

**THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS #1134**

**SOLAR POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

**1. INTENT AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Town of Bloomfield, Connecticut (TOB), is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) to obtain a Power Purchase Agreement offer resulting from the construction and operation of photovoltaic (PV) solar arrays at the Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center, Prosser Library (to be built), McMahon-Wintonbury Library and the Department of Public Works, shown in Exhibit B of this document.

**2. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

Prospective firms must attend a mandatory site visit at 11:00 am on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We will meet at the entrance of the property at Human Services Center, 330 Park Avenue Bloomfield CT 06002.

Prospective firms must respond thoroughly to the requirements of this RFP. The Proposal shall be a part of the Contract resulting from this RFP. Prospective firms are cautioned not to make claims or statements to which they are not prepared to commit contractually.

The TOB reserves the rights to: amend or terminate this Request for Proposal; accept all or any part of a proposal; reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; waive any technical defects, informalities or non-material deficiencies in a proposal; and award the proposal, in whole or in part, including accepting a proposal or part of a proposal, that, in its judgment, will be in the TOB's best interests.

The Contractor shall agree and warrant that it will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of sex, race, color, religion, age, marital status, ancestry, national origin, past history of mental disorder, mental retardation, physical disability, or other basis in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States, the State of Connecticut, or TOB.

The successful firm shall comply in all aspects with the Equal Employment Opportunity Act. A firm with 15 or more employees shall be required to have an Affirmative Action Plan which declares that the contractor does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or age, and which specifies goals and target dates to assure the implementation of equal employment. A firm with fewer than 15 employees shall be required to have a written equal opportunity policy statement declaring that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or age. Findings of noncompliance with applicable State and Federal equal opportunity laws and regulations could be sufficient reason for revocation or cancellation of this contract.

All terms, conditions, requirements, and procedures included in this RFP must be met for a response to be acceptable. If a Proposer fails to meet any material terms, condition, requirement of procedure, its response may be deemed unresponsive and disqualified.

**3. BID ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT:**

Adam Teff  
TitanGen General Manager  
750 Main Street, Suite 1000  
Hartford, CT 06103  
860-965-2884  
ATeff@TitanEnergyNE.com

4. EXPECTED DURATION OF CONTRACT SERVICES

Any contract resulting from this RFP is expected to terminate upon buyout or removal of the solar array.

5. RFP TIMELINE

All proposals must be received in the Town Hall, office of Purchasing and Risk Management located at 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT by **12:00 pm EST, January 16<sup>th</sup> 2024**. Two originals are required for the TOM and one digital copy of the proposal shall be submitted to the bid administrator. Late proposals will not be accepted.

Advertisement/RFP Available	December 7 <sup>th</sup> 2023
Mandatory Site Visit	11:00 am, December 20 <sup>th</sup> 2023
Deadline for Written Inquiries	3:00 pm, December 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2023
Responses Posted	December 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2023
Submission Deadline for Proposals	January 16 <sup>th</sup> 2024
Notification of Award	January 20 <sup>th</sup> 2024 (tentative)

6. USE OF SUBCONTRACTORS

The Proposer must identify any subcontractors that will be used on this project and describe the contractual arrangement that will exist with all subcontractors. The Proposer will be considered the prime Contractor and will be fully responsible for the performance of all services, including the quality and timeliness of work performed by the subcontractor.

7. NO GUARANTEE OF PURCHASE

TOB makes no guarantee, either expressed or implied, that any purchases will take place from any Contract or Agreement resulting from this RFP. Any statement made regarding past expenditures or estimated expenditures are for informational purposes only, and are not binding on TOB.

8. INQUIRIES

Proposers may submit written questions concerning this RFP to the bid administrator no later than the date specified in the RFP Timeline. All inquiries must be emailed to [ATeff@TitanEnergyNE.com](mailto:ATeff@TitanEnergyNE.com). Written inquiries received after the deadline for written inquiries will not be considered. Copies of questions and responses thereto will be distributed electronically via email, and posted on the Town's website and State of CT DAS bid source board no later than the date specified in the RFP Timeline.

9. ADDENDA TO RFP

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, or if additional data is necessary to clarify any of its Provisions, an addendum will be circulated electronically to all active bidders, and will be posted on the Town and State websites.

TOB intends to adhere to the schedule and dates specified in the RFP Timeline. However, if it is necessary, due to revisions made to this RFP, the proposal due date and all subsequent dates may be extended with notice of such changes posted on the TOB website.

**10. PROPOSAL PREPARATION COSTS**

Proposers must bear all cost associated with their proposals including preparation, copying, postage, and delivery costs. TOB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Proposers responding to this RFP.

**11. BID ADMINISTRATIVE FEE**

Proposers must include the bid administrative fee to the solar project cost as a form of compensation to the bid administrator. TOB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Proposers responding to this RFP that may relate to bid administrator fees. Please see Exhibit A for the Fee Agreement.

