



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC POWER AUTHORITY

Request for Information on

Demand Response/ Load Management Tools and Programs

Issuance Date: October 6, 2021

Response Deadline: November 18, 2021

I. INTRODUCTION

The Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA), on behalf of its Member Utilities, is hereby soliciting information regarding the capabilities and qualification of individuals and firms to perform and/or provide **Demand Response and/or Load Management Programs**, 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 discussions or solicitations with one or more qualified Respondents to this Request for Information (RFI).

Responses to this RFI are due on or before **4:00 PM PDT – November 18, 2021**, 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 Power Act found in Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code of the State of California, and through 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 municipal utilities of 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 representatives from each of its

Members. The management of SCPPA is under the direction of an Executive Director who is appointed by the Board.

III. AREAS OF INTEREST

Certain SCPPA Members have expressed interest in **tools, technologies and/or programs to assist with managing electric system loads** to meet the needs of their municipalities.

Specifically, SCPPA would like to gather information from qualified individuals or firms who possess the necessary qualifications and experience to provide support of members' planning efforts to optimize electric system operations by utilizing demand response and related load management practices, mechanisms, tools and/or strategies. SCPPA seeks to learn from qualified Respondents who can demonstrate their experience and ability to potentially assist members to cost effectively reduce load both in the residential and non-residential customer sectors. Such "demand response" services, programs and/or technologies could include, but are not limited to:

- Smart thermostats and home appliances, including but not limited to: heat pumps (water heaters, HVAC and clothes dryers) and pool pumps
- Small business, commercial, and industrial equipment
- Energy management systems
- Electric vehicles (EV) and electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) vehicle-to-grid opportunities
- Electric school buses vehicle-to-grid opportunities
- Energy storage and batteries
- Demand response program participation, scheduling, and optimization within California Independent System Operator (CAISO) market(s).

The specific and detailed information that SCPPA is requesting from all Respondents to this RFI includes, but is not limited to:

1. **Qualifications / Experience**

- Experience developing and implementing demand response services
- Previous work with electric utilities in California
- Previous work with publicly owned utilities in California
- Experience with prevailing wages and associated record-keeping requirements

2. **Description of how Respondents would implement and manage a demand response program including any or all of the following:**

- Program design (including conservation and efficiency programs)
- Marketing
- Equipment installation practices
- Customer support (call center, service centers, small business units, and key accounts)
- DR event management
- Incentive processing

- DR event measurement and validation
 - DR Program Participant behavioral analysis (including data gathering, data analysis, and data trend reporting for individualized and segmented behavior analysis)
 - Complete turnkey solutions
- 3. Respondents are also asked to provide pricing information for any or all services, as may be available for comparative purposes only. Any prices or unit costs provided in this RFI will be non-binding upon Respondents, SCPPA or Members should a subsequent solicitation or potential purchase Agreement be developed by SCPPA or a Member based upon this RFI**

SCPPA recognizes that the types of demand response programs, tools, protocols and/or strategies listed above may not be all inclusive. Therefore, Respondents may also include additional services, products, tasks, task elements and/or functions that may not be part of or included in this RFI but are deemed by the Respondent to be pertinent and potentially valuable to SCPPA or its Members.

Respondents are not required to offer or provide all of the areas of interest listed above.

Timeline / Schedule*

SCPPA RFP FOR DEMAND RESPONSE/ LOAD MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND PROGRAMS SELECTION PROCESS	
SCHEDULE OF REQUIREMENTS	TARGET DATE(S)
Issue RFI	October 6, 2021
Inquiries for Clarification from Potential Respondents	October 20, 2021
Responses Due	November 18, 2021
Review of Responses	November – December 2021
Interviews (If Necessary)	November - December

*Timeline/Schedule is subject to change at the sole discretion of SCPPA.

IV. INFORMATION SUBMISSION REQUIRED ELEMENTS

1. TRANSMITTAL LETTER CONTENT:

- A. A brief statement of the Respondent's understanding of the services and products being requested and considered, as well as any physical or legal limitations or constraints that may exist in allowing the Respondent to provide such service and/or products.

- B. Legal name of Individual or Firm (Respondent) with physical street address, telephone and FAX numbers with the name(s), respective position(s)/title(s) and e-mail address(es) of all individuals authorized to represent the Respondent.

2. INFORMATION STATEMENT TO DESCRIBE YOUR FIRM'S:

- A. experience in performing or providing the services and products within Areas of Interest as referenced above and as may be applicable to this RFI;
- B. organizational structure, management Information, and other service or product related Information, including number of years firm or individual has been in the related business;
- C. list or table of key employees including a description of their Information, experience and duties related to the services and/or products referenced within this RFI;
- D. a list of office locations where work will be performed, if different than the physical address referenced above;
- E. reliance on or use of subcontractors to perform services referenced within this RFI; and
- F. describe whether the Respondent has, within the last five years, rendered any service to SCPPA or to any of SCPPA's Members, either as a contractor or subcontractor, either under the name presented in the Transmittal letter 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 dates, the contract administrator name, and total actual contract expenditures).
- G. If the Respondent has not rendered any service within the last five years to SCPPA or to any of SCPPA's Members, then please provide as many as five (5) references of similar or related work performed within the past 3 years with the requested details described above including the counterparty for which services were provided.
- H. Respondent shall indicate any and all pending litigation that could affect the viability of Respondent's submittal, continuance of existing contracts, operation or financial stability).

