

**Fall 2017 Procurement Events (Wind and Solar RFP)**  
**19 JUL 2017**

**Illinois Power Agency**

**Wind and Solar**

**Request for Proposals**

**Process and Rules**

19 July 2017

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## **ARTICLE I. Introduction**

### **I.1. Overview**

- I.1.1. Pursuant to Public Act 99-0906, which was signed into law on December 7, 2016 and became effective June 1, 2017 (the “Act”), the Illinois Power Agency (“IPA”) will conduct an initial forward procurement for Renewable Energy Credits (“RECs”), generated by new utility-scale wind projects, new utility-scale solar projects, and new brownfield site photovoltaic projects as defined by the Act, for the portfolios of Ameren Illinois Company (“AIC”), Commonwealth Edison Company (“ComEd”), and MidAmerican Energy Company (“MEC”). Each of AIC, ComEd, and MEC is referred to as a “Company”. The IPA will solicit fifteen year contracts for delivery of 1,000,000 RECs per year from new utility-scale wind projects in a single procurement event and will solicit fifteen year contracts for delivery of 1,000,000 RECs per year from new utility-scale solar projects and new brownfield site photovoltaic projects in multiple procurement events. Projects that are not located in Illinois or in a state adjacent to Illinois will not be considered. A REC represents all the environmental attributes corresponding to one megawatt-hour of energy generated from renewable energy resources.
- I.1.2. The present document, in conjunction with all its appendices as described in more detail in Section I.5, constitutes the Request for Proposals (“RFP”) to solicit bids from suppliers in the first procurement event under the initial forward procurement. This RFP is referred to as the “Wind and Solar RFP”. The present document alone is referred to as the “RFP Rules”. The RFP Rules detail the qualification standards and bidding process.
- I.1.3. The IPA has retained NERA Economic Consulting (“NERA”) as the Procurement Administrator for the procurement event. The ICC has retained Bates White, LLC as the Procurement Monitor. The Procurement Monitor will report and monitor the progress of the procurement event for the ICC.

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- I.1.4. A “Project” is a new utility-scale wind project, a new utility-scale solar project, or a new brownfield site photovoltaic project as defined by the Act. A “Proposal” is a response to this RFP for a given Project. An entity that bids to deliver RECs from a Project under the term of the applicable supplier contract for this RFP and that will be the signatory under the applicable supplier contract is the “Seller”. An entity that presents a response to this RFP is a “Bidder”; the Bidder and Seller may or may not be the same entity.
- I.1.5. A Proposal consists of two (2) parts. The first part of the Proposal (“Part 1 Proposal”) is the Bidder’s response for a Project to the qualification standards described in Article IV of these RFP Rules. The qualification standards are set to provide assurances that the Project can satisfy the requirements of the Act and to establish that the Seller accepts the terms of, and can meet the obligations under, the applicable supplier contract for this RFP. The second part of the Proposal (“Part 2 Proposal”) includes the bid and financial guarantees to support for the bid. The Part 2 Proposal is described in detail in Article V.
- I.1.6. Capitalized terms in this document are defined explicitly herein unless explicit reference is made to another document.

**I.2. Products and Bids**

- I.2.1. There are three (3) “Categories” of Projects: utility-scale wind projects, utility-scale solar projects, and brownfield site photovoltaic projects. A utility-scale wind project means an electric generating facility that generates electricity using wind and that has a nameplate capacity greater than 2,000 kW (AC rating). A utility-scale solar project means an electric generating facility that generates electricity using photovoltaic cells and that has a nameplate capacity greater than 2,000 kW (AC rating). A brownfield site photovoltaic project means photovoltaics that are interconnected to an electric utility, a municipal utility, a public utility or an electric cooperative as defined by the Act. Brownfield site photovoltaic projects must be located at a site that is regulated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“US

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EPA”) under either the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, or the Corrective Action program of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended; or by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency under either the Illinois Site Remediation Program, or the Illinois Solid Waste Program. There is no minimum size requirement for brownfield site photovoltaic projects.

- I.2.2. A Project is “new” if it started operations on or after June 1, 2017. Delivery of RECs from a Project must begin on June 1, 2019, if available, but not later than June 1, 2021. A Project cannot be located outside of the state of Illinois and the states adjacent to Illinois. A Project located in a state adjacent to Illinois must meet the public interest criteria specified in Section 1-75(c)(1)(I) of the IPA Act. States adjacent to Illinois are Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan.
- I.2.3. While there are three (3) Categories of Projects, there are two (2) Products in this RFP. The “Wind Product” corresponds to RECs from utility-scale wind projects and the “Solar Product” corresponds to RECs from either utility-scale solar projects or from brownfield site photovoltaic projects. Corresponding to these two Products are two “Types” of Projects: Wind Projects and Solar Projects. Similarly, “Wind RECs” refer to RECs from utility-scale wind projects and “Solar RECs” refer to RECs from either utility-scale solar projects or from brownfield site photovoltaic projects. The RFP will aim to select the lowest-priced RECs of each Product subject to the Target established for each Product.
- I.2.4. The present procurement event is the only procurement event for Wind RECs. Correspondingly, this procurement event will have a “Wind Target” of 1,000,000 Wind RECs. The IPA will hold multiple procurement events to procure Solar RECs. The “Solar Target” will be 200,000 Solar RECs for this procurement event. These quantities represent an annual quantity of RECs to be delivered in aggregate to all three (3) Companies. The RECs from each Project selected through this RFP will be allocated by the Procurement Administrator to either two (2) or three (3) of the Companies.

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- I.2.5. A “Bid” includes a price per REC for a given Project as well as an annual quantity of RECs that the Seller is offering to deliver under the terms of the applicable supplier contract between the Company and the Seller. The terms of the applicable supplier contracts, the Renewable Energy Credit Agreement or “REC Contract” are the same across all Companies except for details of the credit instruments that can be used to post security under the terms of the REC Contract.
- I.2.6. A Bidder may present Projects from any one or from all Categories. A Bidder may present Bids for various Projects as long as the aggregate number of RECs from all such Projects on an annual basis does not exceed either the Wind Target or the Solar Target.
- I.2.7. If the Bid for a Project is approved by the Commission, the Seller will be expected to deliver the annual quantity of RECs specified in the Bid at the price specified in the Bid. The Seller will be the counterparty to two (2) or three (3) Companies for delivery of RECs from the Project. If the same Seller has another Bid approved by the Commission on another Project, the Seller will execute a REC Contract for this other Project that will specify the annual quantity of RECs and the price for such other Project.
- I.2.8. The evaluation of Bids proceeds separately for each Product. The evaluation first eliminates Bids that fail to meet or beat the benchmarks for each Category. Benchmarks are established by the Procurement Administrator, in consultation with the IPA, the Procurement Monitor, and the ICC Staff. The benchmarks are confidential and are subject to review and approval by the ICC. Second, Bids are ranked in order of price per REC for each Product until the Target for each Product in this procurement event is met (on an annual basis) or until all Bids have been ranked. The lowest priced Projects thus selected are identified by the Procurement Administrator to the Commission as winning Bids. The Procurement Administrator allocates Bids selected by the evaluation procedure to each Company in proportion to the Company’s budget. The Procurement Administrator may take other factors into account in determining the allocation across the Companies.

### **I.3. Submission of Proposals**

- I.3.1. Bidders use the online Part 1 Form to submit information and to upload required documents to respond to the qualification standards described in Article IV of these RFP Rules. Bidders may also provide required documents by email to the Procurement Administrator. Inserts to the online Part 1 Form are available as separate forms on the procurement website, [www.IPA-energyrfp.com](http://www.IPA-energyrfp.com), or are available from the Procurement Administrator. An Illustrative Part 1 Form is provided as Appendix 2 to these RFP Rules.
- I.3.2. The Part 1 Proposal for a Project consists of the completed online Part 1 Form as well as all documents required by the Part 1 Form. A Bidder that has not paid a Bid Participation Fee pursuant to participation in a prior 2017 procurement event and that submits a Part 1 Proposal in this RFP is required to pay a non-refundable Bid Participation Fee. A Bidder that submits Proposals for multiple Projects is only required to pay a single Bid Participation Fee.
- I.3.3. The Part 2 Proposal for a Project consists of the completed online Part 2 Form, the submission of bid assurance collateral, the submission of any other document required by the online Part 2 Form, and the Bid for the Project. The bid assurance collateral tendered by a Bidder must be in an amount sufficient to support the Bids from all Projects presented by the Bidder. Bidders must use the Bid Form provided by the Procurement Administrator for purposes of submitting Bids.
- I.3.4. A schedule for this RFP is provided in Table II-1. Calendar.
- I.3.5. . Any updates will be provided on the procurement website [www.IPA-energyrfp.com](http://www.IPA-energyrfp.com). Part 1 Proposals are received and processed during a specific timeframe, the “Part 1 Window”. The last day of the Part 1 Window is called the “Part 1 Date”. All materials for the Part 1 Proposals, including the Bid Participation Fee for Bidders that have not already paid such Bid Participation Fee pursuant to participation in a prior 2017 procurement event, must be received by 12 PM

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(noon) on the Part 1 Date. All times in this RFP are Central Prevailing Times (“CPT”) unless specifically noted.

- I.3.6. Part 2 Proposals are received and processed during a specific timeframe, the “Part 2 Window”. The last day of the Part 2 Window is called the “Part 2 Date”. All materials for the Part 2 Proposals, except the Bidders’ Bids, must be received by 12 PM (noon) on the Part 2 Date.
- I.3.7. The day Bids are due is called the “Bid Date”. Bids are evaluated on the Bid Date. The Bidder’s Bids must be received between 8 AM and 12 PM (noon) on the Bid Date. The Procurement Administrator evaluates Bids submitted in accordance with this RFP for each Project that qualifies pursuant to a successful Part 1 Proposal and for which the Bidder submits a Part 2 Proposal that fulfills all the requirements of Article V.
- I.3.8. Within two (2) business days of the Bid Date, the Procurement Administrator submits to the ICC a confidential report that will provide the results of the procurement event as well as a recommendation on whether these results should be accepted or rejected. Within two (2) business days of the Bid Date, the Procurement Monitor also submits to the ICC a confidential report regarding the results of the procurement event as well as a recommendation on whether these results should be accepted or rejected. The ICC is expected to decide whether to accept or reject the results of the procurement event within two (2) business days of receiving the confidential reports from both the Procurement Administrator and the Procurement Monitor.
- I.3.9. If the ICC approves the results of the procurement event, each Seller with a Bid approved for a Project will execute the REC Contract with two (2) or more of the Companies within three (3) business days of the ICC decision.
- I.3.10. Projects with winning Bids approved by the ICC will be assessed a Supplier Fee per REC that reflects the cost of conducting the procurement event less the total of the Bid Participation Fees. The exact amount of the Supplier Fee per REC will be announced no later than two (2) business days before the Bid Date. Payment of the Supplier Fees to the IPA by the Bidder or Seller will be due within seven (7) business days after ICC approval of the Bids.



