NEK
*Nuklearna elektrarna Krško, d.o.o.*
Vrbina 12, 8270 Krško
Slovenija

Krško, September 3, 2025

In pursuance of Article 90 of the Public Procurement Act (ZJN-3, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 91/15 with all amendments) Nuklearna elektrarna Krško, d.o.o., Vrbina 12, 8270 Krško (hereinafter: Purchaser), represented by Gorazd Pfeifer, President of the Management Board, and Saša Medaković, Member of the Management Board, adopts the following

**DECISION ON CONTRACT AWARD**

**for**

**»Feasibility Study for Cooling Towers System Upgrade«**
**(Študija izvedljivosti za posodobitev sistema hladilnih stolpov)**

The Contract for "**Feasibility Study for Cooling Towers System Upgrade**" has been awarded **to two selected Bidders:**

**Framatome** S.L.U., Avenida Europa-Esquina Calle Belgica Isla, 14, p 1.1-1.3 Constantí 43- Tarragona (Cataluña, Spain)

and

**Westinghouse Electric Spain,** S.A.U, Avenida Montes de Oca 1, 28703 San Sebastian de los Reyes, Spain

**Explanatory Note**

The Purchaser has implemented the Public Bidding Negotiation Procedure with prior notification for **"Feasibility Study for Cooling Towers System Upgrade"** in accordance with Art. 45 of the Slovenian Public Procurement Act "ZJN-3".

The tender No. 103/25-8250817 was published on April 28, 2025 on the Slovenian Public Procurement Portal under No. JN003087/2025-EUe17/01 and on the Tenders Electronic Daily under No. 272841-2025.

By the extended bidding due date July 17, 2025 at 2.00 p.m. CET the following Bidders submitted the Bid on time with the following basic elements:

| Order of Bids Receipt | Name and address of the Bidder | No. of Bid | Date and hour of submittal | Curr. | Total value without VAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Framatome S.L.U., AVENIDA EUROPA-ESQUINA CALLE BELGICA ISLA, 14, P 1.1- | 2125014-002 | 19 June 2025 11:40 AM UTC | EUR | 116.000,00 |

| Order of Bids Receipt | Name and address of the Bidder | No. of Bid | Date and hour of submittal | Curr. | Total value without VAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1.3 CONSTANTÍ 43- TARRAGONA (CATALUÑA, SPAIN; hereinafter: Framatome) | | +01:00 | | |
| 2 | Westinghouse Electric Spain, S.A.U., Westinghouse Electric Spain, S.A.U,, Avenida Montes de Oca 1, 28703 San Sebastian de los Reyes, Spain (hereinafter: WEC) | LTR-EMEAS-MKG-25-367,R0.1 | 24 June 2025 02:24 PM UTC +01:00 | EUR | 380.000,00 |
| 3 | INTERNATIONAL COOLING TOWER USA, INC., 4400 Highway 225, Suite 110 Deer Park, TX 77536 (hereinafter: ICT) | ISI-25-006 | 16 July 2025 11:31 PM UTC +01:00 | USD | 565.000,00 |
| 4 | EKONERG d.o.o., Koranska ulica 5, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia (hereinafter: EKONERG) | I-07-0806/25 | 17 July 2025 09:16 AM UTC +01:00 | EUR | 110.610,00 |

The Purchaser checked the completeness of the received Bids and decided to request submittal of missing documents and clarifications from all four Bidders to verify fulfillment of Conditions for the Bid acceptance, namely evidence for referential projects.

After receipt of documents and clarifications from the four Bidders, the Purchaser, on August 5, 2025, reviewed the completeness of the Bids.

The Purchaser established that regarding NEK Bidding documentation no. 103/25-8250817 Bids from Framatome, ICT and WEC are compliant with the Conditions for Bid acceptance.
The Purchaser established that regarding to compliance with the requirements of Conditions for the Bid acceptance (Chapter D. Conditions for Bid Acceptance, 22 General, 3 Reference requirements (Attachment 5)) from NEK Bidding documentation no. 103/25-8250817, the Bid from Bidder EKONERG d.o.o., Koranska ulica 5, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia (hereinafter: EKONERG) does not fulfill the reference condition 3. Reference requirements (Attachment 5) as stipulated: "The Bidder shall provide evidence of the following company references within the past fifteen (15) years: at least two (2) references of successful delivered feasibility studies of design and/or upgrade of Nuclear or Fossil Power Plants Cooling Tower systems, as the main contractor or the leading partner of a joint venture." The Bidder EKONERG stated 11 referential projects in the Attachment no.5 and after the Purchaser's request submitted evidence for the stated 11 references. The Purchaser reviewed the 11 references and established:

