DAC-GT/CSGT Respondent Questions and Answers

- Can you confirm storage is not required for DAC-GT projects?
 a. Storage is required for DAC-GT and CSGT projects.
- 2. Can you please provide guidance regarding the appropriate cost containment metric for EBCE, as it pertains to the previous RAM as-available peaking category or Green Tariff that would be the basis for the 200% price-cap on offers?
 - a. All available information on cost containment is provided in the RFO.
- 3. How is ECBE's service territory defined? Is it limited to Alameda County plus Tracy municipal boundary (soon to be expanded to include Stockton municipal boundary)?
 - a. In 2018, the County of Alameda and 11 of its cities launched EBCE as a not-for-profit public agency that governs this Community Choice Energy service. The Joint Power Agency expanded in 2021. The cities currently served are: Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Tracy, and Union City. The unincorporated areas of Alameda County (including Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, San Lorenzo, and Sunol) are also served by EBCE.
- 4. Can you please confirm that a project located in a qualifying DAC census tract that overlaps with the municipal city limits of one of EBCE's member municipalities (outside Alameda county) qualifies to participate in EBCE's DAC RFO program? In addition to being in Census Tract that overlaps with part of city limits, the project site will electrically serve in part loads within the municipal boundary (EBCE customers).
 - a. Per the RFO, "The Project must be located in EBCE's service area and within a top 25% CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or 4.0 designated census tract. Projects with any portion of their site boundary intersecting a DAC census tract will be deemed to have met this locational requirement." The municipal limits of our member Cities define our service territory outside of Alameda County.
- 5. Can you please confirm whether EBCE's flexibility to accept either CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or 4.0 DAC criteria is based on EBCE discretion, or is this based on guidance or decision by the CPUC?
 - a. This is guidance from CPUC. Resolution E-5212 approves EBCE's petition for modification (PFM) to update Resolution E-4999 to include both CES 3.0 and 4.0 when enrolling customers and/or building projects. Ordering paragraph 1 allows any Program Administrator to use the CalenviroScreen version in place when its implementation plan was approved by the Commission. This means EBCE is still permitted to use data from CES 3.0, even though CES 4.0 is now in place.

- 6. Will community sponsors be eligible for the 20% bill discount if they meet all eligibility requirements but do not qualify as low-income? In other words, is the low-income qualification required for community sponsors to receive a 20% bill discount?
 - a. The Community sponsor is a non-profit community-based organization, local government entity, and/or school and they must be based in the same geographic area (top 25% DAC within 5 miles of the project) and be able to receive bill credits. The sponsor <u>does not</u> need to be CARE/FERA-qualified in order to receive the 20% bill discount. (p. 76-77, Section Community Sponsor <u>D. 18-06-027</u>)

7. Will EBCE be receiving funding through the CPUC DAC-GT and CSGT programs for above-market costs incurred through the procurement of the storage portions of the projects requested in this RFO?

a. Yes. According to D. 18-06-027, "any costs for output which is assigned to customers and which is above-market will be covered by GHG allowance proceeds or Public Purpose Program funds" (p. 83).

8. The RFO requests that projects are paired with storage - "0.5C-rated battery with ability to shift the maximum solar energy generated to afternoon peak hours". Is there a minimum storage duration that EBCE is seeking?

a. EBCE seeks a 4-hour minimum storage duration.

Is there a minimum or maximum solar to storage capacity ratio that EBCE is seeking?

a. Maximum solar to storage capacity is 1:1, and EBCE expects that the ratio will be informed based on the site characteristics.

9. For solar paired with storage projects, there does not appear to be a requirement that projects receive FCDS, i.e. energy-only projects are eligible. Can you confirm that a solar paired with storage facility is eligible to bid if it does not qualify for RA? Does EBCE have a preference for RA resources?

- a. There is not a requirement that projects receive FCDS. Solar paired with a storage facility that does not qualify for RA is eligible to bid, but EBCE prefers projects with RA.
- 10. Will EBCE please post a recording of today's Respondent Webinar?
 - a. Please see the solicitation site.
- 11. Will EBCE post a list of attendees on today's Respondent webinar?
 - a. Registration was not mandatory for the meeting, so EBCE does not have an attendee list.

12. We have a question regarding who is providing the PPA. Is EBCE providing the PPA and purchasing or the cities

a. EBCE will sign the PPA with the selected respondent(s).

13. Re Eligible Subscribers: During the Respondents Webinar, the presenter stated that 100% of the subscribers to a DAC-GT project must be low income residents; while 50% of the subscribers to a CS-GT project must be low income residents. I do not see those requirements reflected in the RFO document, date 9 Jan 2023. Please confirm these requirements, or clarify what is required.

a. <u>Decision 18-06-027</u>, section 6.4 concludes that the DAC-GT program "will be available only to low-income residential customers in DACs, defined as those meeting the qualifications for CARE or FERA." (p. 51). Section 6.5.3 concludes that the CSGT program administrators will enroll non-low-income residents once the 50% of low-income subscribership is achieved. "Non-low-income submissions would be placed on a wait list, to ensure there is space for low-income subscribers." (p. 80)

14. Both CS-GT and DAC-GT projects must be located in a DAC census tract located in EBCE's service area. In addition, all CS-GT subscribers must live within 5 miles of the project. Correct?

a. Yes, that is correct. According to D. 18-06-027, the CSGT projects must be sited in a top 25% DAC, and subscribers to the project must be within 5 miles of the project and also within a top 25% DAC (not necessarily the same DAC). This can be found in Section 6.5.3, titled project siting.

15. For the 50% of CS-GT subscribers who are not low income residents, can they be small businesses, nonprofits, or other entities, as long as they are located within 5 miles of the project?

a. All subscribers must be residential customers. According to D. 18-06-027, the CSGT program will not be extended to non-residential customers other than the project sponsor (p. 70).

16. The RFO is silent on where subscribers to DAC-GT projects must live. Please clarify any geographic requirements for these subscribers.

a. The subscribers of the DAC-GT program must live in a DAC (top 25%) and they must be CARE/FERA enrolled. Note that the project siting rules for DAC-GT is not as restrictive as CSGT and can be sited at a DAC but doesn't have to be within 5 miles of the community it serves. For reference, EBCE submitted an implementation plan abiding by D. 18-06-027, page 3 requirements on customer eligibility.