Number	Log Date	Question	Response
1	6/12/2026	Can you clarify the duration threshold for a BESS to qualify as long-duration?	Generally, long-duration energy storage refers to durations greater than or equal to 8 hours. However, the evaluation of the RFP does not draw a hard and definitive distinction between short and long-duration energy storage. Instead, storage resources will be evaluated against projects of similar duration, and if advanced to modeling, the evaluation will utilize the project-specific duration.
2	6/12/2026	Is there someone we could talk to better understand the power needs in your upcoming project?	No. In the interest of ensuring all bidders have access to equal information, all questions must conform to the established communication protocols of the RFP. EPE will not meet with bidders individually.
3	6/12/2026	Can you please confirm whether resources that are outside of EPE's NM service area will be considered under this RFP? If not, will EPE be releasing another RFP this year for projects in its TX footprint?	Per Section 1 of the RFP, there is no requirement for proposed resources to be physically located within the service territory. However, please refer to Section 5 of the RFP for specific requirements regarding transmission and interconnection.
4	6/12/2026	Would your team be available for a brief introductory meeting to discuss these requirements and our upcoming project pipeline?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 2.
5	6/12/2026	Will the 2026 New Mexico All Source RFP additional supporting attachments shown in Table 4 be made available on the EPE website as noted in the RFP?	For this RFP, we will not provide pre-formatted templates for submission attachments. Bidders are expected to prepare and submit their own supporting documents, ensuring that each attachment clearly addresses the requirements and criteria outlined in the RFP.
6	6/12/2026	Has EPE posted details for the RFP webinar?	El Paso Electric Company ("EPE") is pleased to announce the 2026 New Mexico RFP Bidder Conference. The conference will be held via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time (MDT) on Tuesday, June 9, 2026. EPE strongly encourages potential bidders to submit any questions in advance to EPE2026RFP@epelectric.com by Monday, June 8, 2026, to allow adequate time for preparation of responses. EPE looks forward to your participation.
7	6/12/2026	Do you have a recommended data room for our company to apply for access to?	No, EPE does not have a dedicated data room for this RFP. However, this RFP generally aligns with the framework established in the company's recent Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), which is publicly available for bidders to review. Please note that certain modeling inputs and assumptions have been updated since the publication of the IRP to reflect current market conditions and system needs.
8	6/12/2026	Could I please obtain the invite for the 2026 RFP Bidders Conference?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 6.
9	6/12/2026	Can I get a PDF version of the RFP?	EPE will not distribute individual PDF copies of the RFP via email. All RFP documents, including any future updates or amendments, are available for direct download on the official RFP website.
10	6/12/2026	Will EPE consider SPP projects located in New Mexico and Texas Panhandle for this RFP?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 14.
11	6/12/2026	Can EPE provide contacts of other companies that our company can refer to for potential collaborations in response to EPE's RFP?	In order to maintain confidentiality and the integrity of the RFP process, EPE cannot share the information of any companies involved nor can EPE recommend that bidders collaborate with certain companies. EPE will not facilitate interaction among bidders.
12	6/12/2026	Does EPE have a preference for surplus interconnection sites compared to sites going through the traditional interconnection process?	EPE does not inherently favor surplus interconnection sites over traditional interconnection projects. Instead, the company prioritizes securing viable, cost-effective projects that fulfill its reliability and regulatory requirements. Surplus interconnection is simply viewed as one viable pathway to achieving these core objectives.
13	6/12/2026	The RFP states: "Bidders may propose resources that are built behind an existing transmission interconnection only when no additional EPE facilities are needed." Can EPE clarify the intent of this language? Specifically: 1. Are bidders permitted to propose surplus interconnection sites on EPE-owned land? 2. Are bidders permitted to propose surplus interconnection sites utilizing existing EPE-owned electrical infrastructure?	The intent of this provision is to allow developers to utilize surplus interconnection service to add new generation or storage capability behind an existing point of interconnection, provided that the total injection of power onto the system never exceeds the maximum MW capacity authorized under the existing Generator Interconnection Agreement (GIA). Clarification on EPE Land and Infrastructure: (1) Bidders are only permitted to propose projects on EPE-owned land or utilize existing EPE interconnection rights if the proposal is submitted as a company self-bid or as a Build-Transfer Agreement (BTA) structure that ultimately transfers the asset to EPE ownership. (2) Third-party Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) targeting EPE-owned land, or attempting to utilize EPE's existing interconnection rights for non-utility-owned assets, will not be accepted.
14	6/12/2026	Will bidders be allowed to submit projects located in SPP into this procurement since EPE will be joining SPP Markets+ in 2028?	Yes. Projects located outside of EPE's service territory that can serve load and connect to EPE's interconnection network are eligible to bid into the 2026 NM RFP. Please see Section 5 of the 2026 NM RFP document for Transmission and Delivery Requirements. EPE will consider proposals for resources interconnecting to third-party transmission systems; however, Bidders for external resources must provide exhaustive documentation to ensure a transparent evaluation. Section 5.2 of the 2026 NM RFP details the requirements, including: • Interconnection Status and Cost Certainty • Firm Transmission Evidence • Total Delivered Cost • Schedule Risk Mitigation Failure to provide this level of transparency may result in the proposal being disqualified. Please refer to Section 5.2 of the 2026 NM RFP for more details on the required documentation.

