

# 3 GW Alternative Market-Based Mechanism Process Request for Proposals

For

Solar Photovoltaic Resources

For

Entergy Louisiana, LLC

Entergy Services, LLC August 13, 2024

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#### 1. RFP INFORMATION

## 1.1. Introduction

Entergy Services, LLC ("ESL"), as agent for Entergy Louisiana, LLC ("ELL"), hereby issues this 3 GW Alternative Market-Based Mechanism Process Request for Proposals for Solar Photovoltaic Resources for Entergy Louisiana, LLC (including all appendices, this "RFP" or the "ELL 3 GW Solar RFP"). Through this RFP, ELL seeks to procure, on and subject to the terms set forth in this RFP, up to three thousand (3,000) MW<sub>AC</sub> in the aggregate of energy, Capacity, Capacity-Related Benefits (such as ZRCs and capacity credits), Other Electric Products, and Environmental Attributes from eligible solar photovoltaic resources, which could include an optional, separately priced battery energy storage system ("BESS"), for service commencing as early as January 1, 2026. ELL reserves the right to acquire more or less than the stated target amount. The resources are being solicited to help ELL meet its long-term resource planning objectives consistent with the process that the Louisiana Public Service Commission ("LPSC") approved in Order No. U-36697 (Corrected) and issued on June 14, 2024 ("Order U-36697"). A summary of the key scoping items in this RFP and the threshold requirements for a conforming proposal in this RFP are set forth in Section 1.11 and Section 2.4 below, respectively. Entergy Regulated Affiliates and Entergy Competitive Affiliates are not precluded from submitting proposals, including Self-Build Option Proposals.

## 1.2. Entergy Louisiana

ELL supports continued growth in Louisiana through investments in generation and other infrastructure that provide customers with clean, affordable, and reliable electricity. ELL is seeking cost-effective solar photovoltaic ("Solar PV") resources that can supply energy, fuel diversity, environmental, locational, and other benefits to ELL customers. Proposed Solar PV resources must be located in and interconnect directly to the Louisiana portion of the MISO Transmission System, preferably within the West of the Atchafalaya Basin ("WOTAB") region or the Southeast Louisiana Planning Area ("SELPA"), a region in ELL's service territory that includes the "Amite South" subregion and "DSG," itself a sub-region of Amite South. The following map shows the WOTAB and SELPA regions, including the Amite South and Downstream of Gypsy ("DSG") sub-regions. (DSG is a sub-region that is downstream of the Little Gypsy generating facility.)



The map generally depicts the identified areas. If unclear whether a resource is located within SELPA or WOTAB, Bidder can submit the MISO-designated J number coordinates for the resource to the Bid Event Coordinator and the Bid Event Coordinator will respond with a determination whether the resource is located within SELPA or WOTAB or with clarifying questions before making such a determination.

## 1.3. RFP Documents

This RFP consists of a Main Body and ten appendices. Among other things, the Main Body (i) offers general information about this RFP, (ii) describes the resource and transaction structures that ELL seeks from Bidders and high-level considerations for Bidders, (iii) includes a milestone schedule for this RFP, (iv) sets forth terms governing the preparation and submission of proposals and RFP-related Bidder communications with ESL and the Independent Monitor ("IM"), and (v) provides a high-level overview of the proposal evaluation and selection process.

Appendix A to this RFP is a glossary of certain capitalized terms used in this RFP. A capitalized term used but not defined in the Main Body will have the meaning given such term in Appendix A, except to the extent the context otherwise requires.

Appendix B-1 is the form acquisition agreement (excluding most exhibits and all schedules) for the build-own-transfer ("BOT") type of asset purchase transaction sought by this RFP for Solar PV resources ("Model Solar BOT Agreement"). The Model Solar BOT Agreement will be the agreement used for any Solar PV BOT asset purchase arrangement arising out of this RFP. (See Section 2.1 below)

Appendix B-2 is a draft of the scope book for Solar PV resources that will be included as an exhibit to the solar BOT Agreement ("Model Solar BOT Scope Book"). The Model Solar BOT Scope Book addresses, among other things, the scope of Seller's engineering, procurement, and construction ("EPC") work on the proposed Solar PV project, the project execution plan, EPC standards and processes to be followed (including for collector substations and high voltage transmission), and other technical information about the project.

Appendix B-3 is a draft of the scope book for any optional BESS that may be offered by Bidder and chosen by ELL in its discretion to be a part of a Solar PV resource proposed by Bidder in this RFP ("Model Solar BESS Scope Book"). The Model Solar BESS Scope Book addresses, among other things, the scope of Seller's EPC work on any proposed BESS, EPC standards and processes to be followed, and other technical information regarding the BESS.

Appendix C is the form power purchase agreement ("PPA") for the Solar PV power purchase transactions sought by this RFP ("Model Solar PPA"). The Model Solar PPA will be the agreement used for any Solar PV power purchase arrangement arising out of this RFP.

Appendix D and its Attachments contain questions and requests for material and other information that each Bidder will be required to answer or provide as part of its Proposal Package.

Appendix E contains an express reservation of ELL's and ESL's rights in this RFP; warranty, liability, and contract acceptance disclaimers; terms addressing the disclosure of RFP-related information by ELL, ESL, and Bidders in this RFP, Bidder's responsibility for RFP-related costs, and regulatory approvals; and Bidder's deemed acceptance of the rights and terms contained in Appendix E and ELL's reliance upon such acceptance.

Appendix F generally describes the credit support requirements for any transaction arising out of this RFP and other credit-related features that will be material to any Bidder proposal.

Appendix G provides information on the protocols ELL has established to ensure that (i) the RFP process will be impartial and objective, (ii) Bidders' commercially sensitive information will be protected, (iii) all proposals will be treated in a consistent fashion, and (iv) no proposal from any particular Bidder will receive undue preference.

Appendix H includes information regarding suppliers of goods and services to projects proposed in this RFP.

