

This notice in TED website: <https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:521169-2019:TEXT:EN:HTML>

**United Kingdom-Abingdon: Agricultural, farming, fishing, forestry and related products  
2019/S 212-521169**

**Qualification system – utilities**

**This notice is a call for competition**

**Supplies**

**Legal Basis:**

Directive 2014/25/EU

**Section I: Contracting entity**

**I.1) Name and addresses**

Official name: Achilles Information Ltd

Postal address: 30 Western Avenue

Town: Abingdon

NUTS code: UKJ14

Postal code: OX14 4SH

Country: United Kingdom

E-mail: [UVDB@achilles.com](mailto:UVDB@achilles.com)

Telephone: +44 1235861118

**Internet address(es):**

Main address: [www.achilles.com](http://www.achilles.com)

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at:

[www.achilles.com/uvdb](http://www.achilles.com/uvdb)

Additional information can be obtained from the abovementioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the abovementioned address

**I.6) Main activity**

Other activity: UVDB mainly covers utility entities in the fields of electricity, gas and water, but also utility entities in the fields of port and airport related activities and postal services

**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title:**

UVDB (Utilities Vendor Data Base) — Supplies

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

03000000

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

**II.2) Description**

II.2.2) **Additional CPV code(s)**

09000000  
14000000  
15000000  
16000000  
18000000  
19000000  
22000000  
24000000  
30000000  
31000000  
32000000  
33000000  
34000000  
35000000  
37000000  
38000000  
39000000  
41000000  
42000000  
43000000  
44000000  
48000000

II.2.3) **Place of performance**

NUTS code: UK

Main site or place of performance:

Contracts awarded by subscribing utility entities will be mainly for performance within the UK, although contracts may be awarded for other locations.

II.2.4) **Description of the procurement:**

The Utilities Vendor Database (UVDB) scheme is a qualification system under Article 77 of Directive 2014/25/EU, which is operated by Achilles Information Ltd. The UVDB provides a common system for subscribing utility entities to select suppliers for invitation to participate in regulated procurement procedures. The utility entities which subscribe to the scheme are given at the following URL: [https://pages.achilles.com/uvdb\\_qualification\\_system\\_notice?hs\\_preview=DSymNrgH-12157224232](https://pages.achilles.com/uvdb_qualification_system_notice?hs_preview=DSymNrgH-12157224232)

The UVDB may also be used in the compilation of tender lists below the EU thresholds. The subscribing utility entities may alternatively make separate calls for competition in OJEU for certain individual requirements.

The UVDB is based on a coding system for works, supplies and services against which suppliers are registered on the system. The full list of UVDB product codes is available at the following URL: [https://pages.achilles.com/uvdb\\_qualification\\_system\\_notice?hs\\_preview=DSymNrgH-12157224232](https://pages.achilles.com/uvdb_qualification_system_notice?hs_preview=DSymNrgH-12157224232)

Vendors not already registered on the UVDB should apply to Achilles using the contact details at Section I.1) in order to ensure that their details are available to subscribing utility entities.

Vendors already registered on the UVDB must ensure that their registration details are up to date in order to remain visible to the utility entities subscribing to UVDB. This can be done by visiting <http://one.achilles.com> and logging in using their unique login details.

II.2.5) **Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.8) **Duration of the qualification system**

Indefinite duration

II.2.13) **Information about European Union funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: yes

Identification of the project:

Contracts let by one or more of the utility entities subscribing to UVDB may be financed by EU funds.

**Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

III.1) **Conditions for participation**

III.1.5) **Information about reserved contracts**

III.1.9) **Qualification for the system**

Conditions to be fulfilled by economic operators in view of their qualification:

UVDB registration will be the first stage of qualification. You can join via <https://one.achilles.com/Registration/Index?CID=C5ws5jefQVcRZvh8aWV9Qw%3d%3d>

Having completed the registration you will be asked to pay your annual subscription to UVDB. The current subscription rates are available at the following URL: <http://www.achilles.com/uvdb>

After your payment, your account will be activated providing you access to the full pre-qualification questionnaire.

Methods according to which each of those conditions will be verified:

Vendors of products considered to be high risk may be required by individual subscribing utility entities to undergo an independent audit covering health, safety, environment and quality systems under the verify scheme. Further information, including the types and costs of audit are available via: [https://pages.achilles.com/uvdb\\_verify\\_audit?hs\\_preview=pyvNPuTw-12661344369](https://pages.achilles.com/uvdb_verify_audit?hs_preview=pyvNPuTw-12661344369)

In appropriate circumstances some utility contracting entities will apply a minimum scoring mechanism. Verify is not independent and vendors must have a subscription to UVDB.

Scottish Power, SSE plc, Northern Powergrid and National Grid have an additional level of risk assessment via their own systems, which link directly to UVDB.

Scottish Power:[http://www.scottishpower.com/pages/becoming\\_a\\_scottishpower\\_supplier.asp](http://www.scottishpower.com/pages/becoming_a_scottishpower_supplier.asp)

SSE:<http://sse.com/potential-suppliers/>

Northern Powergrid:[https://northernpowergrid.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/163](https://northernpowergrid.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/163)

National Grid:<https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/suppliers/new-suppliers>

III.2) **Conditions related to the contract**

III.2.1) **Information about a particular profession**

III.2.2) **Contract performance conditions:**

Where relevant, such conditions will be stated in the procurement documents.

III.2.3) **Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract**

**Section IV: Procedure**

IV.1) **Description**

IV.1.6) **Information about electronic auction**

An electronic auction will be used

Additional information about electronic auction:

The subscribing utility entities reserve the right to conduct procurements under UVDB using electronic auctions.

IV.2) **Administrative information**

IV.2.1) **Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number in the OJ S: [2018/S 091-207473](#)

IV.2.4) **Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted:**

English

**Section VI: Complementary information**

VI.2) **Information about electronic workflows**

VI.3) **Additional information:**

Contact details for each individual procurement will be provided by the subscribing utility entity in the specific procurement documents.

Information referenced in Section III.2) of this notice will, where relevant, be provided in the specific procurement documents by the subscribing utility entity.

The award criteria as referenced in Section II.2.5) may for certain procurements covered by this notice be on a price-only basis.

Electronic workflows, as referenced in Section VI.2) may be employed by some or all of the subscribing utility entities.

Subscribing utility entities may reserve contracts as referenced in Section III.1.5).

Details of the contact for review procedures covered by Section VI.4.1) will be provided by the subscribing utility entity.

UVDB may be used by subscribing utility entities to establish dynamic purchasing systems.

This notice cancels and supersedes all previous qualification system notices for supplies for UVDB.

VI.4) **Procedures for review**

VI.4.1) **Review body**

Official name: See Section VI.3)

Town: See Section VI.3)

Country: United Kingdom

VI.4.2) **Body responsible for mediation procedures**

VI.4.3) **Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

For contracts subject to the EU Procurement legislation, utilities are required to incorporate a standstill period at the point information on the proposed award of the contract is communicated to tenderers. That notification is required to provide full information on the award decision. The standstill period, which will be for a minimum of 10 calendar days, provides time for unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into.

Where the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016 (SI 2016 No 274) apply, provision is made for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of duty under the regulations to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland).

Where the Utilities Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016 No 49) apply, provision is made for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of duty under the regulations to take action in the Sheriff Court or the Court of Session.

VI.4.4) **Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**

30/10/2019