

# 2023 Request for Proposals

### **Energy and Renewable Energy Credits from Qualified Community Solar Gardens**

Issued Date: March 29, 2023 (Updated April 17, 2023)

**Proposal Submission Date: May 12, 2023** 

Xcel Energy Inc., headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is a U.S. investor-owned holding company parent of four major electric and natural gas utilities. The four Xcel Energy operating companies have regulated utility operations in the eight western and midwestern states of: Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Colorado, Texas, and New Mexico. The operating companies of Xcel Energy provide, collectively, energy-related products and services to approximately 4.3 million customers. More information about Xcel Energy is available at www.xcelenergy.com.

Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service or the Company) is the Xcel Energy operating company in Colorado. Public Service often does business under the name of Xcel Energy. As part of Public Service's Solar\*Rewards Community (SRC) program, this Request for Proposal (RFP) seeks bids for the sale of energy and transfer of renewable energy credits (RECs) from qualified Community Solar Gardens (CSGs) in conformance with the Company's 2022-25 Renewable Energy Compliance Plan (the "RE Plan") as stated in Decision No. C22-0678 within Proceeding No. 21A-0625EG. The CSGs are to be wholly located in Public Service's electric service territory in Colorado. The term "community solar garden" is defined in the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (the "Commission") Rules Regulating Electric Utilities, 4 Code of Colorado Regulations (CCR) 723-3-3877 and the term "renewable energy credit" is defined within Rule 3652. This RFP is subject to the Commission's rules and regulations governing CSGs. For the avoidance of doubt, the Rules set forth in 4 CCR 723-3-3875 through 3883 as they exist as of the date of this RFP, and as further described in the RE Plan and Colorado's Renewable Energy Standards (Colorado Revised Statutes § 40-2-124), will govern this RFP and the Solar\*Rewards Community Producer Agreement, regardless of any changes, amendments, restatements, modifications, additions, or deletions of such rules following such date. In accordance with the RE Plan, the Company is seeking an estimated 70 MW AC (alternating current) from this RFP solicitation to account for capacity acquisitions for 2023. However, the Company reserves the right to reject all bids under this solicitation and reissue a new solicitation at its discretion.

This RFP will be for an estimated 70MW – There will be \$3.6 million reserved for a "General RFP" and \$8.4 million spending cap reserved for bids committed to subscribers that are eligible as Income Qualified or from Disproportionately Impacted Communities (collectively, "IQ/DI").

Eligible respondents to this RFP (Respondents) must be the CSG Subscriber Organization of the proposed CSG, consistent with those terms defined in Rule 3877. Respondents are requested to provide bids pursuant to the instructions provided herein. This RFP is limited to bids for energy and RECs that are generated from CSGs with a gross nameplate capacity greater than or equal to 10 kW and less than or equal to 5MW alternating current ("AC").

This RFP contains several sections, including an Introduction, Proposal Logistics, Bid

Submittal, Evaluation Process and Assumptions, SRC System Application, Delivery and Interconnection, and SRC Producer Agreement.

Please provide all of the information requested to enable the Company to properly evaluate your approach and viability as a Respondent for the sale of energy and RECs from a CSG. All information provided, and the extent of completeness, will be used to evaluate the bid. Feel free to provide additional information not requested here that you feel would help in our evaluation.

The Bids, RFP and all files, designs, specifications and other appended or related data are the property of the Company and are delivered only for the purpose of enabling each potential Respondent to prepare and submit a proposal in response hereto. In the event that Bid documents are considered confidential to the Respondent, the Company reserves the right to retain Bids and associated documents in accordance with Company records retention policies but will deploy standard data-management practices for secure and confidential information.

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 (in accordance with Commission decisions, rules, and regulations), the waiver of any requirements and the request for additional information.

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. By submitting its proposal, each respondent waives any right to challenge any valuation by the Company of its proposal or 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.

#### **SRC 2023 RFP**

#### Section 1. Introduction

Public Service is an operating utility company of Xcel Energy, Inc. Public Service is issuing this RFP seeking bids to construct new solar renewable energy systems in Colorado that meet the following requirements:

- Uses a proven and UL-approved (or other nationally recognized testing laboratory) solar electric generation technology to generate electricity and meets applicable interconnection guidelines.
- 2. The system qualifies as a CSG per Rule 3877(a).
- 3. The system will be located and interconnected on property wholly within Public Service's electric service territory.
- 4. The Respondent must be the CSG Subscriber Organization of the proposed CSG, consistent with those terms as defined in Rule 3877.
- Substantial Completion of the system must be achieved within 18 months of the date of an executed Interconnection Agreement and payment (the "Target Completion Date"). If the system is not Substantially Completed by the Target Completion Date, the Respondent's deposit (as is discussed in Section 4.7) will be forfeited to the Renewable Energy Standard Adjustment account in an amount equal to 1/180th of such deposit per day for each day following the Target Completion Date that the system has not been brought to Substantial Completion not to exceed such deposit. The system will receive one six-month extension granted automatically and will start forfeiting deposit in daily increments over the first 180 days after 18 months. If the system has not reached Substantial Completion by the end of the six-month extension, Public Service will consider the system incomplete and have the right to remove it from the Solar\*Rewards Community program with any associated capacity and associated deposit forfeited, and without any further financial or other obligation to the Respondent as a result of such actions at the Company's discretion. For purposes of this RFP, "Substantial Completion" means the date that all construction and installation of the system is completed, and the system is ready to be commissioned at the full-agreed upon generation capacity, including, but not limited to, a set transformer, meter set request, and the respondent having requested scheduled witness tests for the system. Public Service will comply with its response obligations to the Respondent under applicable rules, regulations, and tariffs with respect to interconnection, and to the extent that Public Service fails to do so, the Respondent will receive a day-for-day extension to the required Substantial Completion date for each day of Public Service's delay.

Deposits, Deposit Forfeiture Timing and Construction Deadlines			
Deposit	\$50 per kWAC		
Refundability	100% if completed in allowed timeframe. 75% if withdrawn prior to IA execution unless		

	interconnection costs exceed \$150/kW
Substantial Completion Due Date	18-months from date of executed Interconnection Agreement and payment
1 <sup>st</sup> Extension, Due Date, and Deposit Forfeiture	6-month extension granted automatically; Deposit forfeit in daily increments over the first 180 days after 18-months (approximately \$0.28 per day, per kW)
Final Project Due Date	24 Months Project subject to cancellation

- 6. No CSG subscriber organization may own more than a 40 percent interest in the electricity and RECs associated with the CSG after the CSG has operated commercially for 18 months.
- 7. The system has a gross nameplate capacity greater than or equal to 10 kW AC and less than or equal to 5 MW AC.
- 8. The Respondent must abide by the requirements set out in Section 4.6 and subscriber mix commitments set out in Section 3.1.
- 9. The Respondent must sell all unsubscribed power plus the associated environmental benefits to Public Service at the prior calendar year's average hourly incremental cost of electricity supply over the immediately preceding calendar year.
- 10. The Respondent must sell all subscribed power and transfer the associated environmental benefits to Public Service at the bid price terms stated in the SRC Producer Agreement. However, pursuant to Rule 3882(c), the CSG owner may elect for RECs to be retained by the CSG subscribers as an alternative to ownership of the RECs will be transferred to the utility.¹ Compensation may differ that would enable the CSG subscribers to keep the RECs generated by the CSG.
- 11. The Respondent must agree to all of the terms and conditions of the SRC Producer Agreement.

