

OPEN CALL FOR

Drafting clause 4 for the Technical Report on specifications for Food and Feed applications (CEN/TC454/WG4) on Novel food legislation:

Development of a best practice procedure for getting specific algae species and derivatives thereof approved under the Novel Food Regulation (EU) 2015/2283, e.g. standard specification, hazard-based risk profiles for algae species and derivatives thereof, etc.

Specific agreement: SA/CEN/2016-04/ENER/C2/498-2016/SI2.735225

Background:

The European Commission (EC) and CEN have signed a contract (SA/CEN/2016-04/ENER/C2/498-2016/SI2.735225) under the Framework Partnership Agreement 2014. The project is titled: "Algae or algae based products or intermediates" and is related to the Standardization Request M/547 as regards algae and algae-based products or intermediates.

The objective of the project is to develop standardization deliverables in the Technical Committee CEN/TC 454 'Algae and algae products', which was established in the beginning of 2017.

CEN/TC454 working group 4 is developing a technical report on algae and algae products specifications for food and feed applications. An alignment with NOVEL Food Regulation will be crucial and inevitably the one of the main outputs in between Algae industry / Novel Food Regulation and required standardisation as assigned to NEN.

Objective:

The task will be to make sure that the Novel Food Regulation (criteria and conditions) are matched and balanced with the algae industry capabilities to comply with the Novel Food Regulation. The experts will also have to provide input on the risks of possible mismatch conditions between Novel Food Regulation requirements and the inability of the algae industry to deliver / comply. Therefore, expertise is needed on the general knowledge on food and food ingredients. And, also experience with regard to the preparation or assessment of applications under the Novel Food Regulation (EU) 2015/2283. Experience is moreover needed in the contact with legislators, in understanding business models and in input from algae industry, research and innovation institutions and industry association (e.g. EABA). Regulatory experience is preferred but not mandatory. Besides, experience with standardized methods is necessary, preferably for algae. Decent understanding of the risk and management thereof when algae products are not able to comply with Novel Food Regulation.

Task to be performed:

A document needs to be drafted with the following elements (readymade clause 4 for TR and of added value for the overall WG 4):

1. With guidance on “how to get products approved”. What is needed, how long will it take etc. The document will serve as an initial guidance for the standard users and will facilitate future outreach and implementation. The text will be based on experience and desk research. During the creation of this document the experts will act as linking pin between European legislators (e.g. EFSA) and NEN and its contributors.
2. Containing listings of the mismatches of NOVEL Food Regulation and ALGAE products including a first wave assessment of the ways forward to seek compliance and an initial assessment of the risks when commercial (potential) applications are in non-compliance with Novel Food Regulation.

Planning:

- Opening of tender procedure (open call/selection of Candidate + 35 days): ***18 March 2019***
- Indicated schedule: Start asap (beginning of May 2019), first draft to be ready by June 2019, finalization of task September 2019
- Est workload 35 Working days. For example spread over 3 experts (e.g. 10-10-15 working days).
- Reporting: Twice at WG 4 meetings (first draft version at physical meeting in June in Ireland or Portugal) and at moment of (draft) delivery of the final report).

Costs:

A budget needs to be provided, containing a clarification of hours to be spent, including travel expenses (for attending at least two WG 4 meetings to present the dedicated expert task).

Consortium offers are encouraged. Offers can also be from a single person, which should however have a VAT number and a company registration.

Selection procedure:

The selection of the candidate who will perform the experiments will be made by a selection panel, which is composed of:

- Mrs. Juliane Eykelhoff (NEN), secretary of CEN/TC 454/WG4 'Food/Feed specifications';
- Mr. Bert van Asselt, Chair of CEN/TC 454 'Algae and algae products';
- Mrs. Jennifer Ogbonna (CCMC).

Selection criteria for the tendering process:

Selection of contractors will be based on the following criteria:

1) Documented experience (maximum 45 points):

- experience in running European or/and international test programs;
- experience in standards writing/drafting, in order to enable an easy uptake of (part of) the outcomes as Annex to the standard mentioned
- extensive experience with freeze drying and stove drying techniques on organic materials.

2) Organization; demonstration of ability and understanding of the project (maximum 40 points):

- organization for the reporting to NEN;

3) Quotation price and detail (maximum 15 points)

Additional points may be awarded if the tenderer can add additional value to the project. In general, a best value for money principle will be applied.

Only offers that pass the selection criteria of scoring minimum 35 points under 1) and 25 points under 2) are eligible for selection.

On the effective contract the "General Terms and Conditions for the Provision of Technical Services to NEN" shall apply. A copy of those can be delivered on request. The Contractor should also agree to the fact that the obligation of NEN to pay is subject to the normal functioning of the financing mechanisms of the Commission of the European Union, also applicable to specific agreement SA/CEN/2016-04/ENER/C2/498-2016/SI2.735225.

Replies to tender:

- Applications should be submitted using the [attached application form](#) by **22th April 2019**. Applications received after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.
- Applications shall be sent by e-mail to indra.teronde@nen.nl.
- If necessary, additional information can be obtained via the CEN/TC 454 Secretary, Mr. Indra te Ronde.
- Candidates are herewith informed that interviews with the selection panel (by telephone/GoTo meeting) will be, possibly, scheduled **on 23th of April 2019**.

Form - Answer to a call for Tender in compliance with FPA 2014

See attachment.