



Center for Climate Change Communication
4400 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

ISSUE DATE: September XX, 2019

- I. PURPOSE:** The purpose and intent of this Request For Information is to acquire information from qualified sources to provide the goods/services described in Section III, Information Requested. George Mason University (“Mason”) will review all information submitted and use that information to help formulate a formal Invitation For Bids (IFB) or Request For Proposals (RFP). No award will be issued as a result of this Request For Information. This is a fact-finding exercise only and there is no formal university initiative to approve or fund a project. Furthermore, firms submitting information in response to this request cannot be shown any favoritism should a formal solicitation be issued.
- II. BACKGROUND:** George Mason University has made a commitment to address global climate change and committed to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. In 2007, Mason committed to becoming climate neutral by 2050 and in 2017 reaffirmed its climate commitments by signing the *We Are Still In* pledge. Mason is interested in the best way to utilize its existing assets to achieve goals of:
- Reducing energy costs, energy usage, and CO2 and greenhouse gas emissions
 - Providing new learning opportunities for students
 - Increasing resilience and supporting innovation
- III. INFORMATION REQUESTED:** George Mason University hereby invites interested parties to respond to this RFI regarding a prospective future solicitation. The purpose of this RFI is to gain information on current industry practices. We are seeking qualified expertise and perspective demonstrating the successful performance of feasibility studies, development of design documents, construction and operation of clean and renewable energy systems at other facilities similar in size and complexity. In addition to experience about the respondent’s successful development of a clean and renewable energy system, responses should demonstrate an informed understanding of short and long term financial and operational challenges associated with a system managed through a proposed financing model. Mason is interested in receiving information and recommendations exploring the different financing models for deploying clean and renewable energy sources including but not limited to: (1) self-ownership (financed through a variety of means), (2) third-party ownership through a power purchase agreement (PPA) both virtual and physical, and (3) combining self-ownership and third-party PPAs through a bond-PPA hybrid. We envision a plan for the development and use of clean and renewable energy sources using any one or combination of the following options:
- Generating electricity from clean and renewable energy sources on campus and retaining or retiring the rights to the environmental attributes of such electricity.
 - Catalyzing the development of off-site clean and renewable energy sources (e.g. an off-campus solar farm that was designed and built to supply electricity to the institution)
 - Using renewable sources on-site to generate energy other than electricity, such as biomass for heating.

RFI format should be structured as follows:

- A cover letter/statement of interest (1 page) indicating the team’s interest in the project and highlighting its qualifications to perform this project.
- Executive Summary (3 pages) of the team’s experience in requested work areas, as specifically mentioned above. Include examples of similar work. Be specific to experience with design, construction, and operation of a clean and renewable energy system at other facilities similar in size and complexity under a proposed financing model. Provide experience with quantifying, monitoring, and controlling trading risks in the wholesale and retail power markets. Include the risk management tools and methodology used to mitigate or greatly reduce associated risks in the power markets.
- Company Information
 - Name of Respondent and contact information

- Brief description of principal business for Respondent
- What potential interest do you represent in relation to the Project or any potential future procurement (e.g. developer, operator, investor, energy performance contractor, etc.)
- Description of the team's experience with clean and renewable energy interconnection agreements and Dominion Virginia Power or similarly sized Utility Service Provider(s).
- Identify any past participation with incentive/grant programs (Federal, State, Local) and any associated eligibility requirements to meet clean and renewable energy program conditions in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- Include the pros/cons of the operation and maintenance of the proposed clean and renewable energy generation.
- Description of the team's experience in clean and renewable energy systems.
- Description of the team's experience managing, analyzing and mitigating risks associated with commodity trading.
- Pros and Cons of differing finance models proposed.
- Statement of qualifications for each team member, including related experience with similar types of projects and specific qualifications and resumes of key team members such as proposed Project Manager, Project Principal, Project Engineer, Commodities Trader, sub-consultant firms, etc., arranged in a Team Organizational Chart.
- A description of the team's project management philosophy and approach to the project.
- A description of the project team's approach to challenges for the assignment.
- Proposed schedule with key milestones and deliverable dates.
- A minimum of three (3) references relating to completed projects for the services being requested with full name, title, address, telephone number and email address.
- Description of any past projects at educational institutions and ideas for curriculum integration.
- RFI is required for the entire design team at this time. Discuss the ways that your team has successfully worked together on other projects.

Responses shall be limited to 25 single-spaced pages and submitted via e-mail to Moe Ahmed, mahmed8@gmu.edu and Colin Nackerman, cnackerm@gmu.edu. Illustrations/graphics may be included as an attachment, however, interested parties are encouraged to use discretion and only include those materials that will provide useful information to understanding the submitted response.

No proprietary, confidential, or sensitive information should be included unless clearly mark as such in your response.

IV. INQUIRIES: Forward any questions to: mahmed8@gmu.edu and cnackerm@gmu.edu

V. REQUESTED SUBMISSION DATE: TBD.

Figures needed to determine total building energy consumption:

	Performance Year	Baseline Year
Grid-purchased electricity	450,862 MMBtu	260,146 MMBtu
Electricity from on-site renewables	0 MMBtu	0 MMBtu
District steam/hot water (sourced from offsite)	326,966 MMBtu	290,594 MMBtu
Energy from all other sources (excluding transportation fuels)	0 MMBtu	0 MMBtu
Total	777,828 MMBtu	550,740 MMBtu

Energy consumption data is from FY 2016.

George Mason University							
Carbon Emissions							
Sightlines FY2016							
S_eCO2_Sum Tab				FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	
	Co-gen Electricity	MTCDE		-	-	-	
	Co-gen Steam	MTCDE		-	-	-	
	Other On-Campus Stationary	MTCDE		22,432	22,453	20,683	
	Direct Transportation	MTCDE		1,627	1,085	1,063	
	Electric Fleet	MTCDE		-	-	-	
	Refrigerants & Chemicals	MTCDE		123	372	3	
	Agriculture	MTCDE		-	2	3	
	Purchased Electricity	MTCDE		47,854	47,467	48,452	
	Purchased Steam / Chilled Water	MTCDE		-	-	-	
	Faculty / Staff Commuting	MTCDE		5,162	5,584	5,584	
	Student Commuting	MTCDE		13,894	14,821	15,343	
	Directly Financed Air Travel	MTCDE		2,631	2,223	2,253	
	Other Directly Financed Travel	MTCDE		612	473	513	
	Study Abroad Air Travel	MTCDE		3,143	4,027	3,829	
	Student Travel To/From Home	MTCDE		-	-	-	
	Solid Waste	MTCDE		-	-	-	
	Wastewater	MTCDE		29	30	32	
	Paper Purchasing	MTCDE		356	259	311	
	Scope 2 T&D Losses	MTCDE		4,831	4,792	4,892	
	Additional	MTCDE		(0)	-	-	
	Non-Additional	MTCDE		(5,043)	(5,905)	(508)	
	Total Scope 1	MTCDE		24,181	23,911	21,753	
	Total Scope 2	MTCDE		47,854	47,467	48,452	
	Total Scope 3	MTCDE		30,659	32,210	32,757	
	Biogenic	MTCDE		-	-	-	
	Total Offsets	MTCDE		(5,044)	(5,905)	(508)	
	Total Emissions	MTCDE		102,695	103,588	102,961	
	Net Emissions	MTCDE		97,651	97,683	102,452	