

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

2022 All-Source Solicitation

Renewable Resources Request for Proposals



12/1/22

Table of Contents

Public Service Company of Colorado

2022 Renewable Resources RFP

Table of Contents	<i>i</i>
Appendices	iii
Index of Appendix A Forms	iii
Section 1. Introduction	1
Table 1 Example Resource Types for the Various RFPs.....	1
1.1 Regulatory Context.....	2
1.2 Resource Needs Assessment	3
1.3 Resources Sought through this RFP	4
1.4 RFP Project Manager and RFP Website	4
1.5 Section 123 Resources	4
Section 2. Eligible Project Information	5
2.1 Eligible Project Structures	5
2.2 Eligible Generation Resources	6
2.3 Pricing	6
2.4 Regulatory Approvals	7
2.5 Contract Lengths	7
2.7 Contract Accounting	7
Section 3. Delivery and Interconnection Information	8
3.1 General information	8
3.2 Electric Transmission Injection Capability	9
3.3 Transmission Corridor Preservation	10
Section 4. Proposal Content Requirements and Submission Procedure	11
4.1 Schedule Estimate	11
Table 4. Solicitation Schedule	11
4.2 Minimum Requirements for Proposals.....	11
4.3 Proposal Content Requirements.....	12
4.4 Pre-Bid Conference	21
4.5 Notice of Intent to Respond (NOIR)	21
4.6 Proposal Submission Deadline.....	22
4.7 Information Policy.....	22
4.8 Bid Evaluation Fees.....	22
Table 5. Bid Fees	23
4.9 Clarification of Proposals.....	24
4.10 Confidentiality.....	24
4.11 Addenda to RFP.....	24
Section 5. Evaluation and Criteria	24
5.1 Evaluation Process.....	25
5.2 Independent Evaluator Report.....	30
5.3 Phase II Commission Evaluation	30
Appendix A	31

Appendix B.....32
Appendix C.....33
Appendix D.....37
Appendix E.....38
Appendix F.....39

Appendices

Appendix A

Proposal Forms and Instructions

Appendix B

General Planning Assumptions

Appendix C

Transmission Costs

Appendix D

Renewable Energy Purchase Agreement
Solar with Storage Energy Purchase Agreement

Appendix E

All-Source Solicitation Timeline

Appendix F

Commission Confidentiality Order

Index of Appendix A Forms

Form A	Notice of Intent to Respond (NOIR)
Form B	Bid Certification
Form C1	Bid Cover Sheet
Form C2	Bid Cover Sheet II for Hybrids
Form C3	Bid Cover Sheet III
Form D1A	Pricing
Form D1B	Pricing
Form D1C	Property Taxes
Form D2	Electrical Interconnection Cost Estimates
Form E	Construction Milestones
Form F1	Technical Description Solar Photovoltaic
Form F2	Technical Description Solar Thermal
Form F3	Technical Description Battery Energy Storage I
Form F4	Technical Description Battery Energy Storage I
Form F5	Technical Description Wind
Form F6	Technical Description Biomass
Form F7	Technical Description Other Tech
Form F8	Production Profile
Form G	Natural Gas and Backup Fuel Supply
Form H	Emission Rates
Form I	Interconnection Information Forms

Notice of Disclaimer

The information contained in this Request for Proposals ("RFP") for energy and capacity resources has been prepared solely to assist bidders in deciding whether or not to submit a proposal. Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service", "Company", or "PSCo") does not represent this information to be comprehensive or to contain all of the information that a respondent may need to consider in order to submit a proposal. None of the Company, its affiliates, or their respective employees, directors, officers, customers, agents and consultants makes, or will be deemed to have made, any current or future representation, promise or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information contained herein, or in any document or information made available to a respondent, whether or not the aforementioned parties knew or should have known of any errors or omissions, or were responsible for their inclusion in, or omission from, this RFP.

The Company reserves the right to modify, supplement or withdraw this RFP at any time, whether due to changes in law or otherwise, and including by issuing one or more addenda to this RFP during this solicitation, which addenda shall become a part of this RFP. No part of this RFP and no part of any subsequent correspondence by the Company, its affiliates, or their respective employees, directors, officers, customers, agents or consultants shall be taken as providing legal, financial or other advice or as establishing a contract or contractual obligation. Contractual obligations on the part of the Company will arise only if and when definitive agreements have been approved and executed by the appropriate parties having the authority to approve and enter into such agreements. The Company reserves the right to request from a respondent (a.k.a., bidder) information that is not explicitly detailed in this document, obtain clarification from bidders concerning proposals, conduct contract development discussions with selected respondents, conduct discussions with members of the evaluation team and other support resources as described in this RFP and in compliance with all FERC Code of Conduct rules and provide data to and conduct discussions with the Independent Evaluator ("IE") as necessary for the IE to satisfy the IE's role as defined by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC" or "Commission") under rules 3612 and 3613 and Decision No. C22-0459.

The Company will, in its sole discretion and without limitation, evaluate proposals and proceed in the manner the Company deems appropriate, which may include deviation from the Company's expected evaluation process, the waiver of any requirements and the request for additional information. The Company reserves the right to reject any, all or portions of any proposal received for failure to meet any criteria set forth in this RFP or otherwise and to accept proposals other than the lowest cost proposal. The Company also may decline to enter into any agreement with any bidder, terminate negotiations with any bidder or abandon the RFP process in its entirety at any time, for any reason and without notice thereof. Respondents that submit proposals agree to do so without legal recourse against the Company, its affiliates, or their respective employees, directors, officers, customers, agents or consultants for rejection of their proposals or for failure to execute an agreement for any reason. The Company and its affiliates shall not be liable to any respondent or other party in law or equity for any reason whatsoever for any acts or omissions arising out of or in connection with this RFP. Except as otherwise provided in the rules and orders of the Public Utilities Commission of the state of Colorado, by submitting its proposal, each respondent waives any right to challenge any valuation by the Company of its proposal. By submitting its proposal, each respondent waives any right to challenge any determination of the Company to select or reject its proposal. Each respondent, in submitting its proposal, irrevocably agrees and acknowledges that it is making its proposal subject to and in agreement with the terms of this RFP.

Each respondent shall be liable for all of its costs incurred to prepare, submit, respond or negotiate its proposal and any resulting agreement and for any other activity related thereto, and the Company shall not be responsible for any of the respondent's costs.

Public Service Company of Colorado 2022 Renewable Resources RFP

Section 1. Introduction

Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" or the "Company"), an operating company subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc., is issuing this Request for Proposals ("RFP") as a component of Public Service's 2021 Electric Resource Plan. This RFP is one of three RFPs to be issued. These three requests for proposals are:

- 2022 Company Ownership RFP
- 2022 Dispatchable Resources RFP
- 2022 Renewable Resources RFP (this RFP)

Segmenting the Solicitation into these categories is driven by the contracting requirements for different generation technologies and ownership models. As a result, each RFP contains a model contract(s) or term sheet(s) that has/have been tailored to address certain issues associated with each technology or ownership structure.

Examples of the types of projects which would be applicable to each RFP are shown in Table 1 below. This non-comprehensive list is intended to provide guidance as respondents develop their proposals¹; more detailed information may be found in the specific RFP documents. Respondents who are uncertain as to which RFP would apply to their project should contact the RFP Project Manager (Section 1.4) for clarification.

Table 1 Example Resource Types for the Various RFPs

RFP Document	Resource Types	Commercial Structure
2022 Company Ownership RFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or existing simple cycle gas turbines • New or existing solar, wind or stand-alone storage system • New or existing solar with storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build-Own Transfer (BOT) • Existing Resource Sale • Company Self-Build
2022 Dispatchable Resources RFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combined cycle gas turbines • Simple cycle gas turbines • Standalone storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPA
2022 Renewable Resources RFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomass • Geothermal • Hydroelectric • Recycled Energy • Solar • Solar/wind with storage • Wind 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPA

¹ The terms "proposal" and "bid" are used interchangeably in this RFP document.

1.1 Regulatory Context

The CPUC's Electric Resource Planning Rules ("ERP Rules") establish a process that jurisdictional electric utilities must follow to determine the need for additional electric resources and to procure needed resources. Public Service filed its 2021 Electric Resource Plan and Clean Energy Plan ("2021 ERP & CEP") on March 31st, 2021 in accordance with the ERP Rules ("Phase I") in Proceeding No. 21A-0141E. In its 2021 ERP & CEP, Public Service identified a need for future generation resources and presented the Commission with multiple portfolios of generic resources that could be used to meet that need. As part of its 2021 ERP & CEP, the Company proposed to solicit proposals through a competitive solicitation ("Phase II"). The CPUC heard arguments by multiple parties concerning Public Service's resource need and acquisition plans. The CPUC approved the issuance of this Solicitation as part of Public Service's 2021 ERP & CEP in Decision No. C22-0459.

The ERP Rules 3612 and 3613 require that an Independent Evaluator ("IE") conduct a review of Public Service's evaluation of proposals received in response to the Solicitation. The Company will work cooperatively with the IE and shall provide the IE immediate and continuing access to all documents and data reviewed, used, or produced by the utility in this Solicitation and evaluation.

Additionally, the ERP Rules require that Public Service: 1) make a communication to bidders concerning bid disclosure and bid model representation dispute resolution; 2) provide the Commission's order or orders specifying the form of nondisclosure agreement; and 3) require of bidders that they provide bidder contact and employment metric information.

In Accordance with Proceeding No. 21A-0625EG, bids submitted during this RFP may be considered for non-CEP acquisitions, such as a voluntary RE program. Projects selected would not have to be rebid in this case.

Commission Required Communications

Bid Information Disclosure

Public Service notifies bidders that, upon completion of the competitive acquisition process begun with this RFP,² Public Service will post on its website the following information from all bids and utility proposals: bidder name; bid price and utility cost; generation technology type; size of project; contract duration or expected useful life of facility for utility proposals; and whether the proposed purchased power agreement includes an option for the utility to purchase the bid facility during or at the end of the contract term.

In addition, Public Service notifies bidders that the Company has claimed that bid information of any sort should be treated as highly confidential information under the Colorado Public Utilities Commission Rules. Under those Rules, any bid information provided to the Company is potentially subject to release, upon eligible individuals executing the appropriate non-disclosure agreement, regardless of a bidder's claim of confidentiality.

Model Representation and Dispute Resolution

² Completion of the resource acquisition process is defined as the execution of all PPAs and/or asset purchase negotiations and certificate of public convenience and need approvals, if any, for the solicited resources.

Public Service will, within 45 days of bid receipt, provide notice in writing by electronic mail to the bidder whether its bid is advanced to computer-based modeling to evaluate the cost or the ranking of the bid resource, and, if not advanced, the reasons why Public Service will not further evaluate the bid using computer-based modeling.³ With its notice Public Service will also provide bidders the modeling inputs and assumptions that reasonably relate to their bid resource or to the transmission of electricity from their proposed facility to Public Service; these inputs and assumptions may include, among other things, costs related to transmission interconnection, gas supply, and resource integration. Public Service will request that the bidder execute a highly confidential nondisclosure agreement prior to receiving the information. The form of the agreement is included as Appendix F.

