



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC POWER AUTHORITY

Request for Proposals for Credit Analytics Subscription Tool

Issuance Date: **September 21, 2020**

Response Deadline: **October 9, 2020**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA), on behalf of its Member Utilities, is hereby soliciting competitive proposals for **Credit Analytics Subscription Tool**, as described below in Section III.

SCPPA is interested in discovering all Respondent's capabilities related to specified Areas of Interest and associated pricing to enable informed decisions and potentially proceed to more specific negotiations on contract development with one or more qualified Respondents to this Request for Proposals (RFP).

Responses to this RFP are due on or before **October 9, 2020**, as described below in Sections III and V.

II. BACKGROUND

SCPPA is a joint powers authority and a public entity organized under the California Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Cal. Government Code section 6500 *et seq.*) and the SCPPA Joint Powers Agreement, for the purposes of planning, financing, developing, acquiring, constructing, operating and maintaining projects for the generation or transmission of electric energy. SCPPA also facilitates joint service contracts, at the request of its members, to aggregate like project efforts among its Members for the purposes of developing energy efficiency, demand response and resource procurement Programs or Projects to improve operating efficiencies and reduce costs.

Membership of SCPPA consists of eleven cities and one irrigation district, which supply electric energy within Southern California, including the cities of Anaheim, Azusa, Banning, Burbank, Cerritos, Colton, Glendale, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Riverside, and Vernon, and the Imperial Irrigation District. SCPPA is governed by its Board of Directors, which consists of one representative from each of its Members. The management of SCPPA is under the direction of an Executive Director who is appointed by the Board.

Any service contract subsequently entered into by SCPPA pursuant to this RFP would be utilized directly by the interested Members to serve their respective utility customers' needs. The service and work products

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would be ordered and approved directly by SCPPA and/or the applicable Members and the billing would be administered through SCPPA.

III.AREAS OF INTEREST

Certain SCPPA Members have expressed interest in a comprehensive credit management/analytics tool to provide the following services to meet the needs of their organizations:

- Current and historical fundamental analysis to include financial ratios, credit ratings and credit rating rationale. Drilldown capability for changes in financial ratios is a plus.
- Current and historical early warning for default probability based on quantitative analysis.
- Default probability available daily and automatically delivered to the user on a time-basis configurable by the user.
- Peer comparison
- User-customizable portfolios and ability to make dynamic changes
- Energy industry-focused credit news
- Data export capability
- Ability to customize to each utility need such as integration of fundamental analysis and default probability into one credit scoring model; email notice when there are credit upgrades, downgrades, changes in default probabilities, positive or negative credit news, mergers and acquisition, etc.
- User friendly data input and financial analysis for privately held companies. Import from Excel and Export capability to Excel is preferred.
- Market price data for energy and gas. (Daily prices and forward price curves.) – optional feature
- Included training on the use of the tool and ongoing customer support.

Please provide the number of companies that will be included in the subscription.

Timeline / Schedule*

SCPPA RFP FOR CREDIT ANALYTICS SUBSCRIPTION TOOL SELECTION PROCESS	
SCHEDULE OF REQUIREMENTS	TARGET DATE(S)
Issue RFP	September 21, 2020
Inquiries from Potential Respondents	September 29, 2020
Responses Due	October 9, 2020
Review of Responses	October 2020
Interviews/Demonstration (If Necessary)	October 2020
Selection of Respondent(s)	November – December 2020

*Timeline/Schedule is subject to change.

IV. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIRED ELEMENTS

1. TRANSMITTAL LETTER CONTENT:

- A.** A brief statement of the Respondent's understanding of the work to be done and commitment to perform the work as scheduled, including:
 - I.** statement of work specifications; and
 - II.** reference to any proposed contractual terms and conditions required by the Respondent; and
 - III.** a summary of exceptions taken to the RFP requirements; and
 - IV.** any and all expectations from SCPPA including, but not limited to: requirements definitions, strategy refinement, and staffing requirements to support the proposed project or program implementation.

- B.** An officer authorized to bind must sign the proposal on behalf of the Respondent and must include the following declarations on the transmittal letter:

“This proposal is genuine, and not sham or collusive, nor made in the interest or in behalf of any person not herein named; the Respondent has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other Respondent to put in a sham bid, or any other person, firm or corporation to refrain from submitting a proposal; and the Respondent has not in any manner sought by collusion to secure for themselves an advantage over any other Respondent.”

2. RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Provide legal name of Company or Individual, physical street address, the name(s) and title(s) of the individual(s) authorized to represent the Respondent, including telephone number(s) and email address(es).

3. PROPOSAL:

Proposals must include a description of the proposed project or program, how it meets (or does not meet) each of the objectives of this RFP, and a detailed description addressing all of the Areas of Interest. Respondents may also include additional services, products, tasks, task elements and/or functions that may not be part of or included in the RFP, but are deemed by the Respondent to be pertinent and potentially valuable to SCPPA or its Members. SCPPA will have full discretionary authority to consider, accept and/or reject without cause such supplemental information that is not directly requested, included in or made part of the RFP.

4. FEES:

Pricing in all Proposals should be made based on good faith estimates of the requirements defined in this RFP. Please include all necessary details of specific examples or estimates of the fees, labor

rates and service charges. Describe how the fees, rates or charges will be determined. Respondents shall also be prepared to provide a breakdown of the applicable overheads and fringe benefit costs that are part of any labor rates and other direct costs associated with the services to be performed.

The number of Members interested in the service is unknown at this time. Please include pricing for different level of Member interest.

5. EXPERIENCE:

Respondent shall clearly identify project participants and management team, including:

- A. Describe your firm's experience as may be applicable to this RFP, your organizational structure, management qualifications, and other contract related qualifications, including number of years firm has been in business.
- B. Specify key employees and describe their qualifications, experience and duties related to this RFP, including the office location(s) where work will be performed, in addition to the physical street address referenced above.
- C. Provide a commitment statement for the retention and use of key employees as proposed, their availability to initiate and sustain the proposal, as well as planned supplemental employees if key personnel are not available to assure project delivery.
- D. State whether Respondent will use subcontractors to perform services pursuant to the contract. Should the use of subcontractors be offered, the Respondent shall provide the same assurances of competence for the subcontractor, plus the demonstrated ability to manage and supervise the subcontracted work. Subcontractors shall not be allowed to further subcontract with others for work. The provisions of any contract resulting from this RFP shall apply to all subcontractors in the same manner as to the Respondent.
- E. Respondent shall indicate any and all pending litigation that could affect the viability of Respondent's proposal, continuance of existing contracts, operation or financial stability.

6. REFERENCES:

- A. Describe whether the Respondent has, within the last five (5) years, rendered any service to SCPPA or to any of SCPPA's Members, either as a contractor or subcontractor, either under the current Respondent's name or any other name or organization. If so, please provide details (status as prime or subcontractor, brief description of the contract, contract start and end date, the contract administrator name, and total actual contract expenditures).
- B. If the Respondent has not rendered any service within the last five (5) years to SCPPA or to any of SCPPA's Members, then please provide references over that period with the details described above including the counterparty for which services were provided.

- C. Identify existing related or relevant projects or programs which Respondent developed and/or operates that would demonstrate Respondent's capabilities in this area.
- D. Describe relevant program development and implementation experience, approach, and provide a list of references for similar projects completed.

V. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

There will not be an initial Respondent's conference associated with this RFP. The deadline to submit Clarification questions on this RFP will be **4:00 PM (PT) – September 29, 2020**. All questions should be submitted electronically via email to **ama@scppa.org** referencing **Credit Analytics Subscription Tool RFP** in the subject line. Answers to questions that SCPPA, at its sole determination and discretion, deems to be substantive or that would place the inquisitor at a distinct and unfair advantage to other potential Respondents will be posted on SCPPA's website alongside the solicitation at <http://scppa.org/page/RFPs-Other> as soon as a practicable after the date received, but no later than **4:00 PM (PT) – October 2, 2020**. It is the responsibility of potential Respondents to review this website for any and all postings.

One (1) electronic copy of your proposal and any supporting documentation must be delivered to **ama@scppa.org** by no later than **4:00 PM (PT) – October 9, 2020**.

Additionally, one (1) hard copy of your proposal, including a transmittal letter of authentic offer, and any supporting documentation may be, but is not required to be, submitted with the electronic copy of your submittal, by no later than the time and date referenced above, to:

Southern California Public Power Authority
Credit Analytics Subscription Tool RFP
Attention: Aileen Ma
1160 Nicole Court
Glendora, California 91740

No contact should be made with the Board of Directors, committees or working group representatives, or SCPPA Members concerning this RFP.

