

Public Notice

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NEW RFP REGULATIONS 2024 STRENGTHENS PUC'S COMMITMENT TO TRANSPARENCY AND ENHANCES NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Aligned with our Mission to create sustainable and competitive markets in the utility and ICT sectors, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) herby notifies the public of a **new 'Request for Proposals' (RFP) Regulations, 2024** that outlines clear guidelines to foster transparency, enhance open competition, and build investor confidence to participate in the utility sectors procurement process.

Statutory Instrument (S.I.) No. 83 of 2024 was gazetted on June 1, 2024 and applies to the 'wholesale' procurement process conducted by a single buyer (utility service providers) for the procurement of any regulated utility services. Regulated utility services include the provision of electric capacity, energy or ancillary services; water supply, sewage treatment and disposal service; and other services that the Commission may designate as having a market dominant provider.

Key objective of S.I. 83 of 2024:

- i. Provides for the process to implement the outputs of the national development plan;
- ii. establishes a RFP regulatory framework that is transparent and fosters healthy competition;
- iii. mandates competitive bidding that ensures consumers get the best price for any investment made by their regulated utility service providers;
- iv. identifies clear roles and responsibilities of participants in the tendering process;
- v. establishes standard bidding documents and codifications; and
- vi. defines decision making process of the Evaluation Committee and the Commission.

The new RFP Regulations 2024 were developed after extensive consultations with all stakeholders dating back to 2022.

To learn more about how the new regulation shapes a fair and competitive procurement environment, visit www.puc.bz