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I.3.11. If the ICC rejects the results of a procurement event, the Procurement Administrator, the Procurement Monitor, and the ICC Staff will meet within ten (10) days of the ICC decision to analyze potential causes for the ICC decision or for failure to meet the requirements. The Procurement Administrator may implement changes and hold an additional procurement event if such changes would address the concerns that caused the Commission to reject the results of the procurement event.

**I.4. Seller Obligations**

I.4.1. Each Seller must accept the terms of the REC Contract as a condition of participation. For each Project for which a Bidder has a Bid approved by the Commission, the Procurement Administrator will allocate the RECs for such Project to two or more of the Companies. A Bidder with approved Bids for multiple Projects will give rise to a separate REC Contract for each Project and with each Company to which RECs from that Project are allocated.

I.4.2. This section describes in general terms a few key provisions in the REC Contract. This is a summary only and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by the REC Contract provided as Appendix 1 to these RFP Rules.

I.4.3. Under the terms of the REC Contract:

- The Seller provides “Standard RECs”, namely RECs that include all environmental attributes represented by renewable electricity generation associated with the RECs and that meet the definition of “renewable energy credit” under the IPA Act. All RECs delivered under the contract must allow the applicable Companies to comply with the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard.
- The RECs must be associated with generation from a utility-scale wind project, a utility-scale solar project, or a brownfield site photovoltaic project selected through this RFP.
- The price received by the Seller for each REC from a Project is the Bidder’s approved Bid for that Project.

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- The Seller will use PJM Environmental Information System’s Generation Attribute Tracking System (“PJM EIS GATS”) or the Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (“M-RETS”) as the tracking system for RECs, and Seller will bear the costs associated with performing its obligations in connection with such tracking system. RECs procured through this RFP will be transferred from the Supplier’s account in PJM EIS GATS or in M-RETS to the account of the applicable Company in the relevant tracking system in an unretired state.
- Each Project selected through this RFP must deliver at least one REC to each Company by June 1, 2021.
- All RECs delivered are to be based on renewable energy generation that occurred no earlier than two months prior to Delivery Term as such term is defined in the REC Contract.
- The REC Contract with a Company will specify an annual quantity and a maximum contract quantity that the Seller can deliver to the Company. The sum of the annual quantities across the REC Contracts with all Companies equals the annual quantity indicated for the Project by the Bidder in its Bid. The maximum contract quantity in a supplier contract equals the annual quantity in each contract multiplied by 15. In each delivery year, the Seller must deliver a quantity of RECs that meets the Delivery Year Requirement as defined in the REC Contract.
- The Delivery Year Requirement is equal to the annual quantity, and is prorated for the first delivery year and the last delivery year if the delivery term does not start on June 1 of a year. In addition, for the first 365 days of the delivery term, the quantity of RECs that the Seller has to deliver can be reduced by 50%.
- Any RECs generated by the Project in excess of the Delivery Year Requirement in any delivery year during the delivery term is the exclusive property of Seller, to be utilized in Seller’s sole discretion. Seller may “bank” such excess RECs by delivering such RECs

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during any subsequent delivery year to satisfy such subsequent Delivery Year Requirement.

- If a Seller delivers less than the Delivery Year Requirement in a delivery year, the Seller must represent that it has delivered all RECs generated in that delivery year from the Project to the applicable Companies. A breach of this representation is an event of default.
- It is an event of default under the contract if Seller fails to meet the Delivery Year Requirement for three (3) or more years, and the Shortfall Amounts (as the term is defined in the contract) cumulatively equals or exceeds the annual quantity.
- For purposes of performance assurance under each applicable supplier contract, the Collateral Requirement (as defined in such contract) is equal to 50% of the value of the annual quantities upon contract execution through May 31, 2019. From June 1, 2019 through the expiry of the contract, the Collateral Requirement is equal to the value of the annual quantities under the contract, and may be prorated for the last delivery year.

## **I.5. Summary of RFP Documents**

I.5.1. The following documents are appended to the RFP Rules, and shall be considered an integral part of this RFP:

Appendix 1:	REC Contract
Appendix 2:	Illustrative Part 1 Form
Appendix 3:	Illustrative Part 2 Form
Appendix 4:	Minimum Requirements for Letter of Intent or Memorandum of Understanding
Appendix 5:	AIC Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit
Appendix 6:	ComEd Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit
Appendix 7:	MEC Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit
Appendix 8:	Illustrative Bid Form
Appendix 9:	Confidentiality Statement

## ARTICLE II. Information and Schedule

### II.1. Procurement Website

II.1.1. The Procurement Administrator has established a procurement website that is the main source of information for this RFP. Bidders and other stakeholders can visit this procurement website to obtain information and documents related to the procurement events. The procurement website address is [www.IPA-energyrfp.com](http://www.IPA-energyrfp.com).

II.1.2. More generally, the procurement website contains the sections described below. New sections may be added as necessary to assist Bidders.

Home: This section provides recent announcements and a brief description of the purpose of the website.

Announcements: This section provides announcements such as reminders about deadlines and posting of documents.

Fall Block Energy and Capacity: This section provides documents related to the Fall procurement of block energy for the AIC, ComEd, and MEC portfolios and of capacity for the AIC portfolio.

Fall Utility DG: This section provides documents related to the Fall procurement of RECs from distributed generation for the AIC and ComEd portfolios.

Wind and Solar: This section provides documents for the procurement of RECs from utility-scale solar projects, utility-scale wind projects, and brownfield site photovoltaic projects.

Zero Emissions Credits: This section provides documents for the procurement of Zero Emissions Credits from zero emission facilities in an amount approximately equal to 16% of the electricity delivered by the utilities in 2014 for AIC, ComEd, and MEC.

Calendar: This section provides a schedule for the most current procurement events.

FAQs: The Procurement Administrator answers questions from interested parties via email. The question and answer are posted in this section so that all interested parties have access to the

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same information. Aspects of the question and/or answer that might identify the questioner are removed before posting to the extent practicable.

Contact Us: This section gives an opportunity for interested parties to register their email address to receive announcements regarding the procurement events and to ask questions of the Procurement Administrator.

Previous RFPs: The Procurement Administrator provides in this section links to information from previous RFPs.

Qualification Forms: Bidders use this link and their login credentials to access the online Part 1 and Part 2 Forms that they use to submit information and upload required documents to respond to the requirements of this RFP.

**II.2. RFP Schedule**

II.2.1. The following is the schedule for the procurement events. Specific times for submission of materials for the Part 1 Proposals and Part 2 Proposals are provided elsewhere in this RFP. All such times are Central Prevailing Time unless specifically noted. The close of the business day will be 6 PM for purposes of processing Proposals. Unless otherwise specified, any reference to “day” shall mean a business day. Any changes to this schedule will be provided on the procurement website.

**Table II-1. Calendar.**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Public Act 99-0906 becomes effective	Thursday, June 01, 2017
DRAFT (1) REC Contract posted	Thursday, June 01, 2017
Invitation issued to comment DRAFT (1) REC Contract	Thursday, June 01, 2017
Virtual contract workshop (webcast) on DRAFT (1) REC Contract	Tuesday, June 06, 2017
Deadline to submit comments on DRAFT (1) REC Contract	Wednesday, June 14, 2017

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<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Preliminary Proposal requirements posted	Wednesday, June 14, 2017
DRAFT (2) REC Contract posted	Wednesday, June 28, 2017
Webcast to review DRAFT (2) REC Contract	Wednesday, June 28, 2017
Additional information release on RFP requirements	Thursday, June 29, 2017
Deadline to submit comments on DRAFT (2) REC Contract	Monday, July 10, 2017
Standard contract posted in final form	Tuesday, July 18, 2017
RFP issued	Wednesday, July 19, 2017
Webcast on final standard contract form and RFP requirements	Wednesday, July 19, 2017
Opening of Part 1 Window	Thursday, July 20, 2017
Part 1 Date (Part 1 Proposals are due)	Monday, August 07, 2017
Bid Participation Fee is due	Monday, August 07, 2017
Part 1 Notification	Monday, August 14, 2017
Opening of Part 2 Window	Tuesday, August 15, 2017
Part 2 Date (Part 2 Proposals except Bids are due)	Wednesday, August 23, 2017
Bidder Training	Monday, August 28, 2017 (tentative)
Bid Date (Bids are Due)	Thursday, August 31, 2017
Procurement Administrator submits confidential report on results of procurement event	Tuesday, September 05, 2017
ICC renders decision on results of procurement event	Thursday, September 07, 2017
Contracts fully executed	Tuesday, September 12, 2017

## ARTICLE III. General Requirements for Proposals

- III.1.1. An entity that presents a response to this RFP is a Bidder. A Bidder presents a single Proposal for a Project. A Project is a new utility-scale wind project, a new utility-scale solar project, or a new brownfield site photovoltaic project as defined by the Act. Each Bidder can submit at most one Part 1 Proposal and one Part 2 Proposal for a Project. A Bidder can submit Proposals for multiple Projects. The Procurement Administrator evaluates Bids submitted in accordance with this RFP for each Project that qualifies pursuant to a successful Part 1 Proposal and that fulfills all the requirements of the Part 2 Proposal as specified in Article V by 1 PM on the Bid Date.
- III.1.2. All Part 1 Proposals and all Part 2 Proposals are submitted to the Procurement Administrator in accordance with the instructions provided in Article VI. Part 1 Proposals are received and processed during a specific timeframe, the Part 1 Window. The last day of the Part 1 Window is called the Part 1 Date. Part 2 Proposals are received and processed during a specific timeframe, the Part 2 Window; however, the representations required by the Part 2 Form may be submitted during the Part 1 Window for early processing. Early processing allows the Officer of the Seller, at the Officer's option, to make all representations and certifications required in the Part 1 and Part 2 Proposals at one time.
- III.1.3. An entity that bids to deliver RECs from a Project and that will be the signatory to the REC Contract is the Seller. All representations and certifications required by this RFP from the Seller must be made by a single individual, who is an Officer of the Seller. An Officer of the Seller is an individual empowered to undertake contracts and bind the Seller. As a requirement of the Part 1 Proposal, the Bidder must provide the name, title, and full contact information (address, phone number, and email address) of the Officer of the Seller who will be making the representations in the Part 1 and the Part 2 Proposals.
- III.1.4. Each Bidder must comply with all Part 1 Proposal requirements described in Article IV. Section IV.1 describes the contact information required. Section IV.2 describes the information

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that is required about the Project. Section IV.3 provides the representations required by the Officer of the Seller. Section IV.4 describes the financial information required. Section IV.5 specifies that a Bid Participation Fee is required from each Bidder that has not paid a Bid Participation in a prior 2017 procurement event. Section IV.6 describes the opportunity for Bidders to provide comments on the letters of credit.

