

**NOLA Public School Procurement Department  
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New Orleans, LA 70114  
Paul A. Lucius, Executive Director of Procurement**

**March 26, 2024**

**Addendum No. 2**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 24-0065**

**TURNKEY DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF COMMUNITY SOLAR SYSTEMS**

This Addendum and Clarification item forms a part of the RFP Documents and modifies the original RFP Documents issued February 29, 2024. Acknowledge receipt of this Addendum on the Addendum Form of the Request for Proposal. Failure to do so may subject proposal to disqualification.

**CLARIFICATION :**

**This Addendum consists of 6 Page(s)**

**DELETE COMPUTED COST SCORE ON PAGE 7**

**COMPUTED COST SCORE:** The cost evaluation shall constitute ten (10%) of the total points assigned and will be based upon standard cost rates submitted by the proposers. The proposer with the lowest cost shall receive the highest cost evaluation score. Other proposers will receive a cost score computed as follows:

$$\text{CSF} = (\text{LPC}/\text{PC} * \text{X})$$

CSF = Cost Scoring Formula

LPC = Lowest proposed cost

PC = Proposer's cost

X= n% of the total number of points assigned

Delete Page 31

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Elements</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>1. Proposer Qualifications</b>	Must have a 3-year minimum qualification. Focus on history of successful implementation and financing of solar projects.	20
<b>2. Project Technical Approach</b>	Focus on system design and components and construction plan with an eye towards maximizing system safety and ensuring high-quality operations and maintenance	20
<b>3. Project Financial Plan</b>	Feasibility and detail of Proposer’s Financial Plan are evaluated in this section. Proposed lease payments to NOLA-PS are considered here	15
<b>4. Education/Workforce Development Plan</b>	Responsiveness and detail of education / workforce development strategy.	10
<b>5. Subscriber Management Plan</b>	Responsiveness and detail of subscriber management strategy, including specific focus on NOLA-PS families and LMI customers.	15
<b>6. Cost</b>	Transparent and reasonable pricing structure that aligns with NOLA-PS budget.	10
<b>7. DBE</b>	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal (DBE) of 35%	10
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>100 Points</b>

**Replace With:**

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Elements</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>1.Proposer Qualifications</b>	Must have a 3-year minimum qualification. Focus on history of successful implementation and financing of solar projects.	25
<b>2.Project Technical Approach</b>	Focus on system design and components and construction plan with an eye towards maximizing system safety and ensuring high-quality operations and maintenance	25
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<b>4. Education/Workforce Development Plan</b>	Responsiveness and detail of education / workforce development strategy.	10
<b>5. Subscriber Management Plan</b>	Responsiveness and detail of subscriber management strategy, including specific focus on NOLA-PS families and LMI customers.	15
<b>6. DBE</b>	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal (DBE) of 35%	10
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>100 Points</b>

1. **Question:** Can the lease term align with a standard solar panel warranty - 25 years? For other community solar projects, we have typically seen a 25 year base term with up to two five-year extensions.

**Answer:** NOLA-PS is potentially able to offer a 25-year lease term if that results in superior ability to construct and/or finance the Projects. Please include this information and the rationale for a longer lease term in your RFP response.

2. **Question:** What are the current interconnections to Entergy at each of the sites?

**Answer:** Interconnections for the Projects are expected to be established during the development process. The selected developer will need to submit an Interconnection Application to Entergy New Orleans. Please see the New Orleans City Council Community Solar Program guidance at <https://www.entergy-neworleans.com/community-solar/> for more information on this process.

3. **Question:** Solar installations are anticipated to primarily be ground-mounted. In the areas outlined within the RFP, there is enough acreage for approximately 3 MW. If there were more land designated for community solar, we could get to 5 MW. Could you provide guidance on which other parts of the two sites could be used for solar.

**Answer:** Developers are encouraged to consider creative solutions such as adding solar on shade structures above existing parking lots, particularly at the Carver site. In addition, a portion of the remaining Carver site is reserved for construction of the Ninth Ward Stadium, an athletic facility that will have additional parking lot area that could be covered with solar shade structures. The Abramson site is anticipated to include electric bus charging in its parking lot which could result in challenges for solar shade structures.

