

Applicant Questions and Answers

Northern States Power Company 2023 Firm Dispatchable Proceeding
Docket No. E002/CN-23-212

January 12, 2023

- 16) **Background:** In the RFP Form of the Dispatchable PPA, Section 7.5, “Ancillary Services”, it states that such services are subject to the Transmission Tariff. Within the Transmission Tariff is Schedule 33, Blackstart Services which then refers to FERC Form 1, Attachment O and a divisor calculation on Page 1, Line 15 (previously specified in our last round of questions).

Simultaneously, the Blackstart Term Sheet Document, located in supplemental materials contains a section on Blackstart Service Compensation. This seems to match what is being asked under “Proposed Annual Price (\$/year)” on the Blackstart tab of the data intake form, also located in supplemental materials.

Question: Could you confirm that the compensation proposed by a successful Bidder for Black Start Service will apply rather than the compensation outlined in the Transmission Tariff for Blackstart Service?

Answer: The “Proposed Annual Price (\$/year)” on the Blackstart tab of the Supplementary Data Intake Form would apply, rather than compensation outlined in the Transmission Tariff for Blackstart Service. As indicated in the “Black Start Term Sheet Purchased Power” Model PPA in the Supplementary Materials, this will be a standalone agreement between the applicant and the Company.

- 17) **Question: Do hybrid renewable projects (eg, wind + storage, solar + storage) that utilize surplus service interconnections comply with the firm dispatchable requirements under this RFP?**

Answer: Hybrid renewables can be submitted as long as they comply with the attributes listed in the attribute matrix and other materials approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for this proceeding. Please review the Attribute Matrix and Filing Requirements for further guidance.

- 18) **Question: Please confirm how a completed application / proposal must be submitted (eg via email, upload to XpressDRIVE, etc).**

Answer: All proposals must be filed electronically in accordance with Minnesota Public Utilities Commission rules in the eDockets system. The Docket for this proceeding can be found at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us>, Docket No. E002/CN-23-212.

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- 19) **Question: Does this RFP / proceeding require a bid fee? If so, what is the cost per proposal / application and will wire instructions be provided?**

Answer: The Company cannot answer whether proposals in this proceeding require bid fees, as this is a Minnesota Public Utilities Commission proceeding, governed by Commission rules and procedure, rather than a Company RFP. The Company is not receiving any fees from this proceeding and will not be providing wire transfer instructions to any applicants. Please consult legal counsel or contact the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for guidance.

- 20) **Question: The Filing Requirements outlined in Section 6 of the Applicant Guide require 'Certificate of Need Like Detail'. Would submitting a project's actual Certificate of Need (or equivalent certificate based on project location) satisfy this requirement?**

Answer: The Company cannot answer whether submitting a project's Certificate of Need (or equivalent certificate based on project location) will satisfy the filing requirements, as this is a Minnesota Public Utilities Commission proceeding, governed by Commission rules and procedure, rather than a Company RFP. Please consult legal counsel or contact the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for guidance.

- 21) **Question: Will a proposal / application be penalized (during Completeness Review) if certain information requested in the Filing Requirements is currently unavailable?**

Answer: The Company cannot answer whether a proposal or application will be penalized during Completeness Review, as this is a Minnesota Public Utilities Commission proceeding, governed by Commission rules and procedure, rather than a Company RFP. Please consult legal counsel or contact the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for guidance.

- 22) **Question: What is the preferred format (Word, Excel, etc) for the Bidders' submission of the Filing Requirements detailed in Section 6 of the Applicant Guide?**

Answer: The Company cannot provide a preferred format for the materials in the Filing Requirements, as this is a Minnesota Public Utilities Commission proceeding, governed by Commission rules and procedure, rather than a Company RFP. Please consult legal counsel or contact the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for guidance.

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- 23) **Background:** Under the Filing Requirements / Certificate of Need Like Application Requirements, "Supplementary Data Required for All Providers", one requirement for alternative proposals says: *"Provide a climate change analysis of the proposal consistent with the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board's environmental assessment worksheet guidance for developing a carbon footprint and incorporating climate adaptation and resilience."*

Question: Can you please clarify what "provide a climate change analysis of the proposal" means? Does this mean a proposer must fill out the [Environmental Assessment Worksheet form](#) on the Minnesota EQB website, and/or include a similar level of detailed information in the proposal? Or simply the carbon footprint and climate adaptation and resilience sections of the [guidance](#)

Answer: The Company is not in a position to determine the appropriate level of detail that will be required, as this requirement was set by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. Please consult legal counsel or contact the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for guidance.