15	6/12/2026	We wanted to reach out because the RFP asks that Demand Side Resources contact the RFP program manager. Our systems will be front-of-meter, but will be sized to not export to transmission but rather be used to balance local demand. Would it make sense to engage and discuss our projects further and how we can develop the best solution for EPE?	To ensure a completely fair and unbiased competitive solicitation process, EPE does not work directly with individual bidders to co-develop project designs or solutions during the open RFP window. The language directing certain resource types to contact the RFP program manager is solely intended to ensure that participants receive the correct instructions, submission forms, and administrative documentation required to properly submit a proposal. If you believe the standard documentation and forms included in the RFP do not fully align with the unique technical or commercial structure of your front-of-meter project, please send a email to the official RFP inbox ASAP. In that email, provide a brief summary of your project and clearly highlight where the existing RFP documentation may not meet your individual needs. EPE will then work with you immediately on resolving those administrative and documentation requirements so you have everything needed to submit your proposal.
16	6/12/2026	For distribution-connected resources, is this RFP asking for only assets in New Mexico, or across EPE's entire service territory?	There is no geographic restriction within the RFP itself requiring a project to be physically located in New Mexico to be considered. However, bidders should be aware that all final resource selections and contracts resulting from this RFP are ultimately subject to review and approval by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC). In evaluating the portfolio, EPE expects that the NMPRC and other stakeholders, will carefully scrutinize how proposed resources-- particularly localized demand-side or distributed energy resources (DERs) - directly benefit, align with, and reliably support New Mexico retail customers and the state's broader regulatory objectives.
17	6/12/2026	Can multiple front-of-meter DERs be considered a DER aggregation?	Yes, multiple front-of-the-meter distributed energy resources can technically be considered a DER aggregation, but from the utility's procurement perspective, they are treated as a single, combined bid. For example, if a developer bids ten 5 MW projects, EPE will view and evaluate that strictly as a single 50 MW resource - even if those individual projects are located across different geographical zones or substations. It is an "all-or-nothing" package; EPE will not guess at scaling those individual bids up or down, or picking and choosing specific locations to fit portfolio needs. If a bidder wants to offer flexibility across different regions or sizing options, they must submit those as distinct, separate configurations for evaluation.
18	6/12/2026	Would a front-of-meter DER (ie <20 MW and connected to the distribution system) be considered a Demand Side Resource?	Ultimately, the distinction between a supply-side and demand-side classification is less critical than the modeling itself, as EPE evaluates both resource types consistently. The primary objective is to ensure that every proposal's technical attributes are captured as accurately as possible within the evaluation framework.
19	6/12/2026	Is there hosting capacity data for the EPE distribution system?	EPE does not currently publicly post hosting capacities but does provide the information on the pre-application report.
20	6/12/2026	Can projects be considered that have not yet applied for interconnection to the distribution system or is an active interconnection request a requirement?	Only projects that have submitted an interconnection application and paid the fee are considered for interconnection requests.
21	6/12/2026	For energy storage tolling agreement, does EPE prefer flat pricing, escalated pricing, or will you evaluate both?	No, EPE does not have a preference. EPE will evaluate proposals with both flat and escalated pricing structures to determine the best overall value for the system.
22	6/12/2026	Are bidders required to have firm site control to bid? Would a letter of intent from a site owner be acceptable?	Yes, bidders are required to demonstrate firm site control to submit a bid. A Letter of Intent (LOI) alone does not satisfy this requirement, as it does not constitute firm site control. EPE would like to clarify that this question does not pertain to demand-side resources.
23	6/12/2026	For distributed, front-of-meter BESS (Ex: 5 MW and under) should a bidder submit an interconnection request under ATTACHMENT N Small Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreement, or submit via the pre-ap process for "distribution connection"?	Pre-applications are not required to submit an interconnection application. Electronic forms are used in NM and in Texas the INTERCONNECTION AND PARALLEL OPERATION OF DISTRIBUTED GENERATION form is used.
24	6/12/2026	Would you count standalone storage projects for NM RECs?	No. Standalone storage projects do not generate New Mexico Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) because they do not produce original renewable energy on their own. However, please note that this RFP is also seeking capacity resources, which standalone storage can certainly provide.
25	6/12/2026	Do you have a preference for 4hr or 8hr storage?	No, EPE does not have any pre-determined preference for 4-hour or 8-hour storage duration.
26	6/12/2026	Can 1 site have multiple bid options under one bid fee, or does each bid option need a separate bid fee?	No. Each configuration will require a separate bid fee. Please refer to Section 3.5 of the RFP.
27	6/12/2026	Can you clarify the preference for a one-line diagram or a PSLF? 7.1.4 states required supporting documents and then says “may provide” under PSLF.	There is no strict preference between the two; providing either a one-line diagram or a PSLF/PSSE model is sufficient to meet the requirement. The phrase "may provide" indicates that bidders have the flexibility to submit whichever option best represents their proposed facility's current stage of development.
28	6/12/2026	What Long Duration options would or would not consider for this RFP? Can you provide examples of chemistry and hour duration?	This is an all-source RFP, and EPE will consider all viable technology options. EPE does not restrict proposals to specific chemistries or hour durations for long-duration energy storage. All proposals that meet the criteria outlined in the RFP will be fully evaluated through the standard competitive process.
29	6/12/2026	We've noticed you've highlighted cost, reliability, carbon emissions, capacity growth as key factors in this RFP. Of these, what are the factors that are the most important to you for this RFP?	All of the above are fundamental objectives for EPE.

30	6/12/2026	Are there other things that weren't mentioned that would distinguish a competitive bid from another?	Please see Section 8 of the RFP document for information regarding the evaluation process, including section 8.3 which addresses the scoring evaluation.
