

PJM Capacity Market Withdrawal Study Q & A

Q1. What is the deadline for the submission of the application?

A1. It is January 18, 2021

Q2. When must the study be completed and delivered?

A2. See Section 7.1 of the RFA. July 1, 2021

Q3. Regarding generalized modeling efforts mentioned in the RFA, does DOEE have a particular view on what kind of modeling it would be looking for?

A3. DOEE expects the study to have data-supported findings and conclusions regarding the questions of (1) is it possible to withdraw from the PJM capacity market and procure capacity through alternative means and (2) would it be a good idea to do so for the District of Columbia and its ratepayers, considering the context of its climate and energy goals.

DOEE believes there may be more than one analytical approach to answering these questions, and it expects the applicants to explain to DOEE what modeling may be necessary, and, given the limited budget, cost-efficient, to obtain robust and meaningful findings and conclusions.

Q4. Is DOEE interested in electric sector modeling (including production cost modeling and capacity expansion modeling) as part of this project?

A4. DOEE is open to considering any modeling proposed in an application that will yield robust and meaningful findings to help address the main questions of the study.

Recognizing that the budget is limited, DOEE is interested in an efficient and innovative analytical approach to answer these questions.

Q5. Should the study focus on Pepco DC LDA (locational deliverability area) or should it also include Pepco MD LDA?

A5. The study should focus on Pepco DC LDA, meaning the study should be focused with the impact on DC ratepayers. DOEE recognizes that Pepco LDA includes Pepco MD territory, and DOEE is open to exploring how to subdivide the Pepco DC LDA from the overall Pepco LDA

Q6. Will the grant be affected mid-course by any subsequent changes in the Minimum Offer Price Rule (MOPR) or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) leadership?

A6. No, the grant will not be impacted by any potential future changes to the MOPR or at FERC

Q7. Will the grant be awarded to an application with the lowest cost?

A7. See (Section 1.4 Competition for a Grant Award) of the RFA.

Q8. How will the grantee be paid?

A8. See Section 6.2 (Reimbursement of Project Expenditures and Disbursement of Funds) of the RFA.

Q9. Would it be acceptable to express the budget using commercial hourly billing rates?

A9. Yes

Q10. Is federal funding associated with this grant?

A10. See Section 1.3 (Source of Funds) of the RFA

Q11. With respect to Appendix 3 – Cover Sheet refers to applying for “both projects.” Can you confirm that this grant is associated with only one project?

A11. Yes, only one project is associated with this grant.

Q12. With respect to “Local Entities” referenced in Appendix 5, how is that term defined?

A12. Local Entities are defined as organization located and licensed in the District for business

Q13. Can you address the purpose of the insurance requirement for this project?

A13. First, no insurance is required at the time of submitting an application, but some insurance may be required for the grantee, as a condition for receiving funds.

Generally speaking, the insurance requirements are part of a standard set of requirements for grantees that provide goods and physical services, such as design and construction firms, for example. DOEE recognizes that the service sought in this grant is essentially an academic-natured study, resulting only in a written report, which is quite different from a construction project. After DOEE makes an award, the selected grantee may raise the insurance requirement for discussion. This is because, as the RFA advises, DOEE may waive a requirement in writing.

Q14. The “Notice of Funding Availability” states that five hard copies of application submissions must be submitted to an address (address not given) and an electronic copy must be emailed to RFA.pjmstudy@dc.gov. The RFP states on page 7 that one electronic copy must be submitted to the same email address, but makes no mention of submitting hard copies. Please confirm that submission is limited to one electronic copy, in PDF format, emailed to RFA.pjmstudy@dc.gov.

A14. Yes, due to COVID-19 and telecommuting, DOEE will accept one electronic copy.

Q15. We are a privately held company and thus our fiscal year budgets and financial statements are confidential. As an alternative, we can share information about the types of clients we are under contract to, value of contracts, and history in the consulting business. Will our inability to directly respond to DC DOEE's request for financial information (RFP Section 3, sub-section 3.4, parts (f) and (g)) eliminate us from consideration?

A15. DOEE’s process requires the submission of an audited or unaudited financial statement. These statements are kept confidential and are reviewed only for the purpose of the application. Not providing a financial statement may disqualify you as a

potential applicant. That said, DOEE may be open to accepting financial statements with sensitive information redacted.

Q16. Page 21 of the RFP provides a checklist for applicants. Item 12 requires a Tax Exemption Affirmation Letter. Page 14 of the RFP appears to indicate that this letter is only applicable to non-profit organizations. Please confirm that this requirement is not applicable for private entities (i.e., organizations that are not non-profits), or please advise how a private entity can meet this application requirement.

A16. Yes, this only applies to those entities that possess a Tax Exemption Certification from the government (IRS)

Q17. Page 15 of the RFP states in section (i) “System for Award Management (SAM) with Federal Government,” that “Applicants must be registered in the System for Award Management at www.sam.gov and provide evidence of this registration as part of its application package to DOEE.” We were previously registered in SAM.gov and we are in the process of renewing our registration. In our efforts to renew this registration we have hit a system issue, which has been escalated with the SAM helpdesk to a Tier 3 request. Is it acceptable to state in our proposal that we are working on this registration (and provide the latest status), or will this lack of registration at the time our application is submitted eliminate us from consideration?

A17. Yes, simply providing the latest status of the SAM registration will be sufficient at the time of application

Q18. Are there any other information that applicants should be aware of in term of processes specific to the District of Columbia?

A18. The selected grantee will need to register as a vendor with the DC Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP), which is needed to authorize payments to the grantee. This process may take some time, so it is advisable to collect the necessary documents together to expedite the process. You can find more information here: <https://ocp.dc.gov/service/vendor-workshops-and-training>. OCP provides a monthly workshop to explain the vendor registration process. The next workshop will be held on January 28, 2021, 1-3 pm EST. The workshop registration can be found here: <https://ocp.dc.gov/page/general-vendor-workshop-registration-form>

Q19. The RFA materials state the following: “Applicant’s Current Fiscal Year Budget: The Applicant must submit its full budget, including projected income, for the current fiscal year, using a format at least as detailed as that presented in Appendix 4. Also, the Applicant should submit a comparison of budgeted versus actual income and expenses of the fiscal year to date.”

It is unclear to us what exactly is being requested here. It seems to blend the notion of a project budget and a broader corporate budget. Can you please clarify what is expected?

A19. For the referenced paragraph, Section 3.4(f) of the RFA is referring to the organization’s (e.g., corporate) budget only. Documents such as 10-K or an annual report containing the required information will suffice.

Q20. Are federal funds included in the grant, as I saw certain audits are required “If federal funds have been included in the DOEE Grant to the Grantee”

A20. No federal funds are involved with this grant.

Q21. Can the submitted billing rates be kept as confidential information?

A21. Yes.