

2024 Call for Power Information Meeting Q&As

August 22, 2024 (virtual)

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- 1. Section 7.1 indicates the instructions for EFT submission will be provided to registered Proponents. Can BC Hydro release these instructions as soon as possible? Many companies will have protocols for adding new payees that take time to implement. Is it possible to submit Proposal Fees to the same account as provided for the CEAP deposits?**

Response: BC Hydro will use the same processes as the CEAP IR process and will accept EFT, wire transfer, and cheques. BC Hydro will provide an invoice with instructions upon receipt of Proposals.

- 2. Is the Applicant as stated on the Form 1 - Form of Letter of Credit, meant to be the Proponent or can the Applicant be an owner and equity provider of the Proponent? *This question was taken away for response after the fact.***

Response: The Applicant on the Letter of Credit is typically the Proponent, but it can also be the owner or the equity provider of the Proponent.

- 3. As per Schedule 5, can the optional Bank Reference Letter come from the Proponent's owner and equity provider's main bank? Project entities created for the purposes of this procurement may not have a bank account created in time for this purpose. *This question was taken away for response after the fact.***

Response: The optional bank reference letter can come from the Proponent's owner and equity provider's main bank, but it should clearly indicate which entity the bank is providing the reference for.

- 4. Can the Proposal Fee be paid by an entity different than the Proponent? Project entities created for the purposes of this procurement may not have a bank account created in time for this purpose. *This question was taken away for response after the fact.***

Response: The Proposal Fee can be paid by an entity different than the Proponent but must be linked to a Proposal via the CEAP IR number to enable BC Hydro to confirm that this requirement has been met.

- 5. Section 2 of Schedule 5 indicates that the sources of equity "must equal 100%". Is it permissible for the sources of equity to equal above 100% of the equity portion? Additionally, is it**

permissible for the equity and debt portions to equal above 100% of the Expected Project Cost? The Expected Project Cost may change while these equity letters are being drafted and executed. To ensure that at least 100% of costs are covered, we may aim to secure above the current Expected Project Cost. *This question was taken away for response after the fact.*

Response: It is permissible for the sources of equity to equal above 100% of the equity portion, and it is permissible for the equity and debt portions to equal above 100% of the expected Project cost.

- 6. Our potential First Nations partners have expressed their serious concerns of the accumulative impacts and even more critical the potential Caribou habitat impacts associated with most if not all the proposed project sites. While few of any of the proposed projects have completed field studies at this early stage. Can projects awarded an EPA be allowed to withdraw and receive full refund of the security payment should the project be declined an EA permit? This will allow potential First Nations Partners and the Developers the ability to move forward with their bids. *This question was taken away for response after the fact.***

Response: No. Proponents should review the termination provisions in Section 15 of the Specimen EPA, in particular section 15.3(a) and section 15.5(a).

- 7. Is there an opportunity for First Nation equity provider/owner to provide a substitute for financial statements? *This question was taken away for response after the fact.***

Response: Please refer to the Q&A #90 posted on August 28.

- 8. Will both the copy of the Letter of Credit as well as the original be accepted within five business days of the Closing Date?**

Response: The electronic copy of the Letter of Credit must be posted by the Closing Date. The original physical letter must be received within five business days of the Closing Date?.

- 9. Will you be confirming receipt of all emails received?**

Response: We will have an auto response which confirms receipt. It will not confirm whether the application was received by the Closing Time. We will be reviewing all submissions to confirm they met the Closing Time of 4:00pm on September 16.

- 10. When can Proponents expect to receive the invoice for the EFT? Is there an expected number of days prior to the bid submission?**

Response: Once we receive your Proposal, we will issue an invoice for payment of the Proposal Fee. Please refer to Addendum No. 6 for more information.