Bidders are responsible for familiarizing themselves with and being fully aware of the terms of this RFP, including the terms of each Appendix and any clarifications, elaborations, or adjustments to RFP terms communicated to Bidders. Bidders are advised that from time to time ELL may clarify, elaborate upon, or adjust the terms of this RFP in response to developments that may affect or require attention in this RFP, ELL perceptions or concerns that terms in this RFP may be incomplete, inaccurate, or ambiguous or may fail to adequately address Bidder questions or comments or RFP-related risks, rights, obligations, or other matters, or for other reasons.

#### 1.4. ELL Renewables RFP Website & PowerAdvocate

The official website for this RFP is <a href="https://spofossil.entergy.com/ENTRFP/SEND/ELL3GWSolarRFP/Index.htm">https://spofossil.entergy.com/ENTRFP/SEND/ELL3GWSolarRFP/Index.htm</a> (the "ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website"). This RFP and related material and information are posted on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website and available for review. The ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website will be updated from time to time with additional material and information concerning this RFP. Interested Persons are responsible for monitoring the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website to ensure the timely receipt of information about this RFP.

PowerAdvocate will be utilized for the administration of RFP documents and Bidder communications for this RFP. Bidder will be invited to join and use the PowerAdvocate site to submit proposals and documents and communicate with ESL upon the completion of the Bidder Registration Process and to gain access to RFP documents.

## 1.5. Bid Event Coordinator

ELL has engaged ESL to assist with the administration of this RFP and has designated an ESL employee to serve as the Bid Event Coordinator. The Bid Event Coordinator's responsibilities include (i) acting as a liaison between the participants in this RFP and ELL on all RFP-related matters, (ii) ensuring that Bidder RFP-related questions ESL receives during the pendency of this RFP are addressed in an appropriate manner, (iii) receiving, recording, and maintaining Bidder RFP proposals, (iv) working with the Independent Monitor throughout this RFP, and (v) managing other administrative matters relating to this RFP. The Bid Event Coordinator is also a member of the RFP Administration Team. The full set of the Bid Event Coordinator's duties, and the role of the RFP Administration Team, are set forth in Appendix G.

The Bid Event Coordinator for this RFP is Mrs. Tiedra Lewis, who can be contacted prior to Bidder's completion of the Bidder Registration Process via email at <a href="mailto:ellrfp@entergy.com">ellrfp@entergy.com</a> and afterwards through PowerAdvocate. PowerAdvocate information will be provided to Bidders when or shortly after Bidder completes the Bidder Registration Process.

## 1.6. Independent Monitor

ELL has retained Mr. Wayne Oliver of Merrimack Energy Group, Inc. to act as the IM for this RFP. The role of the IM is defined in the "Scope of Work Activities" for the IM, which is available to Bidders upon request. In summary, the IM (i) oversees all aspects of this RFP to ensure that its design, implementation, evaluation, selection, and contract negotiation processes are impartial and objective and (ii) provides an objective, third-party perspective on ELL's efforts to ensure that all proposals are treated consistently and without undue preference to any Bidder. Bidders wishing to communicate with Mr. Oliver may reach him by email at <a href="MerrimackIM@merrimackenergy.com">MerrimackIM@merrimackenergy.com</a> or by phone at (781) 856-0007.

## 1.7. Louisiana Public Service Commission Staff

The LPSC has assigned Staff to consult on various aspects of this RFP to ensure that its design, implementation, evaluation, selection, and contract negotiation processes are impartial and objective and to provide an objective, third-party perspective on ELL's efforts to ensure that all proposals are treated consistently and without undue preference to any Bidder. Bidders wishing to communicate with LPSC Staff about this RFP should use the following contact information:

Arvind Viswanathan
Staff Attorney
Louisiana Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 91154
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-9154
Email: Arvind.Viswanathan@la.gov

## 1.8. Eligible Participants

ELL invites proposals from all potential suppliers capable of meeting the conditions and requirements identified in this RFP ("Eligible Participants"). Eligible Participants that do not comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of this RFP may be determined by ELL, after consultation with the IM, to be ineligible to continue to participate in this RFP. Proposals from "Qualifying Facilities" ("QF") will not be provided any preference in this RFP solely by virtue of their QF status. Entergy Competitive Affiliates and Entergy Regulated Affiliates are not precluded from submitting proposals in this RFP. A "Bidder" in this RFP may consist of more than one Person. For additional information concerning multi-Person Bidders, please see Section 6.7 below.

## 1.9. Eligible Technologies

Generation technologies permitted for proposals responsive to this RFP ("**Eligible Technologies**") are limited to Solar PV technologies. Bidders may offer a commercially proven lithium-ion battery energy storage technology as a separately priced option for the Solar PV facility but may not condition selection of the Solar PV facility proposal on the selection of a battery energy storage component. Any proposed BESS must be AC-coupled with a minimum four (4)-hour

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discharge, have twenty-four (24)-hours-a-day, seven (7)-days-a-week charging and discharging capability, and must satisfy the other requirements of the Model Solar BESS Scope Book. Technologies that do not meet the requirements of this RFP, including combustion turbine, steam, gas-fired, coal-fired, nuclear, demand-side management, distributed generation, transmission line, energy efficiency, biomass, hydroelectric, wind, and any other technology not listed above as eligible for this RFP or that fails to meet the requirements of this RFP, are not Eligible Technologies.

## 1.10. Eligible Resources

Generation resources that (i) will produce their energy output from an Eligible Technology, (ii) have an existing generator interconnect agreement with MISO, are included and remain in the 2020 or 2021 MISO (Definitive Planning Phase ("DPP") queue, or are included and remain in a subsequent MISO DPP queue for which MISO has provided a Phase 1 DPP study result for the resource at the time of proposal submission and ELL has elected to allow resources from such queue to participate in this RFP, (iii) are new-build generation resources with at least 50 MW<sub>AC</sub> capacity output, (iv) will be physically located in and interconnect directly to the Louisiana portion of MISO South (preferably within the SELPA or WOTAB region), (v) are single resources, (vi) are not and will not be part of a shared facility-type structure or arrangement, and (vii) meet the other criteria for participation in this RFP are "Eligible Resources." Generation resources located at separate facilities will be considered multiple resources and may not be combined or aggregated to form a "system" of generation resources. No Bidder may condition the effectiveness of any proposal it submits into this RFP on ELL's selection of one or more other proposals from Bidder or any Affiliate of Bidder, excluding proposals for BESS, which, by the terms of this RFP are conditioned on the selection of the Solar PV resource proposal to which the battery energy storage system relates.