- III.1.5. All information provided and certifications made in the Part 1 Proposal must remain valid and in full force until the required number of business days after the Bid Date. Regardless of the reason, if any information provided in the Part 1 Proposal changes or any previous certification fails to remain valid, it is the sole responsibility of the Bidder and Seller to notify the Procurement Administrator. Failing to do so may result in disqualification of the Project and of the Proposal. The Procurement Administrator reserves the right to change the assessment of qualifications based on any revised information provided by the Bidder or Seller.
- III.1.6. Each Bidder must comply with all Part 2 Proposal requirements as stipulated in Article V. Section V.1 describes the contact information required by the Part 2 Proposal. Section V.2 describes the bid assurance collateral required. Section V.3 lists representations to be made by the Officer of the Seller and a representative of the Bidder. Section V.4 asks the Seller to provide information for preparation of the REC Contracts. Section V.5 describes the requirements for submission of Bids and requires the Bidder to agree that the Procurement Administrator may amend the Bid Form in certain circumstances when the bid assurance collateral is insufficient.
- III.1.7. Proposals that do not adhere to the terms and conditions of these RFP Rules, or that do not fulfill all requirements set forth in Article IV and Article V of this RFP, or that are not submitted in accordance with the process of Article VI, will not be considered.
- III.1.8. The submission of a Part 1 or a Part 2 Proposal to the Procurement Administrator constitutes the Bidder's and the Seller's acknowledgement and acceptance of all the terms and conditions of these RFP Rules, regardless of the outcome of the RFP or the outcome of such Proposal.



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III.1.9. The Bidder and the Seller, at its own cost and expense, shall defend AIC, ComEd, MEC, the Procurement Monitor, the Procurement Administrator, and the IPA and their subsidiaries, affiliates, successors and assigns, and each and every one of their respective past, present, or future officers, directors, trustees, employees, shareholders, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, other than entities that are also Bidders or Sellers, against any and all manner of past, present, or future claims, demands, disputes, controversies, complaints, suits, actions, proceedings, or allegations of any kind which in any manner relate to, arise out of, or result from any false statement in the Proposal or breach of any covenant by the Bidder or Seller set forth herein. The Bidder and the Seller shall indemnify and hold harmless AIC, ComEd, MEC, the Procurement Monitor, the Procurement Administrator and the IPA, their parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors and assigns, and each and every one of their respective past, present, or future officers, directors, trustees, employees, shareholders and agents, as well as the heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, other than entities that are Bidders, against any and all liens, judgments, liabilities, losses, injuries, damages, fees, fines, costs or expenses which in any manner relate to, arise out of, or result from any false statement or misrepresentation in the Proposal or breach of any warranty by the Bidder or the Seller as set forth herein.

## ARTICLE IV. Part 1 Proposal Requirements

A Part 1 Proposal serves to present the qualification for a single Project. To the extent that an entity or group of entities is intending to present several Projects, a different Part 1 Proposal must be presented for each such Project.

### IV.1. Contact Information

IV.1.1. Identity and Contact Information for the Seller. The “Seller” is the entity intended to be the signatory to the REC Contract for the Project. The Part 1 Proposal must identify the Seller’s legal name and address (including street address, city, state, and zip code). The Part 1 Proposal must state the number of years that the Seller has been in business and, if available, must provide the Seller’s website.

IV.1.2. Identity and Contact Information for the Bidder. The “Bidder” is the entity or entities submitting the Proposal. If the Bidder and the Seller are the same entity, no additional information is required. If the Bidder and Seller are not the same entity, the Part 1 Proposal must identify the Bidder’s legal name and address (including street address, city, state, and zip code). If the Bidder is presenting Proposals for multiple Projects with different Sellers, the Bidder must be identified either as the parent company of all such affiliated entities or the Bidder must be identified by naming all such affiliated entities together.

IV.1.3. Officer of the Seller. A Bidder must provide the name, title, and full contact information (address, phone number(s), and email address) of the Officer of the Seller. The Officer of the Seller must be an officer, a director, or an individual otherwise empowered to undertake contracts and bind the Seller. The Officer of the Seller whose contact information is provided in the Part 1 Proposal must make all representations required in the Part 1 Proposal and in the Part 2 Proposal for the Project.

- The Officer of the Seller may make all representations required in the Part 1 and Part 2 Proposals at one time. A Bidder that avails itself of this option may submit the P2

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Certifications Insert during the Part 1 Window for early processing. The P2 Certifications Insert for a procurement event is available on the procurement website. The Procurement Administrator processes such Part 2 Proposal materials received during the Part 1 Window within the same timeframes used for the processing of the Part 1 Proposals.

- It is expected that, if a Bidder has Bids that are approved by the Commission, the Officer of the Seller would sign the applicable supplier contracts. Should the Officer of the Seller not be available to sign for this purpose, each applicable utility will be advised of this fact. The Seller will name another individual to sign and the Seller will confirm that this individual is empowered to undertake contracts and bind the Seller.

IV.1.4. Representatives. The Bidder must identify the individual or individuals responsible for submission of the Proposal and provide full contact information for each individual, including address, phone number(s), and email address. These individuals, each a “Representative”, must be authorized to act on behalf of the Bidder and on behalf of the Seller. The Procurement Administrator sends all correspondence related to the procurement event to the Representatives, including confidential information required to submit Bids on the Bid Date. The online Part 1 Form requires naming one (1) Representative. Up to three (3) additional Representatives may be named by fully completing the Representative Insert prepared for this purpose and available on the procurement website. The Representative Insert is also labelled INSERT #P1-1. The Bidder provides the Representative Insert by email or by upload to the application website. If the Bidder is presenting Proposals for multiple Projects with different Sellers, the Bidder must identify the same Representatives for all such Proposals. Such Bidder is only required to submit the information regarding the Representatives once in the earliest submitted Part 1 Proposal for one of the Projects.

IV.1.5. Information required in this Section IV.1 must be provided exclusively by completing Section 1 of the online Part 1 Form and by providing any documents required by Section 1 of the online Part 1 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

## **IV.2. Project Information**

IV.2.1. Basic Project Information. A Bidder must provide the following information about the Project:

- the name of the Project;
- the nameplate capacity (AC rating) of the Project in MW rounded to two decimals;
- the date at which the Project commenced or is expected to commence operations; and
- the Category of the Project, namely whether the Project is a utility-scale wind, a utility-scale solar, or a brownfield site photovoltaic Project.

If the Project is a brownfield site photovoltaic Project, the Bidder must, in addition, specify the program under which the site for the Project is regulated, where the program is one of: (i) the United States Environmental Protection Agency under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended; or (ii) the United States Environmental Protection Agency under the Corrective Action Program of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended; or (iii) the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency under the Illinois Site Remediation Program; or (iv) the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency under the Illinois Solid Waste Program. The Procurement Administrator may request additional information regarding the program under which the Project is regulated.

IV.2.2. Site Description. The Bidder must describe the site where the Project is located in as much specificity as possible. The Bidder must provide:

- A complete address for the Project;
- The surface area of the site with a clear indication of the units used (acres, square miles, etc.);
- A map showing the site or a full written description that provides information comparable to a map (such as providing the longitude and latitude of the boundaries of the site).

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If the Project is selected by the evaluation in this RFP and approved by the Commission, the site description provided by the Bidder in its Proposal will become part of the REC Contract. With each REC delivery, the Seller will be required to represent that at least 50% of the Project is located within the physical location identified in the Proposal.

IV.2.3. Interconnection Agreement and Site Control. The Bidder must state whether the Interconnection Agreement for the Project is fully executed. If so, such Bidder must provide a copy of the first page and a copy of the signature page of the Interconnection Agreement. The Procurement Administrator may make an additional request for a copy of the entire Interconnection Agreement. If the Interconnection Agreement for the Project is not fully executed, the Bidder must do all of the following:

- Provide Contact Information for Owners. An “Owner” is an individual or entity that has ownership over the entirety or over a portion of the Project Site. The Bidder must provide each Owner’s legal name and address including street address, city, state, and zip code. If an Owner is an individual, the Bidder must provide a phone number and email address. If the Owner is an entity, the Bidder must provide the name, title, phone number, and email address for a representative of such Owner. If there are multiple Owners of the Project site, the Bidder must provide contact information for all Owners and must indicate the proportion of the Project site controlled by each Owner. The Bidder provides this information by completing the Owners Insert prepared for this purpose. The Owners Insert is also labelled INSERT #P1-2. The Bidder provides the completed Insert by email or by upload to the application website.
- Demonstrate Exclusive Control of the Project Site. Documentation to fulfill this requirement must be one of the following: (i) document showing that Bidder or Seller owns the Project site; or (ii) an executed lease agreement or easement between the Bidder or the Seller and the Owner or Owners; or (iii) an executed option, between the Bidder or Seller and the Owner or Owners, with a unilateral right to lease or purchase the Project site; or (iv)

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a memorandum of understanding between the Owner or Owners and the Bidder or Seller regarding a lease, easement, exclusive option, or sale of the Project site; or (v) a letter of intent executed by the Owner or Owners stating the intention to deal exclusively with the Bidder or the Seller to enter into an agreement for a lease, an easement, an exclusive option, or the sale of the Project site; or (vi) other document demonstrating a right to develop the Project on the site.

If there are multiple Owners of the Project site, the Bidder must provide documentation for Owners that together control at least 50% of the Project site. There is no requirement for the document provided to be the same for all Owners. In the case the Bidder provides a letter of intent or memorandum of understanding, such document must satisfy the minimum requirements provided in an appendix to the RFP Rules. In the case the Bidder provides another document under (vi), the Procurement Administrator may require additional information.

- Describe the Stage of Development. The Bidder is required to describe the stage of development of the Project appropriate to the point of interconnection and to the size of the Project. The Bidder must: (i) indicate the utility or Regional Transmission Organization (e.g., PJM or MISO) to which the Seller has applied or will apply for interconnection; and (ii) if an application for interconnection has been made, indicate the specific milestones toward interconnection that have been met at this time or (iii) if an application for interconnection has not yet been made, provide other milestones in the development of the Project that have been reached to date. For brownfield site photovoltaic projects, the Bidder must additionally describe the status of remediation of the site.

