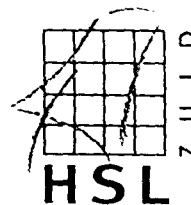


Venw/DO/MO-2009/5236

Subject
Qualification HSL-Zuid Transport Contracts



NS Reizigers B.V.
Attn. Mr. M. Spaargaren
Postbus 2025
IV 5 k 26
3500 HA Utrecht

Dear Mr. Spaargaren,

Thank you for returning the Request for Qualification. Parts A, B, C1-3 of the Request for Qualification provided by you and your partners, is now being evaluated. Parts C4, D and E will be assessed after 2 October 2000. The assessment will be done by a number of teams from the Ministries of Transport and Finance and other external experts. These teams will advise both the Ministers of Transport and Finance.

Currently we are in the midst of assessing the exclusion and minimum requirements. Concerning your Request for Qualification, we have one question. You will find this question in the accompanying annex. The requested information (original and 4 copies) should be submitted to us before 2 October 2000 before 10.00 hrs local time (Attn. of Mr Roel Testroote).

We would like to inform you that we have received a total of 4 applications:

1. Arriva Nederland – Deutsche Bahn Reise & Touristik AG;
2. ConneXXion – SJ International – CGEA Connex;
3. Stagecoach Holdings Plc¹;
4. NS Reizigers BV – KLM (Royal Dutch Airlines)².

On the 27th of October we will announce the consortia that have been qualified. The Invitation to Tender will be send to you in November 2000.

¹ In the cover letter of the Request for Qualification it was mentioned that "We are currently exploring the possibility of adding a minority partner to our bidding team from one of the Dutch bus companies".

² In the cover letter of NS to the Request for Qualification it was mentioned that "NS Reizigers and KLM have agreed on a Memorandum of Understanding with National Express Group PLC."

Date
25 September 2000
Your reference
HSL-Zuid U-129581
Our reference
-
Contactperson
Roel Testroote
Extension
0031 30 2728 751
E-mail
roel.testroote@hslzuid.com

Projectorganisatie
Hogesnelheidslijn-Zuid
Postal address:
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3500 AA Utrecht
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Visiting address:
Catharijnesingel 33
3511 GC Utrecht
Tel +31 30 – 2728 400
Fax +31 30 – 2728 577

In line with your Request for Qualification, we will assess NS Reizigers BV and KLM. We understand that you are currently in discussion with National Express Group PLC. Should you wish to extend your consortium we will handle this request in the shortest possible time, in line with our Memorandum of Information No. 2, date 06-09-2000, question 1.



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bas van Os'.

Bas van Os
Project Manager HSL-Zuid Transport Contracts

Appendix: Request for clarification

Date
25 September 2000
Reference
HSL-Zuid U-129581
Page
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