Public Service invites bids from any Respondent who is capable of meeting the requirements of the RFP.

This introductory section describes the type, amount and timing of solar resources sought in this SRC RFP. Section 2 covers logistics such as where and when bids must be submitted, bid evaluation fees, and policies and procedures. Section 3 describes the bid submittal process. Section 4 addresses the evaluation process and assumptions and provides requirements of the SRC application. Section 5 provides requirements related to delivery

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Election of subscriber retention of RECs will not affect the evaluation or awarding of a bid. Pursuant to Rule 3882(c), "compensation may differ that would enable the CSG subscribers to keep the RECs generated by the CSG" and will be assessed at a rate of \$.01/kWh with respect to subscriber-retained RECs.

and interconnection.

#### 1.1 Resource Acquisition Objectives

Colorado Revised Statutes ("C.R.S.") Section 40-2-124, sets forth the Colorado Renewable Energy Standard ("RES") requirements, and establishes the amount of energy to be generated from eligible energy resources that Public Service is required to obtain. C.R.S. Section 40-2-127, henceforth referred to as the Community Solar Gardens Act, provides in part that Public Service is to meet a portion of its RES obligations through the acquisition of energy from CSGs. Subscribed energy that falls short of these requirements or additional commitments, in aggregate, will be treated as unsubscribed energy. However, the Company reserves the right to reject any or all bids under this solicitation and reissue a new solicitation at its discretion.

### 1.2 Eligible Technologies; General and IQ/DI CSG Requirements; Dual Bids Allowed

All solar electric generating systems wholly located and interconnected in Public Service certificated territory that qualify as community solar gardens under Colorado law and the Commission Rules are eligible to bid into this RFP. The determination of whether any technology meets these criteria is at the sole discretion of Public.

70MW capacity will split bid allocation as follows: There will be \$3.6 million spending reserved for a "General RFP" (allowing for submissions from any qualifying CSG) and \$8.4 million spending cap reserved for bids from subscribers who specifically qualify as Income Qualified or are from Disproportionately Impacted Communities (collectively, "IQ/DI"). Requirements for the "General" RFP and IQ/DI Community allocations are as follows:

The General RFP has allocated \$3.6 million maximum for 2023 for an estimated 35 MW. Each project bidding into the General RFP requires compliance with Rule 3877 (and determined by Public Service rate class where applicable), which mandates that at least 50 percent of customers be residential, agricultural, small commercial, or income qualified (RASCIQ). Any un-allocated, downsized, or cancelled spend from this 2023 General RFP will carry over to Public Service's "General" allocation for its 2024-25 SRC "Standard Offer."

The \$8.4 million spending cap reserved for IQ/DI communities will be for an estimated 35 MW and will only be awarded to projects that have 100% IQ/DI Community Subscribers.<sup>2</sup> Further, these IQ/DI projects must deliver at least 30% net savings to subscribers (as measured by the difference between the bill credit and the subscription fee) and 50% of project capacity must be delivered as fully donated (i.e., no subscriber fee) subscriptions for direct-billed-residential customers. Any unallocated, downsized, or cancelled spend from this 2023 General RFP will carry over to Public Service's IQ/DI Community allocation for its 2024-25 SRC "Standard Offer."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Income-qualified utility customer" is defined based on three different income eligibility thresholds: household income below 200 percent of the current federal poverty line; household income at or below 80 percent of the area median income; or otherwise meets the income eligibility criteria set forth in Department of Human Services rules adopted pursuant to § 40-8.5- 105, C.R.S. In part, a Disproportionately Impacted ("DI") Community is a community located in a Census block group where the proportion of households that are low income, identify as minority, or are housing cost-burdened is greater than 40 percent, although this definition is subject to modification or change based on Commission decisions.

As part of their bid applications, Respondents shall indicate whether their application is seeking consideration under the General RFP or the IQ/DI RFP allocation. Public Service will allow one application per site (see Section 4.7 for rules on co-location and parceling) for each of the RFP allocations (General and IQ/DIC). However, each application must be submitted separately and each separate application will require payment of its own bid fee. For the avoidance of doubt, for a single parcel, Respondents may, but are not required to, submit applications for both the General RFP allocation and the IQ/DIC allocation, and the two applications may vary in terms of economics, subscriber mixes, and other relevant criteria. It is prohibited to submit more than one bid per parcel into a single RFP allocation (General or IQ/DI).

For Respondents who submit bids into both the General and IQ/DI allocations awarded in each RFP for a single parcel, Xcel Energy will notify the bidder of which (if any) of the RFP allocations receive an award. In the instance of dual awards, Respondent bidder must select which award (either General or IQ/DIC) they would like to proceed with. Public Service will then award the remaining budget spend to the unchosen allocation category.

#### 1.3 Interconnection

Interconnections shall follow the Commission's Rules on Interconnection Procedures and Standards (Rules 3850 – 3859). While an executed Interconnection Agreement is not a prerequisite for submission of a bid for this RFP nor for receiving of an award, Respondent awardees will be required to enter into an Interconnection Agreement with Public Service for each proposed CSG prior to energy production from the solar generating system and must submit to the Interconnection study requirements as described in Sections 4 and 5 of this RFP.

The solar generating system installation under this RFP must connect to Public Service's electric system. Each CSG receiving an award under this RFP must have a separate meter and interconnection.

For successful Respondents, Public Service will provide to the Respondent an estimate of the interconnection costs for each installation site. The Respondent is responsible for paying Public Service the full amount of any interconnection cost and maintaining adequate process and communication so as to enable successful interconnection under standard Public Service operating procedures without impacting CSG required timelines. This information can be found on the Public Service website. Previous costs incurred or estimated costs for interconnection of CSGs are in no way representative of the size or amounts of future interconnection or substation upgrade costs that may be incurred by the Respondent for the interconnection of its proposed CSG.

Due to the number of cumulative bids, award recipients for CSGs and existing interconnection applications, limited capacity may be available at certain substations or over certain distribution lines without substantial upgrades being necessary. Multiple data requests and bids may be received on a substation or feeder serving the bid location. No queue positions shall be set prior to a "Deemed Complete" (Rule 3853(d)(V)) date for the interconnection application associated with a CSG award.