31	6/12/2026	What are expectations around development risk? (COD, permitting deadlines, regulatory approvals)? Are there delay penalties that should be considered or financial securities? How would they view "not yet widely deployed" technologies, such as EGS (Enhanced Geothermal)?	Bidders are expected to propose realistic project schedules that account for all development lead times, including a critical path to the guaranteed Commercial Operation Date. These schedule, permitting, and regulatory requirements will be formally evaluated during both the completeness and threshold review stages of the RFP process. To protect customer interests and ensure system reliability, final contracts will include standard commercial protections, including financial securities during the development and operational phases as well as liquidated damages for missed milestones or COD delays. Treatment of Emerging Technologies EPE welcomes proposals from emerging energy technologies, including Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS), but will also evaluate them with a focus on risk mitigation. Bidders proposing technologies that are not yet widely deployed at utility scale should include robust documentation regarding technology readiness, operational parameters, and performance data. EPE will closely evaluate the developer's capability to absorb technology-specific development and operational risks, and will evaluate contract structures to ensure an optimal risk allocation for EPE and its customers. Please refer to EPE's PPA and ESA templates, which are available on the 2026 New Mexico RFP website.
32	6/12/2026	Are all technology types eligible for the build transfer agreement structure? Is EPE comfortable operating all generation types? For example, wind, solar, battery, gas + CCS, geothermal.	Yes. As an all-source RFP, EPE will consider all technology types (with the exception of coal) under any of the proposed ownership structures, including Build-Transfer Agreements (BTAs). However, for technologies that are not currently part of EPE's existing resource portfolio or are considered emerging technologies, bidders are strongly encouraged to provide detailed information regarding long-term operations and maintenance (O&M). Where applicable, bidders should also include details on Long-Term Service Agreements (LTSAs) to demonstrate how these resources will be supported over their operational lifespan.
33	6/12/2026	Do you prefer build transfer agreements, or do you prefer PPAs? If it depends, can you elaborate on that?	EPE does not have any pre-determined preference for build transfer agreements or PPAs.
34	6/12/2026	What are the most common compliance issues that lead to bid rejection?	Bidders should closely review Sections 8.1 and 8.2 of the RFP, which detail the completeness and threshold review criteria. While EPE cannot provide an exhaustive list of potential compliance issues, historical data from prior RFPs indicates that the most common reasons for bid rejection include a lack of firm pricing and a failure to meet specified transmission requirements.
35	6/12/2026	Will the identities of participants in the bidder's conference be publicly known, might not know until tomorrow?	No. Participants decide their own screen name, which will be visible to other attendees. EPE will not share attendee information.
36	6/12/2026	Will the questions be publicized by EPE with the identity of the person who asks…again might not know until tomorrow.	No. EPE will not share identifying information.
37	6/12/2026	What is the format of the meeting….is it a webinar etc.?	The format of the bidder conference is an informational webinar followed by a Q&A segment.
38	6/12/2026	On page 9 of the RFP introduction and Background it states, "There is no requirement that any proposed resources be physically located within the state of New Mexico for considering in this RFP." Does this apply to Demand Side DER resources?	Yes. The statement on page 9 applies to both supply-side and demand-side resources. For further details please refer to EPE's response to Question 16.
39	6/12/2026	Sections 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.7 specify communications and control and telemetry that is typically defined for supply side resources. Section 6.7 specifically identifies supply side resources. Demand Side and DER projects for aggregated resources do not typically have supply side telemetry requirements due to the cost burden to each site. Can EPE clarify the distinction of Telemetry, AGC and EMS requirements for Demand Side and DER proposals?	EPE recognizes that while this all-source RFP establishes a general framework for bid development, it does not encompass every possible bid type, ownership structure, or technology. As noted in the RFP introduction, bidders seeking clarification on project suitability or structural alignment are advised to utilize the formal communication protocols outlined in Section 1.7 or raise questions during the Pre-Bid Webcast detailed in Section 3.2. Bidders should review all documents and bid forms as soon as possible to determine if their specific proposal structure is not fully addressed by the standard technical specifications. Regarding the specific distinction for Demand Side and DER proposals, EPE recognizes that traditional utility-scale telemetry, AGC, and EMS requirements may not directly translate to behind-the-meter or aggregated assets due to differing cost and technology structures. In alignment with the RFP's flexibility, EPE does not typically require individual, site-by-site utility-grade telemetry for every asset. Bidders are encouraged to submit detailed proposals outlining their platform's communication capabilities and request clarification through the Section 1.7 protocol to ensure alignment. Ultimately, if a bidder believes the existing technical forms or sections do not adequately accommodate their technology's operational profile, they should proactively submit specific inquiries via the RFP project manager to determine the appropriate adjustments for bid submission.

40	6/12/2026	Section 6.2 states, "Inverter based renewable resource (i.e., solar and wind) proposals are required to utilize inverters and controls capable of output regulation/curtailment for load following, frequency response and voltage support via EPE's EMS control.". Is this statement applicable to Demand Side DER proposals?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 39.
41	6/12/2026	Section 6.5 – If a proposal's price structure has no ties to tax credits and is not subject to change or be modified by any tax credit, we assume this section can be omitted in the response as it has no bearing on the proposal. Is this correct?	Correct. However, EPE encourages bidders to explicitly confirm in their narrative summary if their proposal is not reliant upon or inclusive of any tax credits (where applicable).
