



2020 Renewable Energy & Storage RFO | Questions & Answers [All]

Questions submitted by November 5 deadline and answered during webinar:

1. How far away can I wheel power to the 2020 Renewable Energy & Storage RFO?

There is no explicit limitation on distance to CAISO. So long as the energy is deliverable to the CAISO projects can be sited outside of California.

2. What is the max yield price of expected PPA rate?

There is no specific PPA price ceiling. This is an open solicitation seeking the most competitive pricing.

3. Are third parties able to enter into the PPA agreement?

Respondents may submit for a project that they do not own, so long as they are an authorized agent of that party. EBCE is looking to transact on source specific projects.

4. In regards to the stand-alone storage option described in the RFO, will EBCE accept a non-conforming offer for the two-hour battery option described on page 12? Specifically, would EBCE accept a term less than 10/15 years? Would EBCE be open to an RA only contract or a combination of a subset of contract years being a full toll and other years being just RA?

EBCE is open to Respondents submitting Offers for variations, so long as the standard conforming Offers are also included in the submission package. EBCE is open to terms of less than 10 years and variations on RA only/tolling arrangements. This is a change from the original published protocol which stated that 5-year terms were only acceptable for Shaped Clean Energy Hedge

5. With respect to the installed MW capacity limit of 10 – 150MW (not including storage), will EBCE accept offers with a conditions precedent (CP) that any additional MW capacity for a project larger than 150MW be contracted with another party? For example, if a bidder has a 175MW RPS project, will EBCE accept a bid for 150MW with CP that the remaining 25MW of capacity be contracted by another party?

EBCE is open to Offers for partial offtake of projects larger than 150MW so long as assumptions and status relative to the sales process for the remaining capacity, e.g. any CP for uncontracted portions, are made explicitly clear in the Offer Supplement, as requested.

6. For RPS + Energy Storage bids, understanding that the Storage Rate will be based upon annual Storage Capacity Testing, does EBCE have a preference with respect to Storage Capacity Output: 1) Storage Degradation over the life of the PPA or 2) Augmentation to maintain MW nameplate across the PPA tenor?

EBCE's standard conforming Offer requires a degrading schedule over the life of the PPA. EBCE is open to consider offer variations that include augmentation. Any Offers with augmentation must also include clear details on when and how the system is augmented and the contractual rights/obligations to augment.



Questions submitted during and immediately following the webinar (relative to Nov. 17 deadline):

1. When is the NOI due for Nov 17 bids?

Friday, November 13 by 2pm PT. This allows the two-business-day turnaround for EBCE to get Respondents their Dropbox submission folder link in time for the Tuesday, November 17 early Offer deadline.

2. If an RA contract already exists for a storage site, can a partial toll be offered?

EBCE is open to Respondents submitting Offers for variations, so long as the standard conforming Offers are also included in the submission package. EBCE is open to variations on RA only/tolling arrangements.

3. Is it necessary for stand-alone storage toll projects to have completed a Phase I interconnection study?

Yes, as is noted in the requirements outlined in Section 6.b.5 of the protocol.

4. Will you consider offers for Ancillary Services or an Energy Spread hedge?

EBCE is open to Respondents submitting Offers for variations, so long as the standard conforming Offers are also included in the submission package.

5. For product 2 (RPS+storage), is an RPS generation profile required? The overview instructions make it sound like a generation profile is not necessary for this product.

Generation profile is required for product 2 (RPS+storage). The RPS Instructions tab provides more detailed instructions for the RPS component of products 1 and 2.

6. To clarify, do respondents have to provide ALL forms of required standard offer for a product if they want to submit any proposal for that type of product, or just at least one form of required standard offer?

Respondents must complete ALL required Standard Offers for the product being offered in order to constitute a complete Offer. Respondents can then provide variations in addition to the required Standard Offer(s) listed for that product.

