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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP-2021-004-USVIEDA

Vision 2040

Energy Sector Analysis

Request for Clarification

Questions and Answers

VIRGIN ISLANDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Released: July 19, 2021

Vision 2040 Energy Sector Analysis Consultant RFP - Questions and Answers:

1. **Question:** Is there a registry for M/WBE firms where potential bidders can find interested and qualified M/WBE partners?

Response: Yes, certified M/WBE firms can be found at https://pro-net.sba.gov/dsbs/search/dsp_dsbs.cfm

2. **Question:** Under C. Proposed Scope of Work, Section #1, the last bullet includes "... opportunities in professional services, technology services, light manufacturing/assembly, and coastal/ocean resources as it relates to green industries investment and jobs". This scope is very broad. Can USVIEDA provide additional details that will help determine the boundaries of the scope? Is USVIEDA expecting the scope to include identification of companies that are capable of providing professional services, technology services, and green (or blue) industries that can be setup in US Virgin Islands?

Response: See Vision 2040 for key targeted industries, including types of businesses at <https://www.usvi2040.com/targetindustries>. Yes, USVIEDA is expecting the scope to include identification of companies in professional services, technology services, light manufacturing/assembly, and coastal/ocean resources as it relates to green industries investment and jobs with interest in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

3. **Question:** The 2nd bullet under C. Proposed Scope of Work, Section #2: Deliverables is "Provide a detailed renewable energy resource assessment." Is USVIEDA expecting an "Integrated Resource Plan" level of detail to achieve the 75% renewable by 2040 goal? If not please provide additional description of the expectation.

Response: No, USVIEDA is not expecting an Integrated Resource Plan. The expectation is for a renewable energy resource assessment across the three (3) main islands to include an energy road map based on resource quality, topography, land use, and developer interest. The renewable energy resource assessment should identify a set of study areas capable of supporting high levels of clean energy development.

4. **Question:** The 3rd bullet under C. Proposed Scope of Work, Section #2: Deliverables is "... project-specific cost-of-capital analysis and electrical cost reduction strategies...". Is USVIEDA expecting such analysis to be performed on renewable energy projects (e.g., off-shore wind, floatovoltaics, etc.) as well as viable demand-side projects that would be the likely off-takers of such projects? Please provide additional detail.



Response: Yes, USVIEDA is expecting analysis to be performed on any renewable energy project that is recommended in the road map.

5. **Question:** The 5th bullet under C. Proposed Scope of Work, Section #2: Deliverables is "... commercial incentive rate to increase competitiveness for business attraction...". Is USVIEDA expecting the scope to include design of electricity rates and tariffs applicable to industrial and commercial customers under the current electrical system or a changed system sometime in the future? If "commercial incentive rate" means something else, please explain.

Response: The anticipation is for the commercial incentive rate to be under the current electrical system and projection of a commercial incentive rate for a changed system in the future.

6. **Question:** The scope clearly includes design and development of a marketing strategy, campaign, and outreach content for execution. Does the scope also include involvement in the execution phase of the said campaign and strategy? If so, will USVIEDA accept a "Time and Material" bid for the execution phase?

Response: The scope of work as outlined in Section C of the RFP must be completed in accordance with the timeline specified in the RFP. However, the strategic plan should include recommended activities that extend beyond six (6) months. In regard to the "Time and Material" bid, refer to Section E of the RFP, which indicates that the resulting contract is anticipated to be a fixed price contract.

7. **Question:** It is our standard practice to include a list of references along with contact information. We typically don't include "written authorization" from the included references. Can USVIEDA waive this requirement?

Response: Yes, USVIEDA will waive written consent from the authorized representative.

8. **Question:** This project may be financially supported, in whole or in part, by federal funds. Does USVIEDA require any further assistance in securing the funds other than the written proposal in response to this RFP?

Response: No.



9. **Question:** Are there specific requirements, in terms of a certain amount of work to be given, for minority firms, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms? Can USVIEDA provide a list of firms that are currently qualified and registered with the USVIEDA?

Response: No, there are no specific requirements for the amount of work to be given to minority/women-owned business enterprises or labor surplus area firms. Certified M/WBE firms can be found at https://pro-net.sba.gov/dsbs/search/dsp_dsbs.cfm

10. **Question:** We understand that all proposals are open to public inspection upon submittal. If particular sections of the proposal containing confidential and proprietary information are exclusively marked, will such information be redacted in the proposal documents before they are made public?

Response: Yes, proprietary information should be clearly identified as indicated in Section K of the RFP. Confidential and proprietary information will be kept confidential.

11. **Question:** Is USVIEDA considering this scope of work within a certain monetary budget? If so, what is the budget?

Response: Budget will not be provided. USVIEDA is interested in receiving Proposer's estimation of appropriate costs for the scope of services specified in the RFP.

12. **Question:** If USVIEDA is able to secure only part of the funding needed to complete the scope of work, can the scope of work be modified at a later date to accommodate decreased funding?

Response: No.