Previously submitted interconnection requests cannot transfer interconnection progress or queue positions to CSG awards. If Respondent intends to interconnect its proposed system at the distribution level, Respondent is encouraged to submit a Pre-Application Data Request to obtain relevant and readily available distribution system information that may help identify possible constraints to interconnection. Pre-Application Data Requests for other sites are not reflected in Pre-Application Data Request results. More information can be found about the Pre-Application Data Request

https://www.xcelenergy.com/working\_with\_us/how\_to\_interconnect/preapplication\_data\_process.

If Respondent intends to interconnect its proposed system at the transmission level, Respondent is encouraged to visit Public Service's Transmission Business Relations webpage found at <a href="https://www.transmission.xcelenergy.com/Interconnections">https://www.transmission.xcelenergy.com/Interconnections</a> which provides a non-exhaustive list of contacts and resources with respect to the Company's transmission interconnection policies, processes, and procedures.

Respondent will be solely responsible for complying with any and all applicable laws, regulations, tariffs, rules, decisions, and guidance (including Public Service's policies and procedures) with respect to interconnection of the proposed system.

#### 1.4 Pricing

Pricing for all photovoltaic energy, including any RECs (if offered in the bid), generated by the system, or aggregate of systems, is required to be in \$/MWh units for any bid. All bids offered in \$/MWh will be rounded at least to the second decimal place for bid evaluation purposes and pricing shall be a constant price for each year of the term specified in the SRC Producer Agreement. The pricing forms and instructions are in Appendix A of this RFP.

Should a Respondent's bid pricing contemplate payments being made to Public Service (i.e., negative bid price); such payments will be flowed through to Public Service's customers in a manner to be determined.

#### 1.5 Environmental and Renewable Energy Credits

The RECs associated with unsubscribed energy must be transferred to Public Service, unless the RECs are not elected to be retained by CSG subscribers pursuant to Rule 3882(c). The conveyance of any RECs to Public Service includes the transfer to Public Service of all environmental attributes, emission reduction credits, and renewable energy credits, as defined by Public Service, associated with the solar energy production.

#### 1.6 Special Conditions Related to CSG Subscribers

1. The retail customer who is a CSG subscriber will continue to purchase the energy used at their premises from Public Service at the standard tariff rate. The retail customer will be credited on their bill a calculated dollar amount based on their portion of the energy generated at their proposed CSG project at the rate specified in the Company's SRC tariff. The customer's bill credit may change annually and the current year fixed rates are stated in the SRC

Service tariff.

- Consistent with the methodology of Decision No. C16-1075 in Proceeding No. 16A-0139E dated November 23, 2016, all subscribers to any CSG awarded through this solicitation will receive bill credits based on the class average methodology. This practice is a continuation from the approval in Decision C16-0747 in Proceeding No. 13A-0836E and the Decision No. R20-0099 in Proceeding No. 19A-0369E.
- 3. Public Service will own and read the kWh net meter, but the Respondents will reimburse Public Service for the cost of the meter and remote communications equipment.
- 4. Respondents set their own price and terms for solar energy benefits sold to the retail customer/CSG subscriber from the solar installation. Respondents must enter into the Interconnection Agreement and SRC Producer Agreement with Public Service.
- 5. Respondents must sell unsubscribed energy and the RECs associated with that unsubscribed energy to Public Service at Public Service's average hourly incremental cost of electricity supply over the most recent calendar year.
- 6. Respondents must keep their subscriber information current on a monthly basis. The subscriber information must be updated in the Solar\*Rewards Community online portal before the last 5 business days of the month and must state the percentage share owned by the CSG subscriber, the effective date of the ownership of that percentage share, and the meters at the premises to which the CSG subscription is attributed for the purpose of applying billing credits. The subscriber information must also denote for each subscriber which of the following categories such subscriber falls within: (i) residential, (ii) small commercial, (iii) agricultural, (iv) eligible low-income CSG subscriber, (v) eligible low-income service providers, or (vi) none of the foregoing. If any subscriber list information does not comply with any of the foregoing for one or more subscribers, Public Service reserves the right to treat the subscribed energy for such subscriber(s) as unsubscribed.

#### 1.7 Meteorological and System Operation Data

A Net Meter to measure all energy output from the CSG will be installed by Public Service at the Respondent's sole cost. The CSG site shall be designed and constructed such that Public Service will have direct access to the Net Meter during normal business hours. The Respondent will be responsible for providing an active, wired telephone or data line and related equipment necessary to provide Public Service real-time access to 15-minute interval data stored at the Net Meter regarding the renewable energy produced by the CSG. In the event that the Respondent also collects meteorological data at the CSG site, such meteorological data shall also be made available to Public Service on a real-time basis.

#### Section 2. Proposal Logistics

#### 2.1 Schedule

As shown on the following schedule, Public Service will issue the RFP on March 29, 2023. Bids are due by 4:00 PM, Mountain Time, May 12, 2023. Public Service will aim to announce the bid winners on or about June 14, 2023, but reserves the right to announce the winners before or after that date. The Company will hold an informational "Respondents' Meeting" within 2 weeks of the issuance of the RFP.

Activity	Date	
Issue Date	March 29, 2023	
Bids Due	May 12, 2023	
Targeted Award Announcement Date	June 14, 2023	
Substantial Completion Date	18 months from date of execution of Interconnection Agreement and payment	

#### 2.2 <u>Proposal Submission</u>

All proposals will be accepted until 4:00 P.M. Mountain Time on the date indicated in Section 2.1. All proposals must be uploaded to the Public Service electronic bid submission system. To gain access to the submission system, please complete the Intent to Bid form linked below at least two weeks prior to the proposal due date listed in Section 2.1. If access is not granted within two weeks of submitting the form, please send an email to: <a href="mailto:solarrewardscommco@xcelenergy.com">solarrewardscommco@xcelenergy.com</a>.

Intent to Bid Form and & RFP information can be found on the RFP page located on the Solar\*Rewards Community Developer Resources Page.

Proposals received later than the due date and time indicated in Section 2.1 will be rejected, unless Public Service determines, in its sole discretion, to consider such proposals.

#### 2.3 Information Policy

To obtain additional information about this RFP, Respondents may submit only written requests. These requests should be sent to the Public Service SRC RFP Project Manager. Questions or requests may be transmitted via email or U.S mail; email is preferred.

#### **Public Service SRC RFP Project Manager**

Joshua Kirui Xcel Energy 1800 Larimer St., Suite 1400 Denver, CO 80202 solarrewardscommco@xcelenergy.com

Public Service will maintain a log of all inquiries and coordinate the preparation of a

written response. Once a response is prepared, Public Service will post the information on the <u>Xcel Energy</u> website. Public Service has established this information policy to ensure that all Respondents have the same knowledge about the bidding process.

In addition, Public Service will hold an informational, "Respondents' Meeting" within two weeks of issuance of the RFP. At this meeting, Public Service will accept questions from Respondents and provide feedback or indicate a timeframe for feedback to questions. After the meeting, Public Service will post all responses to questions from the meeting on the <a href="Xcel Energy">Xcel Energy</a> website.

