

RFQ for EOR, Engineering, and Planning Services
FMPA RFP 2024-201
Questions & Answers – Revised 6/5/24

1Q: In the RFQ, “Distribution Engineering” is mentioned but no specific services are described. Can FMPA please clarify what specific Distribution Engineering services are being sought in this RFQ?

1A: The characterization that no Distribution Engineering services are described is incorrect. Refer to broad section II’s list of work activities, which includes a broad range of specific task descriptions for 69 kV and above systems, as well as, for example, work item #10 in the same section, which describes engineering analysis related to distribution connected generation.

2Q: We’re interested in understanding if you are accepting proposals for a subset of the tasks listed in the RFQ.

2A: Yes. As noted in several places in the RFQ, prospective firms are allowed to propose on a subset of services under any of the broad service areas, and should specify as such in their proposal materials.

3Q: Would the submission of qualifications or the acceptance of a firm preclude it from bidding on individual bids from the members of FMPA?

3A: No, there are no such restrictions. FMPA Member bids are subject to individual Member procurement policies.

4Q: Page 2, (II)(3)(b) states the use of TARA power flow software. Is SKM System Analysis approved as a replacement software?

4A: Any alternative software should be described as appropriate to allow for a comparative evaluation.

5Q: Page 3, (III)(3)(a) states the use of ETAP Powerstation software. Is SKM System Analysis approved as a replacement software?

5A: Any alternative software should be described as appropriate to allow for a comparative evaluation.

6Q: In response to the request on page 6, item 2 for a client contact for each reference project, is it acceptable to list a reference project for a confidential client?

6A: Reference checks are a valuable component of the review process. Each bid will be evaluated accordingly. Project qualifications for confidential clients are only useful to the extent they support determination of qualifications in a given service area.

7Q: MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT

- o Section 10 – May umbrella coverage be combined with existing coverage to meet the Section 10 insurance requirements? **Yes**
- o Section 10 – Do you offer any relief from the \$10M professional liability insurance requirement for small businesses and/or minority owned businesses? **No. The work is tied to highly valued assets and will place a significant risk of loss on FMPA or its members.**

8Q: We would like to participate in this opportunity for all the service areas. However, for certain categories, such as AMI, we plan to use sub-contractors, or a partner company. Is that allowed?

8A: As explicitly stated in item f in the Response Contents section of the RFQ, this Request for Qualifications is intended to allow FMPA to select a group of qualified Firms to work on future assignments. Subcontractors should not be offered by a Firm to augment the Firm's services capabilities in this response package. This does not preclude the use of subcontractors or subcontract arrangements on future assignments, provided that the Firm remains responsible for the work and the intended use of subcontractors is reviewed and approved by FMPA staff in advance.

9Q: Does FMPA have a preference for specific resource planning model(s) (e.g, production cost models)?

9A: No, there is no preordained preference for any given model.

10Q: Which models are being currently used? Will they be made available to the consultant?

10A: This is an RFQ, not an RFP. There is no specific model use in the context of prequalification of firms to provide services. Projects resulting from the RFQ process and downstream MSA negotiations may have a multitude of models involved on a case-by-case basis.

11Q: Does FMPA perform the resource planning on behalf of all of its members? Do the members perform studies on their own? Which planning models are used by the members? Would the consultant have access to those models?

11A: FMPA's primary resource planning function is on behalf of the All Requirements Project. FMPA Members perform various planning analyses on their own as well as in concert with FMPA for other FMPA Projects (e.g. Solar Projects). This is an RFQ, not an RFP. There is no specific model use in the context of prequalification of firms to provide services. Projects resulting from the RFQ process and downstream MSA negotiations may have a multitude of models involved on a case-by-case basis and access to such models would be a function of the specific scope of work in the context of a project performed for either FMPA or FMPA's Member(s).

12Q: How much of the neighboring systems are included in the system models (e.g., all of Florida)?

12A: It is unclear what "system models" are being referred to. This is an RFQ, not an RFP. There is no specific model use in the context of prequalification of firms to provide services. Projects resulting from the RFQ process and downstream MSA negotiations may have a multitude of models involved on a case-by-case basis.

13Q: Are the models current?

13A: It is unclear what "models" are being referred to. This is an RFQ, not an RFP. There is no specific model use in the context of prequalification of firms to provide services. Projects resulting from the RFQ process and downstream MSA negotiations may have a multitude of models involved on a case-by-case basis.

14Q: What are the time frames (e.g., simulation windows) for the various studies?

14A: There is no preordained timeframe for a given study. This is an RFQ, not an RFP. There is no specific model use in the context of prequalification of firms to provide services. Projects resulting from the RFQ process and downstream MSA negotiations may have a multitude of models involved on a case-by-case basis.

15Q: What is the contract duration for the MSA?

15A: Selected firms will negotiate MSAs pursuant to the process described in the RFQ and such MSAs will govern work assignments until FMPA elects to refresh the RFQ process at an undetermined future date.

16Q: Page 2, Section I, 1 - Can you clarify what the ARP and Stanton projects are?

16A: The ARP is a wholesale power project comprising 13 FMPA Members who take all energy, capacity, transmission, and related services from the Project. The Stanton Projects are separate joint-action power projects comprising distinct groups of FMPA Members who are Project Participants.

17Q: Page 2, Section II, 1C - Can you clarify what construction contract documents you are referring to?

17A: Members may require support with engineering specifications to support new construction projects (i.e. pre-engineering and a detailed specification that would be used in the context of procurement) as well as with negotiation or preparation of a standardized contract for construction and/or scope of work for EPC services.

18Q: We have an existing MSA with FMPA, would we be able to continue as-is or does this RFQ start a new contract?

18A: Firms that have existing MSAs with FMPA may be able to leverage elements from said MSA if selected as a qualified firm through this RFQ. However, this RFQ is a full CCNA-compliant refresh of prior prequalification efforts, so each firm will execute a new MSA with FMPA if deemed qualified.

19Q: During the last fiscal year, how much of a budget did FMPA have for engineering services, as it relates to Transmission, Distribution, and Substation work? Is there a projected budget for the new fiscal year that this MSA would fall under?

19A: This is an RFQ, not an RFP. Prequalified and ranked firms will be able to leverage the MSA process to execute projects on behalf of FMPA or FMPA's Members on an as-needed basis. There is no preordained Member budget for the duration of the performance period.

20Q: How many bids/RFPs did FMPA issue last year? Would we be able to have a breakdown by member utilities or type of work (planning, transmission, substation, or distribution engineering?)

20A: This is an RFQ, not an RFP. This information is not pertinent to the bid requirements.

21Q: How does FMPA operate with the 32 member companies? Does FMPA put out RFPs on behalf of member companies?

21A: Please refer to the introduction of the RFQ document for a process-oriented description of CCNA and the intent of this RFQ process. Prequalified firms from this effort will be able to work for Members or for FMPA based on needs as they arise using the negotiated MSA and a Request for Services document that would define the specific scope and budget for a particular assignment.