



July 09, 2026

TL2026/0709/1A

Mr. Amer Tufail
Managing Director,
Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL)
Lahore

Subject: Complaint Against Allegations of Violation of PPRA Rules 2004 by Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) in Tender No. SNT-2296-25 & P.O No. T-2912/26 for CIP Survey Equipment

Dear Sir,

Transparency International Pakistan has received a complaint against allegations of violation of Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rules 2004 by SNGPL in Tender No. SNT-2296-25 & P.O No. T-2912/26 for procurement of CIP Survey Equipment.

The complainant has made the following allegations:

1. The SNGPL invited bids through Tender No. SNT-2296/25 for the procurement of CIP Survey Equipment.
2. M/s MAS Associates, the successful bidder had quoted Interrupter model SMART 150A which do not meet the tender clause 3.2b & 3.2c of the General Terms and Conditions of Tender (Annex-A).
3. The specification of tender mentions 2 major components i.e. Equipment (Meter) with GPS Synchronised current Interrupter and with 1 CIP meter 3 Interrupters.
4. The Accessories mentioned in tender documents include Data probes and wire dispenser and no other items is mentioned as accessories beyond these two. However, the evaluation has put the most expensive component i.e INTERRUPTER which cost approx. US \$4000 each unit, (total 3 interrupters cost approx 12000 US\$ with each meter) and put the same in accessories and evaluated accordingly. This is in complete violation of specifications defined in tender documents as accessories (Annex-B).
5. The offered interrupter model, SMART 150, has been manufactured for only about two years, which can also be verified online. This contradicts with clause 3.2 b & 3.2 c of tender general terms and conditions (Annex-C).
6. In complete violation of PPRA Rule 35, SNGPL has also published purchase order on and dispatched on the same day i.e. June 18, 2026.

Transparency International Pakistan Comments

Transparency International Pakistan has reviewed the allegations of the complaint. Prima facie, the allegations seem correct.

Following are TI Pakistan's comments:

1. The Rule 30(1) of the Public Procurement Rules, 2004 requires that the procuring agency evaluate all bids strictly in accordance with the evaluation criteria and other terms and conditions specified in the bidding documents. In the present case, if allegations are correct, the evaluation is in contravention of tender specifications. The Rule is quoted below for your reference;

30. Evaluation of bids.--- (1) All bids shall be evaluated in accordance with the evaluation criteria and other terms and conditions set forth in the prescribed bidding documents. Save as provided for in sub-clause (iv) of clause (c) of rule 36 no evaluation criteria shall be used for evaluation of bids that had not been specified in the bidding documents.



2. Where an unauthorized breach of the Public Procurement Rules, 2004 is established, Rule 50 provides that such breach shall amount to mis-procurement.

50. Mis-procurement.--- Any unauthorized breach of these rules shall amount to mis-procurement.

Transparency International Pakistan Recommendations

Transparency International Pakistan requests the MD SNGPL to review the allegations of the complaint, and if found correct, issue directives to for compliance with PPRA Rules, 2004 to avoid mis-procurement.

Transparency International Pakistan is striving for across-the-board application of Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop corruption, and achieve Zero tolerance against corruption.

Regards,

Advocate Daniyal Muzaffar,
Trustee/Legal Advisor
Transparency International Pakistan

Copies forwarded for the information with request to take action under their mandate to:

1. Advisor to PM, PM House, Islamabad
2. Federal Minister, Ministry of Energy, Islamabad.
3. Chairman, Prime Minister Inspection Commission, Islamabad.
4. Managing Director, Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), Islamabad.
5. Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad.

Note:

This is to clarify that Transparency International Pakistan is not a complainant, it acts as a whistleblower and operate under Article 19-A, of the Constitution of Pakistan which gives the right to public to know how government is being run by public officers. Article 19-A makes the right to access of information pertaining to a public authority a fundamental right, and a three-member bench in case of Mukhtar Ahmad Ali vs the Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad, headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa in the landmark judgment on 16 October 2023, in CP No. 3532/2023, has declared that

“What previously may have been on a need-to-know basis Article 19A of the Constitution has transformed it to a right-to-know, and the Access to information is no longer a discretion granted through occasional benevolence, but is now a fundamental right available with every Pakistani which right may be invoked under Article 19A of the Constitution”

3. DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING / BIDDER'S ELIGIBILITY & QUALIFICATIONS

3.1 The Purchaser shall determine to its satisfaction based upon an examination of the documentary evidence of manufacturer's financial, technical and production capabilities submitted by the bidder alongwith its bid. Pursuant to the following as well as any other information as the purchaser may deem necessary and appropriate:-

- (a) The documentary evidence of the Bidder's eligibility to bid shall establish to the Purchaser's satisfaction that the Bidder at the time of submission of its bid is from an eligible source country as defined under clause 12.
- (b) That, in the case of a bidder offering to supply goods under the contract which the bidder did not manufacture or otherwise produce the bidder has been duly authorized by the goods manufacturer or producer to supply the goods in Purchaser's country.
- (c) That, in the case of a bidder not doing business within the Purchaser's country the bidder is or will be (if possible) capable of carrying out its obligations with regard to maintenance, repair and spare parts supply prescribed by the Conditions of the Contract and / or Technical Specifications.
- (d) That the bidder provides manufacturer's annual report, audited, financial report as well as other confirmation as the purchaser deem necessary and appropriate to determine bidder's capabilities to perform satisfactorily.

