

# **Request for Proposal**

# Competitive Solicitation for Acquisition of Clean Energy Resources Dominion Energy Virginia

Issued: April 11, 2024

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# PART I – Request for Proposal ("RFP") Overview

# A. Introduction

About 6 million customers in 15 states energize their homes and businesses with electricity or natural gas from Dominion Energy, headquartered in Richmond, VA. The company is committed to providing reliable, affordable and increasingly clean energy every day and to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. Please visit <a href="Dominion">Dominion</a>
<a href="Dominion">Energy.com</a> to learn more.

Virginia Electric and Power Company (the "Company" or "Dominion Energy Virginia") is a wholly owned subsidiary of Dominion Energy and is a regulated public utility that generates, transmits, and distributes electricity for sale in Virginia and portions of northeast North Carolina. The Company is a member of the PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. ("PJM") Regional Transmission Organization, which operates the wholesale electric grid in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States. As a result, the Company has transferred operational control of its transmission assets to PJM.

The Company has a diverse mix of generating resources consisting of Company-owned nuclear, fossil, hydro, energy storage, biomass, offshore wind, and solar facilities.

Additionally, the Company purchases capacity and energy from non-utility generators and the PJM market.

# B. Purpose

Dominion Energy Virginia is soliciting proposal(s) for the acquisition of development project assets ("Proposals") for the benefit of Virginia customers from interested parties ("Bidders"). The Company is interested in Proposals for:

- new photovoltaic ("PV") solar nameplate capacity
- new PV solar generation co-located with energy storage nameplate capacity
- new onshore wind nameplate capacity
- new onshore wind co-located with energy storage nameplate capacity
- new stand-alone energy storage nameplate capacity

Acquisition of the projects will benefit Virginia customers by supporting their future energy needs as outlined in the Company's most recent <u>Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)</u>. The IRP is the Company's long-term planning document for developing plausible pathways for meeting future customer needs at the lowest reasonable cost while maintaining reliability and flexibility.

New renewable generation resources and energy storage are also needed to achieve Dominion Energy's commitment of net zero carbon emissions across its enterprise-wide power generation fleet by 2050 and to meet targets as set forth in the Code of Virginia ("Va Code"), which became effective in 2020 through the Virginia Clean Economy Act ("VCEA"). Specifically, the Company must seek the necessary approvals to construct or purchase 16,100 MW of solar or onshore wind generation and 2,700 MW of energy storage capacity in the Commonwealth by 2035, with interim targets and specific resource subtargets. Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs") from eligible resources are intended to be used for purposes of compliance with a mandatory renewable energy portfolio standard program ("RPS Program"), which was also established through the VCEA. The VCEA requires the Company to submit its plan for and progress made toward meeting these statutory development targets annually to the State Corporation Commission ("the Commission"). The Company refers to this filing as its "RPS Development Plan." The Company's 2023 RPS Development Plan, approved by the Commission on March 29, 2024, includes specific annual targets for the development of solar, onshore wind, and energy storage.<sup>1</sup> This competitive solicitation is consistent with and supports the trajectory shown in the 2023 RPS Development Plan.

The Company accepts Proposals on a continuous basis throughout the year for resources that meet the stated scope and requirements within the RFP. This annual rolling approach to the RFP is an effort to provide flexibility for and transparency to the development community and to maximize optionality in our efforts to procure the best clean energy resources to meet customers' capacity, energy, and REC needs while also

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Commission docket for this proceeding can be accessed at the following link: <u>SCC Case PUR-2023-00142</u> <u>Documents</u>. The 2023 RPS Development Plan itself is part of Exhibit 2 <u>2023 RPS Development Plan</u>.

meeting the development targets established by the VCEA. This approach applies only to the acquisition of development project assets—not to power purchase agreements ("PPAs"). The Company intends to issue a separate RFP for PPAs on October 1.

# C. Scope

All Proposals must conform to the RFP requirements detailed below. Any Proposal that does not conform to one or more of the RFP requirements may be eliminated from further consideration.

### 1. Product

The clean energy resource types are outlined above in section I.B. For solar, both utility-scale (greater than 3 MW<sub>AC</sub>) and small-scale (3MW<sub>AC</sub> or less), herein referred to as Distributed Energy Resources ("DER"), Proposals are requested. The Company is also seeking solar and onshore wind Proposals on previously developed sites, such as former landfills, industrial sites or rooftops, which is one of the VCEA sub-targets referenced.<sup>2</sup>

For new DER Solar, Proposals must represent eligible facilities that will generate no more than 3 MW $_{AC}$  of nameplate capacity individually. If proposed facilities that are 1 MW $_{AC}$  or smaller are seeking to support the one percent target in the Commonwealth's RPS Program requirements, then the Company intends to adhere to the VCEA language such that no more than 3 MW $_{AC}$  of nameplate capacity at any single location or at contiguous locations are to be owned by the same entity or

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Per Va. Code §56-576 defines "previously developed project site" as, "any property, including related buffer areas, if any, that has been previously disturbed or developed for non-single-family residential, non-agricultural, non-silvicultural use, regardless of whether such property currently is being used for any purpose. "Previously developed project site" includes a brownfield site as defined in § 10.1-1230 or any parcel that has been previously used (i) for a retail, commercial, or industrial purpose; (ii) as a parking lot; (iii) as the site of a parking lot canopy or structure; (iv) for mining, which is any lands affected by coal mining that took place before August 3, 1977, or any lands upon which extraction activities have been permitted by the Department of Energy under Title 45.2; (v) for quarrying; or (vi) as a landfill." "Brownfield" means "real property; the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant." Va. Code § 10.1-1230.

affiliated entities. The Company will consider multiple 3 MW<sub>AC</sub> facilities that are at the same or contiguous locations owned by the same entity or affiliated entities, provided these facilities are not seeking to support the one percent target in the Commonwealth's RPS Program requirements.

