



## East Bay Community Energy & San José Clean Energy 2022 Long-Term Resource RFO

March 3, 2022 RFO Webinar Q&A

### **Questions:**

1. ["I had a clarification question on long duration storage \(Product 5\). Our understanding of PUC Order is that long duration storage is not required until June 1, 2026. However, RFO is requesting proposals for standalone storage no later than June 1, 2025 COD. Can we submit a bid for 8HR standalone with a COD on or prior to June 1, 2026?"](#)
2. ["For projects being submitted to the RFO under Product 2, just confirming that we are, 1\) required to submit at least one configuration with a 10-year term, and 2\) that configurations with terms up to 20 years will be accepted/considered."](#)
3. ["For Stand-Alone Energy Storage projects, are EBCE and SJCE open to other contracting structures such as RA-only or Financial Toll?"](#)
4. ["Do geothermal resource qualify since they carry emissions?"](#)
5. ["Can you please repost the offer form where the comments are not locked and blocking the table details on certain tabs? The comments overlap not only the table headers but each other making it difficult to read all of it and respond properly."](#)
6. ["In the protocol for standalone storage the standard offer is for 10 MW. Please confirm you won't accept a 5MW storage offer or value less than 10MW?"](#)
7. ["What is a "Zero Emitting Resource"? Wouldn't wind or solar be zero-emitting, what's the difference?"](#)
8. ["Would EBCE & SJCE consider an extension for DR offers given the delay in releasing the term sheet and offer form?"](#)
9. ["Is the maximum size based on nameplate capacity?"](#)
10. ["Do you have to submit a standard offer to allow the variant offer to be evaluated?"](#)
11. ["Would geothermal be both Product 6 and Product 1?"](#)
12. ["Please confirm energy only offers are permitted. In location requirements resources are described as needing to be deliverable to CAISO."](#)
13. ["You mention resource should be online by 2025. What month are you targeting, can we offer COD on 12/1/2025."](#)
14. ["Can you provide a list of attendees to the webinar so participants can reach out to each other for potential partnerships?"](#)

## **Responses:**

**Q 1:** “I had a clarification question on long duration storage (Product 5). Our understanding of PUC Order is that long duration storage is not required until June 1, 2026. However, RFO is requesting proposals for standalone storage no later than June 1, 2025 COD.

Can we submit a bid for 8HR standalone with a COD on or prior to June 1, 2026?”

**A 1:** Thank you for that catch. You are correct that long-duration storage may achieve COD by June 1, 2026. We will revise and re-post the protocol including this information.

**Q 2:** “For projects being submitted to the RFO under Product 2, just confirming that we are, 1) required to submit at least one configuration with a 10-year term, and 2) that configurations with terms up to 20 years will be accepted/considered.”

**A 2:** The 10 year term is our standard and we would like to see offers up to 20 years. We will evaluate longer tenors but have a preference for 20 years or less.

**Q 3:** “For Stand-Alone Energy Storage projects, are EBCE and SJCE open to other contracting structures such as RA-only or Financial Toll?”

**A 3:** The standard offer is for a tolling structure. The CCAs will also consider RA-only structured agreements and “creative” structures, such as RA-only with a top 4 / bottom 4 spread. Please note: this solicitation is intended to procure resources that meet the CPUC’s Mid-Term Reliability procurement order, thus the RA component is required for compliance. Important note 1: any financial structures must be backed by a physical resource to comply with CCA Risk Management Policy. Important note 2: there is not an offer form designed for the various creative offer structures that are feasible; as such if Seller wishes to offer a creative structure, please include a written description of the structure including pro and relevant criteria. Standard Offers must still be submitted in order for creative structures to be considered.

**Q 4:** “Do geothermal resource qualify since they carry emissions?”

**A 4:** It is the CCAs' understanding that there are differences between binary, flash steam, and dry steam geothermal technologies and that the emissions associated with these technologies vary. Respondents are encouraged to submit into this RFO but must include a description of the technology utilized and the associated emissions. The CCAs will confer with respondents to determine if proposed projects comply with the Mid-Term Reliability procurement mandate.

**Q 5:** “Can you please repost the offer form where the comments are not locked and blocking the table details on certain tabs? The comments overlap not only the table headers but each other making it difficult to read all of it and respond properly.”

**A 5:** We prefer to not unlock the offer form but will revise and re-post the offer form ASAP. Likely Monday, March 7.

**Q 6:** “In the protocol for standalone storage the standard offer is for 10 MW. Please confirm you won’t accept a 5MW storage offer or value less than 10MW?”

**A 6:** the standard offer must be 10MW nameplate but we will accept offer

**Q 7:** “What is a “Zero Emitting Resource”? Wouldn’t wind or solar be zero-emitting, what’s the difference?”

**A 7:** The term comes from the CPUC’s Mid-Term Reliability (MTR) decision. It could be an intermittent renewable resource paired with storage, it could be Demand Response, or it could be another emission-free resource type provided that it MUST be available from 5pm to 10pm every day.

The CPUC describes this category as “firm resources with zero on-site emissions or, if the resources have emissions, they must otherwise qualify under the RPS eligibility requirements, as further described below.” (please refer to page 35 of the MTR Decision) EBCE & SJCE interpret this to mean that a zero emissions resource like large hydro can qualify; however a resource has some amount of emissions (i.e. meeting the “de minimis emissions standard”, it must be an RPS resource.

**Q 8:** “Would EBCE & SJCE consider an extension for DR offers given the delay in releasing the term sheet and offer form?”

**A 8:** Yes. The new due date for DR offers will be Monday, March 28, 2022 at 5pm. Please note the NOI deadline remains March 17. Please refer to the updated Protocol and website timeline for this change.

**Q 9:** “Is the maximum size based on nameplate capacity?”

**A 9:** Yes, all capacity sizes are based on nameplate capacity. We are not referring to NQC or any RA derivative.

**Q 10:** “Do you have to submit a standard offer to allow the variant offer to be evaluated?”

**A 10:** Yes. The intention is for respondents to submit standard offers in order for variants to be considered?

**Q 11:** “Would geothermal be both Product 6 and Product 1?”

**A 11:** Geothermal could likely meet the definition of Product 1, 4, or 6. Please note: the offer form requirements for these products are the same, so EBCE & SJCE will evaluate offers for multiple products even if Sellers do not explicitly specify which products they are submitting for.

**Q 12:** “Please confirm energy only offers are permitted. In location requirements resources are described as needing to be deliverable to CAISO.”

**A12:** This RFO is focused on MTR compliance so we primarily need resources that are deliverable and can participate in the RA program. However we will consider energy-only offers for Product 3.

**Q 13:** “You mention resource should be online by 2025. What month are you targeting, can we offer COD on 12/1/2025.”

**A 13:** The only resources eligible for 2026 COD are long-duration storage and high capacity factor resources. The eligible COD dates for 2025 compliance is June 1, 2025 as defined in the MTR decision.

Note: there was a typo on Slide 11 during the webinar. RPS and RPS+ Storage resources *can* achieve COD by June 1, 2025

**Q 14:** “Can you provide a list of attendees to the webinar so participants can reach out to each other for potential partnerships?”

**A 14:** We are not able to provide names of webinar participants however any individual or company interested in potential partnerships with other developers/technology providers should please email [2022-RFO@ebce.org](mailto:2022-RFO@ebce.org) and we will connect them