7. What exactly is a Phase I Impact Study?

Interconnection Impact Studies are executed to assess the deliverability and reliability of interconnecting the proposed project at the proposed location. The CAISO performs the studies based on applicable ISO Tariff and in coordination with the applicable PTOs. A Phase I Impact Study is the first layer of analysis executed by the CAISO.

More information on the CAISO Interconnection Request Process can be found here:

<http://www.caiso.com/planning/Pages/GeneratorInterconnection/InterconnectionRequest/Default.aspx>.

More information on the CAISO Interconnection Studies can be found here:

<http://www.caiso.com/planning/Pages/GeneratorInterconnection/InterconnectionStudy/Default.aspx>.



8. On the last slide you mentioned a 5-year term can you reflect on that once again?

EBCE is open to terms of 5 years for all products as acceptable variations in addition to the required Standard Offers.

9. Will a list of potential bidders be available for review as a sub?

No.

10. Will shortlist deposits for TPD Affidavit offers be due earlier than those for the standard track? If so, what is the timing for these shortlist deposits?

Yes, Exclusivity Agreement and Shortlist deposits will be due following shortlist notifications and acceptance of exclusivity.

11. The RFO Protocol mentions that projects will be screened for environmental conflict areas. Does EBCE have criteria of how this is determined?

This is a qualitative assessment based on site location. Areas that are considered to have high environmental conflict are those that impact state level conservation, could endanger wildlife, and where an installation would greatly impact surrounding land and resources. For further information on how location is assessed through the RFO refer to the Permitting & Environmental tab in the Offer Form and the Offer Supplement Requirements (Attachment D) for the qualitative questions.

12. Will EBCE consider a project with a 2025 COD? Will EBCE consider a project with an interconnection study Phase 1 that will be received in January 2021?

EBCE is looking for projects with COD no later than 12/31/2024. Phase I studies must be received by the time of the Offer submission.

13. Are projects converted to EO (i.e., previously requested FCDS but had to convert to EO), that are planning to submit a TPD affidavit on 12/4 eligible for the expedited shortlist timeline? If shortlisted, these projects could compete in CAISO's TPD allocation process as Group 5.

Yes, energy-only projects that are seeking FCDS may participate in the early submission process.

14. Is a past affidavit that resulted in no TPD allocation an acceptable document to substantiate interconnection status (per pg. 14 of the RFP protocol) for projects that had to convert to EO but have an opportunity to compete in TPD allocation as Group 5 if shortlisted?

Yes, "Application for FCDS or PCDS and previously submitted CAISO TPD Affidavit indicating to which Allocation Group the project is applying" is an acceptable option to substantiate interconnection status.

15. In Offer Form 1, RPS+storage Details tab, to what is "RA schedule" referring?

The "RA Schedule" column (N) is requesting the lowest monthly Qualifying Capacity (QC) of Resource Adequacy for each contract year for projects where the QC changes over the year. If the QC does not change over the course of the year, then please just enter the QC value provided in that contract year.

16. In Offer Form 1: Storage Offer Terms tab, what is meant by "Energy deliverability", "RA deliverability", and "Ancillary service deliverability"?

The "Energy deliverability", "RA deliverability", and "Ancillary service deliverability" columns (M, N, O, respectively) request a Yes/No selection from the dropdown to denote whether or not the storage resource will provide those respective products in each contract year.

17. Is it EBCE's expectation that for RA counting purposes, a 2-hr battery would have a Qualifying Capacity equal to 50% of its nameplate capacity (e.g. an 80 MW 2-hr battery would have a Qualifying Capacity of 40 MW)?

That is a correct assessment for stand-alone battery storage.

18. Will EBCE consider proposals for As-Available RPS plus Energy Storage offers if only the storage capacity has FCDS and the generation portion is Energy Only or PCDS? If yes, where should Bidder specify this aspect of the Offer (it does not appear there is a field for this in Offer Form 1)?

Yes, EBCE will consider proposals where the generation and storage portions of a project have different FCDS classification. Please provide applicable details in each of the RPS Facility Info and Storage Toll Info tabs as well as the related RA NQC that is being offered.