The Company is now accepting Proposals for DER rooftop solar projects. They must be at least 50 kW<sub>AC</sub> nameplate capacity and hosted on the roof structure of a commercial or industrial class customer within Dominion Energy Virginia's distribution level service territory. Host sites include commercial buildings, multifamily residential buildings, school or university buildings, and buildings of a church or religious body. The Company is not accepting Proposals for behind the meter rooftop solar projects.

Energy storage facilities can be stand-alone or co-located with solar or onshore wind. Please note that to be considered a conforming Proposal, all co-located storage facilities must have a separate interconnection and grid charging capabilities.

# 2. Structure

The Company is seeking Proposals that must provide the right for Dominion Energy Virginia to purchase all the development assets for 100% of the project's proposed nameplate capacity, including but not limited to:

- property rights,
- permits,
- interconnection queue position,
- consultant reports and project studies, and
- preliminary design documents and agreements that would allow the
   Company to complete development and construction of the facility.
- For mechanically complete project Proposals 5 MW and smaller, all equipment and project assets for a mechanically complete Project.

The Company is not seeking PPAs as part of this RFP. As noted above, the Company

intends to issue a separate RFP for PPAs later this year.

# 3. Commercial Operations Date (COD)

The Bidder should propose a planned COD of 100% nameplate capacity that aligns with the status of development elements such as land control, local permitting, and interconnection agreements. During the Proposal evaluation, the Company will use provided diligence items to assess whether the proposed COD is probable and realistic. Projects will be prioritized that have a pathway to meet annual development targets outlined in the 2023 RPS Development Plan. The planned COD shall be clearly designated as part of all Proposals and be supported by the project's assets and associated validity dates of any permits (i.e., a land use permit from a locality).

# 4. Quantity

The RFP is designed to achieve specific development targets required by statute and mapped out in the Company's 2023 RPS Development Plan.

# 5. Delivery Point & Interconnection Status

For all Proposals, the Company will only consider facilities located in Virginia.

For utility-scale projects only, the Company prefers projects interconnected inside the Company's service territory but will consider projects outside the Company's service territory provided they are in Virginia and will have an Interconnection Service Agreement ("ISA") or Generation Interconnection Agreement ("GIA") with PJM, if transmission connected, a wholesale market participation agreement ("WMPA"), if distribution connected, or in either case, a related new generator interconnection request and assigned PJM queue number. Furthermore, the Company requires separate queue positions for solar co-located with storage projects to provide grid charging and discharging optionality.

In the event facilities are connected at the distribution level, projects submitted must have an assigned interconnection queue number in the Chapter 314 State Jurisdictional Queue, have an executed initial study agreement, and have submitted the required study deposit. Bidders must also have applied for or obtained a WMPA with PJM for projects 5 MW<sub>AC</sub> or greater. Transmission connected facilities with a PJM GIA or ISA do not need a WMPA.

Energy Storage projects only - Projects with delivery points that the Company deems are likely to provide locational grid benefits to Dominion Energy Virginia customers may be evaluated more favorably.

For distribution or transmission level interconnections requiring interconnection rights obtained through the PJM new generator interconnection queue, the Company prefers that the project has progressed at least to the point of having Decision Point One results. Bidders must provide all studies conducted to date, and/or have an executed interconnection agreement. Considering PJM's study queue transition reform, the Company prefers that the project's queue position places it no later than PJM's transition cycle #1 (AG1 or earlier), but the Company will consider proposals in transition cycle #2 (AG2 and AH1) and cycle #1 (AH2 and later). Provide any available queue point data submissions, one-line diagrams, independent studies, cost estimates and/or project schedules based on PJM's revised queue process.

All distribution interconnected projects located in Dominion Energy Virginia's service territory will require Dominion Energy Virginia-owned fiber optic cable installed as the direct transfer trip telecommunications medium. The fiber must be included in the interconnection agreement scope of work and provided by Dominion Energy Virginia.

DER projects only - For state jurisdictional distribution level interconnections, DER solar projects submitted must have an assigned interconnection queue number in the Chapter 314 State Jurisdictional Queue, have an executed initial study agreement, and have submitted a study deposit. DER projects 3 MW<sub>AC</sub> or less must be located within the Company's service territory, be connected to Dominion Energy Virginia's distribution system, and provide location grid benefits to Company customers. The

Company is not accepting Proposals for behind the meter projects.

# 6. Technology & Fuel Reliability

All Proposals must utilize existing, proven technologies with demonstrated reliable generation performance.