42	6/12/2026	Section 6.8 states "EPE is requiring all Bidders to have and provide evidence to EPE of feasible site(s) selected and, at a minimum, to have a firm option to purchase or lease to demonstrate site control with landowner(s) and other stakeholders that may impact the execution of the land purchase." Site control for most Demand Side and DER proposals is not known. How does EPE plan to determine eligibility for Demand Side and DER proposals?	Correct. EPE recognizes that traditional site control requirements, such as options to purchase or lease land, are generally not applicable to distributed, aggregated, or demand-side resources at the time of bid submission. Therefore, strict physical site control is not required for Demand Side or DER proposals to be deemed eligible. However, to ensure a fair and robust evaluation, EPE requires bidders to demonstrate the foundational viability, feasibility, and market interest underpinning their proposal. Bidders should not submit speculative volumes without supporting evidence.In lieu of traditional site control, DER and Demand Side bidders should provide documentation that validates their deployment strategy and resource capacity, which **must** include: Customer Acquisition Strategy: A detailed plan outlining how the bidder intends to recruit, enroll, and retain participants to reach the proposed capacity targets. Historical Performance Data: Evidence of successful deployment or similar programs managed by the bidder in other jurisdictions, demonstrating reliable customer adoption and performance metrics. Existing Portfolios or Pipeline: Letters of intent, memoranda of understanding (MOUs), or anonymized data showing an existing pipeline of qualified customers or commercial partners within the region. Market Analysis: Regional demographic or target-market data supporting the feasibility of the proposed customer adoption rate within the project timeline. EPE will evaluate these supporting materials during the threshold review phase to ensure that all selected demand-side resources represent realistic and reliable capacity for the system.
43	6/12/2026	Section 6.9 is designed for supply side or single site large scale projects and does not have applicability to most Demand Side and DER projects. How does EPE plan to evaluate proposals that designate the majority of this section as not applicable to the proposal?	EPE recognizes that the specific environmental, siting, and permitting checklists detailed in Section 6.9 are designed for single-site supply resources and are not applicable to distributed or aggregated demand-side proposals. Bidders may designate those specific line items as "Not Applicable" without penalty. However, the fundamental purpose of Section 6.9 is to allow EPE to evaluate project maturity, execution risk, and overall viability. Therefore, while Demand Side and DER bidders do not need to provide environmental site assessments or air permits, they are still expected to use their proposal submission to demonstrate that their project is viable and executable within the proposed timeline. In lieu of traditional siting data, the proposal narrative should focus on proving viability by addressing: (1) Deployment Readiness: Evidence that the underlying technology or platform is commercially mature and ready for commercial rollout. (2) Execution & Schedule Risk: A clear, realistic timeline for customer enrollment, hardware installation (if applicable), and program launch that accounts for potential deployment constraints. If a bidder requires further clarification on how to demonstrate viability for their specific technology type, they should submit an inquiry via the Section 1.7 communication protocol.
44	6/12/2026	Is EPE interested in any specific LDES technology? Will LDES be evaluated under the same scoring framework as conventional BESS?	As an all-source RFP, EPE welcomes all technology types except for coal, including long-duration energy storage (LDES). A core objective of this RFP is to evaluate all proposals consistently using a uniform scoring framework. However, for the avoidance of doubt, EPE will not directly score LDES proposals against shorter-duration technologies, such as four-hour lithium-ion storage
45	6/12/2026	What BESS duration does EPE prefer, and is there a capacity pricing premium for longer-duration systems?	As noted in EPE's response to Question 52, EPE does not prefer any specific Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) technology or configuration. EPE interprets the term 'capacity pricing premium' to encompass the higher accredited capacity assigned to longer-duration systems compared to shorter-duration alternatives. Because EPE calculates distinct Effective Load Carrying Capability (ELCC) values based on storage duration, longer-duration BESS resources broadly receive higher capacity accreditation."
46	6/12/2026	How will the capacity value of a solar + BESS hybrid be accredited, and what charging assumptions will EPE apply?	EPE will determine the capacity value of solar + BESS hybrids using an Effective Load Carrying Capability (ELCC) methodology. To evaluate the resource's energy value, EPE will apply project-specific charging assumptions based on the operational parameters provided in the proposal.
47	6/12/2026	Does EPE have a preference for 100% ownership of projects in a Build Transfer structure or does EPE prefer a long term PPA. If PPA, what tenor does EPE prefer?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 33.

48	6/12/2026	I am looking to get my team kicked off on the contract redlines and RFP excel bid workbook, and I cannot find these on the website. Would you please let me know where I can find these exhibits for download?	EPE's bid form and New Mexico power purchase agreement and energy storage agreement will be available on EPE's 2026 New Mexico RFP website June 12, 2026.
49	6/12/2026	How does 400 MW of accredited capacity translate into solar nameplate targets given ELCC? Same question for solar + BESS. and BESS only	EPE cannot answer this question because it would be dependent on the composition of the overall portfolio. EPE recommends bidders review the 2025 IRP for guidance on marginal ELCC values.
50	6/12/2026	Does the capacity need accounts for the projects selected in the 2025 All source RFP?	Yes. The 2025 All-Source RFP sought Texas resources. This RFP is specific to the capacity needs for New Mexico. Please refer to Section 1 and Table 1 in the 2026 NM RFP document for more details.
51	6/12/2026	As part of this RFP from EPE, is it possible to submit a proposal for long duration energy storage, without submitting a proposal for energy generation?	Yes. EPE encourages Bidders to offer battery energy storage proposals of various durations. Bidders are not limited to submitting only four-hour duration proposals, as longer-duration proposals will be acceptable. Please refer to Section 6.3 of the 2026 NM RFP and the FAQs for more details.
52	6/12/2026	What is EPE's preferred BESS project configurations and durations? (e.g., 4-hour, 6-hour, 8-hour, or longer duration storage)	No preference. This was just addressed in the previous question. Please refer to Section 6.3 of the 2026 NM RFP and the FAQs for more details.
