

MULTI CITY RENEWABLE ENERGY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1.0 Introduction

The City of Boston, along with a national consortium of municipalities (the “Consortium”), is seeking information from interested parties for a potential large-scale renewable energy purchase agreement. The Consortium is interested in obtaining feedback from qualified renewable energy project developers with projects located anywhere in the United States. The Consortium expects to use the information gathered in this request to inform a future joint purchase of energy and environmental attributes (Renewable Energy Credits - RECs) for virtual delivery pursuant to a contract for differences or similar structure. Certain Consortium members, if they choose to proceed beyond the RFI stage, may ultimately seek physical delivery of energy and renewable attributes.

While specific VPPA/PPA contracts are outside the scope of this solicitation, the Consortium hopes to gain a comprehensive understanding of options currently available for virtual contracts with large-scale renewable energy projects. To that end, this RFI is focused on project sizing, geography, anticipated completion date, technology, and indicative pricing. While economics will play a large role in assessing project opportunities, the Consortium is interested in other unique project features that might limit financial risk and benefit communities. Projects must also offer new resources or expanded capacity to an existing facility, with any resulting Consortium commitment leading to new renewable resources being added to the country’s electrical grid. From this information, the Consortium expects to confirm and narrow its interest in such an arrangement before proceeding with a full Request for Proposals (RFP). Respondents are encouraged to provide creative solutions that maximize potential benefits and minimize financial risks to Consortium members.

2.0 The Consortium

The Consortium, convened by the City of Boston and partner cities¹, has been assembled in hopes of using the collective buying power of the group to achieve competitive project pricing from projects built at-scale, taking advantage of all available incentives. The members of this Consortium are interested in understanding how projects might help them achieve individual commitments to renewable energy and support the growth of renewable resources nationally.

A full list of Consortium members and their respective electricity loads has been included in Exhibit A.

¹ Arlington (MA), Atlanta (GA), Boston (MA), Cambridge (MA), Chicago (IL), Evanston (IL), Gary (IN), Houston (TX), Los Angeles (CA), Manchester (NH), Medford (MA), Melrose (MA), Nashua (NH), Orlando (FL), Phoenix (AZ), Portland (ME), Portland (OR), Providence (RI), S. Portland (ME), Somerville (MA)

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3.0 Responses

All responses must be emailed to Adam Jacobs (adam.jacobs@boston.gov), copying Zac Bloom (zbloom@competitive-energy.com) with the subject line: “**(Respondent Organization’s Name) - Response to Multi-City Renewable Energy Purchase RFI.**” Responses should be submitted using the Microsoft Excel sheet provided in Attachment 1, along with any supplemental documentation the respondent would like to include, no later than 5:00 pm EDT, August 31, 2018. If your response is too large to be sent in a single email, please send separate emails indicating how many total emails comprise your response (e.g., “Response to Multi-City Renewable Energy Purchase RFI Part 1 of 3”).

Developer Response Format: Renewable energy developer respondents are asked to provide information pertaining to their project(s) that help to meet the stated goals of the Consortium. While the primary goal of the Consortium approach is to improve project economics through a combined process, respondents are not limited to projects (or a portfolio of projects) that meet 100% of the Consortium’s stated load with renewable energy.

The following information is requested for each proposed or potentially viable Renewable Energy Facility or Unit:

1. The size – include both installed nameplate capacity in MW and expected annual generation in MWhs.
2. Technology - type of renewable energy generation system (wind, solar, solar + storage, biomass, etc.)
3. The location – geographic coordinates (longitude/latitude), state, county, town and address, if one exists. If not, approximate geography or, at minimum, electricity market, should be provided.
4. The expected potential Commercial Operation Date, provided off-takers agree to purchase output.
5. The expected point of interconnection to the electric grid and all potential hub pricing settlement point(s) for a Contract for Differences.
6. VPPA pricing options and terms – the Consortium is seeking pricing for virtual purchase of MWhs generated, the capacity value (if applicable), and the renewable attributes associated with that generation. This may be done through a contract for differences structure, in which the delivery/settlement point should be clearly specified, along with the fixed price per MWh (no annual escalator) that will be used to determine the amount owed/paid to Consortium members. Pricing should be based off of a Hub settlement; respondents are asked to include a history of hub settlement prices along with their response in Attachment 1 if possible. Multiple variations on base pricing are requested. These variations are to help the Consortium members understand limits to downside risk by sacrificing potential upside. Respondents are asked to submit pricing that offers no transaction settlement when the hub price is below \$0, as well as pricing in which the