For all Proposals that include energy storage, the Company is requiring a four-hour duration lithium-ion AC-based battery energy storage system. The Company will also consider additional alternative storage proposals (including different storage technologies) as part of the submittal of a four-hour duration lithium-ion battery energy storage system. Each Proposal must represent generation at a single site and shall not reflect an aggregate of multiple facilities at separate sites to meet the minimum size threshold. Bidders must submit a conforming site plan and the required Storage System Technical Aspects (as found on the 2024 RFP checklists that align with the technologies that are noted above).

The Company acknowledges that lithium-ion battery energy storage systems continue to be a developing technology in the Virginia market. With the evolution of industry codes and standards, the Company has elected to implement best practices and design features that will be required on such projects including, but not limited to, spacing, setback, and firewall requirements between the storage equipment as described in the checklists and Lithium-Ion BESS Spacing and Firewall Supplement document. These practices are established to mitigate environmental, fire and safety risks. Additional design criteria may be provided in the future as needed for the Company to properly evaluate Proposals.

# 7. Checklists

Checklists that outline "Required" and "Requested" information and specifications for each resource are available on the RFP website (link is found in Section I.E) and should be used to prepare all Proposals. For co-located Proposals, each corresponding resource checklist must be completed. If all required items are not

included with the Proposal, then evaluation of the Proposal may be deferred until the Bidder can provide evidence that the project has progressed in achieving key development milestones. However, if the Bidder provides substantiated, estimated completion dates that align with submitted development items, the Company will take that into consideration when the Proposal is evaluated. All Proposals must have a well-defined and credible development plan for either Bidder or the Company to complete the development, construction, and commissioning of the facility within a realistic timeline to support the RPS Development Plan annual targets.

# 8. Agreements

The Proposal <u>must</u> be accompanied by an exclusivity agreement ("Exclusivity Agreement") in the form provided and executed by an authorized representative of the Bidder and either (i) an affirmative statement that Bidder is taking no exception to the form of asset purchase agreement (the "Purchase Agreement") provided pursuant to this RFP; or (ii) a fully marked-up Purchase Agreement that is reflective of its Proposal, and that Bidder deems execution-ready (as described below in Section III.D). Any proposed revisions to the Purchase Agreement must be clearly marked with specific language detailing the revisions and the accompanying rationale. Therefore, Proposals with incomplete Purchase Agreement revisions, edits and/or accompanying rationale, or that rely on future negotiations to finalize shall be deemed non-conforming and subject to rejection by the Company. Both agreements are critical for the Company to properly evaluate a Proposal and to ensure both parties can conclude diligence and the proposed acquisition in a timely manner under exclusivity.

## 9. Exclusions

The Company is not seeking or accepting demand side management resources, fossil fueled generation, or renewable generation other than PV solar and onshore wind, PV solar and onshore wind plus energy storage or stand-alone energy storage. While these excluded resources are outside the scope of this RFP, the Company may

consider these resources in other existing and future Company-sponsored procurement programs.

The Company will not consider Proposals that have material contingencies, such as for financing, environmental, etc.

# D. Schedule & Process

# 1. Key Dates

Event	Date
RFP Announcement & Issuance	April 11, 2024
Bidder Informational Webinar	May 9, 2024

Proposals will be accepted on a continuous basis until the next RFP is issued. The Company reserves the right to determine the appropriate timing to petition the State Corporation Commission for necessary project approvals and certificates.

# 2. RFP Milestones

Bidders can expect the process to follow the milestones mapped out in the table below. It is expected that both parties will act in good faith and demonstrate collective cooperation to achieve milestone progression in a timely manner.

	Rolling RFP Acquisition Milestones
1	Bidder submits intent to bid registration ("ITB") and executed confidentiality
	agreement ("CA") by email box in I.E.,1. b
2	Company emails supplemental documents not available on the website and executed
	CA to Bidder
3	Bidder makes notification to Company to submit Proposal and request SharePoint
	access by email box in I.E.,1. b
4	Company provides SharePoint access and Purchase Agreement to Bidder
5	Bidder (1) submits Proposal and executed Exclusivity Agreement in SharePoint to
	Company, and (2) makes notification by email box in I.E.,1.b to Company
6	Company emails executed Exclusivity Agreement to Bidder
7	Company evaluates Proposal*
8	Parties negotiate to final Purchase Agreement

\*Details on the evaluation process are provided in Part II.B.

# 3. Intent to Bid Registration Form and Confidentiality Agreement

All participating Bidders must register by submitting an ITB and an executed CA. The completed ITB and signed CA must be emailed to <a href="mailto:DEVCleanEnergyRFP-Acquisition@dominionenergy.com">DEVCleanEnergyRFP-Acquisition@dominionenergy.com</a>. The ITB and CA can be found on the Company's website: <a href="mailto:www.dominionenergy.com/DEVCleanEnergyRFP">www.dominionenergy.com/DEVCleanEnergyRFP</a>. The Company will provide Bidders confirmation upon receipt.

After a Bidder has successfully completed and submitted the ITB and CA, the Company will email Bidder's fully executed CA and supplemental documents not available on the website necessary to complete a conforming proposal.