For those bids advanced to computer-based modeling, within seven calendar days after receiving the modeling inputs and assumptions the bidder will notify Public Service in writing by electronic mail the specific details of any potential dispute regarding its bid's modeling inputs and assumptions. The bidder must attempt to resolve any dispute with Public Service. If the bidder and Public Service cannot resolve the dispute within three calendar days, Public Service will immediately notify the Commission with a filing in the 2021 ERP & CEP proceeding. If the bidder is not already a party to the 2021 ERP & CEP proceeding, the bidder will file a notice of intervention as of right pursuant to paragraph 1401(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, within one business day of Public Service filing the notice of dispute to the Commission, for the limited purpose of resolving the disputed modeling inputs and assumptions.

An Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") will expeditiously schedule a technical conference at which Public Service and the bidder shall present their dispute for resolution. The ALJ will enter an interim order determining whether corrections to the bid's modeling inputs and assumptions are necessary. If the ALJ determines that corrections to the bid's modeling inputs and assumptions are necessary, Public Service will, within three business days of the issuance of the ALJ's interim decision, provide the corrected information to both the bidder and the Independent Evaluator. In its 120-Day Bid Evaluation Report, Public Service will confirm, by performing additional modeling as necessary, that the bid resource is fairly and accurately represented.

Required Bidder Information

Public Service requires that each bidder in its Form C provide the name of the owner or developer designated to receive notice of whether the bid is advanced to computer-based modeling.

Public Service requires that bidders provide employment metric information for the bid to be eligible for this RFP. See the requirements for the Employment Metrics Narrative Topic.

1.2 Resource Needs Assessment

This RFP is part of a Solicitation process whose purpose is to acquire sufficient resources to meet the Company's forecasted electric demand (plus reserves) over a resource acquisition period ("RAP") of 2023 through 2028. Although the resource acquisition period by PUC rule is 2021-2030 for this ERP, the PUC ordered in Decision C22-0459 that bids will be accepted to fill the resource need only through 2028 in this Solicitation (2029 and 2030 are shown in the table below because the Company will fill these resource needs with generic resources, as directed by the Commission). See Section 1.3 for additional details. Table 2 illustrates the resource need.

³ See exceptions discussed in Section 5.1, Step 4.

Table 2. Resource Capacity Need by Year (Cumulative)

<u>Year</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>	<u>2029</u>	<u>2030</u>
CAPACITY NEED (MW)	183	388	398	433	840	1,556	1,802	1,880

In any year, the Company may acquire more or fewer resources than is shown in Table 2 and the final level of resource need by year may change from that shown due to changed circumstances.

1.3 Resources Sought through this RFP

Through this Renewable Resources RFP, the Company is requesting proposals for renewable resources that would achieve commercial operation no later than December 31st, 2028. Non-exclusive examples of potential eligible resources include biomass, geothermal, hydroelectric, recycled energy, solar, solar or wind with storage, and wind.

The resource amount that the Company may acquire from this RFP depends, among other things, on the quality of bids received in response to the Solicitation, on economic comparisons to other RFP responses and Company Ownership proposals, on updates to the Company's forecasts, on regional transmission availability, and on changes to regulatory or legal requirements.

In Accordance with Proceeding No. 21A-0625EG, bids submitted during this RFP and not selected for the final portfolio may be considered for non-CEP acquisitions, such as a voluntary RE program. Projects selected would not have to be rebid in this case.

1.4 RFP Project Manager and RFP Website

The primary point of contact for all communications between the Company and potential bidders is the RFP Project Manager. This individual may be contacted at **PSCo2022AllSource@xcelenergy.com**.

All communications between potential bidders and the Company must be conducted through this email account. See Section 4.7 for more information.

The Public Service 2022 Solicitation website can be found at **<https://www.xcelenergy.com/PSCo2022AllSource>**.

1.5 Section 123 Resources

Colorado Revised Statutes ("C.R.S.") 40-2-123(1)(a) states as follows:

"The commission shall give the fullest possible consideration to the cost-effective implementation of new clean energy and energy-efficient technologies in its consideration of generation acquisitions for electric utilities, bearing in mind the beneficial contributions such technologies make to Colorado's energy security,

economic prosperity, insulation from fuel price increases, and environmental protection...”

These “new clean energy and energy-efficient technologies” are referred to as “Section 123 resources.”

The Commission determined in Decision No. C13-0459 that:

Section 123 Resources must be new, innovative, not commercialized technology, and provide unique, scalable and beneficial attributes as to future costs, emissions reduction, or reliability benefits. In addition, standalone wind, solar, or lithium-ion based battery storage of any duration and any combination of those technologies together with other resources are not Section 123 Resources.

Respondents to this RFP who believe their proposal meets the definition of a Section 123 resource should provide detailed documentation to support the claim in the Beneficial Contributions/Section 123 Resources Bid Narrative Topic. Public Service will identify in its 30-Day Report to the Commission a listing of all bids that claim Section 123 status along with its agreement or opposition to any claimed Section 123 status and provide the Commission, under seal, a copy of the disputed bids. The Commission will opine on the Company’s review only to the extent it disagrees with the Company’s determination.

In its Phase I filing the Company had listed long duration (10 hours or greater) energy storage that can maintain full charge for multiple days and dispatchable generation projects employing low or no carbon-containing fuel (with the bidder providing the fuel) as two indicative project types it would generally consider to be eligible Section 123 technologies.

Section 2. Eligible Project Information

2.1 Eligible Project Structures

Renewable RFP proposals will be for the purchase of energy by the Company under a power purchase agreement (“PPA”) which is subject to the accounting considerations and the index pricing considerations discussed in later sections of this RFP. Model PPAs covering renewable generation and solar with battery storage technologies with both energy only and energy and capacity payment structures are provided in Appendix D.⁴

Respondents interested in selling an existing asset or developing proposals that involve Company ownership of new generating facilities ((referred to as Build-Own-Transfers or BOTs) are directed to the 2022 Company Ownership RFP for relevant information regarding opportunities to bid the Company asset purchases as part of the 2022 Solicitation.

The Company will also consider acquiring wind and/or solar sites for Company self-build proposals to be submitted by the Company into the Company Ownership RFP. Respondents

⁴ Model PPAs are a sample agreement containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Company. The Company understands that respondents may desire to modify and supplement the Model PPA when submitting their proposals and anticipates negotiating with selected respondents to develop documents acceptable to both parties. Bidders proposing some other combination of a renewable generator with an embedded storage component other than solar and battery storage should make suitable changes to the Model Solar with Battery Storage PPA to accommodate.

interested in selling wind and/or solar sites are encouraged to submit inquiries to the RFP Project Manager via email (see section 1.4) as soon as possible to initiate discussions with the Company's Corporate Development group regarding key terms and conditions and to allow as much time as possible for due diligence, assessment of any potential sites, and negotiation of a purchase and sale agreement prior to the bid submission deadline.

2.2 Eligible Generation Resources

For a project to be eligible under this RFP, it must: 1) have a nameplate electric rating greater than 100 kW, and 2) meet all or a portion of the Company's resource needs during the RAP. A PPA proposal may be for a new yet to-be-built resource or an existing resource. The Company will not accept bids from coal-fired generation.

Although projects do not need to meet the Commission rule definition of an Eligible Energy Resource (as that term is defined in rule 3652) to meet this RFP's eligible generation resource requirement, bidders are advised of the restrictions on the size of certain generation resources in the Commission's Renewable Energy Standard rules. Specifically, to be an Eligible Energy Resource: 1) hydro resources in existence on January 1, 2005 must have a nameplate rating of 30 MW or less and hydro resources not in existence on January 1, 2005 must have a nameplate rating of 10 MW or less, and 2) recycled energy resources must be 15 MW or less. The Company reserves the right to weigh the potential benefits of acquiring Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs") and generation from a project deemed to be an Eligible Energy Resource in its Non-Price Factor Analysis; see Section 5.1.

2.3 Pricing

Forms D1A and D1B provide the pricing template for PPA proposals. For renewable with storage PPAs, Form D1A is for an energy only payment structure, whereas Form D1B is for energy and capacity payments. Please note that hybrid projects may provide pricing for both energy and energy plus capacity payment structures under one bid fee, but they must submit these two options on separate bid forms, and only complete the pricing Form D1A or D1B applicable to the individual bid. All pricing must be in terms of current year dollars, also referred to as escalated or nominal dollars. For example, a \$50 per megawatt-hour ("MWh") energy price proposal for 2023 means that in 2023 energy from the facility will be purchased at a rate of \$50/MWh.

Under the terms of any transaction (including any PPA), all power, RECs, and environmental benefits generated from a proposed project will be conveyed to the Company.

Proposal pricing must include initial cost estimates for any new or upgraded interconnection facilities required for the electrical interconnection of the proposed project to the Public Service transmission system and must include the cost of any dedicated radial transmission line(s) from the generation facility to the proposed point of interconnection. See Form D2.

The Company will pay any costs required to upgrade or reinforce the Public Service electric transmission system beyond the Point of Delivery as a consequence of adding a respondent's project to the Public Service system. Respondents, however, will be responsible for procuring transmission service and any associated third-party transmission costs needed to deliver power from the project to the Point of Delivery on the Public Service transmission system. All pricing in respondents' proposals must reflect those costs (to the extent applicable) at the time of submittal.

The Company's preference is for fixed price proposals. However, respondents may take an appropriate exception on the applicable Form(s) and provide a second, alternative pricing schedule using a fixed price for the first contract year ("Base Year") that would be adjusted after the Base Year according to one or more known, published and widely recognized indices that are closely related to costs of operation in the proposed technology's industry. A respondent that wishes to propose such alternate pricing must submit one pricing form in nominal dollars for the entire term of the PPA and another pricing form tied to one or more designated indices meeting the requirements of the preceding sentence. The Company retains the right to select either of the respondent's pricing schemes. Respondents may not submit proposals with variable Base Year pricing.

2.4 Regulatory Approvals

At the completion of the evaluation process, pursuant to ERP Rule 3613(d), the Company will file a report with the Commission at the completion of the evaluation process that describes the cost-effective resource plans that conform to the Commission's Phase I decision and other Commission decisions that impact the Phase II process. Upon Commission approval of Phase II of the Company's 2021 ERP & CEP, Company actions consistent with that approval are presumed prudent under ERP Rule 3617(d). However, the Company reserves the right to: 1) inform the Commission that the Company could not reach agreement with the proponent of a selected resource; 2) request Commission approval of any agreements it enters into with successful respondents that vary in any material respect from the Model PPA; and 3) to terminate any agreement if the Company fails to receive Commission approval of submitted agreements.

2.5 Contract Lengths

Contract term lengths may be between one (1) and twenty-five (25) years, subject to the information provided in Section 2.7. However, for any hybrid project, a maximum 18-year term is allowed if the project is part of a renewable energy and storage combination project that is bid with energy and capacity payment streams.

