Request for Proposal
3.335 MW Solar Array
Oxford Utilities
Oxford, Mississippi



**Prepared By:** 



1661 International Drive Suite 100 Memphis, TN 38120

February 15, 2022 Project: Oxford Solar

## **Executive Summary**

Oxford Utilities (OU), Oxford, Mississippi, provides 13 kV electrical distribution services to approximately 10,200 customers within the city limits of Oxford, Mississippi. The utility currently purchases all of its energy requirements from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The utility is planning to exercise the Flexibility Amendment in their newly signed TVA power contract which allows OU to purchase 5% of its energy from a different generation source than TVA. The 5% of OU's energy demand is 3.335 MW for this solar generation request.

The purpose of this request is to select a qualified firm to identify a suitable site(s) for the 3.335 MW solar generator facility and to generate the associated energy requirements for OU. The site(s) must be inside of, or immediately adjacent to, OU's service territory. The solar generator facility will be owned, maintained, and operated by the selected generation firm. The solar generation facility site must allow for direct interconnection to OU's electrical grid through OU owned electrical distribution equipment. An independent system impact study will evaluate the site involved for interconnection and impact to OU's electrical system. Once the firm is selected, a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) will be executed.

# **Table of Contents**

| INTRODUCTION                                     |   |
|--|---|
| Introduction and Purpose of Project              | 1 |
| Description of Solicitation                      |   |
| General Information                              |   |
| General Information                              |   |
| PROJECT DESCRIPTION                              |   |
| Scope of Project                                 | 2 |
| INSTRUCTIONS                                     |   |
| Instructions                                     | 2 |
| PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND FORMAT                 | 3 |
| Proposal Requirements and Format                 |   |
| Operations and Maintenance Plan                  |   |
| PRICING MATRIX                                   |   |
| Pricing Matrix                                   |   |
|  |   |
| EVALUATION                                       | 4 |
| Evaluation                                       | 4 |
|  |   |
|  | 5 |
| <ol> <li>OU Project Service Territory</li> </ol> |   |



#### INTRODUCTION

## **Introduction and Purpose of Project**

Oxford Utilities (OU), Oxford, Mississippi, currently purchases all power requirements from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). OU delivers 13 kV distribution power to approximately 10,200 consumers through 115 miles of distribution line within the city limits of Oxford, MS. The utility currently purchases all of its energy requirements from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The utility is planning to exercise the Flexibility Amendment in their newly signed TVA power contract which allows OU to purchase 5% of its energy from a different generation source than TVA. The 5% of OU's energy demand is 3.335 MW for this solar generation request.

OU is releasing this Request for Proposal (RFP) to qualified solar providers. The submitted RFP will provide the solar providers experience, financial ratings, location of home office, and current and past projects that are similar in nature to OU's RFP.

#### **Description of Solicitation**

Oxford Utilities is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) to solar developers to ascertain the most qualified and responsive firms for this project. The submitted RFP will provide the solar developer's experience, financial ratings, location of home office, location of permanent office near OU's service territory, and current and past projects that are similar in nature to OU's proposal.

Each Respondent will bear any and all costs and expenses required to bear its response.

Subject to applicable laws and regulations, OU reserves the right to reject, at its sole discretion, any and all responses to this RFP.

#### **General Information**

The use of solar generation is driven by two major considerations, decrease in power purchase cost and enhancements in providing renewable energy service to the utilities' customers. Since many utilities have adopted the use of such systems, today's modern utility has expectations of having reliable and renewable power at their disposal to manage the cost of their utility services.



## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

#### **Scope of Project**

OU is planning on procuring the output from a 3.335 MW solar energy array including all the associated environmental attributes (Renewable Energy Credits, Certifications, etc). A potential site has not been selected by OU, therefore the solar provider should evaluate the service territory and identify potential sites as a part of their project. The site(s) must be inside of OU's service territory, or immediately adjacent, to allow connection to the OU electrical system. There should be no environmental concerns with the selected site. Sites identified will be subject to a system impact study. The solar provider will own, operate, and maintain the solar facility in accordance with the TVA guidelines to the Power Supply Flexibility Agreement (PPA). An executed PPA between the selected solar provider and OU is expected as part of this project.