| Reference no. and name | The Purchaser's conclusion: |
|---|---|
| 1. Cooling Tower System Extension, Construction of third cooling tower and reconstruction of CT switchgear house turn-key project | The reference does not meet the time frame criterion of "within the past fifteen (15) years," as the date of completion of the contract is March 24, 2009, as evidenced by the submitted proof. |
| 2. Revision of the Feasibility Study for the intake of Cooling water from Sava river and the discharge of Cooling Water into the Sava river for the EL-TO Site; | The study links the supply and discharge of cooling water (hydraulic engineering aspect – water extraction from the Sava River, environmental aspect, regulatory requirements):<br>The purchaser/client of the reference project uses an open cooling system, where water from the river is used for cooling and then returned. The study therefore refers to water intake and discharge, but not to the design and/or upgrade of cooling tower system, as is the requirement for the reference from the bidding documentation. |

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| 3. Selection of the Optimal Water Intake Solution from Drava River and Supply Route to the TE-TO Osjek Site | Study for the intake of cooling water" is a hydrotechnical study of the cooling water intake. It focuses on selecting the optimal location and route for water intake from the Drava River and does not address the design and/or upgrade of cooling tower system, as is the requirement for the reference from the bidding documentation. |
| 4. Alternative Ultimate Heat Sink for NPP Krsko | It does not address the design, upgrade, or efficiency of cooling towers. It is not a feasibility study of design or upgrade of cooling towers system, as is the requirement for the reference from the bidding documentation. |
| 5. Feasibility Study for the Construction of a New Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Cogeneration Unit at EL-TO Zagreb | The study "Construction of a New Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Cogeneration Unit" is not directly the »feasibility study of design or upgrade of cooling towers system« as is the requirement for the reference from the bidding documentation, but rather it includes cooling towers as part of a broader cooling system necessary for the operation of the new CCGT plant. The discussion of cooling towers in the study is merely peripheral, without a detailed analysis of their design or possible upgrade. It is not a feasibility study of design or upgrade of cooling towers system, as is the requirement for the reference from the bidding documentation. |
| 6. EIAS for CHP power plant Slavonski Brod | It does not address the design, upgrade, or efficiency of cooling towers. This is not a feasibility study of the design or upgrade of cooling towers, but rather a hydrotechnical study of the cooling water supply for a gas-fired thermal power plant. It is not a feasibility study of design or upgrade of cooling towers system, as is the requirement for the reference from the bidding documentation. |
| 7. INA Oil Rafinery Sisak, Reconstruction of Cooling Towers and cooling water piping | An oil refinery is an industrial plant for processing oil into fuels and other products and not a fossil power plant which is the specific requirement outlined in the reference requirement of the bidding documentation. |
| 8. Review and Optimization of the Technological Concept for the LNG Terminal Vaporization System - Croatia | An LNG terminal is an industrial facility for the transshipment, storage, and regasification of liquefied natural gas (LNG). Its primary function is to supply fuel for use in fossil-fueled power generation, industrial applications, and transportation. However, the optimization of the LNG vaporization system does not constitute a feasibility study of a cooling tower system and therefore cannot be considered as fulfilling the requirement for a "Feasibility Study of Cooling Towers System" as specified in the reference requirement of the bidding documentation. |
| 9. Construction of water wells for control of level of underground water in NPP Krsko due to influence of HPP Brežice accumulation | It does not address the design, upgrade, or efficiency of cooling towers. It is not a feasibility study of design or upgrade of cooling towers system and therefore does not meet the requirement outlined in the bidding documentation. |
| 10. Turbine Building Closed Cycle Heat Exchanger TC100HEX-001 Replacement | It does not address the design, upgrade, or efficiency of cooling towers. It is not a feasibility study of design or upgrade of cooling towers system and therefore does not meet the requirement outlined in the bidding documentation. |
| 11. Feasibility Study for the Construction of a Combined Heat and Power Plant at the TE-TO Osijek Site | The document is a comprehensive feasibility study of a new CCGT plant, in which cooling towers are only briefly addressed. The discussion of cooling towers in the study is merely peripheral, without a detailed analysis of their design or possible upgrade. It is not a feasibility study of design or |

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|---|---|
| | upgrade of cooling towers system, as is the requirement for the reference from the bidding documentation. |

The Purchaser is thus justified in concluding that the EKONERG Company references in question do not comply with the company reference condition for the bid acceptance.
It was also found that the Bidder EKONERG does not meet the reference condition for nominated personnel (4. Personnel capabilities), namely because the projects of nominated personnel are from the 11 projects of the company, which the Purchaser has established above do not comply with the reference requirement.