## 1.11. RFP Scope Summary

Table 1 outlines key scoping items for conforming proposals. Table 2 identifies a battery storage option that can be included in a proposal as a separately priced option. O&M services associated with a BOT transaction will be self-performed or addressed through a separate O&M RFP.

Resource Types
(Sections 1.10, 2.4)

Transaction Types
(Sections 2.1, 2.2, 2.4)

Resource Types
(Sections 1.10, 2.4)

Transaction Types
(Sections 2.1, 2.2, 2.4)

Resource Types
The generation resource must be a Solar PV resource and otherwise be an Eligible Resource.

BOT transaction: Asset acquisition of the proposed new-build resource and related assets, with Seller assuming development, construction, and financing risk.

PPA transaction: Purchase of all energy, Capacity, Capacity-Related Benefits, Other Electric Products, and Environmental Attributes from the

**Table 1. Scoping Summary** 

	proposed new-build resource pursuant to a PPA. Bidders may propose a PPA that includes buyer purchase options during and/or at the expiration of the Delivery Term.			
	Self-Build Option: ELL may submit one or more self-build proposals for new-build Solar PV resources.			
Resource Location (Sections 1.2, 1.10, 2.5)	within the Eduisiana portion of Miso South, preferably within the SELF			
Interconnection Status (Sections 1.10, 2.5)	The proposed resource must have a fully executed GIA with MISO or be included in the 2020 or 2021 MISO DPP queue (or subsequent MISO DPP queues for which MISO has provided a Phase 1 DPP study result for the resource at the time of proposal submission ).			
Transmission and Deliverability (Sections 1.10, 2.5)	Bidder/Seller must obtain at its cost and risk the required amount of ERIS and NRIS for the proposed resource but may elect for ELL to procure NITS in MISO at Bidder/Seller's cost and risk in lieu of Bidder/Seller obtaining NRIS or obtain ERIS without either NRIS or NITS (the ERIS-only option is not preferred by ELL).			
	PPA energy deliveries and Other Electric Products will settle financially in MISO at the ELL Load Node.			
	Total Capacity sought in this RFP: Up to 3,000 MW <sub>AC</sub> .			
Solicited Capacity	Capacity minimum per proposal: 50 MW <sub>AC</sub>			
(Sections 1.1, 2.1, 2.2)	BOT transactions: Any proposal must be for the sale of the entire Facility.			
	<i>PPA transactions</i> : Any proposal must be for the sale of all products (capacity, energy, etc.) from the entire Facility.			
Guaranteed Substantial Completion/ Commercial Operation Date (Sections 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.4)	The Guaranteed Substantial Completion Date (BOT transactions) and Guaranteed Commercial Operation Date (PPA transactions) may be as early as January 1, 2026.			
PPA Delivery Term (Sections 2.2, 2.4)	A minimum of ten (10) consecutive years and a maximum of twenty (20) consecutive years, with an interest in fifteen (15)-year or shorter terms.			
Self-Build Option (Section 3)	Self-build options are not precluded.			
Entergy Competitive Affiliates (Section 1.8)	Entergy Regulated Affiliates and Entergy Competitive Affiliates are not precluded from submitting proposals.			

**Table 2. BESS Option** 

<b>Proposal Options</b>	Description
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (Section 1.9)	<ul> <li>A BESS may be offered as a separately priced option for both BOT and PPA transactions.</li> <li>The BESS must be AC-coupled with a minimum four (4)-hour discharge, have twenty-four (24)-hours-a-day, seven (7)-days-a-week charging and discharging capability, and meet the other requirements of the Model Solar BESS Scope Book.</li> <li>Selection of the proposal for the Facility may not be contingent on selection of the BESS option.</li> </ul>

The preceding Tables omit many items that are or could be considered key scoping items, including terms related to items generally described in Section 2 below. The scope and terms of this RFP are established by the terms set forth in the entirety of the documents, materials, and information provided to Bidders in this RFP, including, without limitation, the model BOT agreement and PPAs, the Scope Book (BOT transactions only), and Appendix F. The Tables in this Section 1.11 are not, and should not be construed as, a substitute for the other provisions of this RFP.

#### 2. PROPOSALS

## 2.1. BOT Proposals - High-Level Overview of Select Commercial Terms

The following highlights, in summary form, a few basic commercial terms and considerations for the BOT resources sought by this RFP. Details of the commercial terms of BOT transactions and considerations for BOT proposals and potential BOT transactions under this RFP can be found in Appendix B-1 (Model Solar BOT Agreement), Appendix B-2 (Model Solar BOT Scope Book), Appendix F (Credit/Collateral Requirements), and elsewhere in this RFP.

• BOT Structure. With the BOT structure, Seller will agree to develop, design, build, commission, test, and sell the proposed project to Buyer for a pre-agreed purchase price. The minimum capacity amount for a project under a BOT transaction is 50 MW<sub>AC</sub>. Buyer would buy the project and related assets from Seller at the Closing, after each of the Closing conditions has been fulfilled or waived, including the achievement of mechanical completion of the project. Prior to the Closing, Seller, as the project owner, will own and have care, custody, and control of the project, including the project site, and would bear construction, financing, and project completion risk, as well as risk of loss for the project. Seller's obligation to commence construction will be conditioned on the satisfaction of several Buyer "FNTP" conditions, including Buyer's receipt of regulatory approvals on terms acceptable to Buyer in its sole discretion. After the Closing, Seller will be required to complete the remaining EPC and other work in accordance with the terms of the BOT Agreement through Final Completion. Care, custody, and control of the project, which Buyer will delegate back

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to Seller at the Closing, will transfer to Buyer shortly after Substantial Completion, at the Substantial Completion Payment Date. The Guaranteed Substantial Completion Date may be as early as January 1, 2026. The Model Solar BOT Agreement, which reflects the BOT structure, is essentially a hybrid contract incorporating EPC principles (roughly, Articles 2-15) and generation asset acquisition terms (roughly, Articles 16-24).

