



16th October 2020

REFERENCE NUMBER: MGOZ/MPU T 72/2020

TENDER FOR THE GROUND INVESTIGATIONS AT PROPOSED SITE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BI-PARTISAN RESERVOIR AT THE GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL FARM, XEWKIJA, GOZO, AS PART OF THE LIFE 16 IPE MT 008 PROJECT

Clarification No. 3

Clarification requests

Question 1: The scope of a ground investigation is to identify the geological and geotechnical characteristics of the site. Kindly note that the geotechnical engineers at **** (bidder's company)**** would often prefer to identify these characteristics prior to quoting for the provision of allowable bearing capacity. This value represents the interaction between the ground and the proposed structure and therefore depends, in part, on what the architect or structural engineer intends to design at foundation level. In view of this, we kindly ask you to supply **** (bidder's company)**** with a site plan, set of plans and sections showing what project is being proposed. An indication of the proposed foundation level and a rough estimate of the envisaged loading at foundation level would also be very useful at this early stage. For a given site, one blanket figure for bearing capacity is often deceptively misleading, because other possible failure mechanisms may be critical. The possibility of wedge failure beneath foundations located close to rock ledges is one such example. For this reason, we prefer to give more holistic assessment, presenting those geotechnical issues that are likely to be of relevance to the safe execution of the project. We feel that we can offer a better service by discussing these with the architect or the engineer in charge, and finally by seeing how to best assist him/her in executing the project. We are therefore quoting for a geotechnical investigation with the commitment of providing a geotechnical appraisal of the site, and where applicable, the allowable bearing capacity. The latter shall however be at the discretion of the geotechnical engineers assessing the results of the investigation. Our commitment is to help the building professional in understanding the ground. In this respect we welcome and encourage discussion at all stages of our involvement, as mutual understanding often results in a much more useful investigative process.

Answer 1: The subject of this tender is the ground investigations at the proposed site for the construction of a bi-partisan reservoir at the Government Experimental Farm as part of the LIFE 16 IPE MT 008 Project.

As per tender terms and conditions, the works proposed for this project will include the excavation and construction of a bi-partisan reservoir and the construction of a feeder pump room. The

purpose of the reservoir is the storage of different types of water to irrigate crops at the farm. The feeder pump room will house the pumps pumping water from the reservoirs to the nearby fertigation room.

To clarify the details in the already published Site Plan in the List of Drawings (Site Plan). A cross-section of the proposed project is provided in Figure 1 and a floor plan in Figure 2. Note that these plans are drafts and are subject to change based on the results of this ground investigation.