53	6/12/2026	Will Attachments A-P be posted on the RFP website?	No, there is no template for the attachments. Bidders should create their own.
54	6/12/2026	We've noticed you've highlighted cost, reliability, carbon emissions, capacity growth as key factors in this RFP. Of these, what are the factors that are the most important to you for this RFP?	All of the above are fundamental objectives for EPE.
55	6/12/2026	For distribution- connected resources, is EPE looking for those in New Mexico, or would distribution resources in Texas service territory also be of interest?	Please see EPE's response to Questions 16, 38, and 42.
56	6/12/2026	Are there interconnection preferences, including whether EPE has identified specific substations, load pockets, or infrastructure locations where storage resources may provide the greatest system value?	At this stage EPE does not have a preference.
57	6/12/2026	Will bidders to the 2025 RFP receive feedback on rejected bids before the due date for this RFP?	The 2025 Texas RFP is still in progress and we will not be addressing questions pertaining to that RFP.
58	6/12/2026	What are expectations around development risk? (COD, permitting deadlines, regulatory approvals)? Are there delay penalties that should be considered or financial securities? How would you view "not yet widely deployed" technologies, such as EGS (Enhanced Geothermal)?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 31.
59	6/12/2026	What is EPE's preferred commercial structures, including Energy Storage Agreements (ESA), Build-Transfer Agreements (BTA), or other ownership arrangements?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 33.
60	6/12/2026	Is EPE generally aiming to add significantly more MW of capacity than in previous RFP cycles due to data center load growth? Will a project with COD later than May 1, 2032 be considered in this RFP?	This is the current capacity need identified by EPE due to the load growth. EPE will only consider projects within the dates identified in the RFP.
61	6/12/2026	Do you prefer build transfer agreements, or do you prefer PPAs? If it depends, can you elaborate on that?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 33.
62	6/12/2026	For a new storage technology, how does EPE determine the ELCC value?	EPE will evaluate the ELCC value for a new storage technology on a case-by-case basis, depending on the specific characteristics of the proposed resource. For technologies with operational profiles similar to existing assets, EPE may utilize an established ELCC value as a baseline. Alternatively, if the technology introduces unique operational or performance characteristics, a supplemental or updated ELCC analysis may be required to accurately determine its capacity contribution.
63	6/12/2026	Are all forms of alternative non-solar renewable energy acceptable?	As stated in the presentation earlier and in the RFP, EPE is open to various technology types. Please refer to the 2026 New Mexico RFP for more details.
64	6/12/2026	Is there anything else that would distinguish a competitive bid from another?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 30.
65	6/12/2026	Do you have a hosting capacity map?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 19.
66	6/12/2026	Will there be a priority placed on any specific type of energy or capacity? For example will higher priority be placed on PV+BESS vs. just solar?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 28.
67	6/12/2026	How will the study process work for BESS? Will EPE study it as a load/name plate capacity, or will it be studied as a reduction in load/capacity?	EPE will evaluate BESS using an Effective Load Carrying Capability (ELCC) methodology to determine its capacity contribution to the system. BESS will be modeled and accredited as a resource rather than as a reduction in load.
68	6/12/2026	Do you anticipate bid submittals to enter the interconnection queue prior to the end of the year?	Please refer to Section 5.1 of the RFP.
69	6/12/2026	How will this RFP align with the community solar RFP that is expected to come out later this year? Is this RFP capacity in addition to the community solar capacity or will the community solar RFP be part of the 100 MW EPE is looking to fill this year? How will the interconnection queue be handled?	This RFP is separate and apart from the New Mexico state-run RFP that is currently being discussed by the NMPRC through the Community Solar Act (SB84). As stated in Section 1 of the RFP document, EPE retains flexibility, at its sole discretion, to procure additional capacity beyond the identified need in Table 1, or to pursue less capacity if alternative solutions, prove more beneficial.
70	6/12/2026	Is there a link to today's bidder conference recording?	Yes. Please visit the EPE's 2026 New Mexico RFP website to watch the recorded 2026 RFP Bidder Conference.

71	6/12/2026	I am interested in talking with the EPE project manager about distributed generation and BESS to manage local or system-wide demand. Our company has extensive experience with solar and battery storage at the DG scale and are evaluating this opportunity.	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 15.
72	6/12/2026	Does EPE have a form or example PPA that bidders could use for reference?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 48.
73	6/19/2026	Will you accept redlines to the 2026 NM RFP PPA and ESA? If so, what date would you like them to you?	Yes, form PPA or ESA with redline and exceptions must be included in Attachment O for all PPA or ESA bid submissions. All required attachments must be included in the bid submission folder by the proposal submission deadline, which is August 21st 2026 for third party bids. Please refer to Section 7.1.4 of the RFP document for details on required supporting documents.
74	6/19/2026	Could the EPE RFP team please share word versions of the PPA and ESA?	EPE will not provide Word versions of the PPA and ESA templates. PDF versions of EPE's current PPA and ESA templates are available on the 2026 New Mexico RFP website. Please refer to EPE's response to Questions 48 and 72.
75	6/19/2026	How does EPE define the total nameplate capacity for each proposal, as it pertains to its bid fee?	EPE considers the total nameplate capacity for a proposal to be the total installed capacity of each technology combined. For example, if a bidder proposed a hybrid site with 10MW solar and 10MW storage, EPE would consider that to be 20MW of nameplate capacity. EPE is consistent in this methodology when calculating the bid fee. For example, if a bidder submits a hybrid proposal with 15 MW of solar coupled with 10 MW of storage, the total installed capacity of the proposal would be 25 MW and would require a bid fee of $7,500.
