

General Bidder Questions and EPE Responses
2021 All Source Texas RFP for Renewable Energy and Capacity
(Updated 12/15/21 - All Bidder Questions and Responses)

Pre-bid Webcast TEAMS IM Bidder Questions and EPE Responses
December 10, 2021

Question 1

What percentage of customers have interval meters?

Response 1

There are a total of 3,016 interval meters of which 1,776 are in Texas.

Question 2

If Texas RPS requires projects be sited in TX, will EPE accept proposals sited in NM, as alluded to in the RFP document?

Response 2

Yes. This is an All-Source RFP, not an RPS RFP. However, EPE may evaluate the opportunity that Texas sited bids offer for its Texas RPS requirement.

Question 3

Do projects need to be located within EPE service territory, or connecting to an EPE transmission line?

Response 3

Any proposals proposed beyond EPE's system require demonstration of the ability to obtain transmission to deliver to EPE's system.

Question 4

Will EPE be required to award bids to fulfill the entire RFP amount. Or can EPE decide to award on a partial amount, and rest be done in subsequent RFPs?

Response 4

This All-Source RFP was issued to attempt to fulfill EPE's total capacity needs for Texas beginning on May 1, 2025; therefore, EPE will attempt to fulfill its total annual capacity needs, as described in the RFP document, through one project or a combination of projects bid into this RFP.

Question 5

Can EPE offer the land at the plants with retiring units for a bidder to lease, build, and provide a PPA to leverage the existing infrastructure and interconnection capacity?

Response 5

EPE land is not available to external bidders.

Question 6

Does EPE have any sites or locations to be made available?

Response 6

Please refer to EPE Response 5 above.

Question 7

For solar and storage projects between 5-50MW, are behind the meter projects considered?

Response 7

EPE will accept all viable projects, and consideration of those projects will be based on the project specifics. Behind the meter proposals which are aggregated will need to meet the same capabilities for EPE dispatch and telemetry for facility operations as described in the RFP.

Question 8

Does EPE allow DC coupled solar + storage (S+S)?

Response 8

Yes. However, the system must be sized appropriately.

Question 9

Does EPE have a heat map for the bidder to optimize the battery configuration?

Response 9

No.

Question 10

Will EPE have a self-build option that is being offered into the RFP?

Response 10

A self-bid option is expected to be bid.

Question 11

Is the additional capacity from Newman 6 incorporated into EPE's supply stack that yielded the net resource need from this RFP? Does EPE's self-build option apply to all potential supply side technologies?

Response 11

Yes. The corresponding capacity from EPE's Newman 6 unit for Texas was included in the determination of EPE's Texas capacity needs. The opportunity for self-bid option is open to all potential resource types, but it is not certain which resource types may be submitted as self-build proposals.

Question 12

Is EPE interested in taking on 200MW+ in New Mexico to transmit into Texas?

Response 12

The All-Source RFP is open to resources potentially sited in New Mexico, but all proposals must deliver the energy to EPE's system. Please reference EPE's response to Question 3 above. EPE will accept all viable projects, and consider projects based on the projects' specifics and the benefits the projects can provide to its Texas customers.

Question 13

Can batteries perform ancillary services and charge off the grid in a DC-coupled system?

Response 13

Any ancillary services to be offered by the Bidder, as part of its proposal, will be considered in the assessment of the overall proposal by EPE.

Question 14

Does EPE have rules for solar + storage (S+S) being defined as a hybrid and co-located resources given configuration (AC coupled and DC coupled)?

Response 14

EPE does not have any established rules regarding Solar+BESS and is open to either AC-coupled or DC-coupled systems.

Question 15

Is battery/renewable solution a must in the bid?

Response 15

No, but intermittent renewable resource proposals should provide expected output profiles, expected yearly energy output, and committed yearly energy output amounts. Any standalone options will be evaluated as part of the portfolio of resources that may be selected.

Question 16

What regulatory approvals are required for EPE to enter a PPA, particularly for gas thermal technology?

Response 16

Texas does not require formal approval of purchased power agreements (“PPAs”) but such agreements may be subject to review by the Public Utility Commission of Texas in other filings (e.g., fuel reconciliation, rate review). Additionally, because EPE does not intend to utilize these assets for its New Mexico service territory, EPE will not need approval from the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

Question 17

Does the Owner & Operator need to pay for transmission rights on non-EPE owned lines or will EPE cover these based on dispatch instructions?

Response 17

Yes. The Owner and Operator would pay for transmission rights on non-EPE owned lines; therefore, the cost must be included in the bid price to bring the power to EPE’s system. If a build transfer is being proposed, the proposal must include the transmission rights’ cost to ensure transmission availability to deliver the power to the EPE system.

Question 18

Does the owner and operator need to pay EPE transmission rights in a tolling agreement?

Response 18

This will depend on the project proposed and its location. However, the initial thought is that if the resource is interconnected directly to EPE’s system, this may not be applicable. Please be explicit in your proposal as to what is assumed in this regard.

Question 19

In a tolling agreement does the owner/operator need to pay transmission rights to EPE?

Response 19

Please see response to Question 18 above.

Question 20

Does EPE expect, or is it possible, that approvals would have to go through the NMPRC as well as the PUCT for projects located out of Texas?

Response 20

Any build transfers or self-build proposals will need to follow any Texas CCN requirements for approvals. As it relates to PPAs, reference EPE's response to Question 16. It is expected that projects will acquire any required permitting or siting approvals by respective Commissions in the state they are sited (e.g., any CCN or location approvals of transmission as may be applicable). However, approval of the resource(s) acquisition or PPA(s) will be per Texas requirements.

Question 21

Is there any info on EPE's distribution charges?

Response 21

The specific question is not fully understood and EPE requests further clarity be provided. If the inquiry is related to the possibility of distribution wheeling costs, this will likely not be applicable if connected to EPE's system.

Question 22

In order to make payment to EPE, who do we contact to obtain the W-9 and financial bank information?

Response 22

Please contact Monica Garcia for any further questions.

Contact Information

Monica Garcia

Principal – Resource Engineer

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EPE.Resource.Planning@epelectric.com

Following are EPE's Electronic Payment Instructions:

**El Paso Electric Company
Electronic Payment Instructions**

COMPANY NAME	El Paso Electric Company	
TAX ID#	74-0607870	
ADDRESS	100 N. Stanton, EL Paso, Texas, 79901	
PAYMENT CONTACTS	Candance Davis	Financial Analyst – Cash Management (915) 521-4731 candance.davis@epelectric.com
	Alexis Gonzalez	Financial Analyst – Cash Management (915) 351-4289 alexis.gonzalez@epelectric.com
	Jo Ann Judd	Supervisor – Cash Management (915) 543-5961 joann.judd@epelectric.com
BANK	JPMorgan Chase Bank New York, NY	
BENEFICIARY NAME	El Paso Electric Company	
ACCOUNT TYPE	DDA	
WIRE ROUTING ABA#	021000021	
ACH ROUTING ABA#	111000614	
ACCOUNT#	15001380262	

Note: Please send an email to ap@epelectric.com prior to sending wire payment with the purpose of the payment and EPE internal contact to ensure your wire transfer is accurately accounted.

Please provide the following payment details on the wire transfer: 2021 All Source RFP for Texas - Filing Fee
EPE Contact: Monica Garcia

Question 22

Is there a fillable document for the NOI and 9.0 Attachments? Can we replicate them?

Response 22

There are no fillable forms available, but you can print, fill-in, and scan the ones provided, or you can replicate and provide those if you prefer.