



RFI REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WITH RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION SOURCES																							
Answers to April 22, 2019 RFI Questions and Request for Clarifications #1																							
Notice of RFI Addendum	RFI Submission Deadline																						
	NOTICE: The City is amending the original submission deadline from Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 5:00pm to <b>Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 5:00pm.</b>																						
Question #	Question	Answer																					
1	Can the City provide the historical average blended cost of their electric?	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2018 Usage (MWh)</th> <th>2018 Cost (\$)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Group A Facil.</td> <td>594,977</td> <td>\$44,497,156</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group B Facil.</td> <td>75,627</td> <td>\$6,895,179</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lighting</td> <td>401,937</td> <td>\$15,035,054</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single Bills</td> <td>3,133</td> <td>\$5,478,334</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Estimated data</td> <td>935</td> <td>\$32,617</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>1,076,608</b></td> <td><b>\$71,938,341</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2018 Usage (MWh)	2018 Cost (\$)	Group A Facil.	594,977	\$44,497,156	Group B Facil.	75,627	\$6,895,179	Lighting	401,937	\$15,035,054	Single Bills	3,133	\$5,478,334	Estimated data	935	\$32,617	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,076,608</b>	<b>\$71,938,341</b>
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2	Renewable energy purchase agreements are often long-term contracts to facilitate site financing amongst other development requirements. Does the City have procurement limitations that may interact and prevent certain agreement types or lengths? (In other words, do current procurement rules permit the City to enter into a 10-15-year arrangement?)	The City is interested in better understanding renewable energy sourcing opportunities suppliers are able to provide under a variety of contracting instruments and terms and conditions. The City is interested in supply pricing that meets or reduces the City's current electricity annual operating budget. If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide in their responses any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structure.																					

3	How does the City anticipate contracting? It has been this Proposer's experience that the contract agreements are lengthy and must be geared to this type of electricity and asset purchase. The supplier is in the best position to prepare that document.	If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide in their responses any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structure.
4	Does the City have interest in advertising a specific asset or discussing the purchase in press releases?	This will be determined later based on the responses received in this RFI and any possible subsequent related RFQ and/or RFP.
5	Are there any requirements for asset locations (e.g. Illinois or PJM)? Is there a hierarchy of asset location desired locations?	The City welcomes and is open to responses for all types of renewable electricity asset solutions, both existing and future additional assets in North America. The City prefers assets in its existing RTO market and within the State of Illinois.
6	What sort of electricity delivery locations and basis risks has the City considered?	The City is interested in better understanding renewable energy sourcing opportunities suppliers are able to provide under a variety of contracting instruments and terms and conditions. The City is interested in supply pricing that meets or reduces the City's current electricity annual operating budget. If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide in their responses any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structure.
7	It appears the City has issued RFPs for a supply consultant. Is that consultant or the affiliated company precluded from bidding?	The City issued this RFI as a preliminary inquiry to inform potential renewable energy supply sourcing opportunities. If the City issues a subsequent RFQ and/or RFP to this RFI, the City will address contract terms and bidder requirements in those document(s).
8	What sort of disclosure will be made to City of Chicago sister agencies through this process?	This is yet to be determined. The objective of this RFI is to uncover potential opportunities for serving the City of Chicago electricity needs described in the RFI.

9	Propose understands the City has made a commitment for full supply by clean energy by 2035. Further, the City has committed to powering its facilities with clean and renewable fuels by 2025. Would the City entertain a carbon free product matched with emission free energy certificates (“EFECs”) retired in PJM’s Generation Attribute Tracking System as a bridge to allow for the development of renewable assets in addition to smoothing budgets and capital requirements?	Presently, our current supplier retires EFECs for the City to meet its percentage of the State of Illinois electricity RPS requirements. The City welcomes and is open to responses for all types of renewable electricity asset solutions, both existing and future additional assets in North America. Responses with solutions that serve as a catalyst to develop additional renewable assets to meet the City's 2025 commitment and further developer and supplier opportunities for the City of Chicago within the City's RTO and within the State of Illinois are preferred
10	The City has issued previous RFPs, including one for onsite solar in 2018. Can you provide details of the winner, project status, and project size in dollars and megawatts?	The Chicago Solar Ground Mount Project has not been finalized, and the City cannot share project details at this time.
11	Does the City have other solar projects in operation? Cogeneration? Backup generation? Batteries? What are the sizes of installed megawatts?	No.
12	Are there any job creation metrics that City is evaluating? Can you detail these?	The City values job creation metrics for the Chicago community in all responses submitted to the City. At this time, the City has no preference or requirements for the methodologies or tools used by respondents to estimate job creation from renewable energy asset solutions. The City is aware of the Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory Job and Economic Development Impact (NREL JEDI) model as an accepted resource. The City encourages respondents to include all economic benefits for both the City, providing public services, and Chicago Communities and Chicagoans alike.
13	What sort of regulatory interactions has the City considered as it relates to state, federal, and ISO?	The City issued this RFI as a preliminary inquiry to inform potential renewable energy supply sourcing opportunities, constraints and existing and future capacity. The City encourages RFI respondents to include all information they consider pertinent in RFI responses.
14	Are there tax considerations the City has contemplated for inclusion?	As a municipal entity the City is exempt from certain taxes.
15	Will the City only entertain a new build asset during the City’s transition, or would a preexisting renewable asset also be considered?	The City welcomes and is open to responses for all types of renewable electricity asset solutions, both existing and future additional assets in North America. The City prefers assets in its