For the reasons set out above, EKONERG's Bid is not admissible from the point of view of compliance with the conditions for participation in negotiations as laid down in the NEK Bidding documentation no. 103/25-8250817 (Chapter D. Conditions for Bid Acceptance, 22 General) and EKONERG was therefore not invited to negotiate.

The Purchaser established on August 5, 2025 that regarding NEK Bidding documentation no. 103/25-8250817 Bids from Framatome, ICT and WEC are compliant with the Conditions for Bid acceptance and all three Bidders were invited to negotiate regarding the final version of the contract.

On August 22,2025, after the final version of the contract was negotiated, all three Bidders Framatome, ICT and WEC, were invited for the Final Bid submittal. By the bidding due date August 28, 2025, only two (2) Bidders submitted their final Bids with the following basic elements:

| Order of Bids Receipt | Name and address of the Bidder | No. of Bid | Date and hour of submittal | Curr. | Total value without VAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Framatome S.L.U., AVENIDA EUROPA-ESQUINA CALLE BELGICA ISLA, 14, P 1.1-1.3 CONSTANTÍ 43- TARRAGONA (CATALUÑA, SPAIN) | 2125014-002 | 27 August 2025 01:09 PM UTC +01:00 | EUR | 93.762,63 |
| 2 | Westinghouse Electric Spain, S.A.U., Westinghouse Electric Spain, S.A.U,, Avenida Montes de Oca 1, 28703 San Sebastian de los Reyes, Spain | LTR-EMEAS-MKG-25-367,R0.2 | 28 August 2025 11:19 AM UTC +01:00 | EUR | 160.041,00 |

On September 2, 2025 the Purchaser reviewed the completeness of the Final Bids.
The Bid from Framatome and WEC were both found to contain all integral parts and meet the needs and requirements of the Purchaser set out in the technical specification and the procurement documents. The Bids submitted by Framatome and WEC are admissible.
The Bid of the Bidder ICT is inadmissible, since ICT did not submit their Final Bid in accordance with the contracting authority's request.

The Purchaser carried out an evaluation against the criteria set in the bidding documentation as follows:

| Name and address of the Bidder | **Price** | **Price - max 70%** | **Project Manager references - max15%** | **Responsible Project Engineer experience - max. 15%** | **TOTAL** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Framatome** | 93.762,63 € | 70,00 | 0 | 0 | 70,00 |
| **WEC** | 160.041,00 € | 41,02 | 15 | 5 | 61,02 |

In the Bidding documentation under 7 Criteria for the bid evaluation, the Purchaser reserved the right to select the 1st and 2nd ranked bidders if this is within the budget allocated for the project.
Considering the above said, the Contract for "Feasibility Study for Cooling Towers System Upgrade" has

been awarded to two Bidders who are in a position to perform the subject service and delivery under the terms and conditions and within the period of time as required by Purchaser: Framatome S.L.U., AVENIDA EUROPA-ESQUINA CALLE BELGICA ISLA, 14, P 1.1-1.3 CONSTANTÍ 43- TARRAGONA (CATALUÑA, SPAIN) and Westinghouse Electric Spain, S.A.U,, Avenida Montes de Oca 1, 28703 San Sebastian de los Reyes, Spain.

The purchaser's decision is thus reasoned entirely.

**Legal instruction**

The request for review/revision shall be submitted by portal eRevizija within eight (8) working days from the receipt of the decision on award or elimination of public procurement in compliance with Legal Protection in Public Procurement Procedures Act (ZPVPJN, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 43/2011 with all amendments). The applicant must submit with the request for review the bank certificate for the payment of tax in the amount of EUR 5.076,07 to the account of the Ministry of Finance No: 01100-1000358802, reference 11 16110-7111290-00308725.

Signatures of the Management Board

President of the Management Board
Gorazd Pfeifer

Member of the Management Board
Saša Medaković