#### 2.4 Respondent Fees

Respondents must include a non-refundable bid evaluation fee, as per the breakdown in the RFP Bid table below, with each bid proposal for each site. If any Respondent provides more than one bid price, more than one forecast of energy/REC production, or more than one interconnection location, additional bid evaluation fees must be provided for each combination of bid price, forecast, and interconnection location, as each unique combination of these variables will be considered a separate bid. Failure to provide sufficient bid evaluations fees will result in the rejection of the bid and forfeiture by the Respondent of the bid evaluation fee provided.

RFP Bid Fees MW Range	Bid Fee
< 2 MW	\$750
2 to 5 MW	\$1,500

If Respondents submit dual bids for a single parcel in order to bid into both the General and the IQ/DIC RFP allocations, each bid must be accompanied with the applicable fee above and its separate application.

Each bid shall consist of the following:

- one Energy/REC delivery amount for each year;
- one prescribed term length of twenty years; and
- an annual price (a price for each year of contract term).

Those Respondents that are allowed to enroll in the program will also be charged an annual site license fee of \$300, unless they previously have paid for and received a site license. Licenses are for each user that logs into to the SRC Application and Subscriber Management System as defined in the SRC Agreement. This amount is subject to change in future contract cycles with the software platform vender.

#### 2.5 Bid Forms

All bids must include a complete set of forms for each bid. Using the forms will ensure consistency in bid submission, interpretation and evaluation by Public Service. If a Respondent is submitting more than one proposal, a separate set of forms must be submitted for each bid. The forms, together with instructions for each form, are provided in Appendix A of this RFP. Each bid submitted will require a separate set of

forms and a separate bid evaluation fee.

#### 2.6 Clarification of Bids

While evaluating bids, Public Service may request additional information about any item in the bid. Such requests will be made in writing, usually via e-mail. The Respondent is required to provide a written response to the Public Service Solar\*Rewards RFP Project Manager within five (5) business days, or Public Service may deem the Respondent to be non-responsive and will be authorized to stop evaluating and reject the bid as a result. To facilitate meeting the five-day response timeframe, Public Service encourages Respondents to provide one or more alternate points of contact for these questions, with e-mail being the preferred method of communication.

### 2.7 Conditions of RFP

This RFP does not commit Public Service to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a bid in response to this RFP or to procure or contract for any services offered in response to this RFP. Public Service reserves the right to modify or withdraw this RFP, to negotiate with all qualified Respondents to resolve technical or contractual specifications, and/or to reject any or all bids and to terminate consideration of a bid or bids at any time. Public Service reserves the right to evaluate bids and proceed in the manner it deems appropriate, which, in accordance with applicable Commission decisions, rules, and regulations, may include deviation from the expected evaluation process. Public Service 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. By submitting its bid, each Respondent waives any right to challenge any valuation by the Company of its bid or any determination of the Company to select or reject its bid. Each Respondent, in submitting its bid, irrevocably agrees and acknowledges that it is making its bid subject to and in agreement with the terms of this RFP and that it has not and will not engage in any anti-competitive conduct related to its bid, including, without limitation, improperly using any confidential information of any other person, collusion with any other bidder, attempting to influence the outcome of this RFP in any manner that does not comport with Commission rules and the terms of this RFP, or submitting a bid that it does not intend in good faith to honor in accordance with Commission rules and the terms of this RFP and the SRC Producer Agreement. Each Respondent shall be liable for all of its costs incurred to prepare, submit, respond or negotiate its bid and any resulting agreement and for any other activity related thereto, and Public Service shall not be responsible for any of the Respondent's costs.

Prior to bid acceptance, Public Service reserves the right to:

- Request from Respondents information that is not explicitly detailed in this document;
- Reject any or all bids;
- Reject any bids that, at Public Service's sole discretion, are not complete or contain irregularities, or waive irregularities in any bid that is submitted;
- Reject bids for reasons other than price or energy production;
- Reject any or all bids due to a presumption of collusion between Respondents or any anti-competitive conduct;

- Accept other than the lowest cost bid(s);
- Obtain clarification from Respondents concerning bids; and
- Conduct discussions with selected Respondents concerning the development of the proposed CSG.

#### 2.8 Confidentiality

Each page of the RFP response should be clearly identified as to whether it contains confidential or proprietary information. Public Service reserves the right to release any bids to agents or consultants for purposes of bid evaluation. Public Service's disclosure standards and policies will contractually bind such agents or consultants. Regardless of the confidentiality, all such information may be subject to review by the appropriate state jurisdiction, or any other governmental authority or judicial body with jurisdiction relating to these matters and may be subject to legal discovery. Under such regulatory and legal circumstances, Public Service will make reasonable efforts to preserve Respondents' confidential information, including requesting that it be filed under seal. Public Service reserves the right to publicly disclose summary information regarding the bid information in a form and manner that does not reveal the identity of any particular Respondent. Public Service reserves the right to retain any and all bid documentation as required under the Company's record retention policy.

#### 2.9 Withdrawal of or Addenda to RFP

Public Service reserves the right to modify, supplement or withdraw this RFP by issuing one or more addenda at any time during this solicitation. Such addenda shall become a part of this RFP and any additional responses required of Respondents by any such addenda shall become part of each bid.

#### Section 3. Bid Submittal

#### 3.1 Minimum Bid Eligibility Requirements

This section lists the minimum requirements that all bids must meet to be eligible to participate in this solicitation. Bids that do not comply with these requirements will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered for further evaluation.

- Bids must include all content requirements described in Section 3.2, including clear and complete written descriptions of all information requested and completed forms.
- Bids must clearly specify all pricing terms in accordance with Section 1.4.
- Respondents must provide the applicable non-refundable bid evaluation fee with each proposal submitted for each site (as further described in Section 2.4).
- Bids must be for 20-year terms only, in accordance with Section 2.4.
- **General RFP Subscriber Requirements** All projects shall have a minimum commitment of 50% of CSG capacity that corresponds to residential, small

commercial, agricultural, eligible low-income CSG subscribers, or eligible low-income service providers. Bids must provide a subscriber acquisition plan that details how the minimum commitment will be met and maintained throughout the duration of the project. If, during the term, the project fails to meet such minimum subscriber commitments, the shortfall in such commitments in aggregate will be treated as unsubscribed energy.

- IQ/DIC RFP Subscriber Requirements All projects shall have commitment
  of 100% of CSG capacity to IQ/DI community subscribers with a minimum
  30% net savings as measured by the difference between the bill credit and
  the subscription fee. Furthermore, over 50% of capacity must be fully donated
  to direct-billed residential subscribers. Bids must provide a subscriber
  acquisition plan that details how the commitment will be met and maintained
  throughout the duration of the project. If, during the term, the project fails to
  meet such minimum subscriber or donation commitments, the shortfall in such
  commitments in aggregate will be treated as unsubscribed energy.
- Interconnection Site Moves are Prohibited Project bid characteristics will remain as originally bid. Bids will be limited to a single site/parcel.
- Co-location of CSGs is prohibited and there is a limitation for a single CSG per parcel per vintage. Vintage will be defined as each offering. For the purposes of Public Service's 2022-2025 RE Plan, this will include any previous vintages (as part of RFPs, Standard Offers, etc.), this 2023 RFP, and each block of Standard Offers issued at a different price. However, splitting of parcels is prohibited after the 2022-2025 RE Plan's effective date of 11/03/2022. In all cases, each CSG receiving an award under this RFP must have a separate meter and interconnection.

