

Response to Questions for Solar RFP 2010-07

1. Can roof-mounted panels be placed atop your office building?
 - No. The roof is scheduled for repairs in a few years.
2. Given that usable areas may be reduced from environmental limitations, is there a minimum KW or MW power production that you need to make this a viable project.
 - Net metering would be nice but something in the 40% to 60% range.
3. Can you more clearly define the business relationship you are looking for?
 - Looking for the minimum investment for the authority while saving energy possible PPA with purchase options.
4. Can you explain why the PPA term is up to 15 years yet you require a 25 year guarantee on the system.
 - The way we understand the SRECS run out after 15 years and most PPA end then, but most of the panel claims are for 25 years of efficiency.
5. Given that the NJDEP IMAF shows virtually the entire 5 acres as wetlands, how soon do you plan on having a wetlands delineation performed and LOI application into NJDEP.
 - The permit process on the adjoining vacant land could take the better part of a year or more because of the CAFRA permit. We suggest looking at that as a possible second phase to the project, with each component (plant / vacant land) needing to be justifiable independent of the other.
6. Provide any information regarding soil composition & site conditions (survey, wetlands map) of the 5-acre area available and water plant site.
 - There is not survey presently available for the 5 acre vacant site, and geo-technical details are not available.
7. Provide latest electrical diagrams (single/riser) of the plant's electrical network. Please specify point of interconnection for the solar PV system if CCUA already has one selected for this RFP.
 - No point of interconnection has been selected as of this time. The nearest transformer installation would be acceptable.
8. Confirm the statement that this RFP requires Buy-American Products. Is this a stimulus funded project?
 - It is preferred but not required. This is not a stimulus funded project.
9. Are there any rebates or funds available for this project? is CCUA planning to apply for any rebate/funds next year?
 - We are not aware of any.
10. If land-lease option is available. What is price for leasing the area?
 - No land-lease is being considered.
11. During the site visit, it was stated that underground electric must be explosion proof. Please confirm this statement and any other items of the electrical besides underground must be explosion proof? Provide information of CCUA requirements for underground and construction work inside the facility.
 - Electrical installations must be in conformance with NFPA requirements. It is our understanding that explosion proofing is only required within 3 feet of a manway.

12. Besides the buffer from the river and wetlands, are there any other specific requirements of setbacks and distances from neighbor's property lines or others (road, utility lines & conduits)?
 - You should anticipate being able to build up to our fence line.
13. Is a landscaping work required on the area where the panels will be installed? If it is, what are the requirements?
 - No landscaping will be required.
14. What are the categories CCUA will take in account for bid's evaluation process? For PPA option, is there a target kWh price CCUA wants to achieve? What is the current rate of energy which CCUA site is paying?
 - Ultimate decision will be based on bottom line cost to the Authority.
15. Have any environmental or any geotechnical studies been conducted?
 - No.
16. What is the set back requirement off Water Street?
 - Within the existing fence line
17. Are line diagrams of the electrical distribution system and details on the main incoming switchgear?
 - Yes, and will be made available to the selected provider.
18. Will a lease longer than 15 years be considered? (20 years?)
 - Yes
19. What is the wind (mph) requirement for the site?
 - We do not know what the wind loading requirements are; this would be determined by your project engineer.
20. Will the CCUA allow cutting of trees in the other areas of its property in order to accommodate solar (for example: along the northern edge of the property)?
 - Yes
21. Permitting – In the kick off meeting we understood that Cumberland County Utility Authority would be in charge of the permitting but the set back from the river permit, the building permit and the interconnection permit. Please confirm it.
 - See item 5 with regard to environmental permitting. Building and interconnection permits will be the responsibility of the selected provider.
22. UL requirements – Has the project to fulfill UL requirements? For instance, UL requires installation wired up to 600Vdc but can the utility / Cumberland County Utility Authority accept any other international standards and design the installation for 1000Vdc?
 - UL requirements are to be met.
23. In the event that we will use the wooded area, do you know the groundwater level of the proposed area? Have you ever experienced flood problems?
 - Groundwater levels should be presumed to be within 2' of the surface. There have been no flooding problems.
24. In the event that we go for a partial roof top mount system, are there facility drawings (maintenance garage)?
 - We are not looking for rooftop mount systems.

25. Electrical plans - Can we get the single line drawing of the facility? Can we get the plans of the current interconnection point?
- Electrical plans will be made available to the selected provider.
26. Facility plans – it would be possible to get drawings of the facility in Autocad format (including the wooded area)?
- There is presently no survey / plan for the wooded area. Autocad drawings of the plant can be available to the selected provider.
27. What are the warranties / guarantees terms for the installation?
- This will depend on whether the provider maintains ownership and operation and sells power back to the Authority. If the Authority will take ownership immediately, there is normally a 2 yr equipment & installation warranty.
28. Has the EPC to provide O&M services? What are the O&M terms of the installation?
- See 27.
29. What are the overhead clearance requirement(s) for each tank and dumpster area?
- 15 feet minimum overhead clearance at tanks and 24 feet minimum overhead clearance in the dumpster area.
30. Will the EQ tanks be taken out of service by the CCUA and be available as is?
- No tanks will be taken out of service. The east EQ tanks is presently unused and can be cleaned for installation. Any EQ tank installation must provide a minimum of 20 feet on one side for crane access.