



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA PETROLEUM REGULATORY AUTHORITY

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM
LIBERIAN COMPANIES TO BE PRE-QUALIFIED FOR
PARTICIPATION IN THE LIBERIA OFFSHORE LICENSE
ROUND 2020**

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA PETROLEUM REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Project: 2020 OFFSHORE BID ROUNDS

Assignment Title: Solicitation of requests for pre-qualification from Liberian Companies wishing to participate in the upcoming Liberia Offshore License Round 2020.

Issuance Date: March 16, 2020

I. Background

The Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA) was created by an Act of the Legislature in October 2016 following an aggressive reform program within the petroleum sector initiated in 2010. The reform resulted in the development and endorsement of the National Petroleum Policy of Liberia, the NOCAL Act 2013, and the Petroleum (exploration and production) Reform Law, 2014. As an independent regulatory government entity, the LPRA is responsible to conduct technical evaluation of the areas to be opened up for petroleum operations; supervise and manage bid rounds and all other associated processes; enter into petroleum agreements and monitor petroleum operations; administer petroleum rights; supervise petroleum data storage; and assist the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) in collecting lawful revenue accruing to the state under all petroleum-related agreements or licenses.

The Government of Liberia, demonstrating its commitment to ensuring Liberian indigenous companies direct involvement in the petroleum sector, amended certain provisions of the New Petroleum Law setting aside a mandatory 5% interest in all petroleum agreements to companies

owned by natural persons of Liberian citizenship. While this equity interest may be carried or paid, depending on the business relationship between the Operator, participants and the Liberian company, the Authority will conduct pre-qualification of all Liberian companies wishing to participate in keeping with the pre-qualification criteria established which are not similar to the criteria adopted for international oil companies. A list of pre-qualified Liberian companies will be submitted to qualified international bidders to possible partnership in fulfillment of the amended petroleum law. Any company that is not pre-qualified will not be allowed to participate whether independently or as a participant in a joint venture with an international company.

In anticipation of conducting the Liberia Offshore License Round 2020, LPRA is soliciting applications for pre-qualification from Liberian companies wishing to participate in the bid round to be conducted from April 10-October 1, 2020.

II. Application Procedure

All companies interested in being pre-qualified for the 2020 licensing round must submit a written expression of interest and provide the documents requested in this notice for expression of interest. Applications will only be accepted from March 17, 2020-April 30, 2020. All applications submitted after this date will not be considered irrespective of payment of fees as required in this notice. The timetable highlights key events appertaining to this notice for expression of interest.

Event	Date	Location
Publication of REOI for pre-qualification	March 16, 2020	Online
Application Opens	March 17, 2020-April 30, 2020	LPRA Office, 18 th Street
Online Q&A	March 18-31, 2020	Online
Physical Q&A	April 3, 2020	Boulevard Palace Hotel
Closing Date for Submission	April 30, 2020	LPRA Office, 18 th Street

Application package shall be submitted to the Authority's head offices on 18th Street as sealed expression of interest addressed to:

The Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA)

Attn: Rufus Tarnue, Deputy Director-General for Technical Services

18th Street, Sinkor, 1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia

Applications should be submitted in both hardcopy and digital, text-searchable format (1 copy). The digital copy should be stored on a CD-ROM, DVD-ROM or memory stick, or other commonly used electronic media compatible with a Windows operating system.

Interested companies are requested to applied individually and not as a conglomerate or under a joint venture. Applications submitted for a group of companies or a joint venture will not be processed. This does not exclude a subsidiary from applying and listing a parent company in support of its application. The notice of qualification, if approved, will be granted to the subsidiary alone. Applicants should note that notice of qualification is **NON-TRANSFERRABLE**.

III. Application Fee

Companies expressing interest to be pre-qualified must pay a non-refundable fee of **US\$5,000.00** (Five Thousand United States Dollars) into the Authority's account and show proof of payment by including the bank deposit slip in the application package. Checks or cash will not be accepted. **No application will be processed in the absence of payment.**

Companies wishing to participate should submit a request for banking information from LPRA via the email address provided below:

Email: info@lpra.gov.lr

The sealed applications must contain the following documents:

I. Legal Documentation

The information listed below should be provided as part of the application.

- 1) Name of Applicant (as set forth in its formal organizational documents)
- 2) Date of Incorporation or organization
- 3) Address of applicant's Registered Office
- 4) Registration number
- 5) An outline of the corporate structure, including an explanatory diagram, if appropriate, showing parent, subsidiary and affiliate companies.
- 6) List of all companies or individuals known to the applicant which directly or indirectly own or have beneficial interest (including voting or equity interest of more than 5% in the applicant. **Note that disclosure of beneficial owners must be in line with the "ultimate beneficial owners regulations" promulgated in 2020 and located on the Authority's website.**
- 7) Any civil or criminal penalties sought from or assessed against the company or any entity controlled by it relating to the operations of the company

II. Documents demonstrating Financial and Technical Capability

The information listed below should be provided as part of the application.

- 1) Details of financial status for successive years preceding the application (audited financial

statements of applicant or its parent company or affiliates) Audited financial statement for the last two years.

- 2) An indication of sources of funding to meet the financial obligations as part of the work program for executing the petroleum agreement if awarded. This may include, **whichever may be the case:**
 - a. Internal sources; and
 - b. Other sources.
- 3) Tax Identification Number of Company.
- 4) Organization chart of Company indicating names and titles of persons holding senior management positions and the manner in which the responsibilities for operations, and for legal compliance, environmental compliance and safety compliance with respect to operations are organized.

IV. Communication

All questions and inquiries relating to the REOI and pre-qualification process must be transmitted via email to info@lpra.gov.lr. The Authority will provide a response to all inquiries within 3 days of receipt. Applicants or interested companies can also participate in the live Q&A sessions on April 3, 2020 at the Boulevard Palace Hotel.

V. Evaluation of Application

The Authority will only contact companies that have been qualified by fulfilling the requirements listed in this request for pre-qualification. Within two (2) weeks of closure of the application process, the Authority will commence issuance of notice of application. A list of all pre-qualified Liberian companies will be published in a register on the Authority's website. The list will include the name of the pre-qualified candidate, the CEO or authorized representative, an active email, physical address, and telephone numbers. This information will be those supplied by the applicants. In case of changes to any information relating to the above, the applicants or the pre-qualified company must notify the Authority within not more than 30 days from the date of the change.

Application closes at 5:00pm on April 30, 2020