IV.2.4. Information required in this Section IV.2 must be provided exclusively by completing Section 2 of the online Part 1 Form and by providing any documents as required by Section 2 of the online Part 1 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

### IV.3. Representations

IV.3.1. The Officer of the Seller must make the representations that are required by this section.

IV.3.2. Representations about the Project. The Officer of the Seller must make the following representations applicable to the Project:

- The Project of the Proposal is a “utility-scale wind project” or a “utility-scale solar project” or a “brownfield site photovoltaic project” as these terms are defined in the Act and the Seller has made all investigations it deems necessary to make this determination;
- The Date of First Operation of the Project of the Proposal, as this term is defined by PJM EIS GATS or M-RETS, did not occur on or before June 1, 2017;
- The Project has reached the appropriate development milestones to fully expect that the Project will deliver its first REC on or before June 1, 2021;
- The Project has or will have a single revenue quality meter that satisfies the requirements of the applicable regional transmission organization, transmission provider, or distribution company and that measures or will measure its generation output;
- The Project is or will be registered in PJM EIS GATS or M-RETS and the Seller will deliver RECs to Buyers by delivering such RECs in the Buyers’ PJM EIS GATS or M-RETS account in an unretired state;
- The Project is not and will not be a generating unit whose costs are being recovered through rates regulated by Illinois or any other state or states; and
- The information provided in the Proposal regarding the Project, including the description of the Site, is true, up-to-date, and accurate to the best of the Officer’s knowledge and belief.

The Seller makes these certifications by using the P1 Project Certifications Insert prepared for this purpose. The P1 Project Certifications Insert is also labelled INSERT #P1-3. The Bidder provides the completed Insert by email or by upload to the application website.

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IV.3.3. Representations about the Seller. The Officer of the Seller must make the following representations applicable to the Seller and the Bidder:

- The Seller as identified in the Proposal is the entity that will sign the REC Contract with the applicable utilities if the Project is selected through the RFP and approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission;
- The Seller understands and accepts the terms of the REC Contract and accepts the fact that the number of REC Contracts and the counterparties under such REC Contracts will be assigned to the Seller by the Procurement Administrator;
- The Seller acknowledges that a Collateral Requirement equal to 100% of the value of the annual quantity from the Project is required during the term of the REC Contract on or after June 1, 2019;
- The Part 1 Proposal will remain in full force and effect until fourteen (14) business days after the Bid Date;
- If, for any reason and due to any circumstance, any information provided in the Part 1 Proposal for a Project changes or any previous certification fails to remain valid before the Bid Date, the Bidder will notify the Procurement Administrator of such change as soon as practicable, and failing to do so may result in disqualification of the Project;
- The submission of the Part 1 Proposal constitutes the Bidder's and the Seller's acceptance of all the terms and conditions of these RFP Rules, regardless of the outcome of the RFP or the outcome of such Proposal;
- The Bidder is not part of a bidding agreement, a bidding consortium, or any other type of agreement with another Bidder related to bidding in this RFP; and
- All information provided in the Part 1 Proposal is true and accurate to the best of the Officer's knowledge and belief.



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A Bidder found to be acting in concert with another Bidder will be disqualified by the Procurement Administrator. The Seller makes these certifications by using the P1 Seller Certifications Insert prepared for this purpose. The P1 Seller Certifications Insert is also labelled INSERT #P1-4. The Bidder provides the completed Insert by email or by upload to the application website.

IV.3.4. Additional Adjacent State Representations. If the Project is not located in Illinois, the Project must be located in a state adjacent to Illinois, and the Officer of the Seller must further represent that:

- the Officer of the Seller believes that the Project meets the public interest criteria provided in the IPA Act; and
- the Officer of the Seller understands that the IPA will develop the standards by which will be determined whether a Project meets the public interest criteria, that the Illinois Commerce Commission may accept or modify such standards, and that the REC Contract will be terminated if it is determined that the Project does not meet these standards as set forth in the Illinois Commerce Commission's final decision or order regarding these standards.

If applicable, the Seller makes these certifications by using the P1 Adjacent Certifications Insert prepared for this purpose. The P1 Adjacent Certifications Insert is also labelled INSERT #P1-5. The Bidder provides the completed Insert by email or by upload to the application website.

IV.3.5. Additional Solar Representation. If the Project is a utility-scale solar project or a brownfield site photovoltaics project, the Officer of the Seller must further represent that the Project has been installed or will be installed by Qualified Persons in compliance with the requirements of Section 16-128A of the Act and any rules or regulations adopted thereunder. If applicable, the Seller makes this certification by using the P1 Solar Certifications Insert prepared for this purpose. The P1 Solar Certifications Insert is also labelled INSERT #P1-6. The Bidder provides the completed Insert by email or by upload to the application website.

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IV.3.6. Information required in this Section IV.3 must be provided exclusively by completing Section 3 of the online Part 1 Form and by providing any documents required by Section 3 of the online Part 1 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

**IV.4. Financial Information**

IV.4.1. If the Bidder is presenting multiple Projects for the same Seller, the Bidder is only required to submit the information required by this section once, in the earliest submitted Part 1 Proposal for one of the Projects for this same Seller.

IV.4.2. Rating Definitions. The “Minimum Rating” is defined as BBB- from S&P Global Ratings (“S&P”), or Baa3 from Moody’s Investors Service (“Moody’s”), or BBB- by Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”). An entity’s “Credit Rating” is the entity’s rating of its senior long-term debt obligations, if available, or the entity’s issuer rating discounted one notch (e.g., if the entity’s issuer rating is BBB, then its Credit Rating is BBB-). A “Guarantor” is an entity other than the Seller that: (i) is willing to provide a financial guaranty under the REC Contract; and (ii) is rated by S&P or Moody’s or Fitch; and (iii) meets the Minimum Rating.

IV.4.3. Credit Rating of Guarantor or Seller. The Bidder must state whether the Seller intends to rely on the financial standing of a Guarantor for purposes of the REC Contract.

- If the Seller will rely on the financial standing of a Guarantor as defined above, the Bidder must provide all available ratings for the Guarantor from S&P, Moody’s, and Fitch and the Bidder must specify the type of rating (senior unsecured or issuer rating). Furthermore, the Bidder must provide the financial information for the Guarantor required by the next paragraph.
- If the Seller will not rely on the financial standing of the Guarantor and thus will instead rely on its own financial standing, the Bidder must state whether the Seller is rated by one or more of S&P, or Moody’s, or Fitch and whether the Seller meets the Minimum Rating. In the case that the Seller is rated and meets the Minimum Rating, the Bidder must provide all available

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ratings for the Seller from S&P, Moody's, and Fitch and the Bidder must specify the type of rating (senior unsecured or issuer rating). Furthermore, the Bidder must provide the financial information for the Seller required by the next paragraph.

- In the case that the Seller: (i) is not relying on the financial standing of a Guarantor; and (ii) does not meet the Minimum Rating; then the Bidder is not required to provide the financial information required by the next paragraph.

IV.4.4. Financial Information. The Bidder may provide, for the Guarantor or the Seller as the case may be, the most recent audited financial information. If available, the most recent Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") Form 10-K or SEC Form 10-Q should be submitted to fulfill this requirement. If unavailable, the Bidder may provide the most recent audited annual financial data, including a balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement, and any accompanying notes and schedules. If no financial information is readily available, the Bidder must clearly state that fact.

IV.4.5. Agency Agreement. A Bidder that is submitting a Proposal for a Seller operating under an Agency Agreement will be subject to additional requirements in the Part 1 Proposal. The Bidder must indicate in the Part 1 Proposal that the Seller is operating under an Agency Agreement. Such additional requirements will be provided to the Bidder, should they apply, in a separate notice.

IV.4.6. Information required in this Section IV.4 must be provided exclusively by completing Section 4 of the online Part 1 Form and by providing any documents required by Section 4 of the online Part 1 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

## **IV.5. Bid Participation Fee**

IV.5.1. If the Bidder is presenting Proposals for multiple Projects, the Bidder is only required to submit the information required by this section once, in the earliest submitted Part 1 Proposal for one of the Projects.

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- IV.5.2. The requirements of this section apply only to a Bidder that has not paid a Bid Participation Fee pursuant to participation in a prior 2017 procurement event and that submits a Part 1 Proposal.
- IV.5.3. Such Bidder is required to pay a non-refundable Bid Participation Fee of \$500. Such Bidder that submits Proposals for multiple Projects is only required to pay a single Bid Participation Fee. Notwithstanding the provision of this paragraph, a Bidder consisting of a group of Sellers may, at its option, provide one Bid Participation Fee for each Project instead of providing a single Bid Participation Fee for all Projects.
- IV.5.4. The Bid Participation Fee will be used to cover part of the costs of the procurement event. A Bidder that has paid the Bid Participation Fee will not be reimbursed, even if all Projects presented by the Bidder fail to meet the requirements of the Part 1 Proposal or the Part 2 Proposal or if the Bidder decides not to continue its participation in the RFP. (The Supplier Fees, which are levied only on Projects with Bids are approved by the ICC, are also used to cover part of the costs of the procurement events.)
- IV.5.5. Such Bidder must pay the Bid Participation Fee to the IPA as a condition of all Projects presented by the Bidder fulfilling the requirements of the Part 1 Proposal. Such Bidder can pay: (i) by e-check through <https://www.epayillinois.com>; or (ii) by check payable to “Illinois Power Agency”. Instructions for submission of the Bid Participation Fee are available from the Procurement Administrator upon request.
- IV.5.6. The Bid Participation Fee is due by the Part 1 Date and such Bidder must provide evidence of compliance with this requirement with its Part 1 Proposal. Such evidence includes a photocopy of the check, a confirmation page from the e-check website, or a receipt from the IPA. Such evidence is provided by email or by upload to the application website. Notwithstanding whether or not a Bidder has provided such evidence with a Part 1 Proposal, for the Bidder to be eligible to present its Projects further in the RFP, the Procurement Administrator must be able to get confirmation from the IPA that the IPA has received payment of the Bid Participation Fee from the Bidder.

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IV.5.7. Information required in this Section IV.5 must be provided exclusively by completing Section 5 of the online Part 1 Form and by providing any documents as required by Section 5 of the online Part 1 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

**IV.6. Option to Provide Comments**

IV.6.1. If the Bidder is presenting Proposals for multiple Projects, the Bidder may only submit the materials for this section once, in the earliest submitted Part 1 Proposal for one of the Projects.