**12. CANCELLATION OF SOLICITATION**

TOB retains the right to cancel this Solicitation at any time prior to the execution and approval of a Contract. If this Solicitation is canceled, all Proposals received in response to this RFP will be rejected. All proposal preparation costs remain the responsibility of the Proposer.

**13. RETURN OF PROPOSALS**

TOB shall be under no obligation to return any proposals or materials submitted by a Proposer in response to this RFP.

**14. INCENTIVE STATUS**

It will be the responsibility of the chosen developer to apply for any necessary incentives associated with these projects. Please assume 2024 small NRES values.

**PROCUREMENT SCOPE**

**A. *PURPOSE***

The purpose of this project is for TOB to obtain a Power Purchase Agreement offer from a solar developer that will build, own and operate a PV solar array at the designated location.

**B. *SCOPE OF WORK***

It is the intent of TOB to enter into a PPA with the successful Proposer for a term of twenty years. The TOB shall pay no upfront costs related to the development of the solar PV systems arising from this RFP. All systems should be designed as behind the meter.

The successful Proposer shall provide fully managed photovoltaic services that include, but are not limited to, securing the necessary labor, services, equipment, permits, and approvals to develop a fully operational PV system. The Proposer will then commission, own, monitor, operate, and maintain the system after installation until buyout or removal.

### **EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS AND CONTRACT AWARD**

The following criteria will be used, without limitation, in determining the successful Proposer:

1. The Proposer's technical understanding of the services to be provided, its purpose and scope as evidenced by the quality of the proposal submitted.
2. The background and experience of the Proposer in providing similar services elsewhere, including the level of experience in working with municipalities and/or other governmental bodies of similar size, and the quality of services performed.
3. The specific background, education, qualifications and relevant experience of the individuals designated to provide services.
4. Commitment to TOB's timetable for the services to be rendered.
5. Location of the Proposer's service office(s).
6. Competitiveness of proposed fees, although TOB is not bound to select the Proposer who proposes the lowest fee for services TOB reserves the right to negotiate fees with the selected Proposer or to accept the proposal which is in the best interest of TOB.
7. The Proposer's responsiveness and compliance with the RFP requirements and conditions.
8. A review of references from other Connecticut-based municipal clients as provided in the Proposal submitted.

Proposals in response to this RFP will be reviewed against the criteria listed above, and an award of contract shall be made in accordance with standard purchasing procedures.

### **MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS**

#### **1. INSURANCE**

The selected Proposer shall be required to furnish a certificate of insurance as proof of the following insurance coverages within 10 (ten) days of receipt of Notice of Selection. Insurance shall be provided by an insurance company licensed to conduct business in the State of Connecticut with a Best's Key Rating of A/VIII, or better. TOB must approve any and all exceptions. Insurance coverage shall remain in full force for the duration of the contract term including any and all extensions or renewals thereof. Each insurance certificate shall contain 30 (thirty) day notice of cancellation. All renewal certificates shall be furnished at least 30 (thirty) days prior to policy expiration.

### **INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

A. Commercial General Liability: The contractor will maintain commercial general liability insurance covering all operations by or on behalf of the contractor on an occurrence basis against claims for personal injury (including bodily injury and death) and property damage (including loss of use). Such insurance will have these minimum limits:

Minimum Limits: \$1,000,000 each occurrence  
\$2,000,000 each occurrence if blasting is required  
\$2,000,000 general aggregate with dedicated limits per project site  
\$2,000,000 products and completed operations aggregate  
\$1,000,000 personal and advertising injury

B. Should blasting be required, all necessary permits for the use of explosives shall be obtained by the contractor or insured from the Fire Marshall.

C. Automobile Liability: The contractor will maintain business auto liability coverage for liability arising out of any auto, including owned, hired, and non-owned autos.

Minimum Limits: \$1,000,000 combined single limit each accident

D. Workers' Compensation: The contractor will maintain statutory workers' compensation and employer's liability insurance.

Minimum Limits: Workers' Compensation: statutory limit  
Employer Liability: \$500,000 bodily injury for each accident  
\$500,000 bodily injury by disease for each employee  
\$500,000 bodily injury disease aggregate

E. Umbrella/Excess Liability: The contractor will maintain coverage applying over the underlying Commercial General Liability, Automobile Liability, and Employer Liability section of the Workers Compensation coverage. TOB shall have the sole discretion in increasing or reducing the Umbrella/Excess Liability coverage requirements depending on the scope and/or size of the work to be performed by Contractor/Bidder.

Minimum Limits: \$3,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 annual aggregate

Coverage applies over the underlying Commercial General Liability, Automobile Liability, pollution liability (where applicable), and Employer Liability section of the Workers Compensation Coverage.

F. Professional Liability (for consultants, engineers, and other individuals/businesses providing professional services)

Each Claim/Wrongful Act:	\$1,000,000
Annual Aggregate	\$1,000,000

TOB shall be included as additional insureds on the commercial general liability, commercial auto liability and umbrella/excess liability coverage. Contractor coverage shall be primary and non-contributory.

