

Republic of the Philippines
Ministry of Public Highways
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER
M a n i l a

December 4, 1978

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| MINISTRY ORDER) | SUBJECT: <u>Amendment to the general guidelines</u> |
|) | <u>for the advertisement of projects,</u> |
| NO. <u>140</u>) | <u>prequalification of bidders, opening</u> |
|) | <u>of bids, and award of contracts as</u> |
| Series of 1978) | <u>provided for under Department Order</u> |
| x - - - - -) | <u>No. 17. series of 1974</u> |

The provisions of Department Order No. 17, series of 1974, particularly those pertaining to the award of contracts, are hereby amended to read as follows:

"AWARD OF CONTRACT

1. The lowest complying bidder may be awarded a contract if his total bid does not exceed the approved government estimate for the project, or his bid is not more than twenty-five percent (25%) below the approved government estimate.
2. The lowest complying bidder who submits a bid price greater than the approved government estimate shall be given the option to reduce his bid price to equal the approved government estimate. In case the lowest complying bidder is not willing to exercise this option, the second lowest bidder may be given the same option. The third lowest bidder may likewise be entitled to the same option granted to the first and second lowest bidders upon refusal of the first two to exercise their option.
3. If the three lowest bidders are not willing to reduce their bids as stipulated in the preceding paragraphs, the project may be re-advertized or same may be undertaken by administration.
4. In case of a tie in the lowest complying bid, the award may be decided by drawing lots to be conducted by the Committee on Evaluation and Awards in the presence of the lowest bidders or their duly authorized representatives.
5. In case of discrepancies in the amount expressed in figures and that expressed in words in a bid proposal, the amount expressed in words shall prevail. The total amount of bid as indicated by the bidder shall be checked by multiplying the unit bid price by the corresponding quantities of the items of work bid. In case of discrepancies between the indicated total amount of bid and the total obtained by multiplying the unit price by the quantity, the amount obtained by the latter process shall prevail.
6. Any bid lower than the government estimate by more than twenty-five percent (25%) shall be automatically rejected.

7. The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids; to waive any informality in the bids received, and to disregard any bid which is obviously unbalanced."

These amendments shall be applicable to all projects already bid but not yet awarded, as well as projects awarded but are still pending approval insofar as the contract cost is concerned.

This Department Order shall take effect immediately.

(SGD.) BALTAZAR AQUINO
Minister