• Purchase Price. For BOT transactions, the purchase price for the project and the other project assets will be payable by Buyer to Seller at three major milestones: the Closing, the Substantial Completion Payment Date, and Final Completion. The portion of the purchase price payable at the Closing will depend on whether Seller will finance the project with internal or unaffiliated third-party funding. If financed with internal funding, the Closing payment will be approximately 20% of the purchase price or, if Bidder elected in the applicable proposal to be paid a greater percentage of the purchase price at the Closing, the agreed percentage, up to 80%. (ELL prefers a lower payment at the Closing.) If financed with external funding, the Closing payment will be 80% of the purchase price, except as provided in Appendix F. The balance of the purchase price, less a holdback securing the completion of agreed punch list items, will be payable at the Substantial Completion Payment Date. Assuming Seller's performance of the remaining work, the punch list holdback will be paid at Final Completion. There will be no progress, mobilization, or other comparable payments of the purchase price.

The BOT purchase price Bidders offer in this RFP must be an "all-in" purchase price. In developing the purchase price, Bidders should take into account, among other things, development, study, engineering, procurement, transportation, permitting, design, financing, construction, installation, disposal, commissioning, testing, interim operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, interconnection, deliverability, transmission (including, without limitation, required upgrades), real property, reporting, access, regulatory, contracting, environmental, insurance (including, without limitation, the builder's all risk policy required by the RFP), taxes (including, without limitation, transfer, sales, and use taxes, import tariffs, and the costs of compliance with requirements of the Inflation Reduction Act for the project's entitlement to tax credits thereunder), Closing, asset transfer, transaction, contingency, warranty, credit, and all other Seller project costs and risks and Seller's required return on investment considering the terms set forth in this RFP, including, without limitation, the Model Solar BOT Agreement, the Model Solar BOT Scope Book, Appendix F, and the terms of Bidder's proposal. Without limiting other RFP rules and requirements (including with respect to any battery option), Bidders must express the purchase price in BOT proposals as a single fixed price. Bidder's proposed purchase price should be included in Appendix D, Attachment A (Cost Components).

• *Tax Credits*. Buyer will require at the Closing the exclusive entitlement to and transfer of all rights to applicable investment tax credits ("**ITC**"), or production tax credits ("**PTCs**"), (or any other renewable energy tax credit for which the Facility is or would be eligible after issuance of this RFP), depreciation, and similar tax benefits associated with the project

(including, if applicable, the BESS). Seller will be required to commit to deliver a project (including, if applicable, the BESS) that (i) either is exempt from or, if the project was not offered as an exempt project, satisfies the prevailing wage and apprenticeship ("PWA") requirements provided for under Section 45, 45Y, 48, or 48E of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and related U.S. Department of Treasury regulations, Internal Revenue Service guidance published in rulings, notices, or bulletins, or other rules, regulations, or laws applicable to the proposed project (together, "Government Guidance"), and, if offered, the "domestic content" or "energy community" requirements provided under similar Code sections and related Government Guidance, and (ii) provides the guaranteed ITC percentage or PTC rate (first year, in \$/MWh), as applicable, for the project set forth in the proposal. In connection with its PWA commitments, Seller will be required to collect, maintain, and provide all documentation establishing PWA compliance and to cure and indemnify Buyer against PWA non-compliance liabilities. If the project is proposed to qualify for any of the tax credit adders, i.e., the energy community adder and the domestic content adder, Seller must be able to demonstrate the project would comply with the requirements for such adder(s). Seller's tax credit-related (and other tax) representations and warranties in the Definitive Agreement and tax certificates will be among several uncapped "fundamental" representations and warranties of Seller for purposes of its post-Closing indemnity obligations to Buyer.

- Closing/Mechanical Completion. The Closing will be required to occur between the time the Facility achieves Mechanical Completion and when it first energizes and delivers power to the interconnected electric transmission grid. The Closing will be predicated on the satisfaction or waiver of numerous Closing conditions, including, among others, the receipt by Buyer of a specified tax opinion and supporting documentation, the transfer to Buyer of clear title to the purchased assets (excepting only permitted encumbrances), the truth and accuracy of Seller representations and warranties, required title insurance and related deliverables, and the provision of necessary credit support.
- Substantial Completion. Assuming FNTP occurs, the resource will be required to achieve Substantial Completion by the Guaranteed Substantial Completion Date, a milestone that may be adjusted by change order, as described below. (Each Bidder is required to include as part of its Proposal Package a guaranteed substantial completion date for the proposed resource.) Seller will owe liquidated damages to Buyer if the resource has not achieved Substantial

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The rest of this summary and the Model Solar BOT Agreement assume that Bidder/Seller is not claiming an exemption from the PWA requirements under the Code (e.g., through Seller's commencement and compliance with the start-of-construction tax rules in effect for Solar PV facilities prior to the Inflation Reduction Act and Government Guidance allowing such start-of-construction compliance as a means for the project to obtain a federal 30% ITC or full-rate PTCs in lieu of satisfying the PWA requirements). If for a proposed transaction Seller will be relying on an exemption from the PWA requirements and Buyer has selected the proposal for contracting, any Definitive Agreement resulting from the proposal will include terms and conditions that support receipt of the federal ITC or PTCs through the exemption methodology on terms acceptable to Buyer and Seller. Subject to strictly limited exceptions, Buyer will not bear the risk of a loss of the guaranteed ITC or PTC benefits due to Seller's failure to satisfy the continuous efforts or continuous construction requirements.

Completion by the Guaranteed Substantial Completion Date. Certain Seller representations and warranties will be required to be true and accurate (or "brought down") on the substantial Completion Payment Date. Substantial Completion will be contingent upon numerous Substantial Completion conditions, including the receipt by Buyer of a specified tax opinion and supporting documentation, satisfactory completion of project performance tests, e.g., capacity and availability tests, and title policy updates.