IV.6.2. Post-Bid Letter of Credit. The REC Contract includes, as Exhibit C, a standard Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit for a Company that may be used to post security under the terms of the REC Contract. This section of the RFP Rules refers to this letter of credit as the “Post-Bid Letter of Credit” for a Company. A Bidder may, in its Part 1 Proposal, provide comments on or propose modifications to the Post-Bid Letter of Credit drawn for the benefit of the Company. Any one of a Bidder’s comments or proposed modifications to the Post-Bid Letter of Credit may result in an addition to the list of modifications to the Post-Bid Letter of Credit approved by the Company for use by all Bidders on an optional basis. The Bidder provides comments and proposes modifications exclusively by submitting a redline of the Post-Bid Letter of Credit in Microsoft Word format. This document is provided by email or by upload to the application website.

IV.6.3. A Bidder submits financial guarantees for its Projects by providing either cash or a letter of credit to each of the Companies. If submitting a Pre-Bid Letter of Credit for a Company, a Bidder must use the Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit for that Company provided as an appendix to these RFP Rules; such Bidder may include any modifications to the Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit acceptable to that Company and posted to the procurement website. A Bidder may, in its Part 1 Proposal, provide comments on or propose modifications to each Pre-Bid Letter of Credit. Any one of a Bidder’s comments or proposed modifications to a Pre-Bid Letter of Credit may result in an addition to the list of modifications to the Pre-Bid Letter of

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Credit approved by the Company for use by all Bidders on an optional basis. The Bidder provides comments and proposes modifications exclusively by submitting a redline of a Pre-Bid Letter of Credit in Microsoft Word format. This document is provided by email or by upload to the application website.

- IV.6.4. A Bidder presenting a Proposal for a given Seller may only submit a single document with all of its comments and proposed modifications for each Pre-Bid Letter of Credit and may only submit a single document with all of its comments and proposed modifications for the Post-Bid Letter of Credit. This is the case even if the Bidder is presenting multiple Projects with a given Seller.
- IV.6.5. Information that may be submitted under this Section IV.6 must be provided exclusively by completing Section 6 of the online Part 1 Form and by providing any documents as required by Section 6 of the online Part 1 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

## **ARTICLE V. Part 2 Proposal Requirements**

A Part 2 Proposal serves to present additional information for a single Project that qualified through a successful Part 1 Proposal. To the extent that an entity or group of entities is intending to present several Projects that each qualified through a successful Part 1 Proposal, a different Part 2 Proposal must be presented for each such Project.

### **V.1. Contact Information**

V.1.1. A Bidder submits, in the online Part 1 Form, the address for the Bidder, the address for the Seller, as well as contact information for individuals responsible for the submission of the Proposal. The online Part 2 Form will display the information that the Bidder provided in the online Part 1 Form in this regard. The Bidder must review this information. If this information is no longer valid, the Bidder must update the address for the Bidder, the address for the Seller, or the contact information provided in the online Part 1 Form for the Representative. If the contact information for one or more of the additional Representatives is no longer valid, the Bidder must update this information by fully completing the Representative Insert prepared for this purpose and available on the procurement website. The Representative Insert is also labelled INSERT #P1-1. The Bidder provides updates to the Representative Insert by email or by upload to the application website. A Bidder that presents Proposals for multiple Projects and is providing an updated Representative Insert must submit the updated Representative Insert only once with information that is applicable to all of its Projects.

V.1.2. The information required by this Section V.1 must be provided exclusively by completing Section 1 of the online Part 2 Form and by providing any documents required by Section 1, as further explained in Article VI.

## **V.2. Bid Assurance Collateral**

V.2.1. Election of Cash or Letter of Credit as Bid Assurance Collateral. A Bidder must submit bid assurance collateral for the Project in the form of cash or of a letter of credit to each of AIC, ComEd, and MEC. For each Company, the Bidder must elect whether it is providing the bid assurance collateral in the form of cash or in the form of a letter of credit.

- A Company may draw upon the letter of credit or a Company may draw upon a cash deposit if: (i) the Bidder or a Seller has disclosed information relating to the Proposal for a Project publicly or to any other party before the Illinois Commerce Commission has rendered its decision on the results of the Procurement Event; or (ii) the Bidder or a Seller has made a material omission or misrepresentation in the Part 1 Proposal or the Part 2 Proposal for a Project submitted in connection with the Procurement Event; or (iii) A Seller has failed to execute the REC Contract for a Project within three (3) business days of being notified that the ICC has approved the bid on the Project or has failed to meet the creditworthiness requirements of the REC Contract within five (5) business days of such ICC decision; or (iv) the Bidder or a Seller has failed to pay to the IPA the Supplier Fee for a Project within seven (7) business days of being notified that the ICC has approved the bid on the Project.
- If providing bid assurance collateral in the form of cash for a Company, first, the Bidder must acknowledge the conditions under which cash may be drawn by the Company, and must acknowledge that no interest will be paid for cash submitted as bid assurance collateral by the Company and that the Company may co-mingle any cash submitted with other funds. The Bidder makes these acknowledgments by completing the Cash Insert for the Company prepared for this purpose and available on the procurement website. The Cash Insert for AIC is also labelled INSERT #P2-1; the Cash Insert for ComEd is also labelled INSERT #P2-2; the Cash Insert for MEC is also labelled #P2-3. Such Bidder completes the Cash Insert for each Company to which it is providing cash as bid assurance collateral. Such Bidder



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- provides all required Cash Inserts by email or by upload to the application website. Second, if providing bid assurance collateral in the form of cash for a Company, a Bidder must provide, for the entity to which will be returned the cash tendered as bid assurance collateral: (i) a W-9 for the entity; and (ii) a request, on the appropriate entity's letterhead, for the return of the cash tendered including wire instructions. Such Bidder provides such documents for each Company to which it is providing cash as bid assurance collateral. If the Bidder presents Proposals for multiple Projects, the Bidder is only required to submit a Cash Insert for a Company once. If the Bidder presents Proposals for multiple Projects, the Bidder is required to provide information for the return of cash more than once to the extent that the entity to which the cash tendered will be returned is not the same across all Projects.
- If providing bid assurance collateral in the form of a letter of credit for a Company, the Bidder must either use the Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit for that Company provided as an appendix to these RFP Rules, or the Bidder must submit an original executed Pre-Bid Letter of Credit for that Company that incorporates only those modifications to the Company's Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit approved by that Company and posted to the procurement website. The Pre-Bid Letter of Credit will expire on the date stated as part of its terms. Alternatively, the Bidder may provide special instructions for return of the Pre-Bid Letter of Credit in the Part 2 Proposal.
  - Whether providing bid assurance collateral in the form cash or a letter of credit for a Company, the Bidder must follow all instructions provided by the Procurement Administrator for transmission of bid assurance collateral to the Company. Such instructions specify that the Bidder must provide cash by wire transfer and that the original executed Pre-Bid Letter of Credit must be sent by overnight delivery service. Such instructions are provided with the Part 1 Notification or upon request by email to the Procurement Administrator prior to the date of the Part 1 Notification but after submission by the Bidder of a Part 1 Proposal.

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- A Bidder presenting Proposals for multiple Projects and that elects to provide bid assurance collateral in the form of a letter of credit for a Company may present a single letter of credit to that Company for all Projects provided that: (i) the Bidder and all Sellers are properly identified in Paragraph 12 of the letter of credit; and (ii) the entity or entities named in Paragraph 2 of the letter of credit consist of the Bidder, and/or one or more of the Sellers, and/or another entity identified in the Part 1 Proposal and associated with the Projects. Notwithstanding the provision of this paragraph, a Bidder consisting of a group of Sellers may, at its option, provide more than one letter of credit (for example, providing a separate letter of credit for each Project) instead of providing a single letter of credit for all Projects.
- A Bidder presenting Proposals for multiple Projects and that elects to provide bid assurance collateral in the form of cash for a Company may effect a single wire transfer to provide to that Company the required bid assurance collateral for all Projects. Notwithstanding the provision of this paragraph, a Bidder consisting of a group of Sellers may, at its option, provide more than one wire transfer (for example, providing a separate wire transfer for each Project).

V.2.2. Amount of Bid Assurance Collateral (Utility-Scale or mix of Utility-Scale and Brownfield).

This section applies to a Bidder presenting a Project or multiple Projects together totaling at least 2 MW in capacity (AC rating). The amount of bid assurance collateral required for a Project is determined separately for each Company as detailed below. For purposes of determining the amount of bid assurance collateral, where applicable, the size of the Project will be rounded down to the nearest megawatt.

- The amount of bid assurance collateral required for a Project by AIC is \$4,000/MW for Solar Projects and \$1,600/MW for Wind Projects subject to a minimum of \$35,000. The amount of bid assurance collateral tendered to AIC across all Projects presented by a Bidder need not exceed \$120,000.

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- The amount of bid assurance collateral required for a Project by ComEd is \$10,000/MW for Solar Projects and \$4,000/MW for Wind Projects subject to a minimum of \$35,000. The amount of bid assurance collateral tendered to ComEd across all Projects presented by a Bidder need not exceed \$300,000.
- The amount of bid assurance collateral required by MEC is \$30,000 regardless of the size of the Project or the number of Projects presented by a Bidder.

For the Bidder to be able to submit Bids on all of its Projects, the Bidder must have submitted bid assurance collateral to each of the Companies in an amount that is sufficient given the capacity and Type of the Bidder's Projects. If the Bidder fails to provide bid assurance collateral to one or more of the Companies, all of the Bidder's Bids will be rejected and will not be evaluated. If the Bidder provides bid assurance collateral to all Companies but the amount of the bid assurance collateral for one or more of the Companies is insufficient given the capacity and Type of the Bidder's Projects, then the Bidder will not be allowed to submit Bids on all Projects as further explained below.

- V.2.3. Amount of Bid Assurance Collateral (Brownfield only). This section applies to a Bidder presenting a Project or multiple Projects together totaling less than 2 MW in capacity (AC rating). All such Projects must be brownfield site photovoltaic projects. The amount of bid assurance collateral required in such a case for each Company is: (i) \$20,000 by AIC; (ii) \$20,000 by ComEd; and (iii) \$10,000 by MEC. If the Bidder fails to provide bid assurance collateral to one or more of the Companies, all of the Bidder's Bids will be rejected and will not be evaluated. If the Bidder provides bid assurance collateral to all Companies but the amount of the bid assurance collateral for one or more of the Companies is insufficient given the capacity and Type of the Bidder's Projects, then the Bidder will not be allowed to submit Bids on all Projects as further explained below.

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V.2.4. A Bidder provides information required in this section by completing Section 1 of the online Part 2 Form and by providing any documents required by Section 1 of the online Part 2 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

**V.3. Certifications**

V.3.1. General. The Officer of the Seller must make the representations that are required by this section. If the Bidder and Seller are different entities, a representative of the Bidder must also make these representations.