# 4. Proposal and Exclusivity Agreement Submission

When ready to submit a Proposal, Bidder must provide notification and request SharePoint access by email at DEVCleanEnergyRFP-

Acquisition@dominionenergy.com. (Note: Include "Notification to submit Proposal including SharePoint access" in the email subject and include Proposal project name in the body of the email.) The Company will respond by providing access to all contacts on the ITB to a dedicated SharePoint site to upload Proposal documentation. The Purchase Agreement will also be provided at this time. Proposals must be submitted electronically via the SharePoint site. All provided diligence files uploaded to SharePoint should adhere to the naming convention in column E of the checklist. The Company will not accept Proposals that are mailed, emailed, or hand delivered. Proposals must contain all the documents and data requested in the form and format required as described in Part III of this RFP document to be considered complete. All Proposals must be accompanied by an executed Exclusivity Agreement. Bidder should then notify the Company by email at <a href="mailto:DEVCleanEnergyRFP">DEVCleanEnergyRFP</a>-

<u>Acquisition@dominionenergy.com</u> that a Proposal has been uploaded to the SharePoint site and is ready for review.

# 5. Proposal Evaluation and Selection

Part II.B provides more detail on the Proposal evaluation process. In general, Bidders can expect to be notified within approximately 60 days (about 2 months) of Proposal submission whether the project has been selected to enter further diligence and subsequent negotiations. The Company reserves the right to maintain its interest in the project and extend the exclusivity period as permitted by the Exclusivity Agreement. Note that during any phase of this evaluation process, the Company reserves the right to eliminate a Proposal from consideration or defer evaluation until the Bidder can provide evidence that the project has progressed in achieving key development milestones.

# 6. Bidder Financial Information

As applicable, Bidders shall provide information for Bidders and the guarantors that are providing credit support. At the time of Proposal submission, Bidder will provide all associated entities providing equity funding, their associated percentages, and the role of each party. Additional documentation may be needed at the request of the Company.

# E. Communications

# 1. Key Communication Means

- a. Website <u>www.dominionenergy.com/DEVCleanEnergyRFP</u>
- b. Email box <u>DEVCleanEnergyRFP-Acquisition@dominionenergy.com</u>

# 2. RFP Process Information

In addition to the information and instructions provided in this RFP document, please refer periodically to the RFP website for additional information, announcements, and updates.

# 3. Bidder Questions & Answers

Bidders may submit questions to the Company concerning this RFP process to the

email box listed above. Please note that such questions will not be treated as confidential, and the question and answer may be shared for the benefit of other interested parties via the RFP website.

Please note that prior to Proposal selection notification Bidders must communicate via the email box above and should not attempt to contact Company employees directly with any matters related to this RFP process.

# 4. Webinar

Webinars are used to introduce key parameters of the RFP, discuss key considerations to a successful proposal and field questions from the development community. The Company expects to hold an informational webinar on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 1:00 pm eastern standard time. An online webinar notice with date confirmation, time, and instructions on how to register and participate is available on the <a href="website">website</a> and will be communicated in advance of the session by email. Afterwards, the webinar video and Q&A document will be posted to the RFP website. Notification of future webinars will be posted on the RFP website and, when needed, by email.

# 5. Company Questions & Answers

The Company may have the need for clarifications or additional information as part of its review of Proposals. In such case, the Company will call or email the designated Bidder contact. Prompt responses to these questions will be required to maintain a conforming Proposal. Bidders may not necessarily be contacted prior to the Company's decision to eliminate a Proposal from consideration.

## F. Modifications to RFP

The Company reserves the right to modify this RFP for any reason and at any time. To keep active Bidders and others in the development community informed, the Company will update documentation and requirements periodically. Such changes will be communicated via the RFP website, webinars and, as needed, directly to Bidders who

have submitted a Proposal.

# **G.** Confidentiality

The Company will maintain the confidentiality of all Proposals submitted in accordance with the terms of the CA.

# H. Miscellaneous

- 1. The Company is not pursuing Proposals that provide less than 100% of the exclusive output from a given facility. Proposed utility-scale solar projects must be greater than 3 MW<sub>AC</sub> and proposed DER solar projects must be 3 MW<sub>AC</sub> or less as described in Section I.C.1 above.
- 2. The Company reserves the right, without qualification and at its sole discretion, to select any Proposal or reject any and all Proposals, and/or to waive any formality or technicality in any Proposal received. Bidders who submit Proposals do so without recourse against the Company for either rejection by the Company or failure to execute an acquisition agreement for any reason.
- 3. The Company shall not reimburse Bidder, and Bidder is responsible for any cost incurred, including but not limited to, interconnection study costs, in the preparation or submission of a Proposal(s), in negotiations for an asset purchase agreement, and/or any other activity contemplated by the Proposal(s) submitted in connection with this RFP.
- 4. The information provided in the RFP, or on the Company's RFP website, has been prepared to assist Bidders in evaluating the RFP. It does not purport to contain all the information that may be relevant to Bidder in satisfying its due diligence efforts. The Company makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the information in the RFP or the RFP website, and shall not be liable for any representation expressed or implied in the RFP or the RFP website or any omissions from the RFP or the RFP website, or any information provided to a Bidder by any other source.