76	6/26/2026	Can EPE provide any information regarding the interconnection timeline and process for standalone battery storage projects applying for interconnection at the distribution level? Do these projects utilize the same digital forms as other DG generating sources?	Some timelines for the interconnection process are listed in NM Rule 568. Construction timelines can vary depending on several factors like location, permitting, material procurement, etc. In NM the same forms are used for DG and storage projects. See EPE's response to question 23 regarding the forms required.
77	6/26/2026	Is PSSE modeling required for standalone DG battery projects?	No, EPE does not require PSSE modeling for DG facilities connecting to the distribution system but does require a System Impact Study for systems larger than 1 MW.
78	6/26/2026	What is EPE's desired timeline for executing agreements for selected projects?	The estimated timing to complete contract negotiations is difficult to reliably estimate, as it will depend on a variety of factors, including the number of negotiations ongoing at one time, the form of agreement (e.g., PPA, ESA, or BTA), the number of redlines proposed by the selected bidders, and to what extent we have experience negotiating with the applicable bidder. Those caveats aside, EPE hopes to complete negotiations within three to four months following commencement of negotiations. Following execution of the relevant agreement, the company expects to seek NMPRC regulatory approval of the contract as a condition precedent to effectiveness. We estimate up to an additional six to twelve months to work through the regulatory process that leads to hopeful approval of the resource.
79	6/26/2026	Does EPE consider a resource physically located in Mexico, but interconnected directly to an EPE substation, eligible to bid under this RFP?	Yes, EPE will evaluate resources physically located in Mexico, but the bidder must provide detailed plans for achieving permitting, interconnection, governmental/regulatory/residential permitting, etc. EPE reserves the right to make a decision based on any execution or permitting risk along with pricing.
80	6/26/2026	For an Energy Storage System located in Mexico, does EPE require real-time operational dispatch authority over the BESS (full dispatchability, telemetry and control, and first dispatch rights)?	Yes.
81	6/26/2026	Can renewable energy generated by a Mexico-sited facility and delivered to EPE qualify toward New Mexico's Renewable Portfolio Standard and generate New Mexico RECs under the Renewable Energy Act, assuming all associated RECs are transferred to EPE and the energy is assigned to EPE's New Mexico customers? If not, would the resource still be evaluated for its capacity (ELCC) and energy (LCOE) value notwithstanding REC ineligibility?	In order to comply with NM portfolio standards, all RECs must be registered with WREGIS. EPE encourages bidders to review WREGIS guidelines to determine whether their projects produce qualifying RECs. Additionally, Secion 1 of the RFP document states that EPE is seeking renewable energy resources capable of providing RECs to satisfy ongoing RPS requirements under the New Mexico REA and Rule 17.9.572 NMAC. Renewable resources that do not produce qualifying RECs do not meet this criteria.
82	6/26/2026	In the case of a PV + BESS installation, should the PPA template for the sale of energy and the energy storage agreement/template be submitted as separate documents? If so, would this imply that two separate agreements need to be signed?	Separate agreements are required for each component, and therefore separate signatures are required.
83	6/26/2026	Is there any flexibility on the contracting structure of DSR projects/programs, such as an MSA? The proposal only lists and provides PPA or ESA contracts for review prior to bid submittal. If we currently have an MSA in place with EPE – can this work be added under that existing contract? If not, can an example MSA be sent for our review prior to bid submittal?	While this All-Source RFP establishes a general framework for bid submission and development, it does not encompass every possible bid type, ownership structure, or eligible technology. Bidders should review all documents, including the bid forms, as soon as possible to determine if they have any questions or if the proposal structure is not specifically addressed. Bidders seeking clarification on project suitability should contact the RFP project manager as soon as possible as outlined in section 1.7 or raise questions during the Bidder Conference as detailed in section 3.2.
84	6/26/2026	Can bidders amend/add a section to the proposal layout to include our DSR-specific approach?	Yes. Please include DER/DSR-specific Technical Approaches in the executive summary. Any other relevant details that do not fit the descriptions of the Supporting Attachments detailed in Section 7.1.4 of the RFP Document, should be submitted as additional attachments.
85	6/26/2026	The pricing tabs in the bid form seem to be for supply side solutions. For demand side, are we able to submit our own pricing sheet as an additional tab in the bid form workbook?	Do not modify the EPE provided bid form. If your pricing structure does not conform with the EPE provided bid form, please provide your pricing sheet as a separate attachment.

86	7/2/2026	RFP Section 6.4 (Demand-Side Resources) states: “EPE requires interconnectors to use DNP 3.0 Communication Protocol for exchanging telemetry/controls between the site and EPE’s EMS”. What is meant by the term "interconnectors" in this sentence?	An interconnector is a entity/company/project interconnecting to EPE's system. For more information regarding DER and Demand Side Resources telemetry requirements, please refer to EPE's response to Question 39.
87	7/2/2026	Is EPE interested in block of power with RECs or is there only interest if the generation of power + RECs comes from a specific resource?	The intent of the 2026 New Mexico RFP is to seek supply-side and demand-side resources to meet capacity needs or reduce EPE's demand requirements. Resources that do not meet these criteria will not be considered.
88	7/2/2026	Are variations of projects (such as different storage durations) considerred separate configurations requiring individual bid fees?	Yes. For more information please reference Section 3.5 of the RFP document.