		existing RTO market and within the State of Illinois.
16	What are the City's views on environmental/development delays on new assets?	The City does not broadly speculate on environmental views or unknown project delays.
17	In Section 1.3 of its RFI, the City defines three eligibility criteria for "Qualifying Organizations." Must an organization meet "any" or those criteria, or must they meet them "all" of them to be qualified?	The language in the RFI reads "any or all of the following eligibility criteria." Respondents may interpret the literal reading is that meeting just one of the criteria is acceptable.
18	Has the City has consulted with an independent energy advisor to determine their approach to the energy market? If so, can the City share who that independent energy advisor is/was?	The City regularly consults with contracted professional service providers. The City's current Professional Energy Management and Advisory services is provided by Ameresco, and the Professional Energy Consolation services is provided by WSP.
19	Is the City interested in long term power purchase agreements? If so, is there a limit on the term?	If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide in their responses any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structure.
20	Would the City only look at Illinois based renewable assets? Would the City be open to other PJM developments should they be able to supply to COMED?	The City welcomes and is open to responses for all types of renewable electricity asset solutions, both existing and future additional assets in North America. The City prefers assets in its existing RTO market and within the State of Illinois.
21	Would the city be willing to disclose the current product structure/energy contract they are on currently on?	The City's current awarded contracts are available on the Department of Procurement Services webpage.

22	<p>Regarding the term “100 percent clean and renewable energy supply in electricity use for City facilities:”</p> <p>a. Can you define Clean energy as opposed to Renewable?</p>	<p>The EPA Guide to purchasing Green Power defines renewable energy as "Renewable energy is supplied by natural resources that replenish themselves over short periods of time without being depleted. Green power is a subset of renewable energy and represents those renewable energy resources that provide the highest environmental benefit, such as: Solar, Wind, ☐ Geothermal (the earth’s heat), Biogas, Biomass (some forms of plant and waste material), Low-impact hydroelectric resources.</p> <p>Green power generally does not include some resources that are often considered as renewable energy including large hydropower and municipal solid waste."</p> <p><a href="https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-01/documents/purchasing_guide_for_web.pdf">https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-01/documents/purchasing_guide_for_web.pdf</a>"</p>
24	<p>Regarding the statement “afford the City the opportunity, at its discretion, to expand its commitment to clean and renewable electricity to cover additional City requirements above and beyond those represented by facilities”:</p> <p>a. Does this mean other Chicago entities such as CPS and the Parks District, or does it mean businesses and residents?</p>	<p>This means beyond the electricity requirements of the City's facility load as described in the RFI.</p>
25	<p>Regarding the statement “afford the City the opportunity, at its discretion, to expand its commitment to clean and renewable electricity to cover additional City requirements above and beyond those represented by facilities”:</p> <p>b. Will we need to ensure sufficient supply is available for these additional requirements?</p>	<p>The City's total annual supply is approximately 1TWh. The City welcomes responses that showcase the supplier’s ability to provide scalable models that might accommodate greater future demand such as electric vehicles and other possible load shifting electrification scenarios.</p>
26	<p>Does the streetlighting load shown in the RFI represent pre-LED retrofit, partial- or fully-retrofitted? Are you able to forecast the load once fully retrofitted? When do you expect that to be completed?</p>	<p>The City requirements described in the RFI is pre-retrofit. The City may provide an update to the volume requirements at a later date.</p>
27	<p>After factoring in the various demand side measures taken by the City over time, is the overall load trend increasing or decreasing?</p>	<p>Our load trend is decreasing.</p>

28	If economically beneficial, would the City consider moving to 100% renewable electricity supply prior to 2025?	Yes.
29	Does the City have a preference for electricity sourced from newly built assets versus renewable assets that are already operational?	The City welcomes and is open to responses for all types of renewable electricity asset solutions, both existing and future additional assets in North America. The City prefers assets in its existing RTO market and within the State of Illinois.
30	Do any of the departments in Appendix B participate in Demand Response?	Yes, 2FM, DOA, and DWM participate in PJM demand response programs.
31	Are there any term length limits the City must not exceed?	If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structure in their responses.
32	Is the City open to unit contingent, fixed shape, and load following power supply?	The City is interested in better understanding renewable energy sourcing opportunities suppliers are able to provide under a variety of contracting instruments and terms and conditions. The City is interested in supply pricing that meets or reduces the City's current electricity annual operating budget.
33	Will the City consider physical and financial settlements?	The City is interested in better understanding renewable energy sourcing opportunities suppliers are able to provide under a variety of contracting instruments and terms and conditions. The City is interested in supply pricing that meets or reduces the City's current electricity annual operating budget.