- 5. Bidders should check the Company's RFP website frequently to ensure it has the latest documentation and information. Neither the Company nor its representatives shall be liable to any Bidder or any of its representatives for any consequences relating to or arising from the Bidder's use of outdated information.
- 6. Bidder shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from all damages and costs, including, but not limited to, legal costs, in connection with all claims, expenses, losses, proceedings or investigations that arise because of the RFP, including the award or denial of a Proposal pursuant to the RFP.
- 7. The submission of a Proposal to the Company shall constitute Bidder's acknowledgment and acceptance of all the terms, conditions, and requirements of this RFP.
- 8. Bidders are expected to comply with the Dominion Energy Supplier Code of Ethics and Business Conduct found by scrolling to the bottom of the page at <a href="https://www.dominionenergy.com/suppliers">www.dominionenergy.com/suppliers</a>.
- 9. The Bidder shall obtain all licenses and permits that may be required by any governmental body or agency necessary to conduct the Bidder's business or to perform hereunder. Bidder's subcontractors, employees, agents, and representatives of each in performance hereunder shall comply with all applicable governmental laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, orders, and all other governmental requirements.
- 10. The Company encourages Bidder to provide financial assistance to localities that engage third party support for local permitting efforts.

# **PART II – Proposal Evaluation**

# A. Evaluation Methodology Overview

Using the steps outlined below in II.B, the Company will review and evaluate Proposals submitted to identify projects that provide the lowest reasonable cost, while also

complying with the Virginia Code and related rules and regulations and maintaining reliability and flexibility for Dominion Energy Virginia customers. Proposals selected from the RFP process will be those that offer the most favorable combination of the price and non-price evaluation, as described further below. All Proposals will be held to the same standards and evaluated consistently to determine which provide the best value for customers. Projects that are being developed by the Company will be subject to the same price and non-price evaluation as those Proposals received through the RFP.

# B. Evaluation Process

Note that during any phase of the evaluation process, the Company reserves the right to eliminate a Proposal from consideration or defer its evaluation until the Bidder can provide evidence that the project has progressed in achieving key development milestones.

# 1. Review for Completeness

The Company will review all Proposals for completeness and whether it is a conforming Proposal. Failure to provide the requested information in accordance with the RFP requirements described in Part III may result in elimination of the Proposal.

# 2. Review for Scope Compliance

The Company will then review Proposals for compliance with the RFP scope as described in Section I.C. For a project to be considered compliant, it must adhere to and/or address the scope categories including product, proposal structure, COD, quantity, delivery point/interconnection status, technology and fuel reliability, checklists, agreements, and exclusions. At this stage, the Company will determine if the Proposal is suitable for a detailed evaluation or if it is best to defer the evaluation due to material development gaps that have been identified but the developer has demonstrated a clear path to complete them.

# 3. Initial Economic Screening

The Company will perform an initial economic screening to eliminate uneconomic Proposals. This will allow the final evaluation process to focus on the most economic Proposals relative to other Proposals received.

# 4. Detailed Proposal Evaluation

The Company will conduct the final review and evaluation of remaining Proposals based on the non-price evaluation and price evaluation as described below.

# C. Non-Price Evaluation Criteria

Many risks and qualitative factors must be considered when evaluating a Proposal to identify and select viable projects which meet the Company's risk profile, support annual development targets, and provide the best overall value for our customers. The Company relies on the information required in the checklist to evaluate a Proposal to determine if it has a reasonable expectation of being developed. The non-price evaluation criteria are described below and fall into three major categories: economic community impact, constructability risk and business risk.

# **Economic Community Impact**

# 1. Virginia Economic Benefit

The Company requires utilization of goods or services sourced, in whole or in part, from one or more Virginia businesses. The Company will consider each proposed facility's use, or expected use, of labor, materials, and other resources within Virginia and from Virginia businesses during development and expected in operation.

### 2. Environmental Justice

In 2018, the Company adopted an Environmental Justice ("EJ") Policy to affirm its commitment to ensuring the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, in our infrastructure planning and development process. This policy is in accordance with the Virginia Environmental Justice Act ("VEJA") which states that "it is the

policy of the Commonwealth to promote environmental justice and ensure that it is carried out throughout the Commonwealth, with a focus on environmental justice communities and fence line communities." (See Va. Code §§ 2.2-234-235 for community definitions and policy). The project's potential to affect EJ communities alongside actual or planned community engagement will be evaluated.

# **Constructability Risk**

The Company will assess whether key project characteristics and the associated development plan support the proposed nameplate capacity and in-service date at a reasonable cost.

# 3. Land and Constructability Risk

- a. The project's proposed site plan will be assessed to determine whether the site can adequately accommodate the proposed layout of panels, turbines and/or energy storage equipment, has adequate access (e.g., from public roads, private access easements and Virginia Department of Transportation prescriptive easements) and adheres to local use permitting requirements (such as buffers and setbacks). Other parameters such as stormwater management features and topography will be evaluated.
- b. The site's soil conditions, and subsurface characteristics will be evaluated based upon developer-supplied push/pull test results and geotechnical studies to assess impact to the proposed project's scope and cost.

