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ECRL Pre-Q Exercise to Fuel Interest amongst Malaysian Construction Companies

Kuala Lumpur, 10 May: Malaysia Rail Link Sdn Bhd (MRL) anticipates huge interest amongst the engineering, infrastructure, and construction companies nationwide to express their interest as subcontractors for the 640-km East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) project via a Pre-Qualification (Pre-Q) exercise to be held end of this month.

A Pre-Q notice advertisement would be issued by ECRL's engineering, procurement, construction, commissioning (EPCC) contractor, China Communications Construction Company Ltd (CCCC), in leading local dailies on 13 May and 14 May 2019 respectively. The Pre-Q exercise is to tap eligible Malaysian contractors to participate in 40 percent of the project's civil works.

The Pre-Q exercise is open to all experience local contractors that possesses *CIDB Grade G3 to G7* with a minimum of *2 Star SCORE* rating, adding that Pre-Q documents must be submitted at CCCC counters to be opened at the Sime Darby Convention Centre (SDCC) on 29 May and 30 May 2019.

We urge qualified local contractors nationwide to actively participate in the Pre-Q exercise which will be a precursor for them to get on the ECRL bandwagon. There are ample opportunities for Malaysian contractors as local participation for the ECRL project has been increased to 40 percent of the civil works from 30 percent previously.

A 'Pre-Q Evaluation Committee' consisting of senior MRL and CCCC officials would evaluate all the submissions made by Malaysian contractors during the Pre-Q exercise, in a bid to shortlist eligible local contractors to proceed to the subsequent stages as potential tenderers of the ECRL civil works packages.

The 'Pre-Q Evaluation Committee' would be tasked to ensure good governance and ethical practices are upheld in the pre-qualification and evaluation of the local contractors, noting that only those shortlisted would be notified to proceed to subsequent stages as potential tenderers.

A host of civil work packages including earthworks, formation works, soil improvement works, foundation works, structural works, road works, and building works is intended to be subcontracted by CCCC to qualified contractors in areas where the ECRL traverse.



An increase in participation of local contractors in the large-scale RM44 billion ECRL project also bodes well for the local construction and building material sectors, as well as serve as potential multiplier effect on the Malaysian economy.

MRL and CCCC are optimistic that together with the knowledge and expertise of experience Malaysian subcontractors coming into fruition, the ECRL project would be fully completed as per its targeted date of 31 December 2026.

MRL, a special purpose vehicle wholly-owned by the Minister of Finance Incorporated, is the project and asset owner of the ECRL. The 640-km project will witness the construction of the rail alignment connecting the East Coast states of Kelantan, Terengganu, and Pahang before linking with Negeri Sembilan, Selangor and WP Putrajaya.

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