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project owner keeps 25%, 50%, and 75% of the upside when prices are above the PPA price (See Attachment 1 for details)

7. The status of the Interconnection Agreement with the local distribution or transmission utility, if applicable.
8. The status of local permitting and approvals.
9. Any unique attributes of the project that might be interesting to the Consortium. These could include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Local economic or community benefits resulting from the facilities
 - Educational opportunities offered to local communities / Consortium members
 - Availability of detailed generation data that could be of interest to Consortium members in reporting and press releases
 - Unique environmental or economic considerations that distinguish the facilities
 - Other relevant details the respondent would like to provide.

Non-Developer Response Format: Non-developers, such as researchers, academic institutions, industry trade associations and other relevant parties are also encouraged to respond to this request for information. Non-developers are asked to complete as much of Attachment 1 as may be relevant for their submittal, but are not required to complete this form. Respondents are also welcome to include any relevant supplemental documentation.

- Historic renewable energy pricing and/or power purchase agreement (PPA) rates
- Forecasts for future pricing in both competitive and regulated electric markets where renewable development is permitted
- Economic and policy factors impacting future renewable energy project viability
- Other factors - such as reliability concerns, workforce development statistics, or energy storage.

All Respondents: There is space to include all of the above information along with respondent contact details in the required Excel response workbook, included as Attachment 1. If respondents are submitting details for multiple projects, please save and submit a separate Excel workbook for each project. Respondents are also welcome to include any relevant supplemental materials separately in their response package. Please attach the Excel document and relevant response materials to the response email.

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4.0 Schedule

The table below includes relevant events and deadlines for this RFI:

Event	Date and Time
RFI Release Date	7/31/18 at 9:00am EDT
Webinar for Interested Parties	8/6/18 at 4:00pm EDT
Webinar Recording Posted to www.boston.gov	8/10/18 by 5:00pm EDT
Respondent Information Due Date	8/31/18 by 5:00pm EDT

The Consortium may change these dates at its sole discretion.

The Webinar is not mandatory for respondents, but will serve as an opportunity to walk through the RFI document and answer any questions. Please use the link and call-in information below to join the Webinar at the specified time.

City of Boston Renewable Energy RFI
Mon, Aug 6, 2018 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM EDT

Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone using the following URL:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/433106021>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 433-106-021

5.0 Confidentiality

Consortium members are subject to public records laws and must comply with associated obligations. [A Guide to the Massachusetts Public Records Law is available here](#), however other state public record laws may also apply based on the location of consortium members.

If respondents do not wish to provide certain components of the requested information, please share as much information as can be provided.

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Exhibit A

Consortium Member List and Annual Municipal Electricity Loads (MWh)

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Annual MWh Load</u>
Arlington, MA	8,300
Atlanta, GA	600,000
Boston, MA	140,000
Cambridge, MA	35,000
Chicago, IL	2,448,000
Evanston, IL	18,000
Gary, IN	13,900
Houston, TX	1,149,000
Los Angeles, CA	239,000
Manchester, NH	45,000
Medford, MA	11,000
Melrose, MA	6,600
Nashua, NH	26,500
Orlando, FL	87,000
Phoenix, AZ	650,000
Portland, ME	27,000
Portland, OR	135,000
Providence, RI	40,000
S. Portland, ME	8,100
Somerville, MA	15,000
Total	5,702,400

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Attachment 1: See Excel Workbook