V. INFORMATION SUBMISSION DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

One (1) electronic copy of your submittal and any supporting documentation must be delivered to DRLoadManagementRFI@scppa.org by no later than **4:00 PM (PDT) – November 18, 2021**.

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

All information received by SCPPA in response to this RFI 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. SUBMITAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. SCPPA reserves the right to cancel this RFI at any time, reject any and all submittals and to waive irregularities.
2. SCPPA shall determine at its sole discretion the value of any and/or all submittals.
3. Proposals may be sub-divided or combined with other proposals, at SCPPA's sole discretion.
4. SCPPA shall perform an initial screening and evaluation to identify and eliminate any submittals that are not responsive to the request for Information, do not meet the minimum requirements set forth in the request for Information or are otherwise deemed, at SCPPA's sole discretion, unable to provide dependable and reliable services.
5. SCPPA reserves the right to submit supplementary 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 submittals for any reason without explanation to the Respondent, or to subsequently make an award to one or more Respondent(s), who, in the opinion of SCPPA, will provide valued service and/or products 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 RFI process in its entirety.
8. Those Respondents who provide Qualification submittals agree to do so without legal recourse against SCPPA, its Members, their directors, officers, employees and agents for rejection of their submittal(s) or for failure to execute or act on their submittal for any reason.
9. 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 request for submittals.
10. SCPPA shall not be liable for any costs incurred by any Respondents in preparing any information for submission in connection with this RFI process or any and all costs resulting from responding to this RFI. Any and all such costs whatsoever shall remain the sole responsibility of the Respondent.

11. SCPPA may require certain performance assurances from Respondents prior to entering into negotiations for a proposed project. Such assurances may potentially include a requirement that Respondents provide some form of performance security.
12. Either SCPPA collectively or Members individually may respond to, or enter into negotiations for services related to a submittal. 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 Terms and Conditions herein.
13. Submission of a submittal constitutes acknowledgement that the Respondent has read and agrees to be bound by the terms and specifications of this RFI and any addenda subsequently issued prior to the due date for a submittal.
14. Information in this RFI is accurate to the best of SCPPA's 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.
15. SCPPA reserves the right to reject any submittal 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 RFI or to issue a new RFI that would supersede and replace this RFI.

VII. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR SUBMITTAL

1. RESPONSE PREPARATIONS:

Submittals should be prepared simply and economically, without the inclusion of unnecessary promotional materials. Information should be submitted on recycled paper that has a minimum of thirty percent (30%) post-consumer recycled content and duplex copied (double-sided pages) where possible and applicable

2. INSURANCE, LICENSING, OR OTHER CERTIFICATION:

If selected subsequently to provide service(s) and/or product(s) related to the Areas of Interest in this RFI, the Respondent and each of its known subcontractors will be required to maintain sufficient insurance, licenses, or other required certifications for the type of work being performed. 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.

3. NON-DISCRIMINATION/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN:

If selected subsequently to provide service(s) and/or product(s) related to the Areas of Interest in this RFI, the Respondent and each of its known subcontractors may be required to complete and file an acceptable Affirmative Action Plan. The Affirmative Action Plan may be set forth in the form required as

a business practice by the Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles, SCPPA's largest Member.

4. LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE:

If selected subsequently to provide service(s) and/or product(s) related to the Areas of Interest in this RFI, the Respondent may be required to comply with the applicable provisions of the City of Los Angeles Living Wage Ordinance and the City of Los Angeles Service Contract Workers Retention Ordinance. The Living Wage Ordinance provisions are found in Section 10.36 of the Los Angeles City Administrative Code; and the Service Contract Workers Retention Ordinance are found in Section 10.37 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code

5. PREVAILING WAGE RATES:

If selected, the Respondent will be required to conform to prevailing wage rates applicable to the location(s) where any work is being performed. Workers shall be paid not less than prevailing wages pursuant to determinations of the Director of Industrial Relations as applicable in accordance with the California Labor Code. To access the most current information on effective determination rates, Respondent shall contact:

Department of Industrial Relations
Division of Labor Statistics and Research
PO Box 420603, San Francisco, CA 94142-0603
Division Office Telephone: (415) 703-4780
Prevailing Wage Unit Telephone: (415) 703-4774
Web: <HTTP://WWW.DIR.CA.GOV/DLSR/DPREWAGEDETERMINATION.HTM>

6. CHILD SUPPORT POLICY:

If selected subsequently to provide service(s) and/or product(s) related to the Areas of Interest in this RFI, the Respondent may be required to comply with the City of Los Angeles Ordinance No. 172401, which requires all contractors and subcontractors performing work to comply with all reporting requirements and wage earning assignments and wage earning assignments relative to court ordered child support

7. SUPPLIER DIVERSITY:

Respondents shall take reasonable steps to ensure that all available business enterprises, including Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBEs), Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBEs), Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBES), and other Business Enterprises (OBEs), have an equal opportunity to compete for and participate in the work being requested by this RFP. Efforts to obtain participation of these business enterprises may reasonably be expected to produce a twenty-five percent (25%) participation goal for SBEs. For the purpose of this RFP, SCPPA's Supplier Diversity program is modeled after that of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Further information concerning

the Supplier Diversity Program may be obtained from the Supply Chain Services Division of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.