as outlined in 2.2.2 and 2.4 of the IFT) also be extended?**

No. The reporting periods (as outlined in 2.2.2 and 2.4 of the Invitation to Tender) will not be extended.

### **Question 13**

**How accurate do GPS measurements need to be? Will within 5 metres be acceptable or is a higher accuracy required (e.g. 1 - 3 metres).**

GPS measurements accurate to within 5 meters will be acceptable. If you wish to do so, please list the make, model and accuracy (in meters) of your company's GPS receiver(s) in the section of your tender relating to Technical Capability.

## **Question 14**

**In relation to the line:**

**‘Prices should distinguish between labour costs and associated overheads; and material and postage costs for test letters.’**

**in Section 4 of the Invitation to Tender, titled ‘Format of Tender’,  
can the Commission confirm:**

**(a) if the breakdown is between the work (labour and associated overhead) and materials (including postage)?**

**(b) if ‘materials’ includes equipment in this context?**

**(c) what the term ‘test letters’ refer to?**

(a) Prices should be listed under the following headings:

- labour costs
- overheads associated with labour (e.g. travel, accommodation etc)
- material costs
- postage costs for test letters

(b) ‘Material’ means any vehicle or any equipment which is required to perform the surveys e.g. field strength meters, electrical field probes, spectrum analysers, antennas, GPS receivers, laptop computers etc. Any costs associated with the printing of site reports should also be included under the heading ‘Material’.

(c) ‘Test letters’ means printed copies of site survey reports or any correspondence relating thereto or any correspondence relating to the site survey programme during the term of the contract.