2.6 RoFO / Purchase Option

The Model PPA includes a Right of First Offer ("ROFO") that, subject to specific conditions, may be exercised by the Company. In addition, while not required under the Model PPA, respondents, at their option, may offer the Company an end-of-term or other purchase option that specifies that the Company can purchase the facility (or the stock of the facility owner) for its appraised fair market value at a specified time or times during, or at the end of, the PPA term.

2.7 Contract Accounting

All contracts proposed to be entered into as a result of this RFP will be assessed by the Company for appropriate accounting and/or tax treatment. Respondents shall be required to supply promptly to the Company any and all information that the Company requires in order to make such assessments.

By submitting a proposal, each respondent agrees to make available to the Company at any point in the bid evaluation process any financial data associated with the respondent and its proposed

project so the Company may independently verify the respondent's information in the above matters. Financial data may include, but shall not be limited to, data supporting the economic life (both initial and remaining) of the facility, the fair market value of the facility, the means by which the respondent intends to meet the security and performance requirements⁵ of the model PPA, and any and all other costs and financing plans (including debt specific to the asset being proposed) associated with the respondent's proposal. The Company may also use financial data contained in the respondent's financial statements (e.g., income statements, balance sheets, etc.) as may be necessary.

The Company is aware that certain contract terms could result in either (i) a contract that must be accounted for by the Company as a finance lease or an operating lease pursuant to Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 842, or (ii) consolidation of the seller or assets owned by the seller onto the Company's financial statements pursuant to the variable interest entity requirements of FASB ASC Topic 810.

Though limitations might otherwise help the Company avoid the negative financial impacts of finance leases, the Company will not seek to limit the term and/or amount of payments on dispatchable standalone storage proposals and/or the dispatchable storage components of renewable plus storage proposals solely for the purpose of avoiding finance lease accounting treatment.⁶

However, other than in these described instances, the Company is unwilling to be subject to any accounting, tax and financial treatment/impact that results from a PPA's classification as (i) a finance lease, or (ii) a consolidated variable interest entity. Therefore, other than for potential finance leases that result from the term length and/or amount of payments in dispatchable standalone storage proposals and/or the dispatchable storage component of renewable plus storage proposals, respondents shall (i) state in their proposal(s) that the respondent has considered applicable accounting standards in regard to finance leases and variable interest entities, (ii) summarize any changes that the respondent proposes to the Model PPA in order to attempt to address these issues, and (iii) state that, to the respondent's knowledge and belief, the respondent's proposal will not result in such treatment as of the date of the proposal.

As applicable, the Company will not execute a PPA without confirmation from the Company's external auditors that the PPA will not be classified as a finance lease or a consolidated variable interest entity.

Section 3. Delivery and Interconnection Information

3.1 General information

Bids that propose to interconnect to the Company's transmission system and that do not have an existing Large Generator Interconnection Agreement ("LGIA"), Small Generator Interconnection Agreement ("SGIA"), or an existing interconnection queue position will be studied by Public

⁵ See Article 11 of the PSCo Model Dispatchable PPA document.

⁶ Though the Company's model solar plus storage PPA contains no capacity payments, the Company will accept alternative proposals that include capacity payments on the storage component of renewable plus storage (for a storage component term of up to 18 years).

Service to estimate electric interconnection and delivery requirements and costs. These procedures, and associated respondent responsibilities, are detailed in Appendix C.⁷

Bids that propose to interconnect to the Company's distribution system will be studied pursuant to CPUC rules 3667 or 3900 depending upon facility size.

If the Company has received a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("CPCN") to construct a transmission upgrade, the cost of the upgrade will not be included in the evaluation and costing of bids and/or bid portfolios that use those upgrades; provided, however, that sufficient transmission transfer capability exists on the transmission project specified in the CPCN after accounting for other generation projects.

For bids that: 1) utilize a transmission project for which a CPCN has been filed and is pending, or 2) utilize a Commission approved "bid-eligible planned transmission project" identified in the Phase I decision, transmission upgrade costs will not be included in the bids for purposes of determining advancement to computer-based modeling. In computer-based modeling, transmission upgrade costs will be included in the costing of the bids. At the completion of computer-based modeling, the total cost of the transmission upgrade will be included in any portfolio with a bid or bids that would utilize that transmission upgrade for portfolio costing and comparison purposes.

Projects may submit proposals to interconnect to both the Colorado's Power Pathway ("CPP") May Valley Longhorn Extension and elsewhere on the transmission system, with different pricing options, under a single bid fee. Projects connecting to the May Valley Longhorn Extension will be evaluated inclusive of the incremental construction costs of the May Valley Longhorn Extension. Information on the CPP project can be found at <https://www.coloradospowerpathway.com>.

Existing generation resources from which the Company currently purchases capacity and energy will not be burdened with any incremental electrical transmission interconnection or network delivery costs provided that the Company currently has sufficient transmission capacity to deliver the entire generation to its load. For existing generation resources with inadequate transmission service, a projection of the purchase of sufficient transmission rights will be added to the bid for evaluation purposes.

3.2 Electric Transmission Injection Capability

Public Service performs transmission studies for Large Generator Interconnect Agreement ("LGIA") requests. The LGIA requests are made to determine the feasibility, cost, time to construct, and injection capability for the transmission system interconnection of an electric generating resource. The Company posts the results of these studies on its OASIS website.⁸ The Company performs other transmission studies for purposes of transmission planning that determine like information.

The transmission system is interrelated and generation injection at one point on the system likely changes the injection capability at other points; e.g., incremental generation injections at Pawnee would decrease the generation injection capability at Missile Site and vice versa. The generation

⁷ Note that the Company will apply the appropriate study procedure (i.e., LGIP or SGIP) during any formal interconnection study process.

⁸ Information regarding posted studies may be found on a public site: http://www.rmao.com/public/wtpp/psco_studies.html.

injection capability values can change when Public Service performs additional specific resource and resource portfolio transmission studies whether for resource evaluation or an LGIA request. As such, the Company is not providing any static system injection capability information.

3.3 Transmission Corridor Preservation

The Company seeks to maintain transmission access into its existing and planned substations and switchyards to facilitate future interconnections to its system. The Company's goal is to avoid situations in which planned generation or storage facilities physically surround stations and effectively preclude the development of transmission and radial generation tie lines into the station.

For bids located adjacent to PSCo existing and planned substations and switchyards, developers must agree to coordinate with PSCo to determine if the Company deems the station to be a key point of interconnection for future resources. If such determination is made, developers will be required to work with PSCo to identify transmission corridors of adequate size and location as part of their planned generation or storage facility layout. Agreeing to these terms is a threshold bid requirement; see Section 4.2 "Minimum Requirements for Proposals".

Section 4. Proposal Content Requirements and Submission Procedure

4.1 Schedule Estimate

An indicative schedule for this RFP process is provided in Table 4.⁹ A graphical timeline is provided in Appendix E.

Table 4. Solicitation Schedule

Activity	Date
RFP Issued	12/1/2022
Pre-Bid Conference	12/20/2022
Notice of Intent to Respond Due	2/15/2023
Proposals Due	3/1/2023
120-Day Report to Commission	6/29/2023
Commission Phase II Decision	9/27/2023

4.2 Minimum Requirements for Proposals

This section describes the minimum requirements that all proposals must satisfy to be eligible for consideration in this Solicitation. Unless the Company in its sole discretion elects otherwise, proposals that do not comply with these requirements will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered further. The Company reserves the right to reject any bid and all bids.

- Proposals must include all applicable content requirements described in Section 4.3, including clear and complete written descriptions of all information requested and completed forms.
- Proposals must clearly specify all pricing terms in accordance with Section 2.3.
- Proposals must clearly demonstrate compliance with all power delivery requirements listed in Appendix C, CPUC 3667, or CPUC 3900 as applicable.
- Proposals must demonstrate an acceptable level of development and technology risk, as determined by the Company's evaluation team.
- Wind Turbine Cold-Weather Package Requirement. All proposed new or repowered/refurbished wind generation resources must be equipped with appropriate cold-weather packages that allow the turbines to reliably operate down to temperatures of -30 degrees Celsius (-22 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Work with the Company on Transmission Corridor Preservation as detailed in Section 3.3.

⁹ The Company reserves the right to adjust this schedule appropriately, including, but not limited to, for changes to the regulatory calendar.

- For non-Section 123 proposals, the respondent's project development team must demonstrate that it has successfully completed the development, construction, and commissioning of at least one utility-scale and utility-grade project with technology similar to the proposed project.
- For new-build Section 123 proposals, the respondent's project development team must demonstrate that it has successfully completed the development, construction, and commissioning of at least one utility-scale and utility-grade project.
- Respondents must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Company that they can meet the security requirements contained in the Model PPA.
- Proposals must clearly demonstrate any financing requirements and an indicative financing structure (construction and permanent) for any proposed resources that will be delivered under the proposals. Respondents should include a description of how current financial markets are likely to impact the respondent's ability to access the debt and tax equity markets.
- Each respondent must present clear and sufficient proof that it has or can secure an adequate and confirmed supply of generation equipment sufficient (at a minimum) to meet the required proposal.
- Respondents must provide the required bid fee (described in Section 4.8 below) for each proposal submitted.
- Any proposal that would result in new generation, storage, interconnection, and/or transmission infrastructure in Morgan, Routt, or Pueblo Counties must provide the estimated property tax that would be imposed on the property located in those counties along with a workpaper showing how those estimated property tax values were calculated.

4.3 Proposal Content Requirements

This section outlines the content and format requirements for all proposals submitted in response to this RFP. Unless the Company in its sole discretion elects otherwise, proposals that do not include the information requested in this section will be ineligible for further evaluation, unless the information requested is not applicable or relevant to a given proposal. The Company reserves the right to conduct any further due diligence it considers necessary to fully understand and evaluate proposals.

Proposal Format

The first section of each proposal must contain an Executive Summary that provides an overview of the proposed generating resource characteristics, including any unique aspects or benefits. The second section of the proposal must include a completed set of applicable forms included in Appendix A. These forms will contain essential information about each proposal. A separate set of forms and related information must be submitted with each proposal. The third section of the proposal must include additional information presented in narrative form under specific topic headings.

A complete proposal will include the following components:

1. Executive Summary
2. Complete set of applicable forms

3. Form attachments (as necessary to elaborate on form information)
4. Narrative Topics Discussion
5. Requested maps and electronic data
6. Land rights contracts and all supporting documentation, i.e., ALTA survey, title commitments, etc.

The proposal forms and topic headings are listed below.

Proposal Forms

Form A	Notice of Intent to Respond (NOIR)
Form B	Bid Certification
Form C1	Bid Cover Sheet
Form C2	Bid Cover Sheet II for Hybrids
Form C3	Bid Cover Sheet III
Form D1A	Pricing
Form D1B	Pricing
Form D1C	Property Taxes
Form D2	Electrical Interconnection Cost Estimates
Form E	Construction Milestones
Form F1	Technical Description Solar Photovoltaic
Form F2	Technical Description Solar Thermal
Form F3	Technical Description Battery Energy Storage I
Form F4	Technical Description Battery Energy Storage I
Form F5	Technical Description Wind
Form F6	Technical Description Biomass
Form F7	Technical Description Other Tech
Form F8	Production Profile
Form G	Natural Gas and Backup Fuel Supply
Form H	Emission Rates
Form I	Interconnection Information Forms

The individual forms in Appendix A include additional instructions for completion.