Cancellation of insurance or other termination of insurance policies required without immediate replacement thereof may be considered a default in the terms and conditions of any such agreement TOB may choose to enter in the future. The Proposer agrees that such default may be cured by procurement of insurance by TOB on behalf of Proposer, as the Proposer's expense, at TOB's option.

#### **Indemnification/Hold Harmless Agreement/Waiver of Subrogation**

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold the TOB, its officers, agents and employees harmless from and against all liability, claims, loss, fines, damage to person and property, judgments and expenses, including attorney fees, that arise from or are alleged to arise from the performance of this Agreement, and the negligence or willful misconduct of Contractor and any of its employees and agents, unless such claim is determined to be the result of the sole negligence or willful misconduct of TOB's officers, agents or employees. This indemnification provision shall survive termination of this agreement.

The contractor will require all insurance policies in any way related to the work and secured and maintained by the contractor to include clauses stating each underwriter will waive all rights of recovery, under subrogation and otherwise, against the TOB. The contractor will require of subcontractors, by appropriate written agreements, similar waivers each in favor of all parties enumerated in this section.

#### **FORMAT FOR PROPOSALS**

##### Outside of Sealed Envelope

RFP Project Title

##### TITLE PAGE

RFP Project Title

Name of proposing firm

Address and telephone number of proposing firm

Name and title of contact person

Date of submission

Please provide a *Table of Contents* after the Title page giving a clear identification by section and by page number. Such sections will be those identified below.

##### **A. COMPANY OVERVIEW**

Describe your firm and, if applicable, associated partners and subcontractors. Include names and contact information for all personnel responsible for project development and deployment and for all individuals responsible for negotiation and contract provision sign-off. Include resumes for key personnel.

##### **B. FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

A statement of Financial Qualifications is required, fully describing the financing plan. It should include biographies of the team member(s) involved, and information detailing your track record for no less than your past five projects. TOB is looking for a strong track record

for financing similar projects, where parties have financing available or a solid record of obtaining financing.

**C. PAST PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

A project development track record that includes a minimum of three individual Connecticut projects of similar size and disposition is required including relevant contact information of the clients that can be used for references. A comprehensive listing of all awarded projects (successful and unsuccessful) in the past two years should be included with sufficient information that will allow TOB to understand the developers' nature, disposition, size, and status.

**D. PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS**

Please provide detailed plans of the solar array that could be installed at the building and on the grounds to the northeast. The developer must include a plan/diagram that depicts the layout of the array. The developer must specify system equipment to be installed, including, but not limited to panels, inverters, racking systems, etc. The developer must indicate whether the system proposes any roof penetrations and the historic success/failure ratio for such system. Plans must include annual production estimates and relevant guarantees for each year in the PPA term.

**E. SCHEDULE**

Respondents must include a proposed project development schedule. Schedules should present milestone dates which reflect an understanding of the local permits and approvals required. Local understanding will be considered in selection.

**F. PRICING & CONTRACT**

PPA must demonstrate a cost savings on energy purchased and have no upfront cost. Respondents are strongly encouraged to demonstrate savings as they relate to both usage and if applicable, delivery. A sample contract must be included.

**G. PROPOSAL SIGNATURE PAGE**

Refer to Attached Sample

**PROPOSAL SIGNATURE PAGE**

An officer of the firm duly authorized to bind the firm to the proposal submitted must sign all proposals. Responses to all sections of this proposal must be completed where appropriate and included in the sealed package submitted to the Purchasing Department. Failure to properly sign the proposal and include all required information may result in the rejection of the proposal.

The information in this proposal and all attachments hereto is true and correct, and the officer signing below is duly authorized to bind this firm to such proposal.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_\_\_.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of Firm:

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## Exhibit A

Proposer acknowledges and agrees to the following payment terms:

- A. Proposer, if selected under this RFP, agrees to pay TitanGen, LLC the RFP Fee in accordance with the terms set forth within the RFP. For the avoidance of doubt, the specific amount will be equal to the number of installed watts (DC) multiplied by \$.15.
- B. The RFP Fee payment schedule shall be as follows: 30% within ten days of the NRES award date; 30% within 10 days of Commencement of Construction of the System; and 40% within 10 days of receiving Permission to Operate from Eversource Energy.
- C. Failure to pay the RFP Fee in a timely manner shall constitute an event of default and shall disqualify the selected Proposer from this RFP.
- D. Proposer agrees that this RFP Fee Agreement is nonnegotiable, and if Proposer attempts to amend the RFP Fee Agreement in any way, or if Proposer fails to include the signed RFP Fee Agreement with their proposal, Proposer will be disqualified from this RFP.

By signing below, Proposer agrees to all terms and conditions of the RFP and this RFP Fee Agreement.

**AGREED AND ACCEPTED:**

Proposer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposer Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Proposer Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Exhibit B

- 330 Park Avenue – rooftop BTM system, roof replaced 2020
- Prosser Library – rooftop BTM system – to be built Q1 25
- McMahon Wintonbury Library – rooftop BTM system, roof to be replaced 2024
- DPW – parking canopy desired in the space marked below. 14' minimum clearance is required.