89	7/2/2026	Is it possible to obtain the Microsoft Word versions of the 2026 NM RFP form PPA and ESA?	For Q&A doc online: Please refer to EPE's response to Question 74. For email response: EPE will not provide Word versions of the PPA and ESA templates. PDF versions of EPE's current PPA and ESA templates are available on the 2026 New Mexico RFP website.
90	7/2/2026	Can EPE share wire instructions for the bid fee?	Wire instructions and details will be provided upon receipt of the NOI. For more information, please reference Section 7.2 of the RFP.
91	7/2/2026	What is the address for the payment recipients?	Please refer to EPE's response to Question 90.
92	7/10/2026	Section 5.4 of the RFP states that if a formal study identifying network upgrade costs is not yet available, Bidders are required to submit a bid that excludes the assumed network upgrade cost. For PPA/ESA proposals under this scenario, can EPE please clarify how actual network upgrade cost will be included into the final PPA/ESA price? For example, will there be defined and allowed $/MWh or $/kW-month adjuster per each $1MM in final and actual Network Upgrades in the PPA/ESA?	EPE will assess a proposal's transmission network upgrade needs as part of a group of selected resources and assign a TNU cost ($) to the project. This will be represented as a fixed cost adder.
93	7/10/2026	Can EPE please confirm that price adjustors in PPAs and ESAs will be allowed that are specific to changes to tariffs and/or tax law? If price openers are allowed per tariffs and/or tax law, can EPE confirm that it is the responsibility of the bidder to propose redlines that define this process, or does EPE already have standard language they will incorporate based on prior contracts?	***EPE appreciates the submission of this question and will post a response as soon as it is available.***
94	7/10/2026	Can my company still participate in the RFP?	Yes, companies have until July 17, 2026 to submit a Notice of Intent to Bid (NOI), and then until July 24, 2026 to submit bid fee payment(s). Both submissions are required for participating in EPE's 2026 New Mexico Request For Proposals (RFP). For more information, please refer to Section 3 and Section 7 of EPE's RFP document for submission deadlines and requirements, which can be found on our RFP website, along with additional documents and information.
95	7/10/2026	Does EPE have a Build Transfer Agreement template?	EPE does not have a form of BTA template. Bidders proposing a build-transfer structure must submit a proposed term sheet or form of agreement with their resource bid, reflecting commercially reasonable and balanced market terms. The proposal should include customary seller responsibility for development, permitting, interconnection, construction, performance, schedule, cost overruns, title and lien matters, and compliance with applicable law through transfer, together with appropriate security, indemnification, warranty, delay, default, and termination protections for EPE and its customers.
96	7/10/2026	For a proposed hybrid project, do you have a preference for two agreements for the solar and BESS (PPA and ESA) , or would you prefer a combined single agreement?	Please see EPE's response to Question 82.
97	7/10/2026	If you would prefer a single agreement, do you have a form for a combined PPA/ESA or would you accept redlines for a combined agreement?	Please provide redlines to our PPA and ESA templates separately, see EPE's response to Questions 82 and 96 for more details.
98	7/10/2026	Does EPE have an AVL or a process for BESS suppliers to be an accepted supplier for you bidders to use?	EPE does not have a preferred supplier list.
99	7/17/2026	For a project delivering into EPE's transmission system via WECC Path 47 (e.g., at the West Mesa point of delivery), can respondents provide proof of firm point-to-point transmission, and the firm hourly delivery schedule following shortlist?	Evidence of firm point-to-point transmission may be submitted, as applicable; however, such evidence may not be sufficient in all cases. EPE reserves the right to request additional documentation or clarification during the evaluation process to evaluate the deliverability, viability, and overall feasibility of the proposed project.
100	7/17/2026	Will EPE accept generic layouts and technical model data for BESS submissions given that unless the project is going to be built in the next two years, it is probable that the design will change to include updated battery container/PCS/MV transformer configurations?	Yes. EPE expects layouts and technical modeling data to broadly align with the maturity of the project. For proposals with in-service dates years in the future, generic layouts will be acceptable; whereas proposals with an in-service date in the near term will require more detailed and finalized documentation.

101	7/17/2026	What system does EPE use to maintain customer account and billing records (e.g., a customer information system)? Does EPE provide bidders with an API, secure file-transfer process, or other mechanism to validate customer account eligibility and screen for double-enrollment across existing EPE or SPP Markets+ programs at the time of participant enrollment, as outlined in Section 6.4?	At this time, EPE is not committing to provide customer data. Bidders are encouraged to submit their best offer with any information that is publically available. During the bid evaluation process, if providing additional information is deemed necessary it will be made available and provided to prospective bidders accordingly.
102	7/17/2026	Section 6.4 requires interconnectors to use DNP 3.0 to exchange telemetry/controls with EPE's EMS. For an aggregated Demand-Side Resource portfolio, does EPE dispatch events directly to the resource aggregator's head-end/DERMS platform via DNP 3.0, or does EPE have an existing utility DERMS platform and/or ADMS supporting its current demand response programs through which new DSR bidders would need to integrate? If EPE has an incumbent DERMS provider, please identify the platform and describe the expected integration path for new bidders.	Please see EPE's response to Question 39 regarding the telemetry, AGC and EMS requirements for Demand Side and DER proposals. EPE currently dispatches demand response (DR) events for its residential thermostat program (EnergyWise) through its energy service provider's DERMS platform. This program is limited to DR-capable thermostat technologies integrated within the energy service provider's FLEX DERMS environment. For commercial DR programs, events are managed internally by EPE and are dispatched directly to participants via manual communication methods (e.g., phone calls and text messaging), reflecting the smaller scale of this portfolio.