Narrative Topics

Narrative topics should be organized under the following headings (with reasonably equivalent information provided for proposals involving existing generation assets):

- Development Experience
- Financial Information
- Project Description and Development Schedule
- Equipment Description
- Energy Production Profile
- Real Property Acquisition Description and Plan
- Permitting Plan
- Transmission Plan
- Community/State Reaction Assessment
- Operations and Maintenance Plan

- Exceptions to Model PPA
- Beneficial Contributions/Section 123 Resources
- Employment Metrics

Development Experience. All proposals must describe the respondent's qualifications and experience in developing, constructing, commissioning and operating generation facilities similar to the proposed facility, including the experience, qualifications and safety record of key personnel who will manage development and an overview of utility scale and utility grade projects the respondent has developed during the last 5 years. If an EPC team is in place, the proposal should identify the members of the team; if such a group is not in place, the proposal must set forth the respondent's plan for assembling such team (including process and timing).

Financial Information. All proposals must provide detailed financial information about the proposed project. This information shall include two years of audited financial statements or the equivalent for respondents and other responsible parties (including any entities that would provide parent guaranties of the respondents' obligations), whether the project will be financed as a recourse or non-recourse project, the percentages of debt and equity financing, and the expected cost of debt. In addition, respondents shall provide a detailed plan for financing the proposed project during construction and operation including the financing commitments that the respondent has obtained. Proposals shall also explain in detail the plan for meeting the security requirements outlined in the Model PPA and must set forth the credit rating (if any) of any entities that would provide parent guaranties of the respondents' obligations. Proposals must include an organization chart showing the entities that own the respondent's organization and a description of the respondents' organization structure (including primary and secondary businesses). Detailed financial information about the bidder (e.g., 10-Ks or similar) should be provided in electronic format only.

Project Description and Development Schedule. All proposals for the construction of new generation facilities must set out a description of the proposed project, including a description and plans for the proposed site and rights of way, utilities services, equipment configuration, transmission and interconnection construction and procurement, supply of spare parts, opportunities for future expansion of the project, required permits, the nameplate capacity of the resource in MW, the respondent's key consultants (if known) for meteorological studies and permitting studies, and the respondent's construction contractors and prime subcontractors (if known). Such proposals must provide a detailed Gantt chart of project development activities developed using Microsoft Project or similar software (note that .pdf file-type is preferred for submittal) that includes (at a minimum) entering major equipment and construction subcontracts, target completion dates for financing, engineering, permitting, equipment procurement, construction, startup and commissioning, and guaranteed dates for substantial completion. Proposals must describe the overall development strategy that will ensure that the project can be developed in time to meet the proposed commercial operation date. Respondents proposing Section 123 resource generation projects should describe the risks associated with deploying such new technology specifically as those risks impact the proposed commercial operation date and the first years of operation.

It is the Company's expectation that it will have first rights to all proposed projects submitted into the RFP for the period during the proposal review and approval process. Respondents must also provide any and all information which would restrict the respondent from providing the Company with exclusive rights to negotiate a PPA for the proposed project. Such restrictions could include, but are not limited to, prior active submission or participation in other RFPs, exclusivity rights

granted to other parties, rights of first offer or refusal, purchase options, and active auctions for the project as applicable.

For biomass-fueled projects, bidders should provide as much detail as possible regarding the target fuel source including details on any potential contracts that fix fuel volume, quality, and/or pricing over the term of the proposed PPA on a delivered and/or non-delivered basis.

Equipment Description. At a minimum, proposals should indicate for all major equipment 1) the name of the manufacturer and other vendors, 2) models, 3) key metrics and characteristics of the equipment, 4) performance history of the equipment, 5) contracting status, and 6) planned delivery dates. In addition, the Company expects all new construction projects to include:

- Dynamic Reactive Power Capability – In addition to compliance with FERC Order 827 and applicable IEEE Std. 2800 requirements, generation and storage facilities are to have provisions for providing rated reactive power capability range (lagging/leading MVAR) at zero MW output – aka “night-time vars” capability.
- Grid Disturbance (Voltage/Frequency Excursions) Ride-Through Capability – In compliance with NERC Std. PRC-024 (prevailing version) and applicable IEEE Std. 2800 requirements, ride-through capability must not be compromised for grid system strength at a point of interconnection (“POI”) characterized by a minimum Weighted Short Circuit Ratio (WSCR) of 2.0. For proposed interconnections at May Valley, Longhorn and Goose Creek, a minimum WSCR of 1.5.

Proposals that do not meet these criteria should explain the justification for not meeting them in the narrative of their proposal.

Energy Production Profile. Proposals must include a description of any on-site meteorological data gathered by, or in the possession of, the respondent and the periods over which those data were collected (start and end dates and data collection frequency). However, Respondents should not provide on-site meteorological data in their initial bid submissions. Upon request, respondents must be prepared to provide the Company with the underlying meteorological data with the understanding that the Company may engage an external consultant for an independent verification and evaluation of the generation resource. The data provided must be sufficient for these purposes.

Real Property Acquisition Description and Plan. Proposals must provide a description of the status of real property acquisition and land use permitting for the project that is sufficient for the Company to assess the completeness and sufficiency of the respondent's real property rights, including but not limited to:

- Copies of all land right contracts secured to date,
- The status of current site control necessary to build, operate, and maintain any radial transmission line dedicated principally to the project, and the form(s) of land right contract being utilized to secure the right-of-way, if applicable,
- The plan for acquiring any and all currently uncontrolled necessary real property rights for the project,
- Copy of title commitment(s) and ALTA Survey(s), if available,
- The plan for undertaking any necessary title curative work,

- Acreage of real property required for the project and a schedule for the completion of the real property acquisition process,
- A description of any subdivision or zoning modifications and all city, county, or state land use permits that will be required, such as conditional use, special use or other similar permits and approvals, which will be required for any phase of development, construction, or operations of the project, and
- A description of existing and planned land use in all directions surrounding the proposed site.

If the proposed site is adjacent to an existing or planned substation or switching station, the proposal must provide a preliminary site layout that indicates how access to the substation or switching station might be maintained for other transmission or radial generation tie lines after the proposed facility is built. For purposes of this Bid Narrative, adjacent includes a project which proposes a site directly across a road or similar barrier from the existing or planned substation or switching station.

Proposals must include a USGS-based map showing the location of the proposed site, and ESRI ArcGIS shapefiles or other industry standard format depicting the Project boundary and any radial transmission line necessary to interconnect the project. Shapefiles must be provided in Colorado NAD 83 State Plan coordinate system.

Permitting Plan. Proposals should include a complete list of permits required and secured for the project. If permits have not yet been secured, a schedule for submitting and obtaining the required permits must be provided.

Proposals must describe all air quality permits that will be required for the project. State whether any air permits have been secured, and if not, whether applications have been filed. Report on the status of any pending applications and any feedback from permitting agencies. Describe the expected time frame to obtain the necessary air permits after application submittal to the State.

Describe all other federal, state and local permits and approvals that will be required for the project, but not limited to:

- Federal environmental assessments under the National Environmental Policy Act ("EA/EIS"),
- Water supply,
- Wastewater discharge permits,
- Hazardous waste permits, and
- No-hazard permits/determinations from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Describe the current status of obtaining these permits and any feedback from permitting agencies.

Describe the water supply strategy for the project, including a description of water requirements, water supply source(s), discharge plans, new water pipeline requirements, and any work completed to date on the water supply plan.

Explain any expected restrictions/limitations on operations due to air and/or water permits.

If the proposed site does not currently have the appropriate zoning designation, provide any rezoning requirements, plans to obtain the rezoning, and any known issues as to rezoning.

For projects proposing to utilize an eligible energy resource¹⁰, proposals must also provide written documentation evidencing that consultation has occurred with appropriate governmental agencies (for example, Colorado Parks and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) responsible for reviewing potential project development impacts to state and federally listed wildlife species, as well as species and habitats of concern.

Transmission Plan. Provide a detailed description of the Point of Delivery to the Public Service electric system, including the location and voltage level of such point. All proposals should include a description of the respondent's plan to transmit power from the Project to the proposed Point of Delivery on the Public Service transmission system as described in Appendix C. The information should include a description and expected route of any radial transmission line dedicated principally to the Project if known, including a summary of the status of obtaining requisite easements and alternatives.

If any new FERC-regulated transmission or any upgrades to non-Public Service transmission will be required to deliver power from the Project to the proposed point of delivery ("New Transmission"), the proposal also should include a complete description of the required New Transmission including:

- The owner and developer of the New Transmission,
- The complete expected route for the New Transmission,
- The voltage and capacity of the New Transmission,
- The status of planning, permitting, financing and construction of the New Transmission, to the extent known to the respondent,
- The location of the interconnection of the Project into the New Transmission, and
- Whether the respondent's Project, if successful, would be sufficient for the New Transmission to be built without the participation of other power projects, and if not, what other projects would need to be built and in what time frame to allow the New Transmission to be built in time for the respondent to meet its scheduled in-service date.

For proposals intending to interconnect to the approved CPP project, the Company encourages bidders to interconnect at one of the planned CPP substations, which can potentially be accommodated coincident with their expected in-service dates (ISDs). Proposals that plan to interconnect at new, unplanned switching stations on the CPP system should not expect new switching stations to be available until at least 24-36 months after execution of an LGIA or an E&P agreement. The Company also notes that no switching stations other than the approved substations in the CPP project plan are currently under development.

For proposals that will require third-party transmission service(s) to deliver, on a firm transmission service basis, the capacity and energy to the Point of Delivery specified above, provide a detailed description of the interconnection, electric losses, transmission and ancillary service arrangements, by provider, that will be required, including:

- The identity of all third-party providers,
- The location and voltage level of the interconnection point to the interconnection service

¹⁰ Eligible energy resources are defined in the Commission's rules, section 3652, "Definitions".

provider's facilities,

- Any interconnection facilities that bidder owns or intends to construct and own,
- The specific services provided by each provider, and
- The line losses, point(s) of receipt and point(s) of delivery associated with each third-party transmission service.

Provide documentation that the third-party services discussed in the paragraph above will be available to bidder during the proposed contract term. This should include:

- Any associated transmission studies that directly examined delivery of the proposed energy to the point of delivery,
- Detailed information on any and all new transmission facilities and/or upgrades to existing facilities that will be required to deliver the proposed energy to the point of delivery, and,
- A detailed discussion of the schedule for siting, permitting, and construction of such new facilities and/or upgrades.

Attach a USGS-based map that shows the location of the interconnection point with the third-party and the generation facility.