V.3.2. Content of Proposal. The Seller must certify that all information in the Part 2 Proposal is true and accurate to the best of the Seller's knowledge and belief.

V.3.3. Confidentiality. As a necessary part of preparing the Proposal, the Seller may discuss material information relating to the Proposal with the Bidder, with Owners, or with other Sellers whose Projects are presented by the Bidder. Furthermore, the Seller or Bidder may communicate with a financial institution for purposes of arranging the payment of bid assurance collateral and may communicate with advisors. Other than such communications with the parties named in this section, the Officer of the Seller must certify that:

- the Seller has no knowledge of any Proposal being submitted for this procurement event by another Bidder in response to this RFP;
- the Seller is bidding independently;
- the Seller has taken all necessary care to uphold the confidentiality of its Proposal in its communications with Owners, other Sellers whose Projects are presented by the Bidder, a financial institution for the purpose of arranging payment of the bid assurance collateral, or in its communications with advisors, if any;
- with the exceptions of communications with Owners, other Sellers whose Projects are presented by the Bidder, a financial institution for the purpose of arranging payment of the bid assurance collateral, or advisors (if any), neither the Seller nor the Bidder has disclosed,

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and will otherwise disclose, publicly or to any other party any information relating to its Proposal, which could have an effect on whether another party submits a Proposal for this procurement event, or on the contents of such Proposal that another Bidder would be willing to submit. Such information includes, but is not limited to: the fact that the Bidder is submitting a Proposal for this procurement event; the Bids for the Project; the Seller's estimation of the value of a Product; and the Seller's estimation of the risks associated with providing RECs under the terms of the REC Contract. This certification must hold until the ICC has rendered its decision on the results of the procurement event.

A Bidder or Seller that cannot make these certifications must explain all reasons.

V.3.4. Bids and Applicable Supplier Contracts. The Seller has certified, in the Part 1 Proposal, that it understands and agrees to the terms of the REC Contract and that it accepts the terms of the Wind and Solar RFP. In the Part 2 Proposal, the following acknowledgements and certifications must be made:

- The Seller acknowledges that Bids submitted with respect to the Project must remain binding until seventeen (17) business days after the Bid Date. The price in the Bid constitutes a binding and irrevocable offer to supply RECs of the Product corresponding to the Project at that price under the terms of the REC Contract and the quantity in the Bid is the annual quantity in the REC Contract aggregated across all Companies;
- The Seller acknowledges that Supplier Fees in the amount specified by the IPA must be paid by the Seller or the Bidder if the Bid on the Project is approved by the Commission;
- The Seller acknowledges that bid assurance collateral must be submitted in an amount sufficient to support the Bid on the Project. The Seller and Bidder agree that, if such amount is not sufficient, and if the Procurement Administrator does not receive prior to the deadline an amendment to the Bid Form or does not receive instructions to amend the Bid Form in a way that renders the amount of bid assurance collateral sufficient to support the Bids, then the Procurement Administrator may amend the Bid Form in accordance with the procedure

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described in Paragraph V.5.7 until the amount of the bid assurance collateral is sufficient to support the Bids; and

- The Seller agrees that, if the Seller's Bid on the Project is approved by the Commission, the Seller will execute the REC Contracts with the Companies as instructed by the Procurement Administrator and the Seller will submit all necessary supporting documentation in the timeframes required by the REC Contract.

A Seller makes all certifications and acknowledgments above by completing the P2 Certifications Insert prepared for this purpose and available on the procurement website. A representative of the Bidder signs the P2 Certifications Insert as well if the Bidder and the Seller are different entities. The P2 Certifications Insert is also labelled INSERT #P2-4. The Bidder provides the P2 Certifications Insert by email or by upload to the application website.

- V.3.5. A Bidder provides information required in this section by completing Section 3 of the online Part 2 Form and by providing any documents required by Section 3 of the Part 2 Form, as further explained in Article VI.

#### **V.4. Information to Prepare the REC Contracts**

- V.4.1. General. The Seller is asked, but is not required, to provide information to prepare the REC Contracts.

- V.4.2. Information to Prepare the REC Contracts. A Seller is asked to provide all information necessary for the preparation of the REC Contract by each of the Companies. A Seller that has named a Guarantor in the Part 1 Proposal is also asked to provide all information necessary for ComEd to prepare the Guaranty. The REC Contract is prepared by each of the Companies after the Procurement Administrator notifies the Bidder that the Bid on the Project has been approved by the ICC. A Seller provides this information by providing the fully completed Contract Insert prepared for this purpose and available on the procurement website. If the Bid on the Project is approved by the Commission, the Procurement Administrator will allocate to each Company the

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number of RECs that the Seller will deliver to that Company. The Seller cannot choose its counterparties to the REC Contract and thus must complete the Contract Insert in its entirety. The Contract Insert is also labelled INSERT #P2-5. The Bidder provides the Contract Insert in Microsoft Word format by email or by upload to the application website. A Contract Insert in pdf format will not be accepted. If a Bidder is submitting Proposals for multiple Projects that have the same Seller then the Bidder is only required to submit one Contract Inserts for all such Projects.

V.4.3. Failure to Provide the Contract Insert. If a Bidder fails to submit the Contract Insert and if the Procurement Administrator notifies the Bidder that the Bid on the Project is being identified as a winning Bid to the ICC, then the Procurement Administrator will require the Contract Insert to be provided by 12 PM (noon) on the day after the Bidder is notified that the Bid on the Project is identified as a winning Bid to the ICC.

V.4.4. A Bidder provides information required in this section by completing Section 4 of the online Part 2 Form and by providing any documents required by Section 4 of the online Part 2 Form, as further explained in Section VI.

## **V.5. Bids**

V.5.1. Indicative Quantity. The Bidder must provide in the online Part 2 Form an indicative quantity of RECs for the Project that it intends to include in its Bid. This quantity of RECs is specified as an annual quantity of RECs. The annual quantity indicated in this section is not binding in that the Bidder may place a Bid on the Bid Date that specifies a quantity different from the number indicated in this section. The Procurement Administrator may ask for additional information if the indicative quantity is inconsistent with the size for the Project provided in the Part 1 Proposal.

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- V.5.2. Bid. A “Bid” for a Project has two elements: (i) a quantity of RECs that represents the annual quantity to be delivered in a delivery year under the terms of the REC Contract; and (ii) a price per REC that represents the price at which the Seller is willing to deliver RECs. The annual quantity must be an integer quantity of RECs and the price must be in \$/REC and must display as a number rounded to the nearest cent. A single Bid must be submitted for the Project. The Bidder may not submit any additional instructions, contingencies, or conditions on their Bids. Any such additional instructions, contingencies, or conditions will be ignored.
- V.5.3. Bid Form. The Procurement Administrator provides, electronically to each Bidder, a Bid Form with a tab for each Project qualified by the Bidder through a successful Part 1 Proposal. The Bid Form, as provided to each Bidder by the Procurement Administrator, is the exclusive method for submitting a Bidder’s Bids. The Procurement Administrator provides an instructions guide for completion of the Bid Form, for the optional encryption of the Bid Form, for submission of the completed Bid Form to the Procurement Administrator via a secure file transfer interface, as well as instructions for submission of Bids in case of technical difficulties with the secure file transfer interface. The Procurement Administrator provides electronically to each Bidder the information required for the submission of Bids, including a username, password, and security code. This information is unique to each Bidder and allows the Procurement Administrator to authenticate the Bids received. In the online Part 2 Form, the Bidder must either confirm that all such information and documents were received or the Bidder must request that such information and documents be re-issued. The Bidder makes this confirmation or request by using the check box in the online Part 2 Form prepared for this purpose.
- V.5.4. Bid Window. The Bidder’s Bids must be received between 8 AM and 12 PM (noon) on the Bid Date. After a one-hour cure period during which Bidders may correct errors or inconsistencies, Bidders have no further ability to change their Bids. The Bid Window is then closed and Bids are evaluated. No late Bid Forms will be accepted.



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V.5.5. Process During Bid Widow.

- A Bidder must fill out all required information on the Bid Form according to the instructions provided by the Procurement Administrator upon qualification. A Bidder must fill out contact information on its Bid Form and the Procurement Administrator will use that information to confirm receipt of the Bids. A Bidder may encrypt its Bid Form for additional security.
- A Bidder must submit the Bid Form to the Procurement Administrator through a secure file transfer interface according to the instructions provided by the Procurement Administrator upon qualification.
- A Bidder must phone the Procurement Administrator once it has transmitted its Bid Form. If the Bid Form was not received and there are technical difficulties, the Procurement Administrator will instruct the Bidder to use a backup method and will stay on the phone with the Bidder until receipt of the Bid Form can be confirmed.
- The Bidder must be available between 12 PM (noon) and 1 PM on the Bid Date to receive the assessment of whether the Bid Form is complete and consistent with the RFP Rules, including whether the bid assurance collateral is sufficient to support the Bidder's Bids. The Procurement Administrator will at that time contact the Bidder by phone to provide this assessment. The Procurement Administrator may contact the Bidder earlier than 12 PM (noon) on the Bid Date.
- If the Bid Form is deficient, the Bidder will have an opportunity to resubmit and any such resubmission will supersede all previously submitted Bid Forms as long as the resubmission is received prior to 1 PM on the Bid Date. If the Procurement Administrator is unable to contact the Bidder, the Procurement Administrator will send a notification by email to the Bidder stating this fact.