# 4. Interconnection

Whether transmission or distribution level connected, the interconnection queue status and study system network upgrades will be evaluated to assess risk to project scope, cost, and schedule to achieve the proposed target COD. System protection requirements will be assessed as well. Additional considerations include:

a. PJM Interconnection Process
 For distribution or transmission level interconnections requiring interconnection

rights obtained through the PJM new generator interconnection queue, the Company prefers that the project has progressed at least to the point of having Decision Point One results. The Company prefers that the project's queue position places it no later than PJM's transition cycle #1 (AG1 or earlier), but the Company will consider proposals in transition cycle #2 (AG2 and AH1) and cycle #1 (AH2 and later).

- b. State Jurisdictional Distribution Level Interconnections
  Proposals submitted must have an assigned interconnection queue number in the
  Chapter 314 State Jurisdictional Queue and provide all available studies
  conducted to date, and/or already have an executed interconnection agreement.
- c. Energy Storage projects only Proposals submitted should include any locational benefits that the project provides. For example, when detailing the locational benefit, a proposal could include the project's proximity to intermittent resources, demand centers, or generation resources.
- d. Distributed Solar Interconnection and Location

Proposed facilities that are first in the interconnection queue on the Dominion Energy Virginia substation transformer to which it will feed power may be evaluated more favorably than facilities with subordinate queue positions. The Company may consider the benefits and impacts to the distribution grid of the facilities based on location.

# 5. Local Permitting Risk

Proposals shall include any required local use permit and siting agreement, where applicable. All required local use permit and siting agreement conditions will be evaluated to determine the risk to final engineering, construction, schedule, on-going operations and maintenance and overall cost of the project. Other factors evaluated include, but are not limited to, the status and terms of other local permits, permit expiration, decommissioning

requirements, and associated costs.

# 6. Environmental Permitting & Approvals Risk

There are numerous environmental assessments and reports required, including but not limited to, cultural resources, wetland delineation, environmental site assessment, threatened and endangered species and natural resource mapping. These documents will be reviewed and evaluated to assess the impacts of each project on environmental resources and risks related to obtaining future permit approvals and achieving expected project design. All environmental assessments and reports must include the entire project boundary including interconnection routes and facilities. The project's impact on air quality will be evaluated as well. For proposals on previously developed sites, applicable environmental regulatory restrictions such as administrative orders will be evaluated.

# **Business Risk**

The Company will assess the risks associated with terms and conditions and the status of key project agreements.

# 7. Land Agreements

Evidence of full site control is a critical factor in evaluating a Proposal. Bidder is responsible for obtaining all necessary site control and providing evidence of the same. Full site control means a valid and existing land agreement for every portion of real property required for development, construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the project. Such land agreements may include but are not limited to options to purchase, options to lease, options to obtain easements, purchase and sale agreements, leases, easements, (onsite and/or offsite, if applicable), rights-of-way agreements, as well as demonstration of land control for parcels over which any discharge is anticipated to flow to get to a stormwater conveyance system. It is essential that an adequate land purchase right for any necessary transmission switchyard is included within the land agreements. Such purchase right shall include all terms for the purchase of at least ten (10) acres of property, including but not limited to (i) the purchase price and (ii) the simultaneous conveyance of necessary

access, utility, and drainage easements. Along with evidence of site control, Bidder should deliver an ALTA survey showing every project parcel, a title commitment that covers all the real property related to the project, and a proposed site plan. Additionally, for DER solar projects, land control must meet, at a minimum, the requirements of Section 6 of the Level 2 and 3 Interconnection Request Form for Small Generating Facility.

# 8. Agreement Terms and Conditions

There are separate Purchase Agreements for utility-scale Proposals and DER Proposals. The Company will rely on the Purchase Agreement terms and conditions to ensure it receives the intended value of the Proposal and to protect the Company from unnecessary risk. Therefore, the Purchase Agreement mark-up submitted must accurately and fully reflect the Bidder's Proposal and is critical to the Company's proper evaluation of a Proposal and timely conclusion of the RFP process. Proposals that minimize revisions to the Purchase Agreement will receive preference in the evaluation process. Proposals that do not include an execution-ready Purchase Agreement, have incomplete edits, or that rely on future discussions to finalize, shall be deemed non-conforming and subject to elimination or suspension of evaluation by the Company. As reflected in the Purchase Agreement, Bidders will be required to represent and warrant to the Company that there are no facts or circumstances that could materially and adversely affect the ability of the Company to construct, own and operate the facility in accordance with the development schedule. The long-term performance of the proposed facility is critical to providing the intended value for the Company's customers.

# Scoring Methodology

The Company utilizes a comprehensive scoring system that has been reviewed by the Commission and is based on objective standards to evaluate non-price factors across all Proposals of similar renewable resources and energy storage. Based on the Company's experience, an appropriate weighting is assigned to each non-price factor based on risk

and impact on the successful completion of the project. From time to time, these weightings are assessed and changed if needed based on development expectations, legal requirements, and changes in the industry. All Proposals and projects that are being developed by the Company will be evaluated using the same scoring system.

