

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Web Tool and Additional GIS Services RFP No. 23-001 Questions & Answers

February 15, 2023

San Diego Community Power (SDCP) received the following questions by the deadline stipulated in the RFP.

Question 1: In identifying the DAC-GT and CSGT programs specifically, is SDCP also thinking ahead to the likely expansion of community solar via AB 2316?

Answer: SDCP is intimately familiar with AB 2316 and is an active participant in the Green Access Program proceeding. Please refer to the CPUC Proceeding Information website and enter "2205022" into the Proceeding Number Search.

Question 2: With regard to the eligibility for bonus(es) under SDCP Procurement Policy, does SDCP consider to qualify as an "office" the home-base of one or more remote worker?

Answer: No, unless the home base of one or more remote workers is identified as an official office of the firm.

Question 3: What SDG&E data (please list/ describe the layers) does SDCP expect to have in its possession by the start date of this contract? What assistance will SDCP provide to the vendors in securing this data from SDG&E?

Answer: SDCP has the following data sets as received from SDG&E on a weekly cadence: customer specific data such as non-standardized service address, meter number/Service Delivery Point, rates, CARE/FERA & Medical baseline status, enrollment status, non-standardized mailing addresses, etc. SDCP will provide the SDG&E data directly to the vendor.

Question 4: Given the modest budget for this work relative to the scope (Task 2 especially), it seems an unproductive use of SDCP funds for the vendor to interface directly with SDG&E in the case of any delay in the provision of SDG&E data. Is SDCP open to the start date for these services to be coincident with (as it is dependent upon) the arrival of SDG&E data into SDCP's possession?

Answer: SDCP will provide the data directly to the vendor on a weekly basis. Task 1 is the focus of this RFP. Task 2 is identified as "Additional GIS Services as Needed."

Question 5: On Page 8 - Conflicts of Interest:

Proposer must identify any potential conflicts of interest with other current or former clients, including, but not limited to, Sempra Energy, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), and affiliates thereof, and how they expect to resolve those conflicts.

Can staff members work with both SDG&E and SDCP with policies in place to keep data and information separate or is it expected that no staff member work with both SDG&E and SDCP for the duration of this work?

Answer: SDCP is not precluding any qualified firm from submitting a proposal. The proposal should identify any potential conflicts of interest with current or former clients, including Sempra Energy, SDG&E and affiliates thereof, and how the proposer would resolve those conflicts, including, but not limited to, how data and information would be kept separate so that it cannot be accessed and how staffing would be handled. SDCP will evaluate all proposals, including firms that work or have worked with SDG&E, and evaluate each response to determine whether the proposer has a conflict and if internal procedures would properly mitigate and prevent the sharing of information.

Question 6: Does SDCP have any existing GIS staff or GIS infrastructure? If not, should this proposal include the costs of the infrastructure required for the tasks outlined?

Answer: No. SDCP does not currently have GIS infrastructure. Please include the costs of the infrastructure required for the tasks outlined.

Question 7: Can an outline of the requirement for DAC-GT and CSGT RFO application be provided?

Answer: SDCP has not yet launched the RFO for DAC-GT and CSGT and therefore cannot outline the requirements. A critical component of the services to be provided by the chosen vendor will be to synthesize customer service account information provided by SDCP and identify what accounts are located within a Disadvantaged Community, as determined by the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool, CalEnviroScreen 3.0 and 4.0. Please visit the CPUC's webpage that outlines the requirements for both programs here.

Question 8: How many applications are required or is it all for the same web app?

Answer: Please submit one application per applicant.

Question 9: What is the desired schedule for completion of work listed in Task 1 –GIS Web Tool?

Answer: Between May 1, 2023, to April 15, 2024.

Question 10: For what duration are support services listed in Task 2 –Ad Hoc / As-Needed GIS Services needed for?

Answer: To be determined. Task 1 is the primary focus and Task is for GIS Services as Needed.

Question 11: Does SCDP have a preferred relational database vendor or platform intended for any internal geodatabase hosting?

Answer: SDCP uses Google Cloud Platform internally and is preferred.

Question 12: Is SDCP open to a cloud-based software as a service (SaaS) or platform as a service (Paas) solution or does SDCP intend to host the system internally?

Answer: Yes. Please refer to question 11.

Question 13: Does SDCP have the capability to host the data storage and edit environments on premise? If not, should the proposal include the license costs to install and set up the needed GIS software on SDCP servers?

Answer: SDCP stores all necessary data on premise. However, proposals should include the license costs to install GIS software.

Question 14: If SDCP does not desire to host an edit environment for GIS data, then is SDCP open to the vendor maintaining the source data in their own environment and publishing it out to the requested web application?

Answer: Please refer to question 11.

Question 15: What is your current CRM (customer relationship management)? Is there any existing interface or integration between the GIS and CRM?

Answer: SDCP's uses MS 365 Dynamics CRM supported by Calpine, our back-office vendor.