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- V.5.6. Bid Assurance Collateral and Bids. The amount of bid assurance collateral sufficient to support the Bid on the Project is a function of the capacity and Type of Project as described in Section V.2. If a Bidder submits a Proposal for a single Project and the bid assurance collateral is not sufficient, the Bidder will be advised of this fact. If the Bidder is not able to meet the amount of bid assurance collateral required by 1 PM on the Bid Date, the Bid will be rejected. If a Bidder submits Proposals for multiple Projects, the Bidder must have submitted bid assurance collateral to each of the Companies in an amount that is sufficient given the capacity and Type of the Bidder's Projects. If the Bidder fails to provide the minimum bid assurance collateral to one or more of the Companies, the Bidder will be advised of this fact. If the Bidder is not able to provide at least the minimum amount of bid assurance collateral required for each Company by 1 PM on the Bid Date, all of the Bidder's Bids will be rejected. If the Bidder provides at least the minimum bid assurance collateral required to each Company but the amount of the bid assurance collateral for one or more of the Companies is insufficient given the capacity and Type of the Bidder's Projects, the Bidder will be advised of that fact. In this last case, and only in this last case, the Procurement Administrator will provide information to the Bidder on the maximum capacity that the Bidder can bid given the bid assurance collateral submitted. The Procurement Administrator will require the Bidder to remove some or all of the Bids so that the bid assurance collateral is sufficient to support the type and capacity of the Projects. The Bidder will have the option to resubmit its Bid Form or to provide the amended Bids by phone, provided, however, that the amended Bids are received by the end of the one-hour cure period, at 1 PM (CPT) on the Bid Date. If the Bidder amends its Bids by phone, the Procurement Administrator will provide a record of the amended Bid Form to the Bidder.
- V.5.7. If, for any reason including the fact that the Bidder is not able to amend its Bids before 1 PM on the Bid Date, the Bidder's bid assurance collateral remains insufficient to support the Bidder's Bids after the procedure provided in the prior Paragraph is followed, the Procurement Administrator will remove Bids on entire Projects to ensure that the bid assurance collateral is

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sufficient. If the Bidder has Projects of different Types, the Procurement Administrator selects a Type at random. The first Bid and Project to be removed will be the highest priced Project of the Type selected at random. If the bid assurance collateral remains insufficient, the second Bid and Project to be removed will be the highest priced Project of the other Type. The procedure will continue in this manner, alternating Types (if applicable) and selecting the highest priced Project within the Type, until the bid assurance collateral is sufficient. If there are equally priced Projects within a Type, the Procurement Administrator selects the Project at random.

## **ARTICLE VI. Process**

### **VI.1. Part 1 and Part 2 Proposals: Submission and Processing**

- VI.1.1. 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.
- VI.1.2. Any document or other information prepared and sent by the Procurement Administrator to a Bidder for its continued participation in the RFP is sent through a secure file transfer interface to the Representatives. Any such document or other information 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.
- VI.1.3. The exclusive method of responding to the qualification standards listed in Article IV of these RFP Rules is the use of the online Part 1 Form together with the use of Inserts to the 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.
- VI.1.4. Responses to the qualification standards of Article IV that do not use the online Part 1 Form and the Inserts prepared for this purpose will not be considered and the Part 1 Proposal will be considered deficient.

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- VI.1.5. A Bidder must submit a Part 1 Proposal for a Project to the Procurement Administrator by 12 PM (noon) on the Part 1 Date. All times in this RFP are Central Prevailing Times unless specifically noted. No late Part 1 Proposals will be accepted under any circumstances.
- VI.1.6. 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. The Procurement Administrator also sends the results of an initial review. 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 initial review by 6 PM on the same business day. 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 initial review by 12 PM (noon) of the next business day. 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.
- VI.1.7. 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 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.

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- VI.1.8. A Bidder qualifies a Project pursuant to a successful Part 1 Proposal if its Part 1 Proposal is received on or before 12 PM (noon) on the Part 1 Date, if the Part 1 Proposal is complete for the Project, and if the Part 1 Proposal fully complies with the qualification standards of Article IV of these RFP Rules, including any requests for additional information from the Procurement Administrator.
- VI.1.9. The Procurement Administrator notifies each Bidder of whether the Project has met the qualification standards pursuant to a successful Part 1 Proposal generally within five (5) business days of the Part 1 Date. If a Bidder fails to qualify the Project, the Procurement Administrator notifies the Bidder of that fact by email. If a Bidder qualifies the Project pursuant to a successful Part 1 Proposal, the Procurement Administrator transmits to the Bidder, using a secure file transfer interface, a Part 1 Notification as well as some documents necessary for the Bidder's continued participation in the RFP. These documents, provided electronically, are: (i) the Bid Form; (ii) instructions for completing, encrypting, and submitting Bid Forms; (iii) an invitation to a training session on the bid submission procedure; and (iv) confidential information for submission of the Bid Form, including a username, a password, and a security code unique to that Bidder. The Bid Form will include a unique identifier for each Project. The Bid Form will include a unique identifier for each Project. A Bidder submitting Proposals for multiple Projects will only be provided with these documents only once.
- VI.1.10. The Procurement Administrator will inform Bidders of the amount of the Supplier Fee per REC no later than 6 PM two (2) business days before the Bid Date.
- VI.1.11. Except for the submission of Bids, the exclusive method of responding to the requirements listed in IV.6.5 of these RFP Rules is the use of the online Part 2 Form together with the use of Inserts to the Part 2 Form available as separate forms on the procurement website or from the Procurement Administrator. The bid assurance collateral must be transmitted to each Company directly according to the instructions provided to the Bidder by the Procurement Administrator.

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Other documents (supporting documents and Inserts) may be uploaded to the application website or sent to the Procurement Administrator via email.

VI.1.12. The Bid Form, which is the exclusive method for the submission of Bids, is provided to each Bidder with the Part 1 Notification. Should such Bid Form require amendment, the Procurement Administrator may send a replacement Bid Form no later than two (2) business days before the Bid Date through a secure file transfer interface. The instructions guide for completion of the Bid Form provided to Bidders with the Part 1 Notification can be used both for training for purposes and for submission of Bids on the Bid Date; the Procurement Administrator may provide with any amended Bid Form an update to the instructions guide as needed. A sample of the Bid Form is provided for illustrative purposes as Appendix 8 of these RFP Rules.

VI.1.13. A Bidder must submit its Part 2 Proposal, excluding Bids, to the Procurement Administrator by 12 PM (noon) on the Part 2 Date. A Bidder must submit Bids for its Projects between 8 AM and 12 PM (noon) on the Bid Date. The Bid Form must be filled out completely and transferred in accordance to the instructions provided by the Procurement Administrator and in accordance with the requirements of this RFP. The Bid Form may be encrypted. A Bid for a Project that is incompletely or inconsistently filled out will be considered deficient and will not be evaluated. All times in this RFP are Central Prevailing Times unless specifically noted. No late Part 2 Proposals will be accepted under any circumstances.

VI.1.14. If a Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is received on any business day during the Part 2 Window, the Procurement Administrator acknowledges receipt on the business day the materials are received. The Procurement Administrator also sends the results of an initial review. If a Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is received before 12 PM (noon) on any business day during the Part 2 Window prior to the Part 2 Date, the Procurement Administrator sends the initial review by 6 PM on the same business day. If a Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is received after 12 PM (noon) on any business day during the Part 2 Window prior to the Part 2 Date, the Procurement

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Administrator sends the initial review by 12 PM (noon) of the next business day. The initial review of the Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) states that the Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is complete, or the initial review lists items of the Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) that are incomplete or require clarification.

VI.1.15. A Bidder must post bid assurance collateral in accordance with the instructions provided by the Procurement Administrator. A Bidder's Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is automatically deficient if the Pre-Bid Letter of Credit for a Company proposes or includes modifications to the Standard Pre-Bid Letter of Credit for that Company that are not among those that are acceptable to the Company and posted to the procurement website.

VI.1.16. If the Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is incomplete or requires clarification, the Procurement Administrator sends a deficiency notice to the Bidder. The Bidder has until 12 PM (noon) on the Part 2 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 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 2 Proposal may be rejected. If the Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is complete, the Procurement Administrator sends a notice to that effect.

VI.1.17. A Bidder's Bid for a Project is evaluated if the Project qualified pursuant to a successful Part 1 Proposal, if the Bidder's Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is received on or before 12 PM (noon) on the Part 2 Date, if the Part 2 Proposal (excluding Bids) is complete and fully complies with the requirements of Article V of these RFP Rules including any requests for additional information from the Procurement Administrator by 1 PM on the Bid Date, if its Bid Form is received between 8 AM and 12 PM (noon) on the Bid Date, and if its Bid Form is submitted



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according to the instructions provided by the Procurement Administrator and the requirements of this RFP. Each Bidder that submits a Part 2 Proposal will be notified whether its Bids are evaluated by 2 PM on the Bid Date by phone or by email.

VI.1.18. The Procurement Administrator expects to notify a Bidder that had Bids that were evaluated whether any of the Bidder's Bids will be identified as "winning Bids" to the ICC by 6 PM on the Bid Date. Such notification is made earlier to the extent practicable or may be made on the next business day as circumstances warrant. The Procurement Administrator provides a list to the Bidder of the Projects with Bids identified as winning Bids. This notification occurs by phone with a written confirmation by email. The Procurement Administrator provides no other information to a Bidder about the results of the procurement event.

## **VI.2. Bid and Post-Bid Process**

VI.2.1. A Bidder submits its Bid Form electronically according to the instructions from the Procurement Administrator and the requirements of this RFP. A Bidder is instructed to transfer its Bid Form through a secure file transfer interface. The Bidder must use a username and a password provided by the Procurement Administrator to access the secure file transfer interface. The Bidder may use a security code provided by the Procurement Administrator to encrypt the file. If the Bidder does not encrypt the Bid Form, the Bidder will be required to provide the security code by phone. A Bidder presenting Proposals for multiple Projects is expected to submit one Bid Form through a single transmission; a Bidder must request special arrangements from the Procurement Administrator and must received approval from the Procurement Administrator to proceed in any other manner. Upon providing such approval, the Procurement Administrator will provide special instructions to the Bidder and such special instructions must be followed.

VI.2.2. A Bidder that must resort to submitting its Bid Form by email because of technical difficulties must follow the instructions provided by the Procurement Administrator for this contingency. These instructions will specify that the Bidder must phone the Procurement Administrator to

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advise the Procurement Administrator of the use of email transmission and to provide authenticating information. The Procurement Administrator will recommend that the Bid Form be encrypted using the security code unique to the Bidder. The Procurement Administrator will note for the Bidder that without encryption such transmission may not be secure.

- VI.2.3. All Bid Forms must be received between 8 AM and 12 PM (noon) on the Bid Date. All times in this RFP are Central Prevailing Times unless specifically noted. No late Bid Forms will be considered regardless of the method used by the Bidder to submit its Bid Form.
- VI.2.4. A Bidder must phone the Procurement Administrator once it has transmitted its Bid Form according to the instructions provided with the Part 1 Notification. If the Bid Form was not received and there are technical difficulties, the Procurement Administrator will instruct the Bidder to use a backup method and will stay on the phone with the Bidder until receipt of the Bid Form can be confirmed.
- VI.2.5. The period between 12 PM (noon) and 1 PM is a one-hour cure period during which the Procurement Administrator provides an assessment of the Bid Form and during which Bidders may correct errors or inconsistencies. After the cure period Bidders have no further ability to change their Bids. The Bid window is then closed and Bids are evaluated. At least one Bid Form must be received between 8 AM and 12 PM (noon) from each Bidder; any complete Bid Form received between 12 PM (noon) and 1 PM supersedes all previously submitted Bid Forms by that Bidder. No Bid Forms will be accepted after 1 PM CPT on the Bid Date.
- VI.2.6. The Bidder must be available between 12 PM (noon) and 1 PM on the Bid Date to receive the assessment of whether the Bid Form is complete and consistent with the RFP Rules. The Procurement Administrator will at that time contact the Bidder by phone to provide this assessment. The Procurement Administrator may contact the Bidder earlier than 12 PM (noon) on the Bid Date.
- VI.2.7. If the Bid Form is deficient, the Bidder will have an opportunity to resubmit and any such resubmission will supersede all previously submitted Bid Forms as long as the resubmission is

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received prior to 1 PM on the Bid Date. If the Procurement Administrator is unable to contact the Bidder, the Procurement Administrator will send a notification by email to the Bidder stating this fact.