- Change Orders. The project and/or project schedule, including the Guaranteed Substantial Completion Date, may be modified by change orders issued by Buyer in the exercise of Buyer's discretion or due to either force majeure preventing Seller's performance of its work or defined Buyer-caused delays. The project schedule may be extended by force majeure via change order for up to a maximum total of 150 days. Any change order for force majeure will be exclusively for project schedule relief; as between Seller and Buyer, Seller will have sole responsibility for any incremental costs arising out of a force majeure affecting its work. Qualifying changes in law occurring after execution of the BOT agreement and affecting Seller's work will be considered force majeure events and will not give rise to non-force majeure change order rights for Seller. Purchase price increases due to Buyer discretionary change orders may not exceed in the aggregate 7.5% of the purchase price. No purchase price increases due to Buyer discretionary or Buyer-caused delay change orders will be payable to Seller except as part of any Buyer purchase price payment as described in the Purchase Price bullet above.
- Warranties. Seller will be required to obtain project equipment and other warranties with
  respect to the work, including, without limitation, a project warranty from the prime EPC
  contractor(s) and equipment warranties for certain items of equipment. All warranties and
  related rights obtained by Seller prior to the Closing (but not the underlying contracts
  themselves) will be required to be transferred to Buyer at the Closing. This RFP does not
  obligate Seller to provide a comprehensive "wrap" warranty of the project work.
- Credit. Under the terms of this RFP, Seller will be required, without exception, to post and maintain credit support as provided in the Model Solar BOT Agreement and Appendix F (and to certify at proposal submission its understanding and acceptance of the core credit support terms). Appendix F includes other essential information concerning the production and disclosure of financial information as part of the Proposal Submission Process, the evaluation of credit information and proposals provided in the RFP, and limitations on Bidder special considerations related to credit terms.
- Buyer Assignment Rights. Among other assignment rights, Buyer will have the right to assign its rights and obligations under the definitive BOT agreement to an Affiliate of Buyer., including, without limitation, an Affiliate created as part of a tax equity arrangement for the project. In the event of such an assignment, ELL will be liable as a guarantor of the assignee's financial obligations under the definitive BOT agreement.

- Interconnection, Deliverability, Transmission. Please see Section 2.5 below.
- Termination. The Model BOT Agreement includes termination provisions for, among other things, uncured material breach, bankruptcy, failure of FNTP, Closing, or Substantial Completion to occur before the expiration date, and certain title defects. The remedies for termination will differ depending on whether the termination is before or after the Closing and the cause of termination. For more complete termination payment details, please refer to the Model Solar BOT Agreement.

As indicated previously, the foregoing is not intended, and should not be construed, as an exhaustive listing of important commercial terms for any BOT transaction arising out of this RFP. As part of Proposal Submission, please provide a complete redline of the Model Solar BOT Agreement and the Model Solar Scope Book that is consistent with the requirements of Section 2.3 (Proposal Development and Special Exceptions) of this Main Body.

## 2.2. Solar PPA Proposals - High-Level Overview of Select Commercial Terms

The following highlights, in summary form, several basic commercial terms and considerations for the PPA(s) sought by this RFP. Details of the commercial terms of PPA transactions and considerations for PPA proposals and potential transactions under this RFP can be found in Appendix C (Model Solar PPA), in Appendix F (Credit/Collateral Requirements), and elsewhere in this RFP.

- PPA Products. Any purchase of energy made pursuant to a PPA arising out of this RFP will
  also include any and all Capacity, Capacity-Related Benefits (such as ZRCs), Other Electric
  Products, and Environmental Attributes associated with such Contract Energy or Contract
  Capacity, the proposed resource, or the transaction. The PPA minimum capacity amount will
  be 50 MW<sub>AC</sub>.
- *PPA Guaranteed Commercial Operation Date*. The Guaranteed Commercial Operation Date for any proposed PPA may as early as January 1, 2026. Seller will owe liquidated damages to Buyer if the resource has not achieved Commercial Operation by the Guaranteed Commercial Operation Date. The project schedule may be extended by force majeure for up to a maximum total of 150 days.
- *PPA Pricing*. The pricing for energy deliveries from the Facility will be based on an energy rate (expressed in \$/MWh), which will be either fixed for the entire Delivery Term or defined annually (as proposed by Bidder). The energy rate will be subject to temporary reductions if the aggregate energy deliveries under the PPA over the contract year exceed a specified amount for that contract year. A proposal's pricing must reflect an "all-in" energy price (including all related fees and expenses) that ELL would pay to Seller for all inputs, goods, services, work (including, without limitation, development, engineering, procurement, and construction work), and costs and risks related to, and products associated with, the provision,

generation, and delivery to ELL of Contract Energy, Contract Capacity, Capacity-Related Benefits, Other Electric Products, and Environmental Attributes and Seller's performance and risks under the PPA. Bidder's proposed pricing should take into account any tax credits and tax benefits associated with the resource and accruing to the project owner.

- Energy Delivery Requirements. PPAs will include guaranteed annual energy delivery minimums entitling ELL to liquidated damages if the minimums are not met and to terminate the PPA for specified failures to meet energy delivery minimums over any two (2) consecutive contract years or any three (3) contract years (whether or not consecutive).
- Delivery Term. The minimum and maximum Delivery Terms for PPAs are ten (10) and twenty (20) consecutive years, respectively, with an interest in fifteen (15)-year or shorter terms. The Delivery Term for any individual PPA is expected to be based upon the Delivery Term specified in the proposal giving rise to the PPA. If the Delivery Term would expire on a date that is not the end of the MISO Planning Year as recognized by the applicable Balancing Authority (May 31 under the current MISO Rules), ELL will have an option, exercisable at no cost to ELL, to extend the Delivery Term on the same commercial terms and applicable pricing under the Definitive Agreement, so that it terminates at the end of such planning period.
- Delivery/Receipt Commitment. Subject to certain exceptions set forth in the PPA, including, without limitation, ELL's right to curtail energy deliveries and force majeure, Seller will be required to deliver to ELL, and ELL will be required to purchase from Seller, all energy from the Contract Capacity injected to the Injection Point via financial settlement as described below. As part of its delivery commitment, Seller will waive any and all QF put rights with respect to the Capacity contracted to Buyer under the PPA.
- *Financial Settlement*. Products will be financially settled at the ELL Load Node. Seller will be responsible for any basis differential between the product price at the Injection Point and the product price at the ELL Load Node and related costs.
- Cost Recovery. As described more fully in Section 2.6 below, in PPAs arising out of this RFP, Sellers will be required to absorb the risks of the possible disallowance, denial, or preclusion of recovery by the LPSC and other Governmental Authorities of ELL's costs incurred in connection with a PPA arising out of this RFP, excluding certain limited Cost Recovery Risks (the ELL-Allocated Cost Recovery Risks) that will remain with ELL.
- Liability Transfer. ELL will not accept the risk that any long-term liability will or may be recognized on its (or any of its Affiliates') books in connection with any PPA entered into pursuant to this RFP, whether the long-term liability is due to lease accounting, the accounting for a variable interest entity or derivatives, or any other applicable accounting standard or requirement.