Community/State Reaction Assessment. Each respondent must present a current assessment of, and a plan for continuing to monitor, local community, disproportionately impacted community, and state reaction to the project, and a plan to work with the local community and disproportionately impacted communities on project issues. Note that the term “disproportionately impacted communities,” as defined in C.R.S. 40-2-108(3)(d)(II), includes not only existing people and communities currently residing or working in a particular geographical area, but also members of federally recognized Native American tribes who have been removed or displaced from their traditional aboriginal lands yet nonetheless maintain ongoing historical, cultural, religious and other community ties to those areas. A plan to work with local and disproportionately impacted communities might include the following elements:

- A list of the references used to assess the local and disproportionately impacted community reaction, and the methodology used to draw conclusions,
 - An assessment of the project’s potential effects on disproportionately impacted communities, including minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous populations,
 - A list of key local contacts and members of disproportionately impacted communities interviewed and their opinions,
 - An assessment of the local community reaction (including that of disproportionately impacted community members) at the time of the proposal, understanding that such local reaction also includes that of indigenous people and communities, such as members of federally recognized Native American Indian tribes, who have been removed or displaced from their aboriginal lands and currently reside elsewhere.
 - An action plan for working with the local community/state to successfully complete the project, and including addressing how any effects on disproportionately impacted communities will be mitigated, and
- A description of the respondent's proposed conflict resolution methodology.

Geographic information identifying areas that meet the definition of “Disproportionately Impacted Community” under the Colorado Environmental Justice Act (HB21-1266) can be found at: https://teeo-cdphe.shinyapps.io/COEnviroScreen_English/.

Operations and Maintenance Plan. Respondents shall summarize their operations and maintenance plans and labor arrangements for the generation facilities associated with their proposals.

Exceptions to Model PPA. In support of the Company’s efforts to complete project evaluation, and contract negotiations in a timely manner, respondents shall review and provide exceptions and/or comments to the Model PPA. To the extent that the validity of a respondent’s proposal and/or the respondent’s ability to execute a PPA is contingent upon material changes to the language in the Model PPA, respondents shall specifically identify the terms in the Model PPA they propose to change and must summarize their proposed changes to such terms. To the extent that a respondent wishes to propose changes to the Model PPA that, if accepted by the Company, would reduce the respondent’s proposed pricing the proposal should specifically identify such changes and the associated price reduction. To the extent practicable, respondents should develop exhibits, schedules, attachments, and other supplemental documents required by the Model PPA.

Exceptions taken to model PPA terms must be clearly expressed such that the Company can reasonably understand the bidder’s concerns. Statements containing language such as “To be discussed” do not provide the Company sufficient information to understand the bidder’s concerns. Bidder’s providing such comments will be required to more fully explain their concerns so that the Company can adequately conduct its due diligence activities.

Beneficial Contributions/Section 123 Resources. Bidders claiming Section 123 status must indicate in the bid forms and provide a detailed description of the unique, scalable, and beneficial attributes to future costs, emissions reductions, or reliability benefits of the proposed project and specific Section 123 technologies in the bid narrative. The description should include the percent of the total project cost that is represented by the claimed Section 123 technology. All other bidders may also provide similar information.

Employment Metrics. Respondents must include descriptions and quantitative information regarding best value employment metrics (“BVEM”) including: 1) the availability of training programs, including training through apprenticeship programs registered with the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship and Training or by state apprenticeship councils recognized by that office; 2) employment of Colorado labor as compared to importation of out-of-state workers; 3) long-term career opportunities; and 4) industry-standard wages, health care, and pension benefits.

If contracts for the bid project are not yet completed, respondents must include the standards included in the request for proposals to be issued to subcontractors related to these four BVEM categories in this Bid Narrative.

The Company provides Information Guidelines below to assist bidders in developing their responses.

A bid that incorporates a Project Labor Agreement (“PLA”) will automatically be considered to

meet the threshold BVEM standards and is not required to provide BVEM information. Bidders proposing to use a PLA should provide information as to the form and content of a PLA they intend to use. Alternatively, bidders may provide a sample PLA as part of the bid package.

To the extent that a bidder cannot provide quantitative BVEM information for any of the four categories listed above, they must explain why as part of their bid package. The Company will conduct an initial screen of BVEM information provided and disqualify bids that do not provide sufficient BVEM information or provide a sufficient explanation as to why quantitative information could not be provided.

The Company has retained a labor economist to provide a BVEM score for all bids advanced to computer-based modeling based on the BVEM information provided. As part of its 120-Day Bid Evaluation Report, the Company will provide the labor economist's cumulative BVEM score for each portfolio presented based on the BVEM scores of the bids in the portfolio. The cumulative BVEM score will be considered by the Commission in its evaluation of bid portfolios, consistent with § 40-2-129(1)(a), C.R.S.

Best Value Employment Metrics - Information Guidelines

- (a) The availability of training programs, including training through apprenticeship programs registered with the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship and Training. The utility or bidder shall provide, for example and as applicable, the following information for each craft the utility anticipates will work on the project:
 - (I) availability of training programs;
 - (II) the names of specific training programs available;
 - (III) the curriculum of the specific training programs;
 - (IV) the cost of worker training;
 - (V) the duration of the training programs;
 - (VI) the total number of hours of on-the-job training required;
 - (VII) the total number of classroom hours required;
 - (VIII) the licenses and certifications obtained, if any;
 - (IX) a copy of training program standards for each training program; and
 - (X) a statement whether the training programs are United States Department of Labor registered apprenticeship programs and are accredited to award college credits.

- (b) The employment of Colorado workers as compared to importation of out-of-state workers. The utility or bidder shall provide, for example and as applicable, the following information for each craft the utility anticipates will work on the project:
 - (I) estimated number of workers by job classification;
 - (II) estimated length of time of service, including total man hours, by job classification;
 - (III) percentage of Colorado workers by job classification; and

(IV) percentage of project man hours earned by Colorado workers by job classification.

(c) Long-term career opportunities. The utility or bidder shall provide, for example and as applicable, the following information for each craft the utility anticipates will work on the project: job classifications, licenses, certifications and skills that will be applied and the long-term career opportunities for each job classification; and

(d) Industry-standard wages, health care, and pension benefits. The utility or bidder shall provide, for example and as applicable, the following information for each craft the utility anticipates will work on the project:

(I) range of wages by job classification;

(II) healthcare benefits by job classification;

(III) pension benefits by job classification;

(IV) prevailing wages and fringe benefits (healthcare benefits, pension benefits and other compensation) based on industry standards and the current Colorado labor agreements by job classification; and

(V) wages and fringe benefits (healthcare benefits, pension benefits and other compensation) by job classification.

4.4 Pre-Bid Conference

Time: 9-11 AM MST

Date: 12/20/2022

Location: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1800 Larimer St, Denver, CO

The meeting is open to attend in person and Public Service will also webcast the meeting and provide means for remote, electronic submittal of questions by potential RFP respondents. Public Service will post information concerning webcast access and remote participation on the RFP website. Interested parties are encouraged to provide written questions to the Company's RFP Project Manager by email at least three business days prior to the pre-bid meeting. The Company will provide verbal answers to selected questions at the pre-bid conference and provide a written summary of the bid conference proceedings, including submitted questions and answers, that will be posted on the RFP website following the conference. In the case of conflict between the verbal answers provided and the follow-on written answers, the written answers are deemed final.

4.5 Notice of Intent to Respond (NOIR)

Respondents who intend to submit a proposal(s) into the 2022 All-Source solicitation must submit a Notice of Intent to Respond (NOIR), Form A in Appendix A by the stated deadline. The NOIR will serve as registration for the All-Source Solicitation and should be submitted via email to the RFP Project Manager at the earliest date possible but no later than 4:00 P.M. Mountain Time on **2/15/2023**. There is no fee required to submit a NOIR. Upon receipt of a bidder's NOIR, the Company will respond to the bidder with a link that will enable them to submit their bids electronically to a secure file sharing site and wiring instructions for submittal of bid fees (see 4.8 below). Respondents who fail to submit a NOIR will not be able to submit bids. The Company notes that bid and fee submittal are electronic only and physical copies or checks will not be accepted.

4.6 Proposal Submission Deadline

Proposals will be accepted until 4:00 P.M. Mountain Time on **3/1/2023**. Company self-build proposals will be accepted until 4:00 P.M. Mountain Time on **2/28/2023**. In the 2022 All-Source Solicitation, all proposals will be submitted electronically via a secure, confidential file upload application (XpressDRIVE). As noted in 4.5 above, a link will be provided to bidders via email after submission of a NOIR that will allow them to upload bids to the XpressDRIVE prior to the submission deadline.

Proposals received later than the submission deadline will be rejected and unopened, unless the Company determines, in coordination with the IE, to consider such proposals. Any bidder submitting proposals after the submission deadline should immediately send an email to PSCo2022AllSource@xcelenergy.com documenting why the proposal was submitted late.

Each individual bid package¹¹ should be submitted as a single .zip file with completed bid forms in executable format. Bid Form I, executive summaries and Narrative Topics should be submitted in .pdf format. In order to assist the Company in its eligibility screening and due diligence reviews, bidders are strongly encouraged to combine as much of their written proposal material into a single, cohesive.pdf file as possible. For proposals that include multiple pricing options or May Valley Longhorn extension vs. other interconnection locations under a single bid fee (see section 4.8, items (b) and (c)), bidders are to provide separate Excel workbook Bid Forms for each alternative option in the single .zip file. Projects bidding into both the Company Ownership RFP and one of the purchase RFPs should submit separate .zip files for each RFP they are responding to.

Further instructions on how to upload bids to the XpressDRIVE will be provided in the All-Source FAQ.

4.7 Information Policy

To obtain additional information about this RFP, potential respondents as well as all other parties may submit inquiries only to the RFP Project Manager. Potential respondents as well as all other parties should not attempt to acquire information through any other means including telephone calls to the Company. The Company will maintain a log of all email inquiries and coordinate the preparation of written responses. Once a response is prepared, the Company will forward the response to the inquiring party. Questions and responses, when germane, will be periodically posted to the RFP Web Site in a FAQ. The Company has established this information policy to ensure that all respondents have the same timely access and knowledge about the bidding and evaluation process.

All bidders as well as all parties in the resource plan proceeding other than the utility are restricted from initiating contact with the IE pursuant to Commission rule.

4.8 Bid Evaluation Fees

All respondents are required to pay to the Company a bid evaluation fee with each proposal submitted; bid fees are determined by the nameplate capacity of the bid according to Table 5

¹¹ An individual bid package is defined as a single project that may or may not contain multiple options permitted to be submitted under a single bid fee.

below. Public Service may deem proposals that do not satisfy the requirements for a single proposal as multiple proposals, each of which would require a separate bid evaluation fee. For example, a proposal that triggers electric interconnection studies for multiple points or levels of interconnection would be deemed separate proposals for each such point or level. In addition, proposals offering multiple commercial operation dates for the same project or facility will be viewed as multiple proposals. If the Company deems a respondent's proposal to be multiple proposals, the Company will notify the respondent and allow it to elect to pay the incremental bid fee or to revise its proposal to comply with the Company's requirements for a single proposal.

Notwithstanding the above, there are specific circumstances where respondents may submit multiple proposals under one bid fee.

