

Helsinki, 10. 02. 2017

**Ex-ante publicity notice in negotiated procurement procedure**

**Subject:** ECHA/2017/42 - Consultancy services for supporting ECHA in improving the interpretation of Non-Extractable Residues (NERs) in degradation assessment.

**Description of the contract:**

The European Chemicals Agency (the Agency, <http://echa.europa.eu>) envisages awarding a service contract in order to support ECHA in improving the interpretation of Non-Extractable Residues in degradation assessment. For this, the contractor is to produce a discussion paper containing an approach proposal for regulatory assessments and review the state-of-science on the role of NERs in degradation assessment of all environmental matrices. The discussion paper will serve as background approach document for assessments under REACH and the Biocides Products Regulation (BPR) and can be directly used for updating ECHA Guidance, where appropriate.

**Description of the services:**

The aim of the contract is to improve on the assessment of one important element of degradation assessment. In this respect and as a first step, the contractor has to draft a scoping paper that will provide a brief overview of the current information/results on the recent NER-projects and cases (case documents will be provided by ECHA) and a brief feasibility analysis of whether these results can be used for deriving a refined assessment approach. The scoping paper will propose which sub-topics are included in the next stage of the work and which need to be left out. As a second step, the contractor will draft a discussion paper. The discussion paper will review more in detail all the relevant outcomes from the recent NERs projects, recent scientific publications (as part of a literature review), recent regulatory cases and recent research on the topic. On the basis of the review the contractor will make a proposal for refining the degradation assessment approach with regard to NERs. This proposal shall be included in the discussion paper. The discussion paper will be drafted and finalised in a form which can be directly used as stand-alone reference document for the approach or easily integrated into the ECHA Guidance, when appropriate.

The contractor is expected to present the discussion paper at one of the PBT Expert Group meeting.

The estimated duration of the service contract is maximum one year.

The economic operator is required to offer the services of an expert fulfilling the below requirements:

- **Education:** PhD degree in the field of Chemistry, (micro)Biology or Ecology.
- **Professional experience** of at least 10 years of experience in research in one or more of the following field(s):
  - Degradation assessment, in particular with regard to the assessment of non-extractable residues in both scientific and regulatory context,

- Fate of chemical substances in different environmental matrices,
  - Bioavailability of chemical substances,
  - Chemical analysis techniques and extraction methods of organic substances from environmental samples.
- Publication history: at least 5 publications related to non-extractable residues or fate of chemical substances.

Experience in chemical safety regulatory area is considered to be an asset.

### **Description of the procedure:**

This ex-ante publicity is the first stage of a negotiated procurement procedure below 60 000 Euros with a minimum of 3 candidates, through which the Agency may award the above-mentioned contract.

The purpose of this notice is to support the Agency in the selection of the list of candidates to be invited to submit an offer for the contract.

All economic operators interested in providing the services described above should send a declaration of interest before **07/03/2017** 16h00 Helsinki time, by e-mail to [procurement@echa.europa.eu](mailto:procurement@echa.europa.eu) with the same subject reference as indicated above.

In their declaration of interest (300 words maximum) interested economic operators should demonstrate their ability to provide the relevant services. This information will be assessed by the Agency in order to select suitable candidates. All interested economic operators will be informed of the decision of the Agency.

The Request for Offers and related documents will be provided by e-mail only to the selected candidates.

Please note that the Agency reserves the right not to launch the negotiated procedure. If that were the case, all interested economic operators would be informed of this decision.

We look forward to receiving your declaration of interest.

Yours faithfully,



Jukka Malm

Deputy Executive Director