34	Does the City require that a specific facility(s) be named as the renewable generation sources(s) or can it be sourced from suppliers' renewable portfolio?	<p>The city is interested in responses that meet the City's commitment of 100% renewable electricity in public buildings by 2025. This means the City anticipates responses that provide renewable energy solutions for the City's electricity supply, including the City's building portfolio and total supply of 1TWh. Further, the renewable attributes of supplied electricity must be fully allocated to the City and documented in a manner that stands up to current and future RE100 accounting methodologies.</p> <p>The RE100 quality criteria for tracking instruments is as follows:</p> <p>"In order to make credible claims about the contractual allocation of attributes, the following criteria must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credible generation data</li> <li>• Attribute aggregation</li> <li>• Exclusive ownership (no double counting) of attributes</li> <li>• Exclusive claims (no double claiming) of attributes</li> <li>• Geographic market limitations of claims; and</li> <li>• Vintage limitations of claims"</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://there100.org/faqs">http://there100.org/faqs</a></p>
35	Are there City lands and rooftops available for potential development projects?	The City has yet to determine future potential renewable energy development projects on city-owned land and/or rooftops of City buildings.
36	Are the renewable attributes required to come from the named facility(s) or can they be supplemented from a more affordable source?	The City supports all types of renewable energy resources and is open to innovative proposals to meet the 100% RE commitment on or before the deadline, catalyze and further grow the renewable energy industry reducing our overall carbon emissions and working to address global climate change.
37	Does the City have interest in including Demand Response (Voluntary economic and PJM Programs), SRECS revenues (Until 2025), and additional public private partnerships exclusively with the supplier to offset the total cost of the contract? (Can this question be treated as confidential)	The City currently participates in voluntary demand response programs in PJM. The City welcomes responses with creative renewable energy solutions to catalyze renewable energy assets within our RTO.

38	Are there any resiliency concerns that the City would like to address to insure reliable flow of the renewable power supply?	The City requires all energy suppliers and distributors to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity and natural gas to all customers in accordance with Federal, State, and municipal laws and ordinances. In keeping with the City's signatory to the Paris Climate Agreement, which includes significant references to climate adaptation, and based in part on the region's history with extreme heat impacts on electric supply, The City welcomes responses that both generally assess and specifically address the region's climate risks, based on the National Climate Assessment and predictions are that the region will experience more extreme heat (days above 100 degrees) as well as more precipitation when it is not needed (rain and snow).
39	Would the City also like to include additional technologies for better managing power supply across facilities as well as EV stations for its electric vehicle fleet?	This RFI and subsequent RFQ and RFP is for the City of Chicago Electricity Supply Contract only.
40	Will the City consider biogas as a renewable supply source?	Yes, biogas is an acceptable renewable energy generations source as outlined in the EPA's Green Power purchasing definition.
41	What energy supplier currently serves each of the City municipal facilities and under what billing arrangement, utility consolidated or dual bill?	Constellation New Energy. The City's current awarded contracts are available on the Department of Procurement Services webpage.
42	Is the City currently being served by a solar supplier at any of its municipal facilities? If so, which facilities? Who are the suppliers?	The City is not served by any solar suppliers.
43	In what areas of the City might wind generation be welcomed?	Need to think about how best to answer.
44	What percent of the on peak load would the City want sourced from a new local solar resource?	Need to think about how best to answer.
45	Does the City have any constraints or contractual preferences regarding a renewable power purchase agreement?	If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide in their responses any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structure.



46	Does the City have a preference for the type of renewable resource?	The City supports all types of renewable energy resources and is open to innovative proposals to meet the 100% RE commitment on or before the deadline, catalyze and further grow the renewable energy industry reducing our overall carbon emissions and working to address global climate change.
47	Is there any evaluation preference afforded W/MBE bidders or bidders with operations in Chicago?	The City is interested in better understanding all renewable energy sourcing opportunities and suppliers that are able to provide under a variety of contracting instruments and terms and conditions. The City is interested in supply pricing that meets or reduces the City's current electricity annual operating budget. If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide in their responses any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structural; including suppliers potential ability to meet M/WBE goals. The City welcomes encourages M/WBEs located in Chicago and certified by City of Chicago Department of Procurement Services.
48	Is there a minimum renewable energy content threshold at the start of the contract?	No.
49	Would the City contemplate a long-term contract (i.e. 15 years) for the output of a renewable generation resource?	If the City issues an RFQ and/or RFP subsequent to this RFI, the City will address contract term length and type in those document(s). The City encourages RFI respondents to provide in their responses any information they consider pertinent regarding contract term and structure.