

RFP 2025-001

Request for Energy Proposals – Microgrid/Resiliency Hubs

February 7, 2025

FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF: **Energy Proposal Microgrid/Resiliency Hubs at Montgomery County Facilities**

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ALL SOLICITATION ADDENDUMS MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE BIDDER PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED IN THE SOLICITATION (AS AMENDED) FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS. **FAILURE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AN ADDENDUM MAY BE CAUSE TO REJECT THE BID.**

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DESCRIPTION OF ADDENDUM:

Additional Questions Relating to Request for Energy Proposals Microgrid/Resiliency Hubs at Montgomery County Facilities

THE SOLICITATION PROVISION ENTITLED "SOLICITATION ADDENDUM" IS APPLICABLE TO THIS ADDENDUM. THE CHANGES SET FORTH BELOW ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED INTO THE ABOVE-CITED SOLICITATION. THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED FOR **RECEIPT OF BIDS IS NOT EXTENDED.**

NAME OF BIDDER:

(Type or print)
NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON
AUTHORIZED TO SIGN BID:

(Type or Print)

BIDDER'S SIGNATURE

_____ DATE _____

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This addendum is supplemental to RFP 2025-001 for the **Request for Energy Proposal Microgrid/Resiliency Hubs at Montgomery County Facilities** project. These responses shall be part of the solicitation as if originally shown.

DESCRIPTION OF ADDENDUM

- I. The facility listed as Germantown Community Recreation Center address should have been listed as 18905 Kingsview Road, Germantown, MD 20874.

II. RFP RFI Responses

1. We understand the contractor is required to install chargers at the sites along with the microgrids. Which type(s) of electric vehicles will be stored at the sites?

Response: Each site will have a mixture of Level 2 and Level 3 chargers to support the County's transition to electric vehicles. The number and type of each will be site specific and will be determined upon the final contract.

2. Will any of the installed chargers be open to the public?

Response: The intent is to have an open protocol that will allow both public and County Fleet charging. Final configuration will be finalized with the contract.

3. Is the county able to identify any locations that are due for generator replacement or require additional generator capacity due to load growth?

Response: The County will provide specific generator information to the successful bidder (s) upon their review of the specific site. For planning purposes in the proposal, consideration for each option, using the existing generator set or providing a new generator should be considered with the potential of battery energy storage.

4. We see that the county uses EnergyCap for energy/utility data reporting; can bidders be granted access to that via a log-in credential to access more granular energy consumption data such as:

- a. 8760 or 15-minute interval data on electric usage
- b. Historic cost and cost breakdown data
- c. Utility, supply co., and tariff structure on a site-by-site basis
- d. If this data cannot be provided via an EnergyCap login, can the County make it available to bidders via another mechanism?

Response: EnergyCap does not provide 15 minute interval data. Historical cost data is not important as this is a Energy-as-a-Service (EaaS) contract and other costs will be considered, and each site will be a stand-alone cost analysis.

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5. The RFP requests bidders bid a PPA rate by site. Can these financial offers be structured in alternative ways? For instance, a kWh rate for renewable energy, w/ a monthly fixed fee for resilience / reliability assets? An Energy Services Contract focusing on demand charge or total bill reduction? Other?

Response: Pricing can be provided as a commodity charge and a resilience charge. Other pricing options are also welcome to be offered.

6. The RFP does not appear to contemplate a process or period of time for site evaluations and engineering due diligence, which can have a material impact on final PPA price. How does the county plan to address these variables in its selection of pre-qualified vendors, and should bidders anticipate that final confirmation of these due diligence factors will not be undertaken until after a PPA is executed, such that PPA contracts should be structured to allow for a price revision upon completion of final engineering, permitting, and interconnection is completed?

Response: Base commodity rates and resiliency rates are established in the PPA following the establishment of base system design for a facility. Amendments are possible to reflect changes due to change in system components, interconnect charges, etc., as the project moves to final design.

7. Is Attachment 5 – Project Power Purchasing Agreement the required PPA form, or can bidders redline / submit their own PPA form?

Response: Attachment 5 is the PPA that is the basis of this RFEP. Redlines can be suggested, but it should be understood that the document reflects the scope, terms, and conditions for performance under this RFEP and the proposals should reflect these requirements.

8. Does the County require any type of performance guarantee or uptime guarantees? Can those be priced separately? Can they be separated by technology type?

Response: Please review the Performance Guarantee and Performance Criteria in Attachment 5. Yes, they can be separated.

9. Does the County seek to have microgrids for each location, or only for those facilities designated as “Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (OEMHS) designated shelter/resiliency hubs”? If the answer is “no” do they want visibility into all the locations even if all sites are not “islandable microgrids?”

Response: All sites must have the capability to island from the grid. Visibility is required for all sites.

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10. Can PPA pricing be offered with contingency to account for unknown/uncertain state-level incentives at the time of bid (MD BTM BESS incentive values and program rules are not due to be published until after bid deadline). Currently there is much confusion as to what rebates and incentives will be available for these types of projects.

Response: Please bid to what you know is currently available and adjustments will be made as funding sources and amounts change. Include clear statements of how pricing was determined from what Investment Tax Credits, rebates, grants, etc. to build the pricing/fee.

11. Please clarify requirements of “local” contractor. Is this defined within a geographic region (i.e. DC Metro) or does the business have to be located in Montgomery County?

Response: Please review the regulations that are posted on the Montgomery County procurement website, <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/PRO/DBRC/index.html> . This review and scoring will be reflective of businesses that would qualify under the County’s procurement policies.

12. The RFP indicated conduit for EV chargers but does not really specify which locations would need this, or what the level of interest is regarding Level 1, 2 or 3 chargers might be. Can you help clarify which facilities require EV Charging, the size of the fleet at those locations, with vehicle data, and any known route/usage patterns, and if they have estimated load requirements? Montgomery County has transitioned some of its library fleet to Lightnings and some other County vehicles as well, any requirements here for the purposes of the RFP?

Response: Each site will have a mixture of Level 2 and Level 3 chargers to support the County’s transition to electric vehicles. The number and type of each will be site specific and will be determined upon the final contract.

13. Is there a target COD date for these projects? Financing offers are highly contingent on project delivery timelines.

Response: The County is anxious to move forward with these projects as quickly as possible. The schedule for performance will depend on the number of contractors that are selected and the number of projects assigned to each contractor. The County will work with the Contractors for the implementation of a robust program over a realistic schedule.

14. It appears from the RFP document that the County reserves the right to adjust the list of included / or excluded locations from the scope---can bidders similarly bid for a discrete

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list of sites that they feel meet their requirements for project development and project finance requirements?

Response: Yes, and the committee scoring will take this into account.

15. Is there a preference for the type of solar PV solution is deployed? I.e. does the County prefer rooftop sited assets to carport canopies, vs utilizing available unused land on a site-by-site basis? If there is a preference or criteria set for the type of PV deployment can the County, make that available for bidders?

Response: You should use as much space as possible to install the maximum amount of solar PV that is possible. Parking lot canopy is most likely, roof mounted is dependent on the life expectancy of the current roofing system, and ground mount will need to work with other site uses and stormwater management requirements for the site.

End of Addendum No. 01 Description