- Credit. Under the terms of this RFP, Seller will be required, without exception, to post and
  maintain credit support as provided in the Model Solar PPA and Appendix F and to certify at
  proposal submission its understanding and acceptance of the core credit support terms.
  Appendix F includes other essential information concerning the production and disclosure of
  financial information as part of the Proposal Submission Process, the evaluation of credit
  information and proposals provided in the RFP, and limitations on Bidder special
  considerations related to credit terms.
- Battery. If battery energy storage capability is included in any PPA entered into pursuant to this RFP, ELL will have the right to determine when the battery is charged and discharged, subject to the applicable storage operating procedures. ELL will pay the same energy charge as set forth above in "PPA Pricing" for energy from the Solar PV used to charge the battery, with energy discharged from the battery and delivered to the Physical Delivery Point to be financially settled as set forth in "Financial Settlement" above, with no further payment obligation by ELL, except as ELL and Seller may otherwise agree in the PPA for any grid charging of an AC-coupled battery, if applicable. Seller will be subject to battery storage availability and efficiency guaranties, with related liquidated damages obligations if those guaranties are not met.
- Interconnection, Deliverability, Transmission. Please see Section 2.5 below.

The foregoing is not intended, and should not be construed, as an exhaustive listing of important commercial terms for any PPA arising out of this RFP. As part of Proposal Submission described below, please provide a complete redline of the Model Solar PPA that is consistent with the requirements of Section 2.3 (Proposal Development and Special Exceptions) of this Main Body.

## 2.3. Proposal Development and Special Exceptions

Bidders are responsible for developing and submitting proposals in accordance with the terms set forth, and information communicated to Bidders, in this RFP, including the terms of the model agreements. It is important that Bidders base their proposals on such terms and information and not the terms in any other RFP issued by or any previous contract entered into with ELL or an Affiliate of ELL. Bidders are cautioned against relying solely or principally on the summaries included in the Main Body when developing proposals for this RFP, submitting proposals without a reasonably complete understanding of the terms set forth in the RFP and all Appendices, including the model agreements, made available to Bidders prior to proposal submission, or assuming that ELL will entertain or accept material changes to the model agreements, the terms of which were developed for this RFP and apply to all Bidders.

ELL expects that the terms, conditions, and technical requirements of this RFP, including, without limitation, the appropriate model agreement, the Scope Book (BOT transactions only), and Appendix F, will be included or reflected in any Definitive Agreement executed for a proposal. Bidder will be charged with knowledge of the terms of this RFP, including, without limitation, the appropriate model agreement(s), the Scope Book (BOT transactions only), and Appendix F, when

ESL evaluates Bidder's proposal(s) and during any negotiation of the Definitive Agreement. In the event of any inconsistency between a provision in the applicable model agreement and any other part of this RFP, including between the Main Body and the Scope Book (BOT transactions only), or the applicable model agreement, the model agreement will control. To the extent unexplained inconsistencies exist and Bidder desires clarification, please contact the Bid Event Coordinator.

Subject to the other terms of this RFP, including, without limitation, Section C of Appendix F and Section 2.8 below, Bidders are permitted to make special exceptions to terms included in the model agreements and the Scope Book that they are unwilling to accept. Each Bidder is required to include with its proposal (i) a legible, electronically generated redline mark-up of the applicable model agreement and, for BOT transactions only, the Scope Book (ii) an issues list or log setting forth and providing a reasonably complete and reasonably detailed summary and explanation for each of Bidder's special exceptions (if any). Redline agreements or special exceptions in which Bidder (a) reserves wholesale rights to comment on terms or conditions included in a Definitive Agreement, (b) makes widespread, wholesale, or fundamental changes to material terms or conditions set forth in the applicable model agreement and, for BOT transactions only, the Scope Book, (c) conditions its proposal on the acceptance of material terms or conditions not accepted by ELL in the ordinary course of business or that would materially diminish the value of the resource to ELL, the viability of the proposal, or the likelihood of a Definitive Agreement based on the proposal, (d) takes exception to commercial terms without reasonably complete and detailed explanations or when such exceptions are not permitted by the express terms of this RFP, including Appendix F, or (e) takes actions the effect of which would be similar to those resulting from the actions described in clauses (a)-(d) are not contemplated and are grounds for a proposal's elimination from consideration in this RFP, following consultation with the IM. Bidder-provided redline agreements and special exceptions (and summaries thereof) will be reviewed in the proposal evaluation phase of this RFP. The results of ESL's review of Bidder's special exceptions may adversely or positively affect the proposal's ranking. For purposes of the proposal evaluation and contract negotiations, Bidder will be deemed to have accepted any provision of the applicable model agreement and, for BOT transactions, the Scope Book that is not shown as marked or expressly noted as covered by a prior edit to the agreement or the Scope Book.

Notwithstanding anything in this RFP to the contrary, ELL's acceptance or selection of a proposal containing redlines of the applicable model agreement or Scope Book or other special exceptions does not mean that ELL agrees with the exceptions or will agree to or accept the exceptions (or variants of the exceptions) in any negotiation of a Definitive Agreement. Without limiting the other terms of this RFP, including this Section 2.3, Appendix E, and Section C of Appendix F, ELL reserves all rights in any proposal evaluation or negotiation involving the exceptions, including, without limitation, the right not to accept or agree to any of the exceptions (or any variant thereof), the right not to pay Bidder or Seller any incremental amount or consideration if ELL does not accept or agree to any particular exception or any proposed compromise, and the right to terminate negotiations if Bidder or Seller requires ELL to agree to any particular exception (or any variant thereof) as a condition to continued discussions.