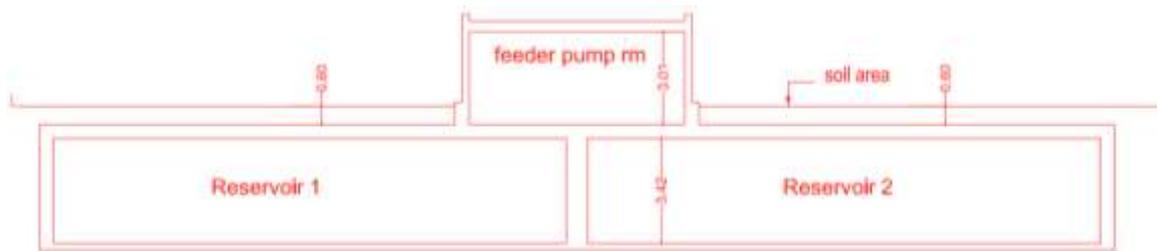


Figure 1: Proposed Section through Reservoir and Feeder Pump Room

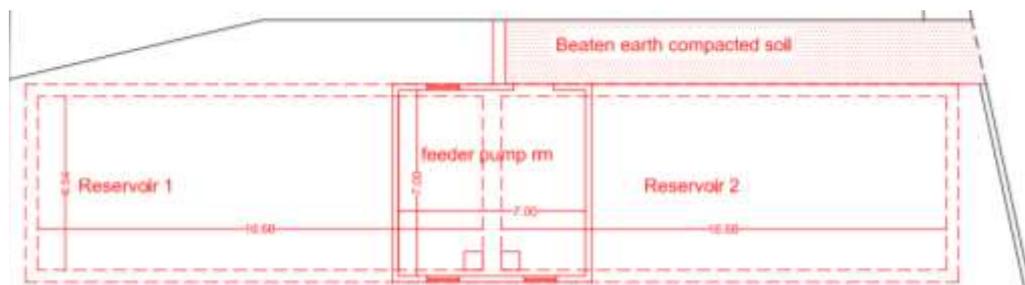


Figure 2: Proposed Ground Floor Plan

The attached photographs below (Figures 3-7) around the area of the Site Plan show the planned locations of the five boreholes to be drilled for this ground's investigation.

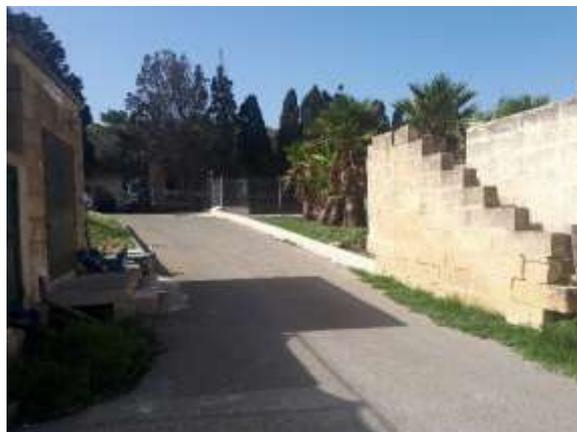


Figure 3: A



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

Question 2: Will the client provide the under-laying services?

Answer 2: Yes, we will provide the underlying services.

Question 3: The wall should be demolishing at least 3 meters to pass the Rig.

Answer 3: The Contracting Authority confirms that the wall in Figure 4 and 5 will be demolished to allow for the passage of the Rig and any other equipment necessary for the grounds investigation.

Question 4: Should we include the open hole drilling Rate in the BOQ provided?

Answer 4: Yes, the open hole drilling rate should be included in the BOQ provided.

Question 5: Should we include the bearing capacity rate in the Drilling quantities provided?

Do you need the bearing capacity to be signed by a warranted professional (Perit) or by **** (bidder's company)****?

Interpretation of the outcome of the investigation, as well as adoption of the bearing capacity value is at the discretion of the warranted professional (Perit) responsible for the project. This warranted professional remains responsible for ensuring that the assumptions on which this value is based are indeed valid, and he/she remains responsible for its current use in structural and geotechnical design process that he/she undertakes as part of the design of the building. It is the responsibility of this warranted professional to make all the necessary geotechnical design checks according to MSA EN 1997-1 Eurocode 7 – Geotechnical Design. General Rules, or

every particular foundation situation, and to make the necessary site observations to verify the assumptions described in this report.

The warranted professional (Perit) of the project therefore remains ultimately and solely responsible for the safety and stability of the structure in accordance with the provisions of the Periti Act.

Answer 5: Yes, the bearing capacity rate should be included in the drilling quantities provided.

As per Section 3 – Terms of Reference, the bearing capacity is to be determined by the contractor. The appropriate representatives of the contractor should sign any reports related to this ground’s investigation.

Question 6: I would also need;

- 1) A site plan,
- 2) A set of plans and sections showing what project is being proposed.
- 3) An indication of the proposed foundation level
- 4) A rough estimate of the envisaged loading at foundation level would also be very useful at this early stage.

Answer 6: No further details/documentation can be provided at this stage. Please refer to responses for Question 1 for clarified details.

All other tender documents, conditions and requirements, which are not superseded by this Clarification, remain in place.