- a) Bidders who submit proposals for projects greater than 2 MW may also submit a proposal for the same project/facility in the 2022 Company Ownership RFP with no incremental bid fees.
- b) Bidders may elect to bid a project with multiple pricing options (including but not limited to, e.g., fixed or escalating pricing, a wind or solar project with and without a compensable production tax credit (PTC), a solar project with an investment tax credit (ITC), or a solar plus storage project bid with an energy payment or an energy and capacity payment, respectively) without paying an extra bid fee. Pricing variations on a particular bid will be evaluated individually to determine whether the bid will advance to computer-based modeling. If a project is advanced to computer-based modeling, all offered pricing variations on the project will be advanced and modeled in the Phase II process.
- c) Bidders who wish to submit a project that proposes to interconnect to the May Valley-Longhorn Extension may also submit an alternative bid that interconnects elsewhere on the transmission system without paying a separate bid fee.

Bid fees shall be wired to the Company via the process below. Bid evaluation fees are non-refundable.

- a) Following receipt of the bidder's NOIR, the Company will send ACH/wire instructions for bid fee submittal via email.
- b) This information will include precise memo/note field information and a randomly assigned bidder ID which must be included in the wire transfer notes.
- c) Bidders should include a PDF of the ACH/wire confirmation from their financial institution in the bid package submitted to the XpressDRIVE.

Table 5. Bid Fees

MW Range	Bid Fee
>0.1 to 1 MW	\$375
>1 to 2 MW	\$750
>2 to 5 MW	\$1,500
>5 to 10 MW	\$3,000
>10 MW	\$10,000

Any bidder(s) selected to begin negotiation of a Power Purchase Agreement shall be required to submit a Second Bid Fee of \$1/kW (e.g., 100 MW Project * \$1/kW = \$100,000) to the Company prior to commencement of negotiations. Upon execution of a Power Purchase Agreement the Second Bid Fee shall, at the option of the bidder, be either refunded to the bidder or applied to fulfill the bidder's obligations under Article 11 of the Power Purchase Agreement. However, if the bidder and the Company fail to execute a Power Purchase Agreement due to, in whole or in part, bidder's actions that do not reflect bidder's representations or commitments during the RFP bidding process, the Company shall have the right to retain the Second Bid Fee.

4.9 Clarification of Proposals

While evaluating proposals, the Company may request clarification or additional information about any item in the proposal. Such requests will be sent via email to respondents identified on Form C and respondents are required to provide a written or electronic response back to the RFP Project Manager within five (5) business days or the Company may deem the respondent to be non-responsive and either suspend or terminate evaluation of the proposal. Respondents are encouraged to provide an alternate point of contact to ensure a timely response to clarification questions.

4.10 Confidentiality

Respondents are allowed to identify any information in their proposals that respondents claim as confidential or proprietary. Nonetheless, the Company reserves the right to release all proposals to its affiliates and to its and such affiliates' agents, advisors, consultants, and the IE for purposes of proposal evaluation. The Company will, to the extent required by law, advise each agent, advisor or consultant that receives such claimed confidential information of its obligations to protect such information. In addition, all information, regardless of its confidential or proprietary nature, will be subject to review by the Commission and other governmental authorities and courts with jurisdiction, and may be subject to legal discovery. It is not the Company's intent to enter into any separate confidentiality, non-disclosure, or similar agreements as a condition to receiving a respondent's proposal.

Notwithstanding the above paragraph, as indicated in Section 1.1, certain information will be released publicly upon completion of the competitive acquisition process and the full bid information may potentially be subject to release to eligible individuals.

4.11 Addenda to RFP

Any additional responses required from respondents as a result of an Addendum to this RFP shall become part of each proposal. Respondents must list all submitted Addenda at the bottom of the Bid Certification Form (Form B).

Section 5. Evaluation and Criteria

The objective of the Company's Solicitation evaluation is to identify portfolios of proposals that meet the resource needs identified in the solicitation in a reliable and cost-effective manner, while achieving the resource goals of the Commission-approved ERP.

As described below, the evaluation process will include an assessment of both economic and non-economic criteria.

5.1 Evaluation Process

An evaluation team made up of various groups within Xcel Energy Services and the Company will evaluate proposals; however, the Company reserves the right to retain the services of outside experts to assist in the evaluation of proposals. The RFP Project Manager may contact respondents directly at any point during the evaluation process for the purposes of clarifying proposals. The Company will also cooperate with, and provide access to information provided by respondents to, the Independent Evaluator as required by ERP Rule 3612.

Proposals will be evaluated using a multi-step process as follows:

Step 1 – Bid Eligibility Screening

Each proposal will be reviewed to ensure it meets the minimum requirements outlined in Section 4.2. The Company will notify each proposal respondent within 15 days of bid receipt as to the Company's bid eligibility evaluation.

Step 2 – Interconnection Assessment and Initial Economic Evaluation

While not entirely concurrent, the activities described in Steps 2.A., 2.B. and 2.C. below will overlap to some extent.

A. Electric Interconnection Cost Estimates

The Company will determine or verify electric interconnection cost estimates provided by bidders. If substantial differences occur, the Company will provide its cost estimates to the applicable bidders so that they can update their bid pricing, as they deem appropriate. Such bidders must submit final bid pricing back to the Company within 5 calendar days of the date the interconnection cost estimates are provided.

B. Transmission and Distribution Upgrade Schedule Assessment

Some or all of the proposals will also be evaluated to assess the general siting, permitting, and construction time requirements associated with Public Service transmission and/or distribution network upgrades, including network upgrades for interconnection and network upgrades for delivery, that may be needed for each proposal to:

- Interconnect the proposed generation with the Public Service transmission or distribution system,
- Deliver the entire proposed capacity and energy to the Company's customers, and/or
- Deliver the entire proposed capacity and energy from a third-party transmission system to the Public Service electric system.

The impact of these analyses on a respondent's proposed schedule will be a factor in the evaluation of its proposal.

C. Initial Economic Screening

The primary purpose of the initial economic screening is to rank each bid by technology so that the most promising bids can be forwarded to the subject matter experts for their review as quickly as possible and to identify those bids likely to be moved forward for computer modeling of bid portfolios. The initial economic screening consists of calculating an “all-in” levelized cost of energy (“LEC”) and, for projects with storage, an additional “all-in” levelized cost of capacity (“LCC”).

In addition to the costs provided in the bid, the Company will estimate incremental costs or benefits, as necessary, such as:

- Electrical interconnection costs and network upgrades not included in Form D1 pricing. These incremental capital costs are converted to a variable rate by assuming a levelized fixed charge rate of 0.08. and an annual capacity factor based on the type of generator proposed.
- Projects that propose to interconnect to the Public Service distribution system will be credited with an avoided line loss assumption in their LEC calculations.

Regardless of their LEC and LCC calculations, all eligible bids from existing generators, all Company self-built projects, and any bid claiming Section 123 status that is unopposed by the Company or, if opposed by the Company but later qualified as Section 123 by the Commission, will be advanced to computer modeling of bid portfolios.

Step 3 – Non-Price Factor Analysis

The Company will assess the non-price characteristics of the proposals. Non-price factors that will be assessed include, as applicable and without limitation, the following:

- Financial strength of the respondent
- Financing plan, including ability to utilize tax advantages
- Development, construction and operation experience
- Generator technology, availability, and warranties
- Environmental permitting and compliance
- Land use permitting and zoning
- Other permitting
- Real property acquisition/site control progress and plan
- Project operational characteristics
- Scale of the project and whether it meets the Commission definition of an Eligible Energy Resource
- Community support for the project
- Transmission access plan feasibility and arrangements
- Transmission upgrade schedule assessment
- Construction and equipment supply plans and arrangements
- BVEM information
- Project execution planning

- Accreditability of capacity to meet reliability needs
- Accounting assessment

Step 4 – Bidder Notification

Contingent upon the existence of sufficient bids passing through bid eligibility and due diligence screening, the Company shall pass forward to the computer modeling of bid portfolios a sufficient quantity of bids across the various resource types such that resource plans can be created that conform to the Commission’s Phase I decision.

Pursuant to rule 3613(a), within 45 days after bids are received the Company will email each bidder and indicate whether its bid has or has not been advanced to computer-based modeling of bid portfolios and provide each bidder the modeling inputs and assumptions that reasonably relate to that potential resource or to the transmission of electricity from that facility to the Company.¹² For those bids not advanced to computer modeling, the Company will provide the reason(s) why the project will not be evaluated further.

Step 5 – Computer-Based Modeling of Bid Portfolios

The costs and operational characteristics of any Company self-build proposal and each remaining bid equal to or greater than 10 MW will be input into the Company’s EnCompass planning model.¹³ The EnCompass model will be used to construct portfolios of bids that meet the capacity and energy projections of the Public Service system, as well as the various objectives of the resource plan and Commission decisions. The EnCompass model simulates operation of proposals together with the Company’s existing resources (and to an extent, the regional power market), while keeping track of all associated fixed and variable costs of the Company’s entire system.

EnCompass will be utilized to develop portfolios that minimize the net present value of revenue requirements through 2055. Portfolios will be developed in accordance with the scenario analysis directives of the Commission as indicated in the Modeling Assumptions document.

Studies have shown that the level of ELCC calculated for portfolios of resources can differ from the sum of the standalone ELCC values. This difference is impacted by the technology mix, location, and penetration of the various renewable generation and storage resources in the portfolio. As the initial creation of bid portfolios within EnCompass is conducted using standalone ELCC values, a “back end” portfolio ELCC review will be conducted to ensure that the selected portfolios meet forecasted load and planning reserve margins without significant capacity overbuild.

To the extent initial results indicate that all bids of a specific generation resource type (e.g., all wind bids) passed to computer modeling appear in the least-cost portfolio(s), additional bids utilizing that generation resource type will be included in subsequent model runs. This iterative process will be followed until no incremental bids employing that generation resource type are selected in the least-cost portfolio. Bidders whose projects are passed forward to computer

¹² See Section 5.1 Step 5 for an exception to the notification policy for bids that are included in modeling after 45 days of bid receipt. See Section 5.1 Step 6 for an exception to the notification policy for bids smaller than 10 MW.

¹³ Depending upon the pool of proposed projects received, the Company may adjust the specific MW cutoff for various technologies instead of the 10 MW indicated here. Such an adjustment would be done in consultation with the Independent Evaluator.

modeling of bid portfolios after the 45-day mark will be notified of their project's advancement pursuant to rule 3613(a).

The general planning assumptions that will be used in the development of resource portfolios are included in Appendix B to this RFP. Planning assumptions specific to certain renewable resource types follow.

Wind generation – A wind generation bid will be assigned an annual hourly generation shape based on the proposed site's Wind Zone. Each wind bid in each Wind Zone will be assigned the same shape; however, the annual shape for each bid will be modified by the bidder-specified monthly peak and total generation to arrive at the bidder's estimated annual capacity factor.

All wind bids selected for any portfolio, non-CEP acquisition, or backup bid pool in the 120-Day report will be required to engage an independent third-party consultant to assess and calculate the modeled wind speed. The third-party's calculation and attestation will be required 60 days after the 120-Day Report.