## 2.4. Threshold Requirements

Subject to the other terms of this RFP, ESL will consider only proposals submitted in accordance with and meeting the requirements of Section 4 below. In addition to those proposal submission requirements, proposals under this RFP are required to satisfy, and will be reviewed early in the RFP evaluation process for compliance with, the prerequisites specified in this Section 2.4 (collectively, the "Threshold Requirements"). Any proposal not meeting the Threshold Requirements will be considered non-conforming and may be eliminated by ESL from further consideration in this RFP, after consultation with the IM. The Threshold Requirements are as follows:

- Bidder must be an Eligible Participant.
- The resource supporting Bidder's proposal must be an Eligible Resource and Bidder must provide evidence satisfactory to ESL demonstrating that the proposed resource is an Eligible Resource.
- The proposal must be for a BOT transaction or a PPA transaction (or an ELL Self-Build Option Proposal).
- The proposed resource must be free of fatal design flaws and/or atypical operational or permitting restrictions that would reasonably be expected to prevent it from meeting the requirements of this RFP.
- Bidders must provide the interconnection, deliverability, and transmission service documentation for their proposals to the Bid Event Coordinator or as part of their Proposal Packages, in accordance with the applicable requirements of this RFP.
- A BOT proposal must offer at least 50 MW<sub>AC</sub> of Capacity for Solar PV technology at the Physical Delivery Point.
- A PPA proposal must offer at least 50 MW<sub>AC</sub> of Capacity for Solar PV technology at the Injection Point and provide for the financial settlement of energy from the resource at the ELL Load Node.
- For PPA proposals, the proposed Delivery Term must be no less than ten (10) consecutive years and no more than twenty (20) consecutive years.
- Bidders must provide a complete hourly generation profile of the proposed resource and explain how it was derived. The profile should be based upon verifiable data, to the extent available, for a period of two (2) or more recent years using established, reliable, and accurate data measurement equipment at or near the site of the proposed resource and/or a third-party assessment study. Bidders should provide this information in the appropriate fields in Appendix D, Attachment B, which will be posted on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website and available to registered bidders in PowerAdvocate.

- Bidder must show that Seller, or an Affiliate under Seller's control, has control of 75% or more of the project site or an enforceable contract to obtain control of at least 75% of the project site for at least the full delivery term proposed by Bidder (PPA transactions) or the expected useful life of the resource (BOT transactions).<sup>2</sup> If Bidder, or Seller or an Affiliate under Seller's control, has obtained at least 75% but less than 100% site control over each of the sites upon which its individual generating facilities for the proposed resource will be located, Bidder must have in place at the time of proposal submission (and provide to ESL upon request) a reasonable written site procurement plan to gain full site control by a time that will support the project schedule (including the in-service date) for the proposed resource.
- The proposed resource must be capable of providing the offered amount of energy, Capacity, and Other Electric Products to ELL at the Physical Delivery Point (BOT transactions) or the Injection Point (PPA transactions).
- For PPA proposals, Bidder must include in the Proposal Package the accounting (if requested) and credit certifications, and for BOT proposals, Bidder must include in the Proposal Package the credit certifications, required under, and prepared, executed, and submitted in accordance with, the requirements of, Sections 5.1.4 (PPA proposals only) and 5.1.6 below, respectively.
- Bidder must provide the most recent Published Credit Rating from S&P and Moody's of Bidder (or, if different from Bidder, Seller), to the extent such a rating exists. Alternatively, Bidder must provide the annual audited financial statements for the past two (2) years and the current year reviewed quarterly financial statements of Bidder (or, if different from Bidder, Seller). The financial statement needs to include the independent auditor's opinion and notes to the financial statements, the balance sheet, the income statement, and the cash flow statement.

Please see Section 5.1 below for additional information on the Threshold Requirements, including the evaluation of proposals for satisfaction of the requirements.

## 2.5. Interconnection, Deliverability, and Transmission Considerations

This Section 2.5 identifies and addresses certain interconnection, deliverability, and transmission matters or requirements that Bidders should consider when preparing a proposal for this RFP.

### 2.5.1. Required Interconnection, Deliverability, and Transmission Service

This RFP requires that any proposed Solar PV (whether BOT or PPA) resource interconnect directly to the Louisiana region of MISO South Transmission System, preferably in the SELPA or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A letter of intent, memorandum of understanding, or other similar document contemplating the subsequent negotiation of a definitive agreement regarding Bidder's control of the project site will not satisfy the site control requirement.

WOTAB region. Seller will be obligated under the Definitive Agreement to obtain, and bear the full costs and risks of the arrangement, procurement, receipt, and maintenance of, the interconnection, deliverability, and transmission service necessary for the resource to make available and deliver to the Physical Delivery Point (BOT transactions) or the Injection Point (PPA transactions) the full energy output, Capacity, and Other Electric Products of the resource and as required by this RFP, including, without limitation, (i) the electric interconnection of the resource to the host utility at a transmission voltage level and the establishment of the Electric Interconnection Point (BOT transactions) or the Injection Point (PPA transactions) as a separate (and the exclusive) commercial pricing or settlement node for the resource (with the resource being the only source of energy injection at the Electric Interconnection Point or Injection Point, as applicable, for settlement purposes), (ii) ERIS and, subject to Section 2.5.5 below, either NRIS or network integration transmission service ("NITS"), at Seller's election, for the resource in an amount equal to, in each case, at least the Guaranteed Capacity (BOT transactions) or Expected Capacity (PPA transactions) of the resource (as set forth in the proposal and the Definitive Agreement), and (iii) for PPAs, the financial settlement of energy and Other Electric Products at the ELL Load Node in accordance with Section 2.5.4 below. If Bidder elects in its proposal to meet its deliverability and transmission service requirements through NITS instead of through NRIS, ELL will be responsible for applying for and seeking to obtain NITS for the project from MISO at Seller's cost and risk. Seller will be required to take such actions as ELL may reasonably request in connection with ELL's efforts to apply for and obtain NITS for the resource, including, without limitation, (a) paying in advance for all NITS application and study costs and expenses, (b) timely executing and providing documents, material, and information as required or requested by MISO, transmission owners, or Balancing Authorities, (c) making payments and providing credit support directly to MISO, transmission owners, or other third parties as may be required or requested under the applicable rules and tariffs or agreements with MISO, transmission owners, or third parties concerning NITS for the resource, and (d) negotiating supporting agreements with ELL or third parties.

