



Ministerie van Verkeer en Waterstaat

VenW/DGMO-2009/4767

Aan
European Committee, DG VII
Mr H. Hilbrecht
Beaulieu laan 31
Brussel, B-1049
België

Contactpersoon	Doorkiesnummer
J.G.W. Kok	030 - 27 28 705
Datum	Bijlage(n)
2 juni 1999	-
Ons kenmerk	Uw kenmerk
HSL/U199901674	-
Onderwerp	
Tender procedure HSL-Zuid transport contracts	

Dear mister Hilbrecht,

Following our earlier discussions I am glad to inform you on the progress of our HSL-Zuid project.

The Dutch Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management will shortly begin the tender for the HSL-Zuid transport contracts. Both transport contracts will be put out to public tender. On May 7th Cabinet formally approved the tender procedure. The main thrust of this decision is that the Dutch section of the international transport services via the High Speed Line should be put out to tender, while Dutch Railways (NS) will be invited to submit a first proposal for the domestic transport segment. The procedure is described in further detail below.

The tender procedure for both international and domestic transport will begin in early June 1999 with a market consultation based on a Registration Document. This document sets out general specifications and criteria and enables transport companies to register their interest in obtaining a contract for the project. The market consultation also offers companies an opportunity to advise the Dutch Government on the feasibility of the tender procedure and specifications.

For the domestic transport services Dutch Railways (NS) will be allowed to make a first bid based on specifications set by the government. If this bid is financially and qualitatively adequate, contract negotiations will be started with NS. NS must submit its bid for the domestic transport contract in August 1999. During that same period other market parties will have the opportunity to express their interest in the domestic contract through the market consultation. If the NS proposal fails to offer an adequate price/quality ratio, the domestic transport will be put out to competitive. The final decision to deal with NS or to switch to a competitive tender will be taken before the end of 1999.

tender

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If the contract for domestic transport on the HSL-Zuid is granted to NS, the latter will not be allowed to have more than a minority stake in any consortium bidding for the international transport services via the HSL-Zuid.

The contract for international transport services on the HSL-Zuid will be put out to competitive tender immediately following the consultation and registration phase. The results of the consultation round will form the basis for the further design of the tender procedure as well as for the final specifications and bid criteria for the international transport contract.

During this period the options for the necessary international co-operation, will also be examined further with the railway companies involved.

Tender schedule for the transport services:

10 June 1999	Start of tender procedure: publication of Registration Document;
Mid-August 1999	Receipt of NS proposal and end of registration and consultation phase;
August-September 1999	Assessment of NS proposal;
September-October 1999	Test of assessment by Review Board;
Autumn 1999	Pre-qualification phase for international transport
November 1999	Decision by Minister on further contracting procedure;
December 1999	Possible contracting of domestic transport via HSL-Zuid line; continuation of tender procedure for international transport services

On June 10th a formal notice of this procedure will appear in the Official Journal of the European Communities. That same day the Registration Document will be sent out to selected parties and will become available on the Internet. We shall send you a copy for your information and keep you informed on any further developments.

Yours sincerely,
Projectorganisatie Hogesnelheidslijn-Zuid

W. Korf
Project director HSL-Zuid