

City of Auburn – Solar RFP Responses Oct 22 V2

Question: Would the City of Auburn entertain a PPA for solar energy from a nearby system that was located outside of the City territory but still within Maine?

Yes. The City of Auburn will entertain PPA's or Credit Purchase Agreements from outside of the City. The City would encourage potential bidders to provide any options believed to be suitable for the City. For each of the options, the City would encourage the bidders to include any relevant project details that will help the City evaluate the likely success of project(s) and ultimate purchase agreement by the City.

Question: What is the City's electric load? Do you expect this RFP to offset 100% of the town's energy use?

For purposes of this RFP, please assume the City will consume 4-5 million kW hours per year. Given the nature of this RFP, the City would encourage bidders to assume the City has a representative municipal load profile and state any assumption (i.e. volume, customer type, etc.) that will impact the pricing for a purchase agreement. The City's ultimate decision to procure will depend on the pricing and the opportunity for savings or revenues from these opportunities.

Question: May we schedule a time to visit the identified sites or should we do that on our own?

The City asks bidder do their own due diligence. Given the nature of this RFP, the City will evaluate the bidders on the offering, team and how clearly projects or opportunities are conceived. Projects and teams that are believed likely to be more successful based on clarity of proposal, details or assumptions will score better in the evaluation criteria by the City. Bidders are strongly encouraged to state assumptions for best case and realistic project outcomes for various options proposed. Were possible, bidders are encouraged to identify project allowances that have been assumed under various pricing scenarios.

Question: Section 2.8 Bid Content on Page 2-2 of the RFP states that bidders should provide a proposed PPA and/or Site Lease Agreement as part of their bid package; however, forms of contract were provided as part of the RFP package. Is the City willing to enter into a PPA or Lease agreement as provided by the winning bidder or will the form of contracts provided in the RFP prevail? Please clarify.

The City will consider other forms of agreement; however, the agreements provided may serve as a basis for negotiation and should be reviewed for contract compatibility.

Question: How many paper copies should be provided in the proposal submission?

Please provide two copies of the proposed offers.

Question: Can you provide topographic drawings of the sites? Can they be provided in DWG format, if available?

At this time the City has limited information on the sites and is seeking indicative pricing and proposals for project development. For the purposes of this RFP, bidders are encouraged to use industry standards, experience and clearly stated assumptions or allowances as a basis for proposals.

Question: Can you provide information regarding the availability of 3-phase lines at each of the proposed sites?

The City cannot confirm the availability or suitability of interconnection for 3-phase lines near the sites. The City will defer to the bidder on their belief of electrical integration compatibility.

Question: At the Hackett Road site; is the City amenable to tree removal and trimming if necessary?

The City is amenable to tree removal and trimming as necessary. For the purposes of this RFP, please identify the needed clearing and resulting savings/revenue achieved by project deployment at this site. Once the City has received these concepts and other stakeholder input, the City will more definitively evaluate tree removal and trimming.