



QUESTION AND ANSWER

166129 (NRCan-5000060114)

Report on the Impacts and Opportunities associated with Clean Energy Projects for Utilities Serving Remote Communities across Canada

Question #1

NRCan requires that the ability to communicate orally and in writing in English and French can be satisfied across a team and not that it is a requirement that each individual team member be able to communicate orally and in writing in both English and French.

Answer: Confirmed

Question #2

Are only bidders who qualify under the Aboriginal Designation eligible to respond to this RFP

Answer: No

Question #3

Are bidders required to certify on Aboriginal Designation status as described on page 18 of the RFP?

Answer: The bidder must certify in its submitted bid that it is an Aboriginal business or a joint venture constituted as described on page 18

Question #4:

Will an Aboriginal business designation be evaluated in the scoring of the RFP? If so, please provide information on how the Aboriginal business designation will be reflected in the evaluation and scoring of the proposal.

Answer: All bids received for the purpose of this RFP will be evaluated in the scoring of the RFP

Question #5

Section 3 of Annex A states that NRCan is seeking to commission a report in regard to remote communities that are not connected to the continental grid in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Please confirm:

Answer: Confirmed

Question #6

Does NRCan have any specific schedule requirements beyond completion of the project by March 31, 2022? Is there a target date for completion of task 4 (preliminary report)

Answer: It is expected that a preliminary report be ready by January 2021 to ensure there is adequate time for revisions, presentations and briefings with senior management and the advisory committee.



Question #7

Is it assumed Tasks 5-8 will occur in sequence?

Answer: It is expected that tasks 5-8 will occur in sequence. NRCan will be responsible for convening meetings and presentations

Question #8

Does NRCan have an anticipated start date for the project?

Answer: As soon as a supplier is selected- Anticipated start date: September 2021

Question #9:

Is NRCan aware of any periods when key NRCan staff may not be available?

Answer: Staff will be available for the duration of the contract.

Question #9

Task 4 and task 5 each reference presentation of draft report to project authorities, and incorporating feedback into the report. Please clarify how these tasks are intended to differ in this respect.

Answer: Task 4 includes feedback with NRCAN and CIRNAC project authorities. Task 5 will include a presentation to a larger group of NRCAN and CIRNAC staff involved in the project, where they will ask questions and provide feedback.

Question #10

- a. Please confirm it is only the final report, and not deliverables relating to tasks 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 that must be made available in both languages.
- b. Please confirm if it is acceptable to provide deliverables 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 in English only, with only the Task 9 approved final report in both languages.
- c. Please confirm if a final report references certain attachments or appendices, if it is acceptable to provide the main volume of the final report in both English and French but the appendices or attachments in only English or French.

Answer: This requirement has been removed as per amendment 1

Question #11

Please confirm if NRCan requires a project reference name and contact information for each project used to support the evaluation of the technical criteria, or if the bidder can select which projects merit a reference name and contact information.

Answer: Bidder can select which project merits a reference name. However, NRCAN may follow up to request a reference for any project listed.

Question # 12

Please provide NRCan's definition of a 'microgrid' for evaluation purposes & Would work related to any isolated community electricity system, i.e, remote community electricity systems not connected to the intercontinental grid, be viewed as 'microgrid experience' for proposal evaluation purposes?



Answer: An electricity network that is able to function independently from a centralized national grid. Yes, this is considered microgrid experience

Question #13

Does NRCan have an approved budget envelope for this project? If so, can NRCan provide a maximum budget or a range of budget available for this assignment?

Answer: A financial limitation is not included as part of this RFP process. Please refer to the applicable trade agreements that are captured at Part 1 – General Information of the RFP.

Question #14

At page 10 of 41, the “Financial Bid” section states: “The total amount of applicable taxes must be shown separately”. Please confirm if this is required as there is no provision on the Financial Proposal Form to provide this information.

Answer: Applicable taxes must be separate and not included in the bid price

Question #15

Please confirm which, if any, meetings required in the Deliverables Tasks (Section 4, pages 28-29 of 41) will require attendance in person versus teleconference/virtual presentation.

Answer: No in person attendance required. Virtual attendance is acceptable.

Question # 16

Does NRCan require all proponent team members to hold a valid Reliability Status upon a proposal submission or can this be obtained after the award and before the contact signing?

Answer: Please refer to Part 6, 6.1: At date of bid closing the following conditions must be met

- (a) the Bidder must hold a valid organization security clearance as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses;
- (b) the Bidder's proposed individuals requiring access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites must meet the security requirements as indicated in Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses;
- (c) the Bidder must provide the name of all individuals who will require access to classified or protected information, assets or sensitive work sites;

Question # 17:

Requirement R4- “interpreting financial statements” - is this about any financial statement of a company or is it about annual reports of power utilities?

Answer: Yes, this is primarily related to annual reports and financial statements of power utilities, but could also include financial statements from municipalities and Indigenous governments.

Question #18:



Could you please clarify the difference between R1 (Northern policy/programs) and R7 (Northern or indigenous policy issues)?

Answer: Northern policy/ programs is strictly related to work in the three territories, as well as Nunavik and Nunatsiavut, whereas Northern or Indigenous policy issues includes policy work across Canada.

Question #19

Deliverables, Task 2 on page 29 of 41 and Annex B, Milestone 2 on page 31 of 41:

Each of the referenced section state: "Any further changes will be subject to the same approval process as in Tasks 1 and 2". Please explain what "approval process" is being referenced, and what "further changes" are being considered.

Answer: See amendment 1

Question #20

We want to confirm that our participation in the provision of this consulting services will not impact our support of other goods or services in the future to the federal government. We don't foresee an impact but would appreciate your confirmation.

Answer: There is no implications for you to participate in this solicitation process.