

U.S.-based ContourGlobal has selected four potential investors to build Kosova e Re, a 500 MW coal-fired power plant in Kosovo, expected to cost around 1.3 billion euro (\$1.51 billion), the country's government said on Monday.

ContourGlobal has accepted the expressions of interest submitted by China Machinery Engineering Corporation, a Turkish-Japanese-Spanish consortium comprised of ENKA, Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems and Tecnicas Reunidas, a consortium of companies under US-based General Electric and South Korea-based Hyundai, the government said in a press release.

A total of six companies submitted declarations of interest in the pre-qualification stage of the tender, the statement added.

The government also said that construction of the plant will begin in the first half of 2019, later than initially announced.

In December Kosovo's economy ministry said that the construction works would begin in 2018.

In June, ContourGlobal launched the initial selection of applicants to provide the turnkey engineering, procurement and construction contract for the plant.

"The process of selection is a two-stage international competitive tender following applicable World Bank procurement guidelines. It consists of an initial selection process followed by requests for proposals," ContourGlobal said in a procurement notice at the time.

In December, Kosovo's government signed an agreement with ContourGlobal to launch the construction of Kosova e Re. The new power plant will be operational by 2023, Kosovo's economy and development ministry said at the time. The life span of the future power plant is estimated at 40 years.

The project is considered to be Kosovo's largest energy project, which will replace the 40-year-old Kosovo A plant and is seen as the only solution to the country's chronic air pollution and unreliable power supplies.

ContourGlobal is an international power-generation company with approximately 4,305 MW in operation in 18 countries and three continents. ContourGlobal operates a portfolio of 100 thermal and renewable power plants across Europe, Latin America, and Africa utilizing a wide range of technologies.

Source: seenews