

NPM No. 145-2017

29 December 2017

MR. JEFFRY I. VELASCO
BAC Secretariat Head
NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION (NIA)
MAGAT RIVER INTEGRATED IRRIGATION SYSTEM (MARIIS)
Minante I, Cauayan City, Isabela

Re: Bid Price Discrepancy -

Dear Mr. Velasco:

This refers to your electronic mail inquiring on which shall prevail in case of discrepancy between the bid price in words and the bid price in figures.

It is represented that your bidder's bid price as read in words is Two Million Seven Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Nine Pesos and $\frac{60}{100}$ Centavos while the stated bid price in figures is PhP4,759,509.06. On the other hand, the bid price as calculated is PhP4,759,509.06, identical to the bid price as read.

Section 32.2.3(a) of the 2016 revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) No. 9184, the Government Procurement Reform Act, states that in case of discrepancies between the bid prices in figures and in words, the latter shall prevail. Applying Section 32.2.3(a) of the 2016 IRR of RA 9184, the bid price offered in words "Two Million Seven Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Nine Pesos and $\frac{60}{100}$ " or "PhP2,759,99.60," shall prevail.

However, we wish to emphasize that under Section 32.2.1(b) of the 2016 IRR, in order to determine the calculated prices, the following shall be considered during the detailed evaluation of bids, *to wit*: (1) arithmetical corrections for computational errors and omissions, and (2) bid modifications if expressly allowed in the Bidding Documents.

In addition, we refer to Section 34.4 of the 2016 IRR, which provides that the amount of the award of contract to the bidder with the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid (LCRB) or Highest Rated Responsive Bid (HRRB) shall be at its submitted bid price or its calculated bid price, whichever is lower or, in the case of quality-based evaluation procedure, submitted bid price or its negotiated price, whichever is lower.


In the case at bar, the bid price as calculated (PhP4,759,509.06), which is identical to the bid price as read in figures (PhP4,759,509.06), happens to be higher compared to the bid price as read in words (Two Million Seven Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Nine Pesos and $\frac{60}{100}$ or PhP2,759,599.60.)

All told, if the bidder with a calculated bid price of PhP4,759,509.06 is declared to be the bidder with LCRB, the correct amount of the contract to be awarded is the submitted bid price, the lower of the two, which is Two Million Seven Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Nine Pesos and ⁶⁰/₁₀₀ (PhP2,759,509.60) pursuant to Section 34.4 of the 2016 IRR.

We hope that this opinion issued by the GPPB-TSO provided sufficient guidance on the matter. Note that this opinion is being issued on the basis of facts and particular situations presented, and may not be applicable given a different set of facts and circumstances. Should there be other concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

(sgd.)

ARA
//trd5


DENNIS S. SANTIAGO
Executive Director V