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

## **Instructions**

Hard copy submission must be mailed to:

City of Oxford Attn: Ashley Atkinson 107 Courthouse Square Oxford, MS 38655

• Electronic submission may be uploaded to:

www.oxfordmsbids.com

- All submissions are due by March 24, 2022, 2:00 pm CST. No proposal will be accepted after this
  date.
- All submissions shall be marked in the email title line or on outside of a sealed envelope as "Oxford Utilities Request for Proposal 3.335 MW Solar Array".
- All questions regarding this RFP shall be directed via email to:

Scott Burleson: sburleson@allenhoshall.com

 Solar providers shall provide detailed experience, capabilities, and equipment/supplies to perform the proposed proposal criteria. Proposal shall include contact(s) information for solar provider including contact name, email, address, and telephone number.



## PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND FORMAT

## **Proposal Requirements and Format**

- Solar Provider Description The description of the solar provider shall include information about
  the solar providers history, corporate office location, and nearest local office location. Company
  ownership structure, form of organization (partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited
  liability company, or sole proprietor, etc.) date formed, and jurisdiction. Provide overall summary
  of the solar provider's solar generation experience and any additional solar provider information
  deemed relative.
- Project Understanding A brief narrative summarizing the solar provider's proposed scope of work covering, at a minimum, tasks identified in the RFP Scope of Work.
- Experience and Qualifications Detail experience as it relates to OU's request for a solar array and projects specifically in the TVA service territory.
- Project Teams and Resumes Provide a description and organization chart of the project team and identify key personnel and associated resumes that will be assigned to this project.
- References List five references and associated projects similar to this RFQ project. References shall include project name, location, contact information, and project time period from inception to energization.
- Financial information Submit the most recent audited financial statement of solar provider.
- Describe any litigation within the last five years related to the developer's projects.
- Pricing matrix Include proposers pricing matrix.

#### **Operations and Maintenance Plan**

Describe the developer's capabilities to monitor ongoing operations and response times for unscheduled outages. Provide a typical operations and maintenance (O&M) plan for projects of similar size including the duties to be performed and the schedule of those duties for the duration of a 20-year PPA term. Plans should include activities for both electrical equipment O&M and grounds maintenance. Address the minimum qualifications and/or certifications required of those performing electrical equipment O&M. Developer should detail if O&M is performed in-house or contracted to a third party. If a third party, name the organization(s) used to perform the O&M.



## **PRICING MATRIX**

Each proposer shall provide Purchased Power Agreement rates, expressed in \$/MWh, for the following matrix:

| 20 Year Fixed Rate price      | \$<br>/MWh fixed for 20 years                                    |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 20 Year Escalating Rate price | \$<br>/MWh, for Year One, escalating at 2% per year for 20 years |
| 25 Year Fixed Rate price      | \$<br>/MWh fixed for 25 years                                    |
| 25 Year Escalating Rate price | \$<br>/MWh, for Year One, escalating at 2% per year for 25 years |
| 30 Year Fixed Rate price      | \$<br>/MWh fixed for 30 years                                    |
| 30 Year Escalating Rate price | \$<br>/MWh, for Year One, escalating at 2% per year for 30 years |

A proposer which does not wish to propose a rate for any matrix elements should enter N/A for that rate.

For the purpose this PPA rate development, it should be assumed that the cost pf purchased property will be \$850,000, and the System Interconnection Cost will be \$350,000.

### **EVALUATION PROCESS**

#### **Evaluation Process**

A review and evaluation of the solar supplier's RFP will determine the most responsive and qualified solar supplier. A Table of Conformance (TOC), see below, will be used to evaluate each solar supplier's RFP requirements. Each proposal will be reviewed in detail with respect to each entry in the TOC. Once the TOC has been completed, an evaluation of the overall solutions will be made.

| TABLE OF CONFORMANCE |   |        |  |
|----------------------|---|--------|--|
| Category             | Description   | Points |  |
| 1                    | Overall Experience and Qualifications                   | 25     |  |
| 2                    | Relevant Projects in Operation and/or Under Development | 20     |  |
| 3                    | Projects and Personnel Experience in TVA Area           | 20     |  |
| 4                    | Proposed PPA Rates                                      | 20     |  |
| 5                    | Financial Ratings                                       | 15     |  |
| TOTAL POINTS         |   | 100    |  |

