

Technical and Contracts Manager – Kathu Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) – Northern Cape

Sector: All

Location: South Africa

Posted: 02/09/2021

Reference: MJ1717

Description

We are hiring a number of staff on behalf of the Kathu Solar Park Project company and currently seek a Technical and Contracts Manager for the Kathu CSP plant.

Employee Status:
Full-time Permanent Staff position
Benefits to include the usual site specific benefits including rotational long weekend, site vehicle, accommodation allowance & travel.

Purpose of the Job:
The Technical and Contracts Manager (TCM) is responsible for contract management, being actively involved in the transparent application of the Project Documents and cultivating a good relationship with the different stakeholders.

The main goals of the TCM will be to:

- Manage and provide advise on the Project Documents and duly interpret / form an opinion thereon taking into account the entire commercial spectrum and the life cycle thereof
- Support in monitoring the compliance to the Project Documents by the Company and relevant parties.
- Coordinate with and oversee the Project and Performance Engineering functions in primarily:
Following up of the EPC obligations during the final acceptance testing period (punch list, guarantees..).
Follow up of the Company commitments during the final acceptance testing period regarding ESKOM, EPC, O&M, other technical agreements and including HSE compliance.
Follow up of the O&M Obligations and checking reporting and documentation.

Review and monitoring of the annual outage plan.
Monitoring, analysing and reporting on the performance and production of the facility against the performance model and business case:

- Following the status of the plant and any risks including equipment unavailable or at risk that may impact performance and production e.g. solar field status, main equipment status, critical auxiliary equipment etc.
- Reviewing the daily actions and reports pertaining to the operation of the facility.

- Providing technical support internally with respect to warranty, technical queries performance/production impacts etc. Support in proactively identify improvement projects to increase plant efficiency, availability, reliability and safety.
 - Analysing the performance of the Facility to identify any gaps where production and performance can be improved.
 - Conducting tests and inspections to determine the efficiency of power plant/substation equipment and transmission/distribution power lines.
 - Conducting feasibility studies, conceptual designs, detailed designs for any projects identified or assigned.
- Providing guidance and input and as required support in resolving complicated and critical performance and engineering related issues.
- In coordination with the CEO and with support of internal and external legal counsel, support in managing contractual documentation and exchanges with the parties. Collecting and keeping records of facts and events; maintaining a register of correspondences; ensuring that proper document management is in place to support such filings. Assist in drafting contractual correspondences to the relevant stakeholders Assist in drafting, notifying and defending claims in a proactive way. Coordinating the investigations for claims received. Preparing counter-claims and negotiates with the counterparties. Participating in litigation processes and court proceedings if required.
 - Support in monitoring the interfaces between the different agreements so as to anticipate and mitigate potential impacts from one on the other.
 - Assist in maximize the benefits from these agreements and comply with the Project Company's obligations.
 - Oversee the document management system in order to sort and arrange Project Documents in a user friendly manner; such documents including: all agreements, letters, e-mails, claims register.
 - Permanently support and reinforces commercial and contractual awareness amongst all employees
 - Assist in preventing or mitigating disputes and claims.
 - Assist in mitigating project risks and benefiting from project opportunities
 - Maintain good business relationships and by doing so protect the Project's interests and sustainability in the respect of the contractual commitments, ethics rules, corporate policies, and environmental and societal responsibility.
 - Contribute to the quarterly reporting and presentation to the Board of Directors and Lenders as well as to insurers, offtakers and authorities.
 - Contribute technical data in budgeting processes.
 - Contribute to updating the risk and opportunity matrix of the Company.

Reporting:

The TCM will report to the CEO of the Project Company and will also closely interact with the O&M Contractor, EPC Contractor and Engie Legal Counsel

and external counsel. The Project Engineer and Performance Engineer report to the TCM.

Health, Safety and Environment (HSE):
The TCM will act and promote the Health and Safety culture the Company.

Qualifications:

Degree in Legal or Mechanical/Electrical Engineering with strong background in the energy sector.

Experience:

- Minimum of 10 years of experience in power generation sector in the fields of construction and contract management, including strong claim management experience.
- Preferable experience of OCGT, CCGT, coal, renewable, solar CSP or PV, biomass, wind.
- Sound knowledge of energy business and understanding of the Power Sector - peers/suppliers/off-takers.
- Sound knowledge of related contracts (O&M / PPA / TxA / FSA / supply agreements, insurances).
- Knowledge on the financial impact of the operation of the asset.

Specific Knowledge / Skills:

- Strong interpersonal skills, excellent communication, negotiation, coordination skills.
- Work in a multicultural environment and multidisciplinary teams.
- Strong knowledge of project management processes.
- Resolve complex technical/commercial issues.
- Strong asset management background.
- Excellent commercial background and negotiation skills with a proven track record in developing / managing complex technology based agreements, capacity to persuade others to accept recommendations, cooperate or change their behaviour; work with others towards a beneficial agreement for all parties.
- A positive and professional attitude.
- Disciplined execution skills and keen eye for detail.
- Ability to work under pressure within tight timelines.
- Familiarization with dispute resolution in general, arbitration procedures and administration
- Excellent communication and reporting capability. Must be able to work independently and to bridge cultural differences.
- Ability to coordinate and direct and influence others. He/she should show capability of leadership.
- Goal and decision oriented.
- Work with IT systems like MS office, Document management software, etc.

About the project and company:
Kathu is the first CSP project within ENGIE and as such is a high profile project for BU Africa and ENGIE. The plant uses parabolic trough mirrors, providing energy to the heat transfer fluid that is used to raise steam for use in a conventional steam turbine and also provides energy to the molten salt thermal storage system. The electricity generated is sold to Eskom SOC Limited under a 20 year PPA. Kathu is in the Northern Cape of South Africa and the CSP site is approximately 10km from the pleasant town. Kathu is 600km for Johannesburg and there are daily flights to the town. Historically Kathu has been a centre of iron ore mining, though the solar radiation, makes this location a world class site for CSP. ENGIE BU Africa is present in Abidjan (Ivory Coast), Nairobi (Kenya), Rabat (Morocco) and Johannesburg (South Africa). The South African assets in operation are Avon and Dedisa (two thermal peaking power plants operated with a total capacity of 1005MW), Aurora Wind farm (94 MW) and Aurora & Vredendal PV plants (combined capacity of 21MW). ENGIE has a presence in South Africa since 1994, specifically in energy efficiency services, and is the Country's number 1 independent power producer. ENGIE aims to support the government in defining a balanced energy mix based on renewable energies (solar energy, wind power) and natural gas.

Please send your Resume & Dedicated Motivational letter QUOTING THE REFERENCE NUMBER: MJ1717 to Macey.Johnson@shawenergyltd.com