

Part 1 Proposal Processing

Notifications

Any notification or other written communication from the Procurement Administrator to a Bidder will be sent to the email addresses provided for the Representatives. Any such notification or communication will be deemed received by the Bidder at the time of delivery or transmission, provided that when delivery or transmission occurs after 6 PM on a business day or occurs on a day that is not a business day, receipt will be deemed to occur at 9 AM on the following business day. Any email from the Bidder to the Procurement Administrator should be addressed to Illinois-RFP@nera.com to ensure a prompt reply.

Acknowledgment of Receipt

The exclusive method of responding to the qualification standards listed in Article IV of the RFP Rules is the use of the online Part 1 Form together with the use of Inserts to the online Part 1 Form available as separate forms on the procurement website or from the Procurement Administrator. The Bid Participation Fee must be paid to the IPA according to the instructions provided for this purpose. Documents (supporting documents and Inserts) may be uploaded to the application website or sent to the Procurement Administrator via email.

Timing of Part 1 Proposal Review

All materials for the Part 1 Proposal must be received by 12 PM (noon) on the Part 1 Date. If a Part 1 Proposal is received on any business day during the Part 1 Window, the Procurement Administrator acknowledges receipt on the business day the materials are received. If a Part 1 Proposal is received before 12 PM (noon) on any business day during the Part 1 Window prior to the Part 1 Date, the Procurement Administrator sends the results of an initial review by 12 PM (noon) on the second business day after the date the Part 1 Proposal is received. If a Part 1 Proposal is received after 12 PM (noon) on any business day during the Part 1 Window prior to the Part 1 Date, the Procurement Administrator sends the results of an initial review by 6 PM of the second business day after the date the Part 1 Proposal is received. The initial review either states that the Part 1 Proposal is complete and is being considered, or the initial review lists items of the Part 1 Proposal that are incomplete or require clarification. The initial review may state that the information and documentation provided in response to Paragraph IV.6.2 of the RFP Rules remains under review, in which case the Procurement Administrator will provide a deadline by which the Bidder can expect the review of this information to be complete. Such deadline will be no later than 6 PM on the third business day after the date the initial review is sent.

Deficiencies

If the Part 1 Proposal is incomplete or requires clarification, the Procurement Administrator sends a deficiency notice to the Bidder. If the Bidder receives a first deficiency notice from the Procurement Administrator regarding any item of the Part 1 Proposal, the Bidder has until 12 PM (noon) on the Part 1 Date, or until 6 PM on the second business day following the business day during which a first deficiency notice is sent to the Bidder, whichever comes later, to respond. If the Bidder responds to a deficiency notice within the time allowed but the response does not correct all deficiencies, the Bidder will, to the extent feasible, receive a further deficiency notice from the Procurement Administrator with additional

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time to respond. Such additional time to respond to a further deficiency notice will be no longer than (and may be shorter than) the time allowed under a first deficiency notice. If the Bidder does not correct or adequately explain the deficiency within the time allowed, the Part 1 Proposal for the Project may be rejected. If the Part 1 Proposal is complete, the Procurement Administrator sends a notice that the Part 1 Proposal is complete and is being considered.

Late Part 1 Proposals

No late Part 1 Proposals will be accepted under any circumstances. All times in this RFP are Central Prevailing Times unless specifically noted.

Notification of Qualification

The Procurement Administrator notifies each Bidder that submits a Part 1 Proposal for a Project of whether that Project has met the qualification standards pursuant to a successful Part 1 Proposal by the Part 1 Notification Date.