Question 16: Do you have an inventory of existing geospatial datasets? Please provide a feature count and specify the format of the datasets? Do all existing datasets share a common spatial coordinate system? Please provide a data catalog if available.

Answer: No. SDCP has unstandardized mailing addresses of SDCP customers.

Question 17: Regarding parcel data for base maps and existing electric utility customer addresses for SDG&E, does SDCP have existing datasets for all of the municipalities and jurisdictions in its service territory? If not, does the SDCP have partnership or other agreements for access to these datasets? Can this data be accessed and used from GIS web services directly or does SDCP intend to manage their own consolidated parcel dataset?

Answer: No. SDCP has existing customer datasets mentioned in #3 for all of the municipalities and jurisdictions in SDCP's service territory, but not parcel data specifically.

Question 18: Regarding the requirement in Task 1 to "evaluate energy contracting proposals based on project footprint (including land use and various renewable energy designations)" What format are contracting proposals provided in? Are these geospatial datasets?

Answer: SDCP is provided proposals via an Excel based response form found here. They are not geospatial datasets. Each proposal provides latitude and longitude in decimal degrees. Projects also provide a site plan and project layout, typically in PDF format, that can be used to evaluate the footprint.

Question 19: Do you have an existing documented process and criteria for standard, repeatable evaluation of the contracting proposals?

Answer: No, not for the evaluation of land use, permitting and renewable energy designations.

Question 20: Is this already existing as a geoprocessing model or other scripted automation?

Answer: No.

Question 21: Should the proposal include the cost of needed software licenses or subscriptions?

Answer: Yes.

Question 22: Section V.B.5.I.c of the RFP states that an audited financial statement or annual report is required. We are a small local business without audited reports as they are very expensive to produce. What alternatives could be used in place of the audited statement/report?

Answer: SDCP has revised the RFP and the Section V.B.5.I.c requirement of an audited financial statement or annual report to be removed.

Question 23: Section 5 Fiscal Stability: Do we need all of the items listed as a, b and c? What if we do not have a line or credit or business loans?

Answer: No. SDCP has revised the RFP and the Section V.B.5.I. requirement of an audited financial statement or annual report to be removed.

Question 24: Section 9 Fee Proposal: In this section, it states "expenses are not expected to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars". Does this include hourly labor for contractors for the entirety of the project?

Answer: Yes.

Question 25: Please confirm if cover pages, table of contents, cover letter, one-page resumes, required financial statement and/or annual report and executive summary will be counted towards the 20-page limit of the proposal.

Answer: No, these items do not count towards the 20-page limit.

Question 26: RFP Section V, B.4. Staffing Resources, II.

Subcontractors/Subconsultants (pg. 5 of RFP) "The Proposer shall identify functions that are likely to be subcontracted and identify the subcontractor/ subconsultant that is anticipated to perform each function, if known at this time." Please confirm if subcontractors/subconsultants are required to provide any additional information aside from qualifications, including fiscal stability, resumes or other documentation required by the prime.

Answer: The RFP only requires that the subconsultant be identified and the function they will perform. The proposer is free to provide any additional information as part of the proposal.

Question 27: RFP Section V, B.12. Other Information, I.e.) Appendices (pg. 9 of RFP) "Appendices: As applicable." Please confirm if appendices will be counted towards the 20-page limit of the proposal.

Answer: No, these items do not count towards the 20-page limit.

Question 28: RFP Section V, B.12. Other Information, IV.a) Exceptions Certification to this RFP (pg. 10 of RFP) "If any exceptions are taken, such exceptions must be clearly noted in the proposal..." Please confirm if contract exceptions will be counted towards the 20-page limit of the proposal. In addition, is there a specific format they should be presented in?

Answer: No, these items do not count towards the 20-page limit.

Question 29: Does SDPC have Esri ArcGIS organization subscription or ArcGIS portal?

Answer: No.

Question 30: Please confirm that the "web application" in Task 1 is internal facing only.

Answer: Yes. The web application tool will be internal facing only.

Question 31: What CAD software and build number do you use? Do clients have a range of as-builts some in different CAD software, some on paper only? (Can you list?) Will SDCP provide these in a georeferenced format or is this conversion to be done as part of the GIS contract?

Answer: SDCP does not have any CAD software. The vendor will need to convert unstandardized mailing addresses to georeferenced format.

Question 32: Is training to be provided on-site and in-person or virtual trainings for the GIS web tool for SDCP staff?

Answer: Trainings will be held virtually.

Question 33: "Bidder will work with SDCP's Data Manager to integrate and continuously update GIS attributes into individual accounts in CRM." This was stated as integrate and continuously update GIS attributes. In reference to continuously, would those updates in CRM just occur within the Scope of Services term April 17, 2023 to April 17, 2024 or longer?

Answer: The term for the contract is one year. However, there is an opportunity to extend the contract beyond one year.