

**Illinois Power Agency
24-RFP-02 – Planning Consultant****Responses to Offeror Questions
July 23, 2024**

1. Please confirm which attachments subcontractor is required to submit in addition to the Attachment FF (assuming the subcontractor's contracted value is greater than \$50K).

For each subcontractor over \$50,000, please submit Attachment EE (Subcontractor Disclosures), Attachment FF (Standard Certification), and Attachment GG (Financial Disclosures and Conflicts of Interest).

If the subcontractor is BEP certified (see Section I.17 and Attachment MM), the Offeror should also ensure that the BEP Utilization Plan submitted as Attachment MM includes a fully executed Subcontracting Participation Agreement.

2. The scope identifies tasks spanning more than one year. The initial contract will be for one year. Does the pricing proposal need to conform to the one year term? Or should it include budgets for the tasks as described?

The Pricing Proposal should be based on fulfilling the scope of work identified in the RFP for each task, even if that scope would exceed the initial one-year term. The Agency will work with the selected Offeror(s) to refine and finalize actual budgets for the initial one-year term. Please note that the RFP scoring rubric assesses "reasonableness of billing rates" and "reasonableness of proposed pricing" rather than specifically scoring a set proposed pricing amount. The Agency wishes to have the most complete picture possible of what an Offeror can provide to the Agency to successfully carry out the duties of the Planning Consultant.

3. Stakeholder feedback is mentioned at several stages; is this something we will have to conduct, or will the IPA go out and get this for us?

The Agency expects that the Planning Consultant will take the lead in developing and implementing stakeholder feedback processes (written and workshops) for the development of the Resource Adequacy Study, and potentially for developing energy storage procurement plans.

Other stakeholder feedback processes such as receiving comments on the draft annual Electricity Procurement Plan have a statutorily defined process and the Agency will take the lead in publishing the draft plan and conducting mandated hearings. The Agency will expect support from the Offeror in reviewing feedback received.

More generally, while the Agency has extensive experience in conducting stakeholder feedback processes, and highly values the feedback that it receives, the Agency is always interested in how to improve those processes to increase the amount and quality of feedback. The Agency will be highly interested in how

Offerors propose to conduct stakeholder feedback processes in ways that make those processes valuable to the Agency and stakeholders.

4. It is mentioned that we may have to provide support for energy storage policy and procurement (legislation pending); is there a particular piece of legislation making its way through the legislature that the IPA is referring to or is this just an expectation?

An example of pending legislation that would establish the Agency's role in developing and implementing energy storage procurement plans would be Senate Bill 3959:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=3959&GAID=17&GA=103&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=155023&SessionID=112>

Please note that Senate Bill 3959 would make other changes to Illinois energy policy that go beyond energy storage. For the purpose of responding to this RFP, please focus only on the provisions outlined on pages 217-227 (and supporting definitions on pages 13, 15, 16, 20 23, and 26).

The Agency cautions that the General Assembly has not taken action on this bill, and the Agency cannot predict what legislation the General Assembly will ultimately pass and how it may vary from this bill.