



R1976588

**RFT 06/050 - LAND 75/125 BATTLE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:
COMMONWEALTH POSITION REGARDING FUNDING FOR PARALLEL
OFFER DEFINITION**

1. The Commonwealth has received a number of questions in relation to the Parallel Offer Definition Activity (PODA) phase of the Land 75/Land125 solicitation. The questions relate to the Commonwealth's intentions with regard to:
 - a. Purchase of equipment (hardware and/or software) required for the PODA; and
 - b. Payment to tenderers for costs incurred through their participation in the PODA.
2. Purchase of Equipment. The Commonwealth's preference is to purchase only the hardware and software selected for implementation in the acquisition phase of the Land 75 and Land 125 Projects. The Commonwealth may, after reviewing the tendered solutions, review this position and elect to purchase some or all of the items required for the PODA. Factors that may influence the Commonwealth's PODA purchase decision include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Opportunities to avoid potential delays to the PODA schedule that may follow from the long lead times that may attach to some items required for PODA;
 - b. Opportunities to simplify and/or accelerate the acquisition of government-controlled items (i.e. Type 1 cryptographic devices); and
 - c. The tenderers proposed approach to PODA.
3. Payment for PODA. It is not the Commonwealth's intent that tenderers selected to participate in the PODA be required to meet the full cost of participation in the offer definition phase. The amount of the Commonwealth's contribution to the selected tenderers PODA costs (if any) will be dependent on the Commonwealth's evaluation of the proposals received as part of the tender response and will be subject to negotiation with the potential PODA participants.
4. Consistent with the above, the Conditions of Tender for RFT 06/050 include:
 - a. Annex D to Conditions of Tender (Financial) through which tenderers are to identify their costs associated with PODA participation; and

- b. The PODA Deed (Schedule 1 to Annex J to Attachment A to the Conditions of Tender) which provides a mechanism to manage any Commonwealth payment to a tenderer selected to participate in the PODA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Barber', written over a horizontal line.

Steve Barber
Director, Combat and Operational Support Systems
Command Support Systems Branch

27 June 2007