



Date: January 25, 2024
To: All Vendors
Subject: Addendum #1

REFERENCE: P019-24 BPUB 2024 Integrated Resource Plan

This Addendum forms part of the contract and clarifies, corrects or modifies original proposal document.

Question 1: Will Brownsville provide estimates and/or history of behind-the-meter solar, EV penetration, energy efficiency or will the consultant develop those estimates?

Answer 1: BPUB has data on behind-the-meter solar penetration and customer participation in energy efficiency rebate programs. However, overall data is limited. Additional research and data collection are likely to be needed, and the consultant will be responsible for this.

Question 2: If third party data services are used for scope items 2, 3, or 4 can those costs be represented as a lump sum on the proposal cost sheet?

Answer 2: Yes.

Question 3: For scope items 9 and 10 is the consultant to develop a full potential study or do an assessment of what DSM and DG opportunities are available and the steps required to implement them?

Answer 3: BPUB desires an independent assessment of the projected economics of utility-sponsored DSM and DG based on the results of Tasks 7 and 8 in combination with supplemental analysis. If Tasks 7 and 8 indicate that utility-sponsored DSM and/or DG is likely to be economically attractive for BPUB compared to other resource alternatives, then the assessments in Tasks 9 and 10 should provide further information on implementation requirements and key considerations. If Tasks 7 and 8 indicate that DSM and/or DG is not sufficiently economical to pursue, then Tasks 9 and 10 should provide additional details and context for this conclusion, along with a discussion of potential strategies BPUB could pursue to make DSM and/or DG more attractive.

Question 4: The RFP lists the project start date as May 31, 2024, but does not list a targeted date for final IRP submission. Beyond the stated desire to have a base-case expansion plan and production cost analysis by September 30, 2024 (item 7 in RFP Anticipated Scope of Services), does BPUB have any target dates for major milestones/deliverables and/or final IRP submission deadlines that responses should reflect?

Answer 4: BPUB desires that a complete draft IRP report be provided by 12/31/24.

Question 5: Past IRPs were "generally every 5 years" and conducted in 2011 and 2017. Can BPUB share any additional information regarding the motivation for the current IRP process in 2024? Are there any specific driving local or state regulations or impending needs that are driving this planning process?

Answer 5: BPUB's Silas Ray Power Plant is aging and has limited future lifespan. BPUB also has existing power supply contracts that expire at the end of 2029. BPUB anticipates that new resource additions may be beneficial and is engaging in the 2024 IRP to help support power supply decisions anticipated for 2025.

Question 6: Does BPUB expect for a full 8,760 hour production cost analysis to be conducted for each year of the planning horizon, separate from the "base case [capacity] expansion plan" model, which may already capture dispatch at a lower temporal resolution (item 7 in RFP Anticipated Scope of Services)?

Answer 6: Not necessarily. It is up to the consultant to propose the approach that will yield greatest value for BPUB. However, BPUB generally views the capability to conduct analysis and produce results at hourly granularity as beneficial, all else being equal.

Question 7: Can BPUB expand on the intended purpose of the nodal price forecasts included in this RFP?

Answer 7: BPUB periodically experiences depressed nodal prices at Silas Ray compared to South Load Zone due to transmission congestion. It is unclear whether transmission projects currently being considered by ERCOT for South Texas will alleviate this. BPUB wants to avoid future resource locations that are likely to be disadvantageous due to congestion. It is expected that the nodal price forecast will help characterize resource location alternatives in this regard.

Question 8: Does BPUB have an existing capacity expansion model or preferred capacity expansion software that should be used (item 7 in RFP Anticipated Scope of Services)?

Answer 8: BPUB's prior IRP was prepared with the assistance of a consultant using Encompass from Anchor Power Solutions. BPUB does not have an internal capacity expansion model or a software preference for the 2024 IRP.

Question 9: Is BPUB able to provide a list of the utility-sponsored DSM programs and confirm if they can also characterize the cost, potential and capabilities of these programs (items 9 in RFP Anticipated Scope of Services)?

Answer 9: BPUB does currently have any formal DSM programs in place. BPUB has periodically offered a rebate program to promote energy efficiency. BPUB does not currently have access to BPUB-specific information on cost, potential, and capabilities of these programs. This information will need to be gathered via research or developed as part of the project.

Question 10: Can BPUB clarify the meaning of "Assess historical and projected reliability..." of existing generation resources (item 5 in RFP Anticipated Scope of Services)? It would be helpful to better understand the activities and outputs that BPUB envisions from this task.

Answer 10: A key part of the IRP is to understand the likely longevity, reliability, and economics of BPUB’s existing generation. BPUB wants to ensure that modeling and analysis assumptions relating to existing resources (Silas Ray in particular) are reasonable and supported by facts. BPUB expects that the selected consultant, at a minimum, will make at least one site visit to Silas Ray, collect data, and develop associated modeling assumptions relating to likely unit longevity, reliability, and economics.

The signature of the company agent, for the acknowledgement of this addendum, shall be required. **Complete information below and return via e-mail to: dsolitaire@brownsville-pub.com**.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of this addendum.

Company: _____

Agent Name: _____

Agent Signature: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **E-mail address:** _____

If you have any further questions about the Proposal, call 956-983-6366.

BY: *Diane Solitaire*
Purchasing