# D. Price Evaluation

The price evaluation will analyze each Proposal's value to Dominion Energy Virginia customers based on the Proposal's pricing. The Company will use generation planning and production cost models to determine the economic value, with the objective of minimizing present value revenue requirements for customers while maintaining grid reliability and flexibility. In addition, siting agreements and any other cost characteristics will be considered during project valuation. Balancing the statutory requirements of the VCEA while maintaining reasonable costs for all customers is important. Additionally, only pricing on a \$/W<sub>DC</sub> basis for solar or \$/W<sub>AC</sub> basis for storage and onshore wind will be accepted. The amount ultimately paid to the developer will be based upon what the Company proposes for the size of the facility in its application to the Commission.

# E. Key Risk Factors

As the non-price evaluation and price evaluation reviews are conducted, certain key risks will be compiled and included in the final evaluation ("Key Risk Factors"). These Key Risk Factors may be unique to a Proposal and, while reflected in the non-price and price evaluations, may be significant enough to independently impact the overall favorability of a Proposal. For example, if there is significant uncertainty whether a key permit for a facility can be secured, jeopardizing the ability of the facility to be constructed, then that risk may also be included as an independent consideration in the final evaluation.

# **PART III – Proposal Submittals**

# A. Proposal Requirements & General Instructions

The purpose of these requirements and instructions is to acquire sufficient information from all Bidders that will ensure a uniform and impartial evaluation of

each Proposal. Prior to submitting Proposal(s), Bidders must register by completing an Intent to Bid Form and execute a Confidentiality Agreement.

Bidders may submit more than one Proposal. For multiple Proposals related to a single facility (for example, solar or solar co-located with storage or projects of varied sizes), Bidders may provide a single Proposal submittal package that clearly identifies the Proposals' differences. For Proposals that are based on different facilities, Bidders should provide a complete and separate Proposal submittal package for each facility.

Proposals must be submitted electronically by uploading to the Bidder's dedicated SharePoint Site. The Company will not accept Proposals that are mailed, emailed, or hand delivered. Bidders should refer to the applicable checklist available for download on the RFP website for detail on required and requested information to be included in each Proposal. All provided diligence files uploaded to SharePoint should adhere to the naming convention in column E of the checklist. Proposals must contain all the documents and data requested in the form and format required and in the specified SharePoint location as indicated in this section and in the RFP checklist to be considered complete. Any Proposals with material omissions or incomplete responses to the requested items will be deemed non-conforming and may be eliminated from consideration.

# B. Proposal Summary

Bidder's Proposal Summary must be provided in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF file format and contain the following information as applicable. Please maintain the order and content as listed below to facilitate the review of Proposals.

1. Bidder Name and Contact information: Proposal(s) must be submitted in the legal name of the actual owner of the project assets or the ultimate "upstream" entity that would be bound by any resulting asset purchase agreement with the Company and authenticated by an officer or other employee who is authorized to bind Bidder to an agreement based on the Proposal(s).

The first page of the Proposal shall list the Bidder and the Bidder contact information (name, title, phone, email address, and mailing address).

- 2. **Proposal Summary**: Bidders shall provide a brief summary of the Proposal, including key information on the facility. Please highlight any significant unique attributes of the facility relative to similarly situated facilities in the industry as well as the facility's impact on air quality within the Commonwealth and the carbon intensity of the utility's generation portfolio.
- 3. **Project Price**: Bidders shall provide the price applicable for acquisition of the project based on a \$/W<sub>DC</sub> for solar and \$/W<sub>AC</sub> for onshore wind and storage, as outlined in the Purchase Agreements. Prices should also be entered in Section B, Price & Terms Summary, of the Information Form Addendum document. Note that the amount ultimately paid to the developer will be based upon what the Company proposes for the size of the facility in its application to the Commission.
- 4. **Bidder Summary**: Provide a summary that must include:
  - a. Ultimate corporate parent entity and relationship to Bidder
  - b. Prior experience and qualifications of Bidder as it relates to the execution of the Proposal.
  - c. Summary of Bidder's and guarantor's financial strength and capabilities to complete development of the project.
- 5. Key Contributors Summary: Bidders shall provide a summary of the experience and qualifications of key contributors. Such summary must include:
  - a. Prior experience and qualifications of any key developers, consultants, engineering, procurement and construction contractors, operators, or other key contributors specifically as it relates to the execution of the Proposal.

- b. Summary of the status of contractual relationships with each key contributor.
- c. Key contractual assurances, guarantees, warranties or commitments supporting the Proposal.
- d. Past experience of Bidder working with each key contributor.
- 6. **Site Summary:** Bidders shall provide information on the project site, including:
  - a. Bidder rights (owned, leased, under recorded option) to such site. If applicable, provide details of the lease or purchase agreement or option terms. A letter of intent is not sufficient land control. The bidder shall have all land rights, including easements, necessary for the development, construction, interconnection, and operation of the facility. This is to include demonstration of land control over which any discharge is anticipated to flow to a stormwater conveyance system. Note that projects with land control that covers a 35-year operating life will receive preference in the evaluation process; and
  - b. A preliminary site plan per the requirements in the checklist.
- 7. **Development Plan**: Bidders shall provide a summary of the development plan, including:
  - a. Proposed COD date.
  - b. Discussion of the development schedule, and associated risks and risk mitigants for that schedule, including whether there are contract commitments from contractors supporting the proposed schedule. Bidder should be prepared to document and commit to the proposed development schedule.
  - c. Discussion of permitting, including a list of all required permits, permitting status of each (including expiration dates), and key risks to securing necessary future permits and approvals. Provide a permitting plan as indicated in the