The Company will assign bids to a specific Energy Resource Zone ("ERZ") based on the following information:¹⁴

- ERZ-1
 - All of Larimer, Weld, Morgan, Logan, Sedgwick, and Phillips counties,
 - Portions of Washington and Yuma counties north of 40.0° latitude; except projects in GDA #4,¹⁵
 - In Wyoming, all of Platte, Goshen, and Laramie counties and southern and eastern portions of Albany County.
- ERZ-2
 - All of Adams, Arapahoe, Elbert, Lincoln, Kit Carson, and Cheyenne counties,
 - Portions of Washington and Yuma counties south of 40.0° latitude, including projects in GDA #4,
 - Portions of Kiowa county north of 38.5° latitude, and portions of El Paso County east of -104.8° longitude.
- ERZ-3
 - All of Bent, Prowers, and Baca counties,
 - Portions of Kiowa county south of 38.5° latitude,
 - Portions of Crowley, Otero, and Las Animas counties east of -103.6° longitude.
- ERZ-5
 - All of Pueblo County,
 - Portions of Crowley, Otero, and Las Animas counties west of -103.6° longitude,
 - Portions of Custer and Huerfano counties on the eastern side of the Sangre De Cristo mountains.

The Company will employ the best meteorological data available to develop typical week wind shapes for projects that propose a site that does not match any of the Wind Zones listed above.

¹⁴ These geographic definitions of Wind Zones are for the sole purpose of assigning proposed wind sites to a proxy wind generation shape to facilitate their evaluation as part of this RFP.

¹⁵ As defined by the SB07-91 Task Force on Renewable Resource Generation Development Areas.

Solar generation – A solar generation bid will be assigned an annual hourly generation shape based on the proposed site’s Solar Zone and its ability to track. Each bid in each Solar Zone will be assigned the same shape; however, the annual shape for each bid will be modified by the bidder-specified monthly peak and total generation to arrive at the bidder’s estimated annual capacity factor.

The Company will assign bids to a specific Solar Zone based on the following information:

- Northern Front Range (“NFR”) is generally all of ERZ-1, the portions of ERZ-2 above 38°52”, and the Denver/Boulder Metro area.
- Southern Front Range (“SFR”) is all of ERZ-5 and the southwestern portion of ERZ-2 below 38°52”.
- Southeast (“SE”) is all of ERZ-3 and the southeastern portion of ERZ-2 below 38°52”.
- San Luis Valley (“SLV”) is all of ERZ-4.
- Western Slope (“WS”) is the non-mountainous regions of the counties bordering Utah.
- Mountain (“MTN”) is all other.

Step 6 – Evaluation of Bids Between 100 kW and 10 MW

As indicated in Step 5, bids must have nameplate capacity ratings equal to 10 MW or greater to be included in the computer-based portfolio modeling step. In general, bids between 100 kW and 10 MW (“Small Bids”) will be evaluated after the computer-based portfolio modeling step.

At the conclusion of Step 5, the Company will review the least-cost portfolio from the base case run (that is, not from a sensitivity case) and determine each generation type selected in the portfolio. For each generation type selected, the Company will determine the all-in levelized energy cost of the most expensive bid. These all-in levelized energy costs will set the price against which Small Bids with similar generation technologies will be compared. The Company will include in all portfolios presented to the Commission each Small Bid with an all-in levelized energy cost less than the most expensive bid with similar technology selected in the least-cost portfolio.

A final check will be made to ensure that the inclusion of all cost-effective Small Bids does not provide excess capacity credit to the least-cost portfolio through the RAP to such an extent that it could replace another source(s) of capacity selected through the EnCompass modeling. If it does, two additional sets of ad hoc EnCompass runs will be conducted to determine which is most cost-effective: 1) include all cost-effective Small Bids in the final portfolio, or 2) include all cost-effective Small Bids and exclude the other generator(s) that could potentially be displaced. The final portfolio would be the least-cost of these two runs assuming that both runs meet all reliability metrics.

To the extent the least-cost portfolio does not include a certain generation type (e.g. solar) but bids for that generation type were passed through to computer-based modeling and lower priced Small Bids exist, an ad hoc EnCompass run including these Small Bids would be conducted to see if the revenue requirements of the least-cost portfolio increases or decreases. If the revenue requirements decrease with the addition of the Small Bids, they would be included in the final portfolios.

For certain generation types (e.g., hydro or gas-fired micro-turbines), the Company would not typically expect to receive bids in excess of 10 MW. For such situations, the lowest all-in LEC proposals (up to a maximum of three per technology) would be advanced to computer modeling and portfolio development along with those bids \geq 10 MW in Step 5 above. To the extent the EnCompass model selected all three of the lowest all-in LEC proposals and other proposals for the same technology were also received, then ad hoc EnCompass runs would be conducted to determine the cost-effectiveness of these other proposals.

Bidders whose Small Bid projects are passed forward to computer modeling of bid portfolios after the 45-day mark will be notified of their project's advancement pursuant to rule 3613(a).

Step 7 – Phase II Report to Commission

Pursuant to rule 3613(d), the Company will file a 120-day report to the Commission describing the cost-effective resource plans that conform to the Commission's Phase I decision and other Commission decisions that impact the Phase II process.

5.2 Independent Evaluator Report

Within 30 days following the Company's 120-day report filing, the IE will report to the Commission its analysis of whether the Company conducted a fair bid solicitation and bid evaluation process, with any deficiencies specifically reported.

5.3 Phase II Commission Evaluation

Within 90 days of the Company's filing of its 120-day report, the Commission will issue a written decision approving, conditioning, modifying, or rejecting the Company's preferred cost-effective plan. The Company is required to complete this RFP process within 18 months after the receipt of bids unless the Company can show good cause for a requested deadline extension.

Appendix A

Proposal Forms and Instructions

As discussed in Section 4, the completed forms, attachments, and narrative topic discussions, will comprise a complete proposal, except that Form I need not be completed by a bidder who has already entered into a formal interconnection process for their project. The contents of each form and any special instructions for completing the forms are described below. These forms can be downloaded from the RFP web site in a format appropriate for respondent input.

If additional space is needed to elaborate on information requested on any form, please attach additional sheets with the heading "Form [] – Additional Information."

If certain information is requested that does not apply to the proposal, the respondent must indicate that the information is not applicable. If appropriate, the respondent should explain why the information is not applicable.

All completed Forms should be in executable format, i.e., not PDF. The Company will provide the IE and Commission Staff with copies and/or access to the proposals.

Appendix B

General Planning Assumptions

Appendix C

Transmission Costs

C.1 Power Delivery Requirements

Proposals must specify delivery of capacity and energy to the Public Service system at a point of delivery within or at the boundary of the Public Service Balancing Authority Area and at a Public Service-owned transmission facility.

C.2 Proposals Requiring Third-Party Transmission Service

For proposals that will require third-party transmission service(s) for the delivery of capacity and energy to the bid-specified point of delivery on the Public Service system, respondents are responsible for any interconnection, electric losses, transmission and ancillary service arrangements required to deliver the proposed capacity and energy to the bid-specified point of delivery on a firm basis. Such proposals must identify all third-party interconnections, electric losses, transmission and ancillary service providers, components and costs, provide a complete description of those service arrangements and provide documentation that such service(s) will be available to a RFP respondent or the Company during the full term of service proposed. The cost of all such third-party services, for which an RFP respondent intends to seek compensation from the Company, must be included in the bid prices provided on the applicable forms. Respondents should recognize that wheeling and other costs associated with such services may adversely affect the cost-effectiveness of their proposals.

C.3 Interconnection Facilities and Costs

- a. **Generator Interconnection Facilities:** Termed “Interconnection Customer’s Interconnection Facilities” in the OATT, Generator Interconnection Facilities are all facilities and equipment, including the gen tie line, located between the Facility and the Point of Change of Ownership which is typically located at the delivery substation fence.

As discussed in Section 5.1 of this RFP, proposal-specific cost estimates of Generator Interconnection Facilities provided by bidders in Form D2 will be reviewed by the Company and, if required, the Company may request that the bidder provide additional information or update its cost estimates as needed. Such bidders must submit final bid pricing back to the Company within 5 calendar days of the date the Generator Interconnection Facilities cost estimates are provided.

- b. **Transmission Provider Interconnection Facilities (“TPIF”):** Proposals that will require a new or upgraded electrical interconnection to the Public Service transmission system should include in their proposal pricing an estimated cost for TPIF. These are PSCo-required facilities that PSCo will own and the generator will fund. These facilities connect the Generator Interconnection Facilities to the delivery substation and facilitate the metering, relay and communications etc., between the two. Because these facilities are not considered a part of the transmission system, they are part of the cost of the generation project and must therefore be incorporated in the proposal pricing. The following table includes an estimated cost at each voltage level that should be considered if the TPIF cost

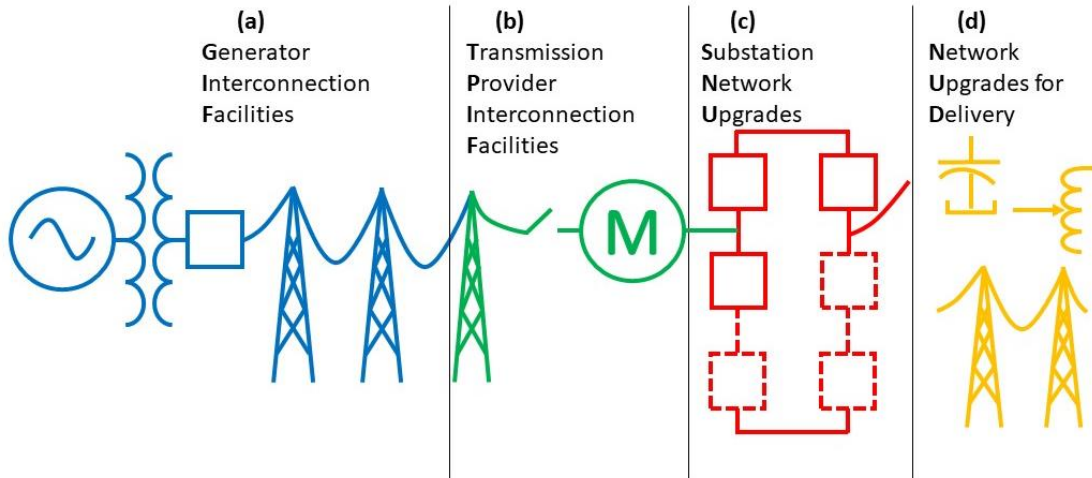
has not been otherwise estimated for the project, e.g., in an interconnection study report from the Transmission Provider.

Table 3C.1 TPIF Estimated Cost

Voltage	Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities Estimated Cost
69 kV	\$720,000
115 kV	\$850,000
230 kV	\$1,400,000
345 kV	\$2,400,000

- c. Station Network Upgrades: These are either new switchyards or additions to existing switchyards or substations that are built to interconnect the generator to the PSCo transmission system. In addition, Substation Network Upgrades become a component of the integrated PSCo transmission system and are incorporated into the PSCo transmission tariff. Respondents are not required to provide cost estimates of Substation Network Upgrades.
- d. Network Upgrades for Delivery (not Interconnection Facilities, *per se*): These are upgrades to the PSCo transmission network that will be required for individual and groups of projects. These upgrades will be incorporated into the PSCo transmission tariff. Respondents are not required to provide cost estimates of Network Upgrades for Delivery.