103	7/17/2026	What AMI system/vendor does EPE use to collect interval meter data in its New Mexico service territory, and what interval granularity is available (e.g., 15-minute or hourly)? What mechanism does EPE provide for a program administrator to access customer interval data for measurement and verification (e.g., API, Green Button Connect, secure file transfer, or utility-provided reports)?	EPE utilizes the Itron head-end system to collect interval meter data. The system supports 5-minute interval data for commercial accounts and 15-minute interval data for residential accounts. For data access and measurement & verification (M&V) purposes, EPE currently provides multiple mechanisms, including Green Button Connect, secure file transfer protocol (SFTP), and utility-generated reports.
104	7/17/2026	For calculating verified load reduction/performance against a Demand-Side Resource's accredited capacity, does EPE require that performance be calculated solely from AMI interval data, or would EPE accept submeter data or device-level runtime/telemetry data (e.g., from smart thermostats, battery inverters, or building automation/EMS systems) as the basis for M&V, provided the methodology is auditable and consistent with industry-standard protocols?	**EPE appreciates the submission of this question and will post a response as soon as it is available.**
105	7/17/2026	What ongoing performance and program reporting does EPE expect from a Demand-Side Resource contractor (e.g., enrolled/dispatchable MW status, event dispatch and response performance, customer attrition, M&V results, or other metrics), and at what frequency should these reports be submitted (e.g., monthly, quarterly, annually)?	EPE tracks demand-side management (DSM) resources for DR programs through a combination of telemetry data (e.g., thermostat performance), participation metrics, and event performance. Measurement and verification (M&V) is conducted in coordination with state-appointed third-party evaluators within EPE's service territories. EPE is open to receiving regular reporting, with monthly reports considered acceptable; however, post-event reporting is preferred to effectively evaluate demand reduction performance and event outcomes.
106	7/17/2026	For Demand-Side Resource programs, does EPE require that customer incentive payments (capacity and/or event-based) be issued as a bill credit through EPE's billing system, or may the program administrator issue payments directly to participants (e.g., ACH or check)? Separately, what is EPE's expected invoicing and payment process/cadence for capacity and performance payments made to the Bidder under a Demand-Side Resource contract?	EPE does not currently require that customer incentive payments be issued as bill credits through its billing system for thermostat-based DR programs. Incentives are typically provided directly to participating customers in the form of electronic gift cards. For contractor compensation, EPE prefers a monthly invoicing cadence for performance-based payments.
107	7/17/2026	To support accurate and comparable proposals, will EPE identify the retail rate schedule(s) it expects a stand-alone storage facility to take for station/auxiliary service (e.g., Schedule 25 or NM Rate No. 09, as applicable by interconnection jurisdiction)?	**EPE appreciates the submission of this question and will post a response as soon as it is available.**
108	7/17/2026	Given that the Energy Storage Agreement already contemplates non-retail supply of Station Services, and consistent with how station service at generating facilities is treated by some other utilities, would EPE consider permitting Station Services drawn from the grid to be served on a wholesale basis rather than under a retail rate schedule?	**EPE appreciates the submission of this question and will post a response as soon as it is available.**
109	7/17/2026	Would EPE consider a 10-year term for new distributed storage capacity commitments?	EPE does not have any pre-determined preference for term durations. Proposals of any term will be evaluated.

110	7/17/2026	Regarding the submission of the NOI. With a bid fee due on 7/24, is the bid binding at the time of NOI submission, or are we bound to submit even if we were to encounter a fatal between the NOI submission and fee due date?	The Notice of Intent (NOI) is not a binding commitment and is intended solely to provide EPE with advance notice of potential participation. An NOI does not obligate a bidder to submit a proposal, nor does it lock a bidder into the project characteristics identified in the NOI. Bidders may revise their proposal prior to submission if they determine that a different configuration is more appropriate. EPE will evaluate the final proposal submitted in response to the RFP and not the information contained in the NOI. However, only proposals accompanied by the required proposal fee and NOI will be considered complete and eligible for evaluation.
111	7/17/2026	Can we make changes to a bid and the contract structure after submitting an NOI? (For example; nameplate capacity, COD, POI, etc.)	Please see EPE's response to Question 110.
112	7/17/2026	Should a standalone BESS that charges from the grid and discharges back to the grid submit an application through EPE's Generator Interconnection process, or is there a separate interconnection process applicable to standalone energy storage resources?	A utility-scale standalone BESS would be required to enter the large generator interconnection procedures (LGIP). Please visit EPE's Oasis for the LGIP and Interconnection Request requirements. The Cluster Request Window will open February 15th next year. For the interconnection timeline and process for standalone battery storage projects applying for interconnection at the *distribution level* specifically, please see EPE's response to Question 76.
113	7/17/2026	If the Generator Interconnection process is the appropriate path, are there any modifications or additional requirements specific to standalone BESS projects that we should be aware of during the application process?	Please see EPE's response to Question 112.
114	7/17/2026	If there is an alternative interconnection pathway for standalone storage, would you please direct us to the appropriate application and documentation?	Please see EPE's response to Question 112.
115	7/17/2026	If a DER bidder is finalizing the site(s) they are going to submit into the RFP, can they submit an NOI for their firm, and a bid fee payment that covers potential bids but is not tied to specific projects?	Please submit one NOI ***per proposal/variant*** with as much detail as you have available at the moment. For further details regarding site control for DER bids, please see EPE's response to Question 42.
116	7/17/2026	Is it too late to still participate in this request for proposals?	Please see EPE's response to Question 94.