19. In Offer Form 1, what will EBCE use the "Minimum energy from RPS (in%)" for?

This field (column T, on the "RPS Plus Storage Details" tab) tells EBCE how much energy from the RPS generating resource will be used to charge the battery, so we can determine how much grid power will be required to charge the storage facility, if needed.

20. Will EBCE consider projects with a lower level of site control on BLM land?

EBCE will consider projects with a lower level of site control secured on BLM land. Sufficient details must be provided in the supplemental information to elaboration on the process of site control, current status, and the nature of why the project is de-risked.



Questions submitted by final question deadline:

- 21. EBCE's RFO requests proof of Interconnection Study results and/or Full Capacity Deliverability Status. As an existing facility with an executed Generator Interconnection Agreement ("GIA"), would you prefer to receive a copy of the entire 100+ page GIA document (EBCE will need to agree to the confidentiality agreement required in the GIA) or is CAISO's Net Qualifying Capacity List sufficient as this file will include the current deliverability status for all generating facilities within CAISO's territory?**

As is stated in Section 3.a.ii under the header 'Existing Resources', no interconnection documentation is required to be submitted at the time of Offer for existing resources. Should EBCE request the documentation at any point after submission, it will be required to be submitted at that time.

- 22. When submitting multiple offers with 10, 15, and 20 year terms, would you prefer to have individual Offer Form excel files dependent on term length or incorporate all potential offers in one form?**

One (1) Offer Form should be submitted per facility location, with all variations included within the same file. The Offer Forms have space to accommodate for variations. To the extent that there are significant differences in configurations and/or assumptions between the product outputs from the Standard Offers and the variations from one site, then it is acceptable to submit a second Offer Form for the variations offered from that site, with clear explanation and direction documented in the Offer Supplement.

- 23. What effect, if any, will the outcome of the CAISO's Maximum Import Capability Stabilization and Multi-Year Allocation Initiative have on EBCE's valuation of out of state projects?**

EBCE will evaluate of out of state projects with consideration of the current multi-year MIC initiative. CAISO has stated they intend to move forward with the initiative that would facilitate long-term contracting for out of state resources dedicated to LSEs that serve load inside CAISO. As of 11/13/20, the CAISO has drafted tariff language to progress the initiative and the expectation is a multi-year MIC allocation process will be implemented. If the initiative is not passed, EBCE may lower its valuation on the Resource Adequacy value stream from out of state projects.

Likewise, regarding the Maximum Import Capability Stabilization initiative, this is a methodological change regarding how the CAISO will calculate available RA import capability at each inter-tie location. The CAISO is proposing to increase the sample size for data they use for calculating the results, which will create a bit more stability in the year-to-year values. This has generally been accepted as a positive in the stakeholder process and EBCE will consider this initiative in its valuation of out of state offers.

- 24. With regard to the location of energy storage projects, does EBCE have a preference for projects located in the PG&E territory to match its load profile?**

We will evaluate all projects relative to basis risk to do an appropriate project valuation of the offered products at the offered site.



25. The RFO states that EBCE will accept variations on tolling arrangements for stand-alone storage. Would EBCE be interested in a partial-toll excluding RA? What about other products such as Ancillary Services or an Energy Spread?

We are looking for bundled products and that is our preference, though we are open to Respondents submitting Offers for variations, so long as the standard conforming Offers are also included in the submission package and the variations are clearly explained in the Offer Supplement.

26. Does EBCE have a preferred start date/period for storage projects to come online?

We are accepting Offers for projects with deliveries in calendar years 2021, 2022, 2023, or 2024, and have a preference for projects that begin delivery earlier within this window.

27. The RFO states a tenor of 10 years for storage but will EBCE accept shorter terms (e.g. 3, 5, 7 years)?

As was spoken to during the Respondent Webinar, as well as in the subsequent Revised Protocol and Early Period Q&A document, EBCE will accept terms down to a minimum of 5 years for any product.