

General Technical Evaluation Questions

RECs will be evaluated based on two factors (1) the eGRID region in which they are generated and (2) the technology used to generate the RECs. These two factors will be used to determine the value to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

A map of eGRID regions is available on the EPA website at:

[http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/egridzips/eGRID_9th_edition_V1-](http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/egridzips/eGRID_9th_edition_V1-0_year_2010_eGRID_subregions.jpg)

[0_year_2010_eGRID_subregions.jpg](http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/egridzips/eGRID_9th_edition_V1-0_year_2010_eGRID_subregions.jpg). You can confirm the eGRID region by zip code in the official interagency GHG reporting portal. The reporting portal is available online at:

<http://energy.gov/eere/femp/downloads/annual-greenhouse-gas-and-sustainability-data-report>. The file to use is version 5.x (versions 4.x are from previous years and do not apply here).

Within the GHG reporting portal, the tab labelled '2.2 Renewable Energy Data' will be used to calculate the value to the Department of Veterans Affairs. This tab takes into account both the eGRID region and the technology type.

1. Question: How many RECs are required from each eligible renewable energy source (biomass, geothermal, landfill gas, solar, wind)
Answer: There is no required technology purchase. Proposals will be evaluated based on the description above.
2. Question: What are the evaluation factors that will be used to determine the bid winner?
Answer: See description above
3. Question: Is there a preference for the geographic location on generation sources for supply of the RECs?
Answer: See description above
4. Question: Assuming prices are equal, is there a generation type that the VA prefers? I understand the VA relies on the eGrid system, but is there a specific formula that is used to balance eGrid impact vs. price?
Answer: See description above
5. Question: Can you please tell me what State(s) the REC's are needed in? and a break down by State if multiple?
Answer: This is a national purchase; there is no priority for any state.
6. Question: Are the RECs to be used by specific installations, and if so, please identify the locations?
Answer: VA does not have installations. The REC purchases are a national purchase and not location specific.
7. Question: The 90-day price lock on the options in last year's solicitation significantly adds to the cost because you have to secure energy from a specific facility and hold it, with no guarantee of purchase. Do you have any flexibility in structuring this year's contract to not require a specific facility?
Answer: In order to evaluate and compare the bids, we need to know the type of the renewable energy and the eGRID location of generation in order to calculate the value to the Department of Veterans Affairs. If one of these two evaluation factors changes, it has the potential to change the value to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The selected proposal must meet or exceed the proposed value to the agency.

Miscellaneous Technical Question

1. The REC cost for small and large hydro is significantly lower than for the other technologies mentioned in your solicitation. What is the reason that hydro is excluded?

Answer: RECs from traditional hydropower are not allowed.

Contracting Question

1. Can you tell me the type and specific facility or facilities that last year's solicitation was won with?

Answer: International Paper, Georgetown Mill & Valliant, OK, Biomass

2. I'm considering partnering with another firm for this bid. This other firm is not a SDVOSB; how would the bid need to be structured to ensure that we qualify? Is it simply that 51% of the profit goes to a SDVOSB?

Answer: An Official Joint Venture must be in place, with the SDVOSB being the controlling entity. If you are subcontracting, the SDVOSB concern shall perform work for at least 50 percent of cost... See FAR 52.219-14.

3. Should bidders provide bids for the base order and the option order separately or combined?

Answer: Separately. See SF1449

4. When and how will payment for delivery of the RECs be made? One lump sum payment on the date of delivery? Following completion of the audit?

Answer: Invoice may be submitted on the Date of Acceptance.

5. Will bid and performance bonds be required?

Answer: No.

6. Will past performance surveys be required?

Answer: No.

7. If past performance surveys are required and a new entity does not have such documented past performance, will the strength of the REC Provider transaction team be evaluated instead?

Answer: N/A

8. Is the SDVOSB Company required to be a generator of electricity?

Answer: No.

9. Does the government currently have an incumbent SDVOSB supplier of RECs? If so who is the supplier?

Answer: This is an annual requirement. Renewable Energy Credits - Fiscal Year 2013 was awarded to Command & Control Solutions, Corp.

10. What is the time period that the VA has to exercise the option?

Answer: 90 days, as stated in the solicitation.

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1. Question: Please confirm government demand of approximately 300,000,000 kWhrs?

Answer: True

2. Question: Gov. is also requesting an option for an additional 300 million kwh. Is the option period the same time period as the base contract (e.g. RECs must be generated during the contract year (October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014) of the delivery date).

Answer: Yes

3. Question: What is the period of the option, i.e. how soon after the first transaction may it be exercised before it expires?

Answer: If awarded, the option(s) will be awarded at the same time as the base.

4. Question: What is the strike price of the option? The same as the purchase price of the initial 300K RECs?

Answer: The price is the price you propose.