Figure 3C.1 This illustration shows the components of each of the terms described in a-d above.



- e. If the bidder has an active LGIP request, the bidder should provide the LGIP or identifier(s) (the "queue position" listed as GI-20XX-XX) associated with its project in its proposal. If the project identified in the proposal was in the queue but has since withdrawn, the bidder should provide that queue position even though it is no longer active. Bidders are urged not to submit a generation interconnection request or transmission service request pursuant to the Xcel Energy Open Access Transmission Tariff ("OATT") to receive

interconnection or transmission service cost estimates for purposes of responding to this RFP, as there will be insufficient time to have studies performed and completed prior to bid selection.

C.4 Application of the Xcel Energy OATT

The Company anticipates that all transmission usage rights associated with bids selected through this RFP will be "network" use rights held by the Company. Under FERC Order No. 888¹⁶ where the Company will hold the transmission service rights, the Company must provide non-discriminatory access to its transmission system and must designate network resources in the same manner as a similarly situated OATT customer. In addition, under FERC Order No. 2003 (August 2003), Order No. 2003-A (March 2004), Order No. 2003-B (January 2005)¹⁷, all new requests for interconnection of a large generator (larger than 20 MW) to the Public Service transmission system, including interconnection requests associated with this RFP, must be administered in a non-discriminatory manner in compliance with the LGIP contained in the Xcel Energy OATT. Likewise, under FERC Order No. 2006 (May 2005), Order No. 2006-A (November 2005), and Order No. 2006-B (July 2006)¹⁸, all new requests for interconnection of a small generator (less than 20 MW) to the Public Service transmission system, including interconnection requests associated with this RFP, must be administered in a non-discriminatory manner in compliance with the SGIP contained in the Xcel Energy OATT.

C.5 LGIP and SGIP Interconnection Studies

Given the short period of time available to evaluate bids, the Company's evaluation team, including the Company's Transmission Access group and Transmission Function will employ an abbreviated process for estimating the transmission Network Upgrades, associated costs and construction timeframes necessary to deliver power from proposed facilities to customer loads. In general, this abbreviated process will consist of four stages:

Stage 1 – The Transmission Access group will rely on existing LGIP or SGIP studies posted on the Public Service OASIS website to determine/verify bid-specific interconnection and delivery facilities and costs.

Stage 2 – The evaluation team will develop a number of portfolios of bids that will meet the Company's needs and the various Commission directives. The Transmission Access group will provide estimates of the Station Network Upgrades and Network Upgrades for Delivery (if known) required for each portfolio and provide that information to the Transmission Function.

¹⁶ Promoting Wholesale Competition Through Open Access Non-Discriminatory Transmission Services by Public Utilities and Transmitting Utilities, Order No. 888, F.E.R.C. Stats. & Regs. 31,036, (1996) ("Order No. 888"), order on reh'g, Order No. 888-A, F.E.R.C. Stats. & Regs. 31,048 (1997), order on reh'g, Order No. 888-B, 81 F.E.R.C. ¶ 61,248 (1997) ("Order No. 888-B"), order on reh'g, Order No. 888-C, 82 F.E.R.C. ¶61,046 (1998), *aff'd* New York, et al. v. FERC, 122 S.Ct. 1012 (2002).

¹⁷ *Standardization of Generator Interconnection Agreements and Procedures*, Order No. 2003, 68 Fed. Reg. 49,845 (Aug. 19, 2003); FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,146 (2003); *reh'g granted*, Order No. 2003-A, 106 FERC ¶ 61,220 (March 5, 2004), 69 Fed. Reg. 15932 (March 26, 2004); Order No. 2003-B, 109 FERC ¶ 61,287, 70 Fed. Reg. 264 (January 4, 2005).

¹⁸ *Standardization of Small Generator Interconnection Agreements and Procedures*, Order No. 2006, 70 FR 34100 (Jun. 13, 2005), FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,180 (2005), (Order No. 2006), order on reh'g, Order No. 2006-A, 70 FR 71760 (Nov. 30, 2005), FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,196 (2005).

Stage 3 – The Transmission Function will review the Transmission Access group’s estimates of Station Network Upgrades and Network Upgrades for Delivery and modify as deemed appropriate. The resulting cost information will be used to determine the bid’s levelized energy cost in initial economic screening and will be included in the computer-based modeling in the event the bid is advanced to computer-based modeling.

Stage 4 – Final bid portfolios may also be entered into a Resource Solicitation Cluster as defined in the OATT. Bidders will be informed if their project is going to be represented in a Resource Solicitation Cluster and be required to provide the site control, monetary deposits and other information required under Attachment N of the OATT.

When the Resource Solicitation Cluster reaches the Facilities Study phase, the bidder will be individually responsible to comply with the OATT to bring the project through the balance of the LGIP process and execute an LGIA¹⁹.

C.6 Network Designation and Funding of Transmission System Upgrades For Interconnection

Network Resource Designation: As indicated above, the Company anticipates that it will declare each proposal selected through this RFP as a Network Resource of the Company, and that the Company will bear the cost of any network transmission service on the Public Service system (whether or not procured under the OATT) for a proposal that is selected and achieves commercial operation. Each selected proposal not requiring a new transmission interconnection (e.g., either a generator already connected to the Public Service transmission system or each off-system generator not connected to the Public Service transmission system) and each portfolio of bids requiring new or expanded generation interconnections will be evaluated as proposed designated Network Resources pursuant to Part III of the OATT.

Funding of Network Upgrades for Interconnection: For purposes of achieving an interconnection, the Company's LGIP provides for the option of the Transmission Provider funding the network upgrades or the interconnection customer (i.e., the respondent) to fund such upgrades and receive revenue credits based on future transmission services used by the interconnection customer or through some other refunding mechanism.

Public Service’s policy as the transmission provider requires the respondent to provide financial security for the upgrades identified in the LGIP studies that are conducted in connection with this RFP. If the Company determines that certain infrastructure costs are to be funded by respondents, any financing arrangements will be negotiated as part of the LGIA.

¹⁹ Respondents that are not part of the Resource Solicitation Cluster, must work directly with the Transmission Provider to have their individual interconnection request processed through the OATT.

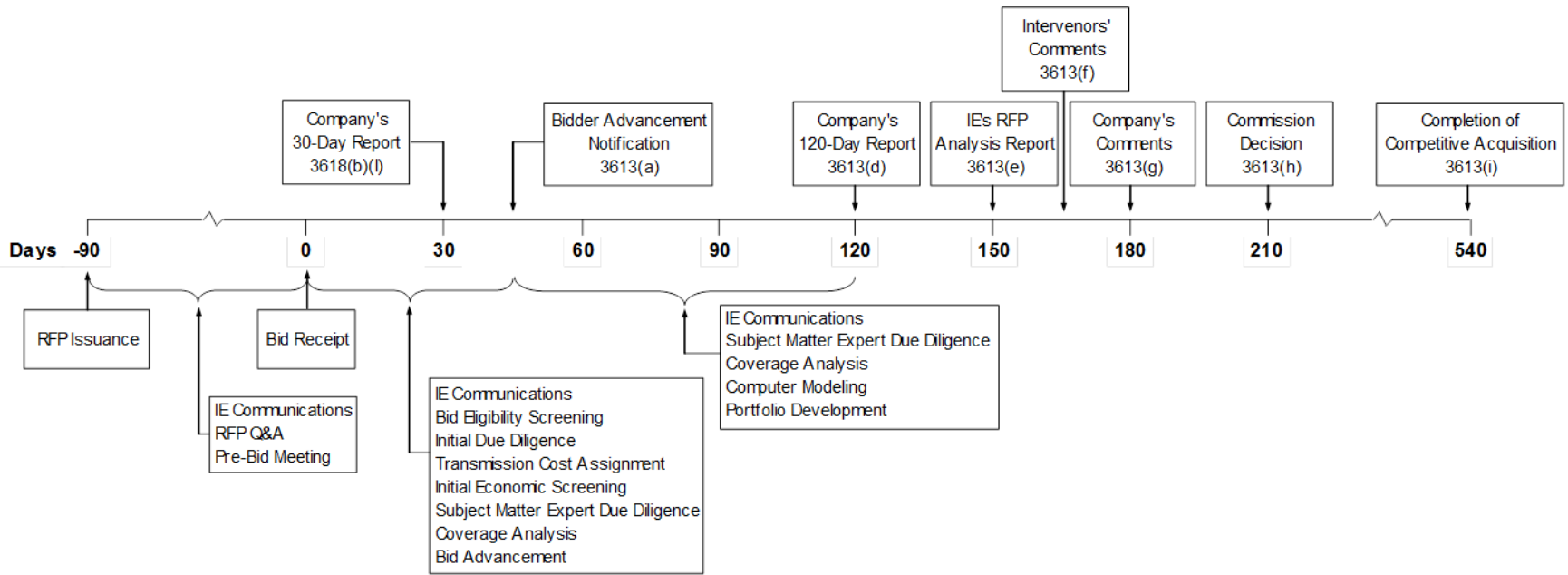
Appendix D

Renewable Energy Purchase Agreement

Solar + Storage Energy Purchase Agreement

Appendix E

All-Source Solicitation Timeline



Appendix F

Commission Confidentiality Order

BIDDER HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

I, _____, state that I am employed by a bidder in Public Service Company of Colorado's 2022 All-Source Solicitation.

For purposes of this highly confidential nondisclosure agreement "Potential Resource" means the new or existing resource of the bidder by which I am employed.

For purposes of this highly confidential nondisclosure agreement "Highly Confidential Information" means highly confidential modeling inputs and assumptions that reasonably relate to the Potential Resource or to the transmission of electricity from that Potential Resource to Public Service.

I understand that I may obtain Highly Confidential Information for the sole purpose of assisting the bidder to identify modeling errors or omissions concerning its Potential Resource so that the modeling errors or omissions may be corrected before the competitive acquisition process is completed.

I hereby state that I have read the protective provisions relating to confidential information contained in 4 Code of Colorado Regulations 723-1-1100 through 1104. With respect to all Highly Confidential Information that may be provided to me, I agree to be bound by the terms of the protective provisions contained in 4 Code of Colorado Regulations 723-1-1100.

I hereby state that I will properly implement and maintain extraordinary confidentiality provisions for the Highly Confidential Information I receive.

I hereby state that the Highly Confidential Information I receive shall not be used or disclosed for any purpose other than assisting the bidder to identify modeling errors or omissions concerning its Potential Resource so that the modeling errors or omissions may be corrected before the 2022 All-Source Solicitation competitive acquisition process is completed.

I hereby state that I will not disclose or disseminate any Highly Confidential Information I receive to any third-party other than to those who are specifically authorized to review such Highly Confidential Information and who have signed a highly confidential nondisclosure agreement. At the conclusion of the 2022 All-Source Solicitation competitive acquisition process, I agree to return all Highly Confidential Information to Public Service Company of Colorado.

Name

Title

Employer or Firm

Business Address

Bidder Represented

Date

Signature