#### 3.2 <u>Bid Content Requirements</u>

This section outlines the content and format requirements for all bids submitted in response to this 2023 Solar\*Rewards Community RFP. Bids 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 bid. If it appears that certain information is inadvertently omitted from a bid, Public Service may contact the Respondents to obtain the additional information.

The first section of each bid must contain an Executive Summary that provides an overview of the bid's characteristics, including any unique aspects or benefits. The second section of the bid must include the set of forms included in Appendix A. These forms will contain essential information about each bid, and a separate set of forms and related information must be submitted with each bid. The third section of the bid must include other bid information, which must be in narrative form under specific topic headings.

A complete bid will include the following three components:

- 1. Executive Summary
- 2. Complete set of applicable forms

Appendix A of this RFP document includes detailed descriptions of each of these forms, as well as any special instructions for completing the forms.

- Form A Bid Certification and Anti-Collusion Form
- Form B Bid Cover Sheet
- Form C Technical Description
- Form D Construction Milestones
- Form E Supply Amount & REC Bid Form
- Form F Subscriber Mix Commitment
- Form G Bid Submittal Checklist

#### 3. Narrative Topics Discussion

In addition to completed forms, each bid must also include a thorough written discussion of each of the following topics. The narrative topics should be organized under the following headings, with each heading beginning on a separate page.

**Proposed CSG Description**. All bids must set out a description of the proposed CSG, including;

- 1. Interconnection point of facility location;
- 2. Technology and equipment used for generation; and
- 3. Gantt (or similar project management chart) of expected milestones

The Gantt chart of development activities should include (at a minimum) entering major equipment and construction subcontracts, target completion dates for financing, site acquisition/control, engineering, permitting, equipment procurement, construction, startup and commissioning, and dates for system operation. Bids must provide a development time that will meet the 18-month Substantial Completion requirement set forth in this RFP. If bids are awarded, Respondent agrees to provide Public Service a quarterly update of this Gantt chart reflecting current CSG progress and timing or other updates of this information, as requested by Public Service, so as to ensure a common understanding of customer subscriber impacts and interconnection requirements. Bidders are advised that submission of such schedules is informational only and does not replace or supersede any portion(s) of the interconnection process and procedures or the SRC Producer Agreement.

Energy and REC Production Profile. All bids must provide information on expected annual REC production for each production year. Each Respondent must provide the inputs and assumptions used in the calculation of this estimate as well as an indication of what application, if any, was used in the calculation of this estimate. The proposed county in which the development will be located and expected point of interconnection should be used in calculating the estimated production profile of the facility. Submissions in Excel format are preferred. Respondents may also note whether, pursuant to Rule 3882(c), jt is intended for RECs to be retained by the CSGsubscribers,

or whether RECs will be transferred to Public Service. The REC retention election, however, will only be formally reflected in the Producer Agreement.

General RFP Subscriber Mix Commitments and Acquisition Plan. Bids are required to provide a non-binding breakdown of the respective percentages committed to each subscriber type: residential, small commercial, agricultural, eligible low-income CSG subscribers, or eligible low-income service providers. While the initial estimated breakdown will be non-binding (i.e., during the lifespan of the CSG, the exact makeup of the subscriber pool can vary with respect to these subcategories and their percentages of total subscribers), it is a requirement of receiving an award that the combined percentage of subscribers which qualify under the RASCIQ categories be maintained at a level of at least 50% of total subscribers. Bids must provide subscriber acquisition plan that details how the minimum commitment will be met and maintained throughout the duration of the project.

*IQ/DIC RFP Subscriber Mix Commitments and Acquisition Plan.* Bids are required to have commitment of 100% capacity to IQ/DI community subscribers. Further, these IQ/DI projects must deliver at least 30% net savings to subscribers (as measured by the difference between the bill credit and the subscription fee) and 50% of project capacity must be delivered as fully donated to residential direct-billed subscribers. Bids must provide subscriber acquisition plans that detail how these commitments will be met and maintained throughout the duration of the project.

Predicted Subscriber Mix Disclosures. Public Service will not modify bill credit calculations to use historic subscriber mix due to updated Public Utility Commission Rules. Therefore, in order for Public Service to reasonably anticipate the subscriber mix included in awardees' Producer Agreements, bidders will be required to provide a non-binding prediction of subscriber mix based on pre-established subscriber categories. Public Service will use these estimates to calculate annual bill credits. Subscriber Categories include: 1) Residential; 2) Agricultural; 3) Small Commercial; 4) Large Commercial; 5) Residential IQ/DI; 6) Commercial IQ/DI; 7) Large Commercial IQ/DI.

**Proof of Site Control.** Respondents shall provide proof that they have secured control over the proposed site. Proof includes a lease, deed, or some form of legal entitlement to the property.

**Environmental Impacts.** To comply with Rule 3668(b), Respondents shall provide written documentation<sup>3</sup> that proves, for applicable CSGs, all necessary consultation occurred with appropriate governmental agencies (e.g., the Colorado Division of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) responsible for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For "eligible energy systems" over 2MW that are not net-metered, Rule 3668(b) requires that part of the bid package include "written documentation" that occurred with "appropriate governmental agencies (for example, the Colorado Division of 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, habitats, and ecosystems of concern." If a Respondent's proposed system triggers this consultation requirement, it is Respondent's responsibility to submit written documentation that "proves" necessary consultation occurred. Public Service will not mandate what form this written documentation must take, but will prefer documentation that positively demonstrates which relevant individuals/agencies were consulted as well any applicable determinations by such agencies, even if the result of consultation is a simple determination that no need for further examination or consultation is necessary based on Respondent's description of the proposed system, location, and architecture.

reviewing potential project development impacts to state and federally listed wildlife species, as well as species, habitats, and ecosystems of concern.

#### Section 4. Evaluation Process and Assumptions

The bid evaluation process will include an assessment of economic factors as described through this section. The economic evaluation will identify the lowest cost bids based upon the specifics of each Respondent's pricing proposal. Any Respondent commitments or bid criteria that materially increase the favorability of the bid and thereby influence the RFP award, will be binding on Respondent (if the bid is awarded) for the full 20-year term of the CSG contract, and failure to maintain such commitments or meet such criteria may result in treatment of energy as unsubscribed, termination or other remedies that Public Service may be permitted to exercise to protect its customers and the integrity of the RFP solicitation process.

#### 4.1 Eligibility Screening

The information provided in each bid will first be evaluated for completeness and consistency with the proposal submission requirements outlined in Section 3 of this RFP. CSGs must interconnect directly to the Public Service Company system. Incomplete bids, including those that do not respond to one or more of the requirements described in Section 3.2 may be eliminated from contention without further notice to Respondent.