- applicable checklist document.
- d. Discussion of distribution and transmission interconnection, including into which interconnection queues the project has been submitted, the assigned queue number(s), status of application, studies, and agreements, estimated cost, and estimated schedule for completion of upgrades. This should include a cost estimate for general site telecommunications for all projects (see Verizon cost estimate sheet attached to the checklist) except DER Solar and for Dominion Energy Virginia owned fiber for the direct transfer trip ("DTT"). DTT must be included in the Dominion Energy Virginia Small Generation Interconnection Agreement scope for distribution level interconnected projects.
- e. Discussion of any rezoning that may be required, including the schedule and process for rezoning.
- f. Discussion of tree clearing expectations if applicable.
- 8. **Environmental Plan**: Please provide a summary of all environmental diligence completed to date, including any identified concerns and the associated mitigation. For environmental diligence that remains, please provide a detailed scope and schedule that supports the Proposal's planned COD as described in Section I.C.3. Please indicate the date when referenced information must be refreshed. For all required diligence items, indicate any expirations or dates at which the data would need to be re-evaluated. Provide a schedule for refreshing prior to closing. Note that studies must not be greater than 180 days (about 6 months) old as of anticipated acquisition close.
- 9. **Legal Proceedings**: Bidders shall provide a summary of all material actions, suits, claims or proceedings (threatened or pending) against Bidder, its guarantor (if applicable) or involving the project as of the Proposal date, including those related to employment and labor laws, environmental laws, or contractual disputes for the development, construction, or operation of the facility. Bidder shall update

- information when there is a change as needed at any point during the exclusivity period.
- 10. **Environmental Violations / OSHA Recordables:** Provide a list of all environmental violations and OSHA recordable incidents incurred within the last three (3) years by the Bidder or its contractors on projects developed and/or built by Bidder. Also include a description of mitigation efforts to address these incidents and the measures that will be employed in the future to avoid recurrences.
- 11. Virginia Economic Impact: Bidders shall provide a description of the expected use of labor, materials, and other resources from Virginia and/or Virginia businesses during the development, construction, and operation of the project. Additionally, provide a description of the expected benefits to be derived by the industries and communities associated with the development, construction, and operation of the project. In addition, indicate any direct benefits the project will provide for the local community.
- 12. **Environmental Justice**: Bidders shall submit a community report from EPA's EJSCREEN website and, where needed, provide information on what specific actions have been taken to engage any EJ communities affected by the project. Specific instructions will be provided in the checklist. An "environmental justice screening" is a type of social impact assessment that includes a demographic profile of the project's surrounding community and identification of nearby sensitive receptors like places of worship and schools. The screening is a first step taken to identify potential EJ communities. Where EJ communities are identified, proactive and targeted outreach is appropriate to ensure opportunity for feedback is provided. Identification of an EJ community is not intended to disqualify development in those areas. The Company will evaluate the project's EJ factors using the EJSCREEN reports, the summary of community engagement provided, and other relevant information outlined in the applicable checklist.

# C. Information Form Addendum

The Information Form Addendum can be found on the <u>RFP website</u>. The Proposal's Information Form Addendum must be provided in Microsoft Excel file format, and contain the information requested as applicable to the Proposal. Please maintain the order and format of the worksheets to facilitate the Company's review of the Proposal. The completed form should be uploaded to the Bidder SharePoint site.

# D. Purchase Agreements

After the Bidder provides proper notification by email that they intend to submit a proposal, the Company will provide the Purchase Agreement along with access to the SharePoint site. The Proposal must be accompanied by either (i) an affirmative statement that Bidder is taking no exception to the Purchase Agreements provided pursuant to this RFP; or (ii) a fully marked-up Purchase Agreement that is reflective of its Proposal and that Bidder deems execution-ready. This is critical for the Company to properly evaluate a Proposal and enable both parties to complete negotiations promptly. Any proposed revisions to the Purchase Agreements must be clearly marked with specific language detailing any such revisions. Proposals with incomplete Purchase Agreement revisions, edits, or that rely on future negotiations to finalize shall be deemed non-conforming and subject to elimination or suspension of evaluation by the Company. While proposed revisions to the Purchase Agreement may be considered, Proposals that minimize such revisions will receive preference in the evaluation process.

In the case of clause (ii) above, Bidder's Proposal must contain two Purchase Agreement submittal files. The first shall be a file in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF file format that reflects all the proposed edits to the Purchase Agreement, as redline marks. The second shall be a file in Microsoft Word format that is a "clean" version, reflecting acceptance of all proposed edits. Reasons or explanations for proposed edits can be included in the text of the documents or as a separate file.

# E. Exclusivity Agreement

An executed Exclusivity Agreement must be submitted at the same time as the Proposal by uploading to the Bidder's dedicated SharePoint site in the Legal folder. The Exclusivity Agreement must be signed by an authorized representative of the Bidder. The Exclusivity Agreement form will be provided with other supplemental documentation by email once an ITB and executed CA are received by the Company.

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