



Request for Proposal (RFP)

TITLE: SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION AT THE BUNCOMBE COUNTY LANDFILL

RFP NUMBER:

DATE ISSUED:

DUE DATE:

TIME:

LOCATION: Buncombe County Planning Dept.
46 Valley Street
Asheville, NC 28801
Telephone: 828-250-4830
Fax: 828-250-6086

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Pursuant to General Statutes of North Carolina, bids and proposals will be received for the following:

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION AT THE BUNCOMBE COUNTY LANDFILL

Buncombe County is seeking candidates interested in contracting for the development, finance, construction, and operation of a solar photovoltaic (PV) energy system on a closed landfill in Buncombe County, North Carolina located on PIN 9721-94-2726 and 9721-95-9833. Buncombe County does not intend to own or operate the PV energy system. Proposals will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on August 1, 2017 for the above-named item at the Buncombe County Planning Department, 46 Valley Street, Asheville, North Carolina, 28801. Experience in solar photovoltaic development and operation is required. Additional experience in development of brownfield sites or landfills is preferred. Buncombe County encourages proposals from minority businesses by providing certified minorities an equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of the RFP process. Four (4) copies of said proposals may be submitted in person, or by mail. Additional RFP submittal requirements may be obtained by contacting the Planning Department at (828) 250-4830.

Request for Proposal Authorized by:

Jon E. Creighton

Planning Director/Assistant County Manager

A. Purpose

Buncombe County is seeking candidates interested in contracting for the development, finance, and operation of a solar photovoltaic (PV) energy system on a closed landfill Site located on parcel number 9721-94-2726 and 9721-95-9833, including interconnection to the utility distribution system, along with any improvements, maintenance, or repairs needed at the Site to accommodate the project.

A. Project Summary

Candidates must indicate interest in negotiating terms to undertake financing, construction, operation of, and sales from a utility-scale solar photovoltaic field operation that will require considerable professional level engineering, management, and analytical skills, together with adequate capital, energy market and marketing expertise to be successful. The site to be developed is a closed landfill with an estimated 30+/- acres of developable land for the PV energy system. The site is preliminarily expected to generate up to 4 Megawatts of energy, however the Candidate should independently propose a specific size for the PV energy system.

The successful candidate will complete a study to determine the total available acreage and locations at the landfill Site to accommodate the PV energy system, the size of the PV energy system, and the energy-generating capacity of the completed system, and will coordinate to connect the PV energy system to the local utility distribution system. Candidates are expected to lease the affected acreage surface operation at a lease and payment arrangement to be negotiated and agreed upon by Buncombe County. The lessee shall not assume legal liability for the closed out landfill, but will be required to maintain any impacted portions of the site for the PV energy system through regular mowing, erosion control, and other ongoing maintenance.

All Candidates are expected to independently investigate, verify, and summarize for Buncombe County the facts and factors important to the success or failure of their proposal, and develop an approach to complete a commercially viable installation of a solar energy facility that will not negatively impact remediation at the closed landfill Site. Each Candidate assumes and will itself bear the cost of its proposal, the proposal evaluation and contract negotiation process, equipment, zoning and permitting, negotiating design approval with the regulatory agencies, construction cost, Operation and Maintenance costs, system decommission/Site restoration costs, all unanticipated delay, and all market risk.

B. Submission Requirements

- Letter of Interest – A letter of interest must be submitted giving the qualifications of the project team, including the firm history, individual resumes, current and completed projects over the last seven years, and preliminary proposals for the project.
 - Provide a list of four completed studies, analyses, and/or design of similar projects within the last seven years which are relevant to the scope of the project;

- List four completed projects similar in size, scope, and complexity;
- Address whether you have ever constructed a solar farm on a closed landfill;
- Demonstrate success with similar projects for local and state governments, preferably within North Carolina;
- Provide examples of the past experience of key members of the proposed team on the projects itemized regarding the above;
- Describe the financial capabilities and the bonding capacity of your company to develop and operate a utility scale solar photovoltaic energy system;
- Propose a per-acre lease for the use of the site;
- Propose terms for the disposition of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) to Buncombe County; and
- Address whether you have ever had an application before the NC Utilities Commission.
- Provide documentation that you have commitment financing for the project.
- Provide an organizational chart and resumes which will address the following:
 - Name the Principal in Charge, Project Manager, and other individuals to be assigned to the project, providing for each the number of years of service with the company, number of years of professional experience, and educational background inclusive of professional certifications (if a joint venture, please list the above for each firm to be involved).
 - For sub-consultants, inclusive of landscaping, surveying, engineering, civil engineering, or other key components, please list the names and addresses of each company, as well as the name of any individuals to be assigned to the project.
- Provide a list of the current workload of the firm(s), the individual workload of the Project Manager(s).
- Provide the office location(s) which will be handling the project.
- Deadline – Four (4) copies of the submission must be received by the Buncombe County Planning Department by 5:00 p.m. on August 1, 2017.

C. Qualifications

Applicants will be evaluated in conjunction with the anticipated needs of the County and information provided by the applicants as well as information obtained from references, persons, or other sources identified by the applicant or otherwise known by the County.

Candidates with prior similar work experience are urged to apply. Such experience includes, but is not limited to:

- Development of utility scale solar photovoltaic energy systems
- Development of landfill or brownfield sites
- Experience working with local Governments
- Experience working with utility companies

D. Contact Information

Any questions about the proposal should be directed to the contact person:

Mr. Jon E. Creighton
Planning Director/Assistant County Manager
Buncombe County Planning Department
46 Valley Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Telephone: 828-250-4830

Fax: 828-250-6086

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