#### 4.2 <u>Economic Analysis</u>

Levelized energy costs of the eligible bids will be calculated to determine potential winning bids based on the bid price per MWh. Levelized energy costs will be calculated from the specifics of the bid pricing. Bids that meet the requirements of the RFP will be ranked and awarded according to the lowest bid prices until the max spending cap is reached for both the "General" and the IQ/DI components of this RFP.

#### 4.3 Evaluation Assumptions

The following planning assumptions will underlie Public Service's bid evaluation process.

Utility Discount Rate and Cost of Capital

Public Service will use a discount rate of 6.80% based on its current weighted after-tax cost of capital.

#### Bonus for Community-Based Projects

Public Service is allowed to reflect an additional bonus amount of RECs generated from a Community-Based Project, as defined in Rule 3652(d).<sup>4</sup> This bonus amount will be calculated and added to the estimated number of RECs produced. This adjusted value will be used in the economic analysis of the bid when comparing it against other bids made in response to this RFP. If a Respondent qualifies under Rule 3652(d) it agrees to assist Public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Each kilowatt-hour of solar energy generated by a Colorado community-based project, as defined by Rule 3652(d), is counted as generating 1.5 Renewable Energy Credits.

Service in obtaining any approvals or declaratory rulings from the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, as deemed necessary by Public Service, that such proposed CSG qualifies as a Community-Based Project.

#### 4.4 Evaluation Team

A bid evaluation team has been formed to develop the RFP, and to evaluate and select bids. Members of the bid evaluation team include personnel from various departments within Public Service, each with different responsibilities.

#### 4.5 Notification of Bid Results

Public Service intends to notify Respondents of the results of the bid evaluation and begin contract development before June 14, 2023, but reserves the right to announce the winners before or after that date. If awarded bids are proposed on the same substation or feeder, the Company will stagger the announcement of bid notifications in order to allow higher scored bids the opportunity to lock in interconnection queue position ahead of lower scored bids. The staggering of bid notifications does not quarantee interconnection queue position. The Company will make the appropriate communication to these bid awardees. This will enable projects with higher bid score to begin the completeness review and the interconnection study process earlier than lower scoring bids. Awarded bids/sites will not be accepted as CSG interconnection applications prior to receiving written notification of their award. Public Service strongly encourages bidders to begin preparing interconnection application documents so they are reading for any bid awards received, and ensuring all document requirements are met upon first submission as bid awards alone do not provide any interconnection queue position or assurance. Details on interconnection application requirements can be found at: Community Solar Garden Developers **Xcel Energy** 

#### 4.6 Post-bid Requirements; SRC Application Requirements

Once a Respondent is notified of an accepted bid, they will have a firm sixty (60) calendar days to complete an SRC Application process in the following steps:

- 1) A submitted SRC Application as described in Section 4.6 of this RFP that includes a specific location (latitude and longitude) and comports with the location requirements described in Section 4.7.
- 2) Consistent with the Company's 2020-21 Renewable Energy Standard Compliance Plan methodology as stated in Decision No. C20-0806 within Proceeding No. 19A-0369E, a security deposit of an amount equal to \$50/kWac (only checks or wire transfers will be accepted), which is subject to the following refundability provisions: Prior to the execution of the Interconnection Agreement, 75% of the security deposit is refundable, except if the project's interconnection costs exceed \$150/kW, in which case the deposit is fully refundable. Following the execution of the interconnection agreement, the security deposit will be fully refunded if the proposed CSG is substantially complete within 18 months from executing an Interconnection Agreement and complies with the SRC Program requirements and Commission rules. If the CSG is not substantially

complete by that date, the deposit will be forfeited and credited to the Renewable Energy Standard Adjustment in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in requirement 5 of Section 1 of this RFP.

- 3) In accordance with Rule 3882(d), the CSG owner must have submitted funds into an escrow account of an amount at least equal to \$100/kW of the CSG's nameplate capacity and provided documentation to Public Service proving such escrowed amount. The escrowed funds must be maintained in escrow by their terms until the CSG owner makes an interconnection agreement deposit payment, at which point the escrowed funds may be released. This escrowed funds requirement pursuant to Rule 3882(d) is a separate requirement from the \$50/kWac security deposit discussed above in this Section 4.6.
- 4) An executed SRC Producer Agreement. Failure to sign the agreement may result in suspension from the program.
- 5) A State Certificate of Good Standing.
- 6) If Respondent intends to interconnect the system at the distribution level, a non-refundable Interconnection Study Fee of \$2,000 pursuant to the Company's Interconnection Requirements. This is required at the time of line diagram, site plan and Small Generation Interconnection Application submission. If Respondent intends to interconnect the system at the transmission level, Respondent shall pay any and all fees as required by the Company in accordance with its then-current policies, practices, and procedures with respect to transmission interconnection.
- 7) Engineering documents (one-line diagram, site plan, and interconnection application).
- 8) Winning bids must describe and list all non-ministerial permits, consultations, and approvals that will be required for the county in which the CSG is proposed.<sup>5</sup> Proof of submission to relevant authorities of all necessary non-ministerial permit approvals will be required on or before the date of interconnection application. Relevant federal, state and local non-ministerial permits and approvals that may be required for the proposed CSG include, but are not necessarily limited to: 1) Zoning permits; 2) Variance approvals; 4) Land use permits; and/or 5) where applicable, environmental consultations required under Rule 3668(b).

Upon completion of all listed steps, in the order in which they are listed, the bid will be entered into the Program Queue. Completion of any individual step does not indicate acceptance into the Program Queue. Upon completion of updating these steps, a CSG will be placed at the end of the Program Queue.

Failure to meet post-bid requirements may result in suspension or removal from the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> A non-ministerial permit means a permit for which one or more officials consider various factors and exercise some discretion in deciding whether to issue or deny the permit. In contrast, a ministerial permit means a permit for which approval is contingent upon a project meeting pre-determined and established standards.

program.

Substantial Completion of the system must be completed by the Target Completion Date. If the system is not Substantially Completed by the Target Completion Date, the Respondent's deposit (as is discussed in requirement 5 of Section 1.1) will be forfeited to the Renewable Energy Standard Adjustment account in an amount equal to 1/180th of such deposit per day for each day following the Target Completion Date that the system has not been brought to Substantial Completion, with the forfeiture not to exceed the total amount of such deposit. If the system has not been brought to Substantial Completion following lapse of the extension at 24 months from execution of the Interconnection Agreement, Public Service will consider the system incomplete and have the right to remove it from the Solar\*Rewards Community program with any associated capacity forfeited, and without any further financial or other obligation to the Respondent as a result of such actions at the Company's discretion.