All information received by SCPPA in response to this RFP is subject to the California Public Records Act and may be subject to the California Brown Act and all submissions may be subject to review in the event of an audit.

VI. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. SCPPA reserves the right to cancel this RFP at any time, reject any and all proposals and to waive irregularities.
2. SCPPA shall determine at its sole discretion the value of any and/or all proposals including price and non-price attributes.
3. Proposals may be sub-divided or combined with other proposals, at SCPPA's sole discretion.
4. SCPPA shall perform an initial screening evaluation to identify and eliminate any proposals that are, for example, not responsive to the RFP, do not meet the minimum requirements set forth in the RFP, are not economically competitive with other proposals, or are submitted by Respondents that lack appropriate creditworthiness, sufficient financial resources, or qualifications to provide dependable and reliable services for this RFP.
5. SCPPA reserves the right to submit follow up questions or inquiries to request clarification of information submitted and to request additional information from any one or more of the Respondents.
6. SCPPA reserves the right, without qualification and in its sole discretion, to accept or reject any or all proposals for any reason without explanation to the Respondent, or to make any award to that Respondent, who, in the opinion of SCPPA, will provide the most value to SCPPA and its Members.
7. SCPPA may decline to enter into any potential engagement agreement or contract with any Respondent, terminate negotiations with any Respondent, or to abandon the request for proposal process in its entirety.
8. SCPPA reserves the right to make an award, at its sole discretion, irrespective of price or technical ability, if SCPPA determines that to do so would result in the greatest value to SCPPA and its Members.
9. Those Respondents who submit proposals agree to do so without legal recourse against SCPPA, its Members, their directors, officers, employees and agents for rejection of their proposal(s) or for failure to execute or act on their proposal for any reason.
10. SCPPA shall not be liable to any Respondent or party in law or equity for any reason whatsoever for any acts or omissions arising out of or in connection with this RFP.

11. SCPPA shall not be liable for any costs incurred by any Respondents in preparing any information for submission in connection with this RFP process or any and all costs resulting from responding to this RFP. Any and all such costs whatsoever shall remain the sole responsibility of the Respondent.
12. SCPPA may require certain performance assurances from Respondents prior to entering into negotiations for work that may result from this RFP. Such assurances may potentially include a requirement that Respondents provide some form of performance security.
13. Prior to contract award, the successful Respondent shall supply a detailed breakdown of the applicable overheads and fringe benefit costs that are part of the labor rates and other direct costs associated with the services to be performed.
14. SCPPA Members, either collectively or individually may contact Respondents to discuss or enter into negotiations regarding a proposal. SCPPA is not responsible or liable for individual Members interactions with the Respondent which are not entirely conducted through SCPPA or at SCPPA's option or election to engage the Respondent as defined within the RFP.
15. Submission of a Proposal constitutes acknowledgement that the Respondent has read and agrees to be bound by the terms and specifications of this RFP and any addenda subsequently issued by SCPPA.
16. Information in this RFP is accurate to the best of SCPPA's and its Members' knowledge but is not guaranteed to be correct. Respondents are expected to complete all of their due diligence activities prior to entering into any final contract negotiations with SCPPA.
17. SCPPA reserves the right to reject any Proposal for any reason without cause. SCPPA reserves the right to enter into relationships with more than one Respondent, can choose not to proceed with any Respondent with respect to one or more categories of services, and can choose to suspend this RFP or to issue a new RFP that would supersede and replace this RFP.

VII. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSAL

1. LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING LICENSING OR OTHER CERTIFICATIONS:

If selected, the Respondent will be required to comply with all applicable federal, state and local legal and regulatory requirements, including licenses or other required certifications for the type of work being performed.

2. INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION:

SCPPA or its Members may require specific insurance coverage to be established and maintained during the course of work and as a condition of award or continuation of contract, and further may require indemnification against claims of infringement of a third party's intellectual property rights.

3. SCPPA-FURNISHED PROPERTY:

SCPPA or a Member's utility drawings, specifications, and other media furnished for the Respondent's use shall not be furnished to others without written authorization from SCPPA or the applicable Member(s).