RFP responses should indicate the total additional acreage that would be required at the two sites in order to meet the 5MW requirement. NOLA-PS will be willing to work with the selected developer to ensure that adequate acreage is available.

4. **Question:** Do we need to acknowledge each addendum separately via e-mail? Or is an acknowledgment within the RFP sufficient?

**Answer:** Please acknowledge receipt of addenda on signature page. Failure to acknowledge all addenda will result in the proposal being rejected.

5. **Question:** Since this RFP is not requesting a typical contracted service to OPSB—and is a request for a development partner—how do we calculate the computed cost score that is described on page 7. Are you evaluating the total development cost of each proposal? The operation and maintenance cost? Or since the RFP asks developers to propose a lease payment to OPSB, are you evaluating which proposal has the highest lease payment?

**Answer:** The Computed Cost Score has been removed. Please see Clarification above.

6. **Question:** We understand the DOE Prize funds were awarded to support “meaningful benefits” for community solar projects. How will OPSB use the prize funds to support benefits for the projects?

**Answer:** The DOE Prize money will be used to assist with community engagement for potential subscribers, with a focus on NOLA-PS families, as well as support of workforce development and/or educational programs.

7. **Question:** Page 30 asks for the years of experience of the proposer team. Do we sum the collective years of experience of the various team members in their respective fields to arrive at the total experience figure? E.g. Team Member A has 5 years of experience, and Team Member B has 5 years of experience. Therefore, the total experience of the team is 10 years. Is this how we would tabulate this figure?

**Answer:** Experience is tabulated by the years the company has been in solar.

8. **Question:** May the developer propose systems that meet less than a combined size of 5MW?

**Answer:** The total amount of solar needs to total 5MW for this project. For example - site #1 has 3MW of power and site #2 has 2MW of power, the total is 5MW. If acreage presents a challenge, RFP responses should indicate the total additional acreage that would be required in order to meet the 5MW requirement. NOLA-PS will be willing to work with the selected developer to ensure that adequate acreage is available.

9. **Question:** What is NOLA-PS’ ideal start date for construction?

**Answer:** Ideally Fall 2024, but NOLA-PS would prefer that development teams submit their estimates of a reasonable timeline to begin construction.

10. **Question:** Can you expand on any specific frameworks NOLA PS is seeking for the Workforce Development and Education programs? How can the respondent best serve these goals?

**Answer:** These programs are under development. NOLA-PS will utilize a portion of the DOE Prize funds to finalize these programs. Respondents should:

- a) Enumerate any past experience with similar programs in other locations
- b) Be willing to work with NOLA-PS to offer advisement on program structures as they are developed

11. **Question:** When does NOLA PS estimate the 5-year Renewal Period commitment will be decided?

**Answer:** NOLA-PS plans to decide on the renewal period after the first three years of successful project operations. However, see response to Question #1 for additional context.

12. **Question:** The only question I have is regarding the final system size. The proposal mentioned several times that Orleans Parish Public School Board is looking to develop a minimum of 5 Megawatts. However, I did not see anything in the documents specifying whether this is in terms of AC or DC nameplate power. Would you be able to please clarify?

**Answer:** According to the New Orleans community solar rules, a “Community Solar Generating Facility” or “CSG Facility” means a solar energy facility that [in part] “has a generating capacity/nameplate rating that does not exceed five megawatts (“MW”) as measured by the alternating current rating of the system’s inverter.” While NOLA-PS understands that the use of two sites may involve designating more than one “CSG Facility,” we retain this definition of total generating capacity.

Please see the definition of “Community Solar Generating Facility” or “CSG Facility” in the New Orleans City Council Community Solar Rules for more information. <https://cdn.entergy-neworleans.com/userfiles/community-solar/R-23-507-Appendix-B-Community-Solar-Rules.pdf>

**End of Addendum No. 2**