All other requirements and application process instructions are located in the Solar\*Rewards Community section on the Xcel Energy website: Community Solar Garden Developers | Xcel Energy

Extensions due to Interconnection Upgrades - If the Company estimates interconnection upgrade work will exceed the 18-month timeframe, the Company will issue an extension to the Target Completion Date. The estimated upgrade completion date is determined during the scheduling phase after payment of the Interconnection Agreement deposit and will be communicated to the Respondent during this scheduling phase. Any extension will require a contract amendment to the Producer Agreement; the Company will initiate that contract amendment during the scheduling phase.

#### 4.7 System Location and Co-Location Policy

The system must be wholly located and interconnected within Public Service's certificated service territory and must interconnect directly to the Public Service system. Requests for locations outside of the service territory for any reason will be denied.

Co-location of CSGs is prohibited and there is a limitation for a single CSG per parcel per vintage. Vintage will be defined as each offering. For the purposes of Public Service's 2022-2025 RE Plan, this will include any previous vintages (as part of RFPs, Standard Offers, etc.), this 2023 RFP, and each block of Standard Offers issued at different price. Parcels may not be split after Nov. 3, 2022, the effective date of the 2022-2025 RE Plan. In all cases, each CSG receiving an award under this RFP must have a separate meter and interconnection.

#### 4.8 Posting of Winning Bids

After the selection and notification of the winning Respondents, the Company reserves the right to post on its website a subset of or in total the following information applicable to each Bid selected:

1) Geographic location of the CSG including any or all of the following once

- finalized: address, latitude and longitude, position on a map or other location designation:
- Electrical connectivity information such as substation name, transformer 2) number, and feeder number;
- Nameplate capacity of the awarded CSG: 3)
- 4) Bid price:
- 5) System tracking (fixed axis, single axis for example);
- Name of the CSG Owner, CSG parent organization, and/or CSG Subscriber 6) Organization (if different than the CSG Owner); and
- Contact information (e-mail address and telephone number) of the CSG 7) Owner or CSG Subscriber Organization.

#### Section 5. Delivery and Interconnection

#### 5.1 **REC Delivery Requirements**

The point of delivery for the energy and RECs in response to this RFP will be the interconnection point of the CSG installation.

Successful Respondent(s) will be responsible for providing documentation necessary to obtain interconnection of their CSG installation at each facility.

#### 5.2 Public Service Interconnection Study

Upon Company notification that a Respondent has received a bid award, the Respondent must submit an interconnection study request. The requirements of this request can be found on the Xcel Energy website.

Respondents may also contact Public Service with questions. When contacting Public Service respondents should jointly contact the following personnel:

Attn: Engineering Dept. Public Service Company of Colorado 1123 West 3rd Avenue Denver CO 80223

DER IntegrationCO@xcelenergy.com

Mr. Joshua Kirui CO Solar Gardens Program Manager Xcel Energy 1800 Larimer St., Suite 1400 Denver, CO 80202 solarrewardscommco@xcelenergy.com

Phone: 224.266.4612

Joshua Kirui and Public Service's engineering department (at the inbox listed above) will be Public Service's points of contact for all questions and requests related to program application and interconnection.

Respondents should note that, for any bids selected through this RFP, the winning Respondents will be required to submit an Interconnection Application and Interconnect Study Fee (and if the Respondent is intending to interconnect at the transmission level, submit any other applications or fees as determined by the Company in its reasonable discretion in accordance with its then-current policies, practices, and procedures with respect to transmission interconnection), and enter into an Interconnection Agreement with Public Service. Such Interconnection Agreement is a separate and distinct agreement from the SRC Producer Agreement.

#### 5.3 <u>Interconnection Queue</u>

Positions in the interconnection queue will be (a) if interconnecting at the distribution level, determined by the date and time stamp of the interconnection request as defined in Rule 3853 (d)(IV) and Rule 3853 (d)(V) or (b) if interconnecting at the transmission level, determined in accordance with the transmission rules, regulations, tariffs, decisions, policies, procedures, and guidance that apply to the system (as determined by the Company in its discretion), in each case of subsections (a) and (b) only if the Respondent has met the requirements of the SRC Application Process outlined in Section 4.61 of this RFP.

#### Appendix A

#### Bid Forms and Instructions

As discussed in Section 3, the completed forms, attachments and narrative topic discussions, will comprise a complete bid. The contents of each form and any special instructions for completing the forms are described below.

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 bid, the Respondent must indicate that the information is not applicable. If appropriate, the Respondent should explain why the information is not applicable.

Submission of bid forms will occur electronically on Public Service's secure bid platform online site. It is not anticipated that Respondents will need to do so, but Respondents should be prepared to also submit to Public Service hard copies of bid application materials as requested.

# Form A Bid Certification and Anti-Collusion Form

All bids must include a completed Bid Certification and Anti-Collusion form signed by a Respondent officer or other individual legally authorized to submit the bid on behalf of Respondent. This form will certify that the information in the bid is accurate, that the pricing includes all costs for the proposed term of service, that the Respondent agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions contained in the RFP, and that the Respondent has not discussed or colluded on the pricing offered or otherwise engaged in anti-competitive conduct. Further, the Respondent must accept the SRC Producer Agreement included in the RFP.

# Form B Bid Cover Sheet / Site Information

This form requests general information about the Respondent, the proposed generation technology, type of sale, and capacity of the bid. It additionally requests information on the proposed site including known substation, feeder, and exiting/queued generation.

### Form C Technical Description

This form requests information about the proposed configuration of generation equipment, as well as its operational characteristics.

# Form D Construction Milestones

This form requests that Respondents provide estimated dates for meeting a series of development and construction milestones for the proposed CSG.

Form E Supply Amount & REC Bid Form

#### **Bid Pricing**

In Form E - Supply Amount & REC Bid Form, the Respondents must provide a bid price in nominal \$/MWh during each production year. The Company will round all bids at least to the second decimal place for bid evaluation purposes. (To clarify, a nominal price for production year 1 would be the actual price charged in production year 1.)

All unsubscribed energy will be purchased at the Company's average hourly incremental cost of electricity supply over the most recent calendar year.

Respondents shall provide a constant price for each year of the term specified in the SRC Producer Agreement.

#### **REC Quantity**

In Form E - Supply Amount & REC Bid Form, Respondents must also provide a projected number of RECs to be produced during each contract year. The number of projected RECs to be produced each year will be evaluated against data representing expected generation output according to the technology being employed. Annual projection estimates which do not appear reasonable in comparison to that data will be questioned and may cause the bid to be modified or rejected.

#### Form F Subscriber Mix Commitment

This form requests Respondents to set forth the percentage of the allocation of the CSG's capacity that will be committed to residential, small commercial, agricultural, eligible low-income CSG subscribers, or eligible low-income service providers, which must be 50% or greater, in aggregate. It also requests any capacity committed to donation to direct billed low-income customers, projection of minimum net savings for subscribers, and a non-binding prediction of expected subscribers by category for purposes of calculating bill credits.

# Form G Bid Submittal Checklist

This form sets forth the bid submittal checklist that also must be completed and provided by Respondent to Public Service in response to this 2023 RFP.