- VI.2.8. It is the responsibility of the Bidder to ensure that a completely and consistently filled out Bid Form is submitted. The Procurement Administrator will hold a training session for Bidders to practice the bid submission process and will work with Bidders to resolve any technical difficulties prior to the Bid Date.
- VI.2.9. The evaluation of Bids aims to select the lowest priced Projects for each Type. The Act requires the Procurement Administrator to notify Bidders that the Procurement Administrator may, in its discretion, enter into post-bid price negotiations with Bidders. The Procurement Administrator has decided that there will be no post-bid negotiations.
- VI.2.10. The evaluation of Bids and the allocation of winning Bids to each Company proceeds in several steps. The evaluation of Bids proceeds separately for each Product. The evaluation first eliminates Bids that fail to meet or beat the benchmarks for each Category. Benchmarks are established by the Procurement Administrator, in consultation with the IPA, the Procurement Monitor, and the ICC Staff. The benchmarks are confidential and are subject to review and approval by the ICC. Second, bids are ranked in order of price per REC for each Product until the Target for each Product in this procurement event is met (on an annual basis) or until all Bids have been ranked. The lowest priced Projects thus selected are identified by the Procurement Administrator to the Commission as winning Bids. The Procurement Administrator allocates Bids selected by the evaluation procedure to each Company in proportion to the Company's budget. The Procurement Administrator may take other factors into account in determining the allocation across the Companies.
- VI.2.11. It is possible that multiple Projects could have Bids of the same price (\$/REC), resulting in a tie for the highest accepted Bid price for a given Type. Such Bids are Tied Bids (at the Tied Price). If possible, the Procurement Administrator will assign the available quantity to a Project, or to a

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subset of the Projects with Tied Bids, that has the greatest annual quantity that is still less than the available quantity. If such an allocation is not possible, the Procurement Administrator will select the Projects with winning Bids at random. No selection preference will otherwise be given to Bids at the Tied Price submitted at any particular time or in any particular way.

- VI.2.12. The evaluation of Bids can result in a Bidder having winning Bids for only a portion of the annual quantity from a Project. Should the Bid be approved by the Commission, such Bidder will have the option to reject the partial award of a portion of the annual quantity for a Project.
- VI.2.13. The Procurement Administrator expects to notify a Bidder that had Bids that were evaluated whether any of the Bidder's Bids are identified as winning Bids by the Procurement Administrator by 6 PM on the Bid Date. Such notification is made earlier to the extent practicable or may be made on the next business day as circumstances warrant. The Procurement Administrator provides a list to the Bidder of the Projects with Bids identified as winning Bids. This notification occurs by phone with a written confirmation by email. The Procurement Administrator provides no other information to a Bidder about the results of the procurement event.
- VI.2.14. Within two (2) business days of the Bid Date, the Procurement Administrator submits to the ICC a confidential report that will provide the results of the bidding as well as a recommendation on whether these results should be accepted or rejected. Within two (2) business days of the Bid Date, the Procurement Monitor submits to the ICC a confidential report regarding the results of the procurement event as well as a recommendation on whether these results should be accepted or rejected. The ICC is expected to decide whether to accept or reject the results of the procurement event within two (2) business days of receiving the confidential reports from the Procurement Administrator and the Procurement Monitor.
- VI.2.15. The Procurement Administrator will contact the Representatives of each Bidder with Bids identified by the Procurement Administrator as winning Bids to the ICC to ensure that the contact information of such Representatives remains correct and up-to-date. If the Procurement

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Administrator notifies a Bidder that the Bidder has Bids that the Procurement Administrator identifies as winning Bids, and if the Bidder did not fully complete the Contract Inserts, the Bidder will be required to provide all information required by the applicable supplier contract Inserts promptly after such notification occurs. The Companies prepare the REC Contract documents.

VI.2.16. If the ICC accepts the results of the procurement event, the Procurement Administrator will notify all Bidders that submitted Bids whether some or all of their Bids for their Projects were accepted by the ICC and the Company to which such accepted Bids are allocated. The Sellers whose Projects have their Bids approved by the ICC are called winning Bidders for the procurement event.

VI.2.17. At the time of ICC approval of a procurement event, the names of winning Bidders and the average of the winning bid prices are made public. The Act states that participants in the procurement process will maintain the confidentiality of all other supplier and bidding information.

VI.2.18. If a Seller has a Project with approved Bids for a Company, by 12 PM CPT (noon) on the first business day after the ICC decision, the Company prepares and sends a partially executed electronic copy of the REC Contract and related documents to the Seller. It is expected that the signatory named in the Contract Insert for the applicable Company's REC Contract will sign a copy of the partially executed REC Contract and related documents. If this individual is not available to sign the REC Contract and related documents, the Seller will advise the Company of this fact, will name another individual to sign the REC Contract and related documents, and will confirm that this individual is an officer, a director, or an individual otherwise authorized to undertake contracts (including the applicable supplier contract documents) and bind the Seller. By 12 PM CPT (1 PM Eastern Prevailing Time) on the second business day after the ICC decision, the Seller executes the signature pages of the partially executed REC Contracts and related documents and sends such fully executed signature pages to the Company electronically.

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Upon execution of the REC Contracts and related documents in counterparts by both parties, such supplier REC Contracts and related documents are fully executed.

- VI.2.19. If the ICC rejects the results of the procurement event, the Procurement Administrator, the Procurement Monitor, and the ICC Staff will meet within ten (10) days of the ICC decision to analyze potential causes of low supplier interest or causes for the ICC decision. The Procurement Administrator may implement changes and hold a second procurement event if such changes would address concerns causing the Commission to reject the results of the first procurement event or resulting in the procurement event failing to meet the requirements.
- VI.2.20. Projects with winning Bids approved by the ICC will be assessed a Supplier Fee per REC that will be due within seven (7) business days after ICC approval of the Bids. For Bidders with no Bids approved by the Commission, the bid assurance collateral will be returned as soon as practicable after the Commission decision on the results of the procurement event. For Bidders or Seller whose Bids are approved by the Commission, bid assurance collateral stays in place until the REC Contract is fully executed and the Seller has met the creditworthiness requirements of the REC Contract.

### **VI.3. Personnel and Confidentiality**

- VI.3.1. Any information provided by a Bidder or Seller in its Part 1 Proposal is provided on a confidential basis to the Procurement Administrator, and may be provided on a confidential basis to the Procurement Monitor, to the IPA, or to ICC Staff.
- VI.3.2. Any information provided by a Bidder or Seller in its Part 2 Proposal is provided on a confidential basis to the Procurement Administrator, and may be provided on a confidential basis to the Procurement Monitor, to the IPA, or to the ICC Staff.
- VI.3.3. The Procurement Administrator, the Procurement Monitor, representatives from the IPA, the ICC Staff, and representatives of each Company as applicable who are involved in the evaluation of Proposals will consider all data and information provided by Bidders and Sellers

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in response to this RFP to be confidential and will attempt to limit its disclosure to the public in accordance with the provisions of this section. Each Company will also take reasonable action to ensure that its employees, representatives and agents authorized to consider and evaluate all Proposals protect the confidentiality of such data and information. Each representative of the Procurement Administrator, Procurement Monitor, and the Companies that has access to any portion of the Proposals is required to sign a Confidentiality Statement in the form of Appendix 9 to these RFP Rules prior to evaluation of any portion of the Proposals. The list of all signatories is available to a Bidder or Seller upon request. A limited number of representatives from each Company will receive information on Bids identified by the Procurement Administrator as winning Bids for purposes of preparing the applicable supplier contracts. Another confidentiality agreement will be executed for this purpose.

VI.3.4. However, absolute protection from public disclosure of the Bidders' or Sellers' data and information filed in response to this RFP cannot be provided and is not intended. By submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, each Bidder and each Seller acknowledges and agrees to the limitations of the confidentiality provisions set forth in this section.

VI.3.5. In addition, the Bidders' and Sellers' data and information filed in response to the RFP will be disclosed if required by any federal, state or local agency (including, without limitation, the ICC) or by a court of competent jurisdiction. A Company or the Procurement Administrator will notify the Bidder or Seller in advance of such disclosure and cooperate with such Bidder or Seller, to the extent deemed reasonable by the Company, and at the expense of the Bidder or Seller, to prevent the disclosure of such materials. In any event, the Companies, their employees, and agents including the Procurement Administrator will not be responsible to the Bidders or Sellers any other party or liable for any disclosure of such designated materials before, during or subsequent to this RFP.

## **ARTICLE VII. Reserved Rights**

- VII.1.1. AIC will not be liable to any Bidder or any other party for failure to execute the applicable supplier contract. Nothing herein may be construed to bind AIC unless and until the ICC has approved winning Bids for this procurement event, and the REC Contract with a Bidder has been executed and is effective. Once effective, it is the REC Contract and not the RFP Rules or any documents relating thereto that will govern the relationship between and the responsibilities of the parties.
- VII.1.2. ComEd will not be liable to any Bidder or any other party for failure to execute the applicable supplier contract. Nothing herein may be construed to bind ComEd unless and until the ICC has approved winning Bids for this procurement event, and the REC Contract with a Bidder has been executed and is effective. Once effective, it is the REC Contract and not the RFP Rules or any documents relating thereto that will govern the relationship between and the responsibilities of the parties.
- VII.1.3. MEC will not be liable to any Bidder or any other party for failure to execute the applicable supplier contract. Nothing herein may be construed to bind MEC unless and until the ICC has approved winning Bids for this procurement event, and the REC Contract with a Bidder has been executed and is effective. Once effective, it is the REC Contract and not the RFP Rules or any documents relating thereto that will govern the relationship between and the responsibilities of the parties.
- VII.1.4. The Procurement Administrator reserves the right to reject Proposals submitted in response to this RFP that are incomplete, or do not conform with the requirements of this RFP, or are submitted beyond the deadline for submission, or are submitted by a Bidder that tries to unduly influence in any way the evaluation process.