3.2 (a) The Purchaser shall determine to its satisfaction whether the supplier / manufacturer selected as having submitted the responsive bid is qualified and has the capability and resources to satisfactorily perform the contract.

(b) The bidder offering goods of foreign origin (outside Pakistan) shall furnish references (name and address and telex / telefax number / Email of at least five (5) end users outside manufacturers country to whom the bidder supplied / exported goods for the last five (5) years similar to those being offered in this tender as to quantity, quality and service(s) called for herein and from the same manufacturer in the case of goods against international tender enquiries. Simply submitting a list of customers, to whom the manufacturer has been supplying various goods, will not meet the intent and purpose of this requirement. This information must form a part of the bid and the bidder are not encouraged to submit any of these information subsequently after public opening of the bids failure to comply with this requirement is likely to make the bid subject to rejection.

(c) The bidder shall provide documentary evidence of in the line of manufacturing of the offered items for the last (5) years.

3.3 Quotations from bidders, who are determined to have previously in Sui Northern's judgment committed default in respect of any of its obligations against any of our previous contracts on them, will not be entertained.

An affirmative determination will be a prerequisite for award of the contract to the bidder. A negative determination will result in rejection of the bidder's bid

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	Corrosion Control Department SUI NORTHERN GAS PIPELINES LIMITED		Doc. No. CCC/MC/DC/01	
	Specifications of CIP Survey Equipment		Issue No. 01	Issue Date 09-09-2025
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8. CIPS Range: ± 5 V DC, Resolution: 01 mV DC or better
9. Input Impedance of meter: 1 M Ohm or higher
10. The GPS fully integrated with WAAS-enabled.

11. Accessories:

- Data probes should have a sealed socket that can accommodate various reference electrodes.
- The backpack-style trail wire dispenser system shall be capable of accommodating a interchangeable 1-mile spool of trailing wire (30 or 32 SWG) with cable counter, suitable for use in Close Interval Potential (CIP) surveys.

12. Copper/Copper Sulphate Reference Electrode:

The soil contact probes should be able for quick, stable measurements of soil potential gradients. The probes shall have several important features to allow testing under dry conditions.

13. Current Interrupters:

- The GPS timed current interrupters should be able to record interrupted cycles of current, voltage readings when coupled with DC source during cathodic protection surveys on buried pipelines. The GPS synchronization functionality shall remain fully operational throughout the entire operational life of the equipment.
- The Current Interrupter should exhibit user defined current interruption cycles.

13.1 Technical Data:

Minimum Current Rating: 100 Amps (DC)
Working voltage / Capacity: 100-200 Volts (DC)

13.2 ON/OFF Cycle or Interruption Cycle:

The interrupters should be capable of operating at the required interruption cycles for CIP surveys in accordance with NACE SP0207. The units shall support user-defined ON/OFF cycle settings. The lower limit of the adjustable ON/OFF setting should be not less than 0.2 seconds (200 milliseconds), with the total cycle adjustable up to minimum 4 seconds (4000 milliseconds).

14. Enclosure/ Casing:

The enclosure/casing of data Logger Current Interrupters should be rugged, weather resistant and portable according to the standard IP54 or better, suitable for field utilization.

15. Battery Charging:

Data Logger and Current Interrupters should be provided along with all the essential accessories/components required for its operation during survey including integrated sealed rechargeable batteries pack (backup time of minimum 8 hours). Each unit should also include an intelligent charging circuit compatible with 220 – 240 V AC, which

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when dcvg smart interrupter 150A was manufactured

The **DCVG Smart Interrupter 150A (Model: SMART150A)** is a current generation product from **DCVG Ltd.** that appears in product listings as of **2024 and 2025**. While a specific "launch date" is not publicly documented in a single record, historical data from the manufacturer indicates the following timeline for its development and commercial availability:

- **Initial Technology Development:** DCVG Ltd. has been developing current interruption technology since its founding in **1994**. Earlier models typically featured 50A and 125A capacities.
- **Documentation History:** Technical brochures and information sheets for DCVG interrupters were significantly updated in **2014**. However, catalogs from **2015** primarily featured 125A satellite and standard interrupters rather than the "Smart 150A" model.
- **Modern Features:** The "Smart 150A" is distinguished by modern features such as **touch screen technology**, GPS synchronization, and an integrated oscilloscope. These advanced digital features align with the manufacturer's more recent product refreshes seen in the early **2020s**.
- **Current Status:** As of **2026**, the 150A Smart Interrupter remains a flagship high-capacity model used for pulsing cathodic protection systems during DCVG and CIPS surveys.

For specific manufacturing dates of an individual unit, users should check the serial