- 11. It was mentioned that the Proposal Fee invoices would be issued after proposals were submitted. Due to anti-laundering practices, we will not be able to set up the wire payee in 5**

business days. We may require a phone verification. Can this be accommodated? *This question was taken away for response after the fact.*

Response: BC Hydro has posted Addendum No. 6 such that the Proposal Fee is now due within 10 days of receipt of an invoice from BC Hydro which will allow additional time for processing. Additionally, a similar process to the CEAP IR deposit is being used for the Proposal Fees in which case BC Hydro may already be a payee if the same payment methodology was used for the CEAP IR deposit and study fees.

12. To successfully draft and deliver the Letter of Credit, our Treasury team would need to review certain details with BC Hydro's AP team. Would you have contact information that our team could use to communicate for the purpose of this Letter of Credit?

Response: We don't have provisions in place for this. If there are specific issues, please submit a question prior to the September 5th Q&A submission deadline.

13. Will it follow the same EFT instructions as the CEAP?

Response: There will be similar instructions.

14. There is an addendum that will soon be issued. In this addendum, the proposal submission fee due date will be moved to be a later date. The invoice for the proposal fee will not be sent to proponents until after proposals have been submitted.

Response: Yes, correct.

15. When will the replies to the Q&As be posted?

Response: We will post the Q&As as soon as possible and we encourage participants to check the Call for Power website regularly. We posted a batch on August 19th and we are currently working on the next batch.

16. Can we expect replies to the questions by September 5th?

Response: We cannot provide a definitive date when we will respond to questions submitted on the Deadline to submit RFP Q&As to BC Hydro, but we will try to respond as soon as possible. We encourage you to send your questions prior to this deadline.

17. Please confirm that there are no specific file naming conventions.

Response: No, we have not specified naming conventions.

18. Are electronic signatures permitted?

Response: Yes, electronic signatures are acceptable on the schedules.

- 19. If a Proposal does not meet the bid requirement and the Proposal is returned for any reason, how does that impact the bid security?**

Response: Please refer to section 7.3 of the RFP regarding the return of Bid Security.

- 20. Provided it is between 40MW and 200MW (before losses), is a small deviation in Project Size (less than 2%) from what was submitted in the CEAP considered non-conformance with respect to eligibility requirements in Table 1.**

Response: This question is out of scope for today's session. Please review the existing Q&As and submit a new Q&A if this is not already covered.

- 21. How can proponents and their First Nations partners relying on Canada Infrastructure Bank financing get assurance that funding will be available when the project reaches construction?**

Response: This question is out of scope for today's session. This is a question for Canada Infrastructure Bank, and we encourage you to reach out to them.

- 22. Do you want us to remove the instructions in the schedules and only show our response to the prompts?**

Response: Yes, we are looking for responses to the schedules, so we do not need the instructions to be provided as part of your submission. However, it's important to retain the numbering sequence. If a section does not apply to you, please use "N/A" to keep the number intact.

- 23. In Schedule 3, under "Proponent's Key Personnel", there is a requirement that at least two Proponent Team members have sufficient experience across six experience categories. If more than two Proponent Team members are provided, can they share the experience across some or all categories, or do at least two have to have experience across all six categories?**

Response: This question is out of scope for today's session. Please send the question to the RFP administrator for response and we will respond as soon as possible. Please check back regularly for response.

- 24. Will BC Hydro be acknowledging all questions received? Some questions have been submitted months ago with no response, whereas others have received responses in the last few rounds.**

Response: We have had a high volume of questions. Some responses require coordination across the business. Please resubmit to the RFP administrator and we will review our tracking process.

- 25. This is a follow up question based on the last verbal response to the question regarding Canada Infrastructure Bank funding. Is there a way to contact Canada Infrastructure Bank now that their original Q&A deadline has passed?**

Response: You can still reach out to them through their specific Call for Power email address [CFP-BCH-2024@cib-bic.ca].

26. Following up on the answer to the question above, what if we have already sent the questions back, should we be sending them again?

Response: If there are any questions for which you are waiting on a response, please send them again and we will respond.