### Form A – Certification and Anti-Collusion Form

The Respondent hereby certifies that all of the statements and representations made in this proposal are true to the best of the Respondent's knowledge and belief, and agrees to be bound by the representations, terms, and conditions contained in the RFP. The Respondent hereby certifies that no pricing discussion or collusion has occurred with other bidding parties and that Respondent has not otherwise engaged in any anti-competitive conduct in connection with this RFP. The Respondent accepts the contract included in the RFP. This form may be executed by electronic signature and/or may be delivered via electronic means (including pdf or any electronic signature complying with the U.S. federal ESIGN Act of 2000 and the Colorado Uniform Electronic Transactions Act) or other transmission method and any counterpart so delivered shall be deemed to have been duly and validly delivered and be valid and effective for all purposes.

Submitted by:
(Legal name of firm)
Respondents:
(if different than above)
Signature of an officer/manager or other authorized individual of Respondents:
Print or type name of individual above:
Title:
Date:

# Form B – Bid Cover Sheet / Site Information

1) 050	5 / Facility Name:
2) CS(	G Location:
3) Res	pondent's Contact:
	Name:
	Company:
	Address:
	Phone / Fax:
	Email:
4) Alte	rnate Respondent's Contact:
	Name:
	Address:
	Phone / Fax:
5) Nan	neplate Capacity kWac:
6) Esti	mated Annual Calendar Year Energy Production (MWh)
7) Pro	posed Construction Start Date:
8) Pro	posed Commercial Operation Date:
•	applicable, please list and provide an organizational chart of all es and parent companies of:
,	The Subscriber Organization The SRC Owner The SRC Producer
10) Pr	oposed Site Information:
a)	Has the site completed a Pre-Application Data Request, and if so when was it completed (please attach to bid for reference)
b)	Please provide the following information for your site if it is known:

Transformer Queued Generation
11) Please indicate below if this Bid is seeking consideration for: (1) the RFP's Income-Qualified and/or Disproportionately Impacted Communities (IQ/DI) allocation or; 2) for the General RFP (select only one):
anocation of, 2) for the General Ref. (Scient only one).

Respondents are reminded that for each parcel, Public Service will allow one for each of the General and the IQ/DIC RFP allocations (General and IQ/DIC). However, bidding for both allocations for a single parcel will require separate applications, separate accompanying forms, and separate bid fees.

For Respondents who submit bids into both the General and IQ/DI allocations awarded in each RFP for a single parcel, Xcel Energy will notify the bidder of which (if any) of the RFP allocations receive an award. In the instance of dual awards, Respondent bidder must select which award (either General or IQ/DIC) they would like to proceed with. Public Service will then award the remaining budget spend to the unchosen allocation category.

# Form C – Technical Description

<ol> <li>Describe the solar technology, including: system size, the number of PV panels, the number of inverters, ancillary equipment, etc.</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>Provide relevant specifications about the proposed generation, inverter and other significant equipment such as brand, model, fabricator, rating, size, capabilities, etc.</li> </ol>
Describe the configuration of the proposed generation equipment, including system tracking, tilt, azimuth, etc.
4) Describe the performance history of major components of the technology as listed above. Provide a list of projects and contact information corresponding to past performance history.

## Form D – Construction Milestones

DATE		RESULTS ACHIEVED
	1	Respondent shall have submitted post bid information (deposit & escrow, proposed site location, and subscriber summary).
	2	Respondent has executed the SRC Producer Agreement.
	3	Respondent shall have received site acquisition/control.
	4	Respondent obtains site survey and soils report.
	5	Respondent shall have obtained all variance allowances and planning approval.
	6	Respondent shall have submitted proof to Public Service of all required permits (e.g., building and/or land use), including proof of any applicable environmental consultation/approval required under rule 3668(b) by time of interconnection application. Respondent receives all necessary approvals for both ministerial and non-ministerial permits.
	7	Respondent shall have achieved closing on financing for the CSG facility or have provided Public Service with proof of financial capability to construct the proposed CSG.
	8	Respondent and all required counterparties have executed major procurement contracts, the Construction Contract, and any operating agreements needed to commence construction of the Facility.
	9	Respondent and all required counterparties have executed the Interconnection Agreement.
	10	Respondent shall have started garden construction.
	11	Respondent shall provide Public Service with copies of applicable inspection reports for the proposed CSG.
	12	Respondent shall provide Public Service with evidence of complying with that insurance coverage required prior to the Date of Commercial Operation.
	13	Respondent shall have made the Interconnection of the CSG generating facility and is capable of being energized.
	14	Commercial Operation has been achieved and the date duly recorded.
	15	All other requisite SRC application documentation is on file.
	16	Respondent Substantially Completes proposed CSG within 18 months of executed Interconnection Agreement and payment, subject to receipt of six-month extension.

# Form E - Supply Amount & REC Bid Form

Respondent Information	
Respondent Name(s)	
Mailing Address	
Contact Email address(es)	
Contact Phone(s)	
Solar Facility Installation Information	
County	
Existing Public Service Customer? (Yes/No)	
If yes, Xcel Energy Account Number	
If yes, Xcel Energy Premise Number	
Projected Date of Commercial Operation	
System nameplate AC output capacity (kW)	
Annual solar degradation rate (%)	

Production	Production Estimate	\$/MWh
Year	(MWh)	
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
Fill in reque	ested data for each production	n year under
	contract	

## Form F – Subscriber Commitments

**Note:** All Respondents must fill in the Subscriber Commitment information under the "General and IQ/DI RFP" section below. Applicants who are seeking bid evaluation under the IQ/DI RFP allocation should provide further subscriber information in the "IQ/DI RFP Only" section.

General a	nd IQ	/DI	<b>RFP</b>
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1) Provide a breakdown of percentages for capacity committed to each of the following types of subscribers: residential, small commercial, agricultural, eligible low-income CSG subscribers, or eligible Income-Qualified service provider subscribers. Note that awardees must maintain their percentage of RASCIQ subscribers at or above 50%.
Provide a non-binding estimate of subscriber numbers/percentage for each of the following
categories: 1) Residential; 2) Agricultura; 3) Small Commercial; 4) Large Commercial; Residential IQ/DI; Commercial IQ/DI; 5) Large Commercial IQ/DI.
IQ/DI Only
<ol> <li>What percentage of capacity is being committed to full donation to Residential Direct-Billed Subscriptions? Must be equal to or greater than 50%.</li> </ol>

2)	Confirm by check marking below that 100% of project subscribers will be Income-Qualified or reside in Disproportionately Impacted Communities.
Additio	nal notes:

## Form G – Bid Submittal Checklist

Executive summary
All applicable forms complete
Narrative topics discussions
<ul> <li>Proposed CSG Description</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Energy and REC Production Profile</li> </ul>
Subscriber Commitments (General or IQ/DIC)
Proof of Site Control
<ul> <li>Environmental Impacts (for applicable systems)</li> </ul>