



Questions and Answers Log

Consumers Energy Company

Pre-Release - Log

2022 RFP for Solar Generation Projects

Version 2

Date of Last Update: 11/16/2022



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General RFP Questions

Q1: Is Consumers Energy interested in evaluating Hybrid – Solar + Storage resources for PPA?

A1: The Company is currently not considering Storage resources in this RFP.

Q2: Would you please clarify what you are looking for in the way of the 3rd party "Project Fatal Flaws or Risks"? Are you looking for Technical, permitting, or economic risks? Do you just need risks that would be fatal to the project, or all risks involved?

A2: All risks associated with project completion should be evaluated as part of the Project Fatal Flaw analysis.

Q3: One question for you on the Max Offer Capacity in Aggregate of 600 MW. Does this mean that one developer cannot submit more than a total of 600 MW across project offers, or does this just apply to a portfolio offer if a developer is offering in a portfolio of projects to be considered all together?

A3: The Maximum Offer Capacity is per offer per PY. A Respondent may bid any amount of total MWs in the RFP, but no more than 600 MWs per offer in aggregate for a PY. The largest bid allowed would be 600 MWs for PY 2025, 600 MWs for PY 2026, and 600MWs for PY 2027 in a single aggregate bid.

Q4: For the Module Procurement points (3.2), is having an agreed Terms and Conditions agreement adequate, or are you looking for a firm module commitment? Securing module supply before the outcome of a utility RFP, and way before construction start, seems like an irresponsible order of operations for any project. While the supply chain is clearly strained, it isn't really practical to buy modules years before a COD.

A4: The RFP currently considers a fully executed module contract to qualify for the Scorecard points associated.

Q5: Is the penalty of \$1,400/MW per scorecard item prorated based on the portion of that item claimed? E.g. if claim .5 of diversity and don't meet it is the penalty full or .5*\$1,400/MW?

A5: Yes, the penalty is prorated based on the portion of the scorecard item claimed.

Q6: Section 2.2 of the draft RFP refers to annual capacity targets in each planning year. Within these targets, are there sub-targets for MW procured through each of procurement approaches (i.e, BTA,DDA,PSA,PPA)?

A6: The Company must generally adhere to the overall award of 50% Company owned, 50% PPA for these solicitations over time.

Q7: Can you please provide a detailed checklist of what information needs to be submitted at what milestone? For example, it's not clear whether the information related to the non-price aspects of the points scorecard



need to be submitted on January 13 or as part of the bid on March 2. If all information required under this RFP with the exception of Appendix D 1-4 need to be submitted on January 13 as part of the qualification process, we advise that you consider extending this deadline so that bidders have ample time to assemble the necessary information and bearing in mind that December and early January is holiday season.

A7: There is some flexibility built into the schedule and process. Within the Project Qualification Application – (Appendix B-1) there is a checklist of items needed as well as a box that can be checked stating that some items were not submitted. Ultimately these items are only REQUIRED at the time of the final bid submission, but Enel X cannot assist with clarifying items if they have not been submitted. It is then up to the respondents to verify with us prior to submitting their final bid proposal or risk having an invalid proposal.

Q8: The Nov 8 presentation refers to the Pre-Bid Security as being “refundable”. However, the RFP doesn’t specify the conditions under which the pre-bid security will be refunded. Can you please provide such conditions?

A8: All non-provisionally awarded project Pre Bid securities will be refunded by June 30, 2023. All provisionally awarded project Pre Bid Securities will be release once definitive agreements are executed or October 31, 2023, whichever comes first. Any refund of Pre Bid securities presumes the terms of the bid binding agreement were upheld.

Q9: Can you please provide a quantitative example of how the cost-to-value ratio will work in practice? Since this is 75% of points value its important that bidders understand the calculus in your economic model.

A9: The Company will release the economic models to qualified Respondents in advance of the bid due date to allow time for bidders to understand the calculation.

Q10: Under the PPA option, can you confirm that the ZRC offer price is zero when interconnected at the distribution circuit level?

A10: The capacity purchase price can be bid in at either \$0/ZRC-month or \$4,298/ZRC-month for capacity delivered under a PPA whether interconnected at distribution or transmission levels.

Q11: In section 6.5, it states "*Projects determined to be infeasible in the sole discretion of Enel X will be removed from consideration, including, but not limited to, projects located within a moratorium or other zoning condition that otherwise does not permit the construction and operation of the facility, projects with significant shading or potential shading, or projects that will not have site control for the duration of PPA or Utility Owned project design life*" Would you please provide a complete list of criteria for removing a project from consideration? If a project is removed from consideration under section 6.5 will the respondent be supplied with a reason for the removal?

A11: Enel X is only able to disqualify a project for failing to meet the requirements outlined within the RFP, all respondents will be provided notice of items that could disqualify a project and provided time to cure the deficiencies.



General Feedback

- We would like to submit feedback on the schedule released in the draft Consumers RFP materials, as solicited on the Bidder's Webinar. Given the current schedule and the holidays in December, we think that pushing the January 13th deadline back by a couple of weeks would be very helpful for bidders.

Submitting Additional Questions

All questions regarding this RFP should be submitted to the RFP Submission Email Address CECIA.enelxnorthamerica@enel.com. All questions and answers of a non-trivial nature will be posted on Enel X's Solicitation Website on a periodic basis.

Any Respondents who discover inconsistencies or errors in, or who are in doubt as to the meaning or intent of any part of, the RFP documents shall request an interpretation from Enel X via the RFP email address:

CECIA.enelxnorthamerica@enel.com

If a Respondent fails to notify Enel X of a known error or an error that reasonably should have been known prior to the final submission date, the Respondent shall assume any and all risk, and shall not be entitled to change its proposal after the submission due date.

In the event that Enel X receives a question that it is unable to answer due to the question's technical complexity or material effect on the solicitation results, Enel X reserves the right to contact Consumers Energy for clarification. In contacting Consumers Energy for clarification, Enel X will not disclose information to Consumers Energy that would reveal the respondent or project related to the question.