The Closing (BOT transactions) and Delivery Term commencement (PPA transactions) will be conditioned on the completion of all upgrades, improvements, and other actions necessary for the full receipt of such interconnection, deliverability, and transmission services and recognition by MISO and/or other applicable Balancing Authorities that such services have been obtained and are in full force and effect.

The interconnection, deliverability, and transmission costs for which Seller will be responsible include, among others, the costs of upgrades and improvements assigned to Seller under the applicable interconnection, deliverability, or transmission agreement with MISO, the transmission owner, and/or Balancing Authority, except to the extent stated to be the exclusive cost responsibility of the applicable transmission provider, transmission owner, or Balancing Authority under the applicable tariffs, rules, regulations, or requirements of, or generator interconnection or other agreements with, such transmission provider, transmission owner, or Balancing Authority, and, for PPAs, transformer, line losses, congestion charges, and other costs to the ELL Load Node. As with other Bidder costs, Bidder will be responsible for reflecting these costs in Bidder's proposed pricing. Under the terms of this RFP, each Bidder is required to provide, among other things, transmission

interconnection and network upgrade cost estimates for Transmission Owner's Interconnection Facilities, Stand Alone Network Upgrades, and Network Upgrades (each as defined in the MISO Tariffs) and include those cost estimates in the purchase price breakdown in Appendix D.

ELL expects to seek to qualify any resource selected from this RFP as a network resource of ELL in MISO. The Definitive Agreement will require Seller, subject to ELL's direction to the contrary, to take all actions necessary or advisable to cause the resource to be qualified and/or recognized in MISO as a network resource of ELL in MISO and to cause ELL to be eligible for and receive all transmission rights and entitlements associated with the Contract Capacity of the resource, including, without limitation, auction revenue rights and financial transmission rights.

## 2.5.2. Interconnection Service Applications

Under the current MISO Rules, the receipt of interconnection service from MISO, including, without limitation, ERIS and NRIS, requires the submission to MISO of a generator interconnection application under the applicable generator interconnection process. For any proposal offered in this RFP, Bidder or a Bidder Affiliate must have obtained, or be in the queue to obtain, a GIA with MISO for the proposed resource that supports the proposal and meets the requirements of this RFP, including, without limitation, those described in Section 1.9, Section 2.4, and this Section 2.5. The GIA must provide that the project has or will receive (or, if there is no GIA, the GIA application must request the project's receipt of) at least the amount of ERIS and, if applicable, NRIS necessary for the resource to obtain the amount of ERIS and, if applicable, NRIS specified in clause (ii) of the first paragraph of Section 2.5.1 above. Bidder must provide a complete and accurate copy of a fully executed GIA or, in its absence, the submitted MISO generator interconnection service application for the Facility as part of its Proposal Package.

It is not necessary for Bidder or Seller to have received for the proposed resource the results of a MISO DPP study (unless the resource is in a 2022 or later MISO DPP queue, in which case receipt of a Phase 1 DPP study is required) or any other interconnection, deliverability, or transmission service study, or executed the required GIA or any other agreement necessary for receipt of the interconnection, deliverability, and transmission service required hereunder, in order for Bidder to submit a proposal in this RFP. Except to the extent ESL otherwise agrees in writing, pending execution of the GIA for Bidder's proposed resource, a resource in the MISO DPP queue must remain in the DPP queue (or have transitioned to a fully executed GIA) to remain an Eligible Resource in this RFP. If during the pendency of this RFP the resource does not remain in the queue to obtain the required service (unless it has transitioned to a fully executed GIA) or loses the right to obtain or receive such service, Bidder must promptly notify the Bid Event Coordinator, and any Bidder proposal backed by such resource will be subject to elimination. Bidders should bear in mind that the generator interconnection, deliverability, and transmission processes utilized by MISO operate on timelines and contain requirements that are independent of this RFP and may necessitate the expenditure of costs by Bidders for their proposed resources to remain in the queue or eligible to participate in this RFP.

#### 2.5.3. Product Deliveries and Financial Settlement

For any PPA arising out of this RFP, Seller will be required to make available Contract Capacity and deliver Contract Energy and Other Electric Products at the Injection Point. The financial settlement of Contract Energy and any Other Electric Products provided by Seller under the PPA will reflect the basis differential, if any, for energy or Other Electric Products between the Injection Point and the ELL Load Node in the applicable market (e.g., day-ahead or real-time) and related deliverability, loss, congestion, and other costs, including, without limitation, similar costs from the Physical Delivery Point to the Injection Point. In addition, Seller will be required to register and transfer Environmental Attributes to Buyer, which shall be accomplished by the means specified by Buyer and in accordance with the requirements of the Model Solar PPA.

## 2.5.4. Market Participant Services

For PPAs, subject to certain limitations, ELL will have, throughout the Delivery Term, the right to determine from time to time whether ELL (or a designee) or Seller will serve as the "Market Participant" for the generation resource before MISO and how the resource will be registered with MISO. ELL currently expects that it will require Seller to serve as the Market Participant for the resource and to register the proposed resource with MISO as a Capacity Resource. As the Market Participant for the resource, Seller would be responsible for, among other things, submitting financial schedules to MISO for deliveries of energy and Other Electric Products from the resource under the Definitive Agreement. Without limiting the other provisions of this Section 2.5 or the Model Solar PPA, Seller will be responsible for and bear any and all costs and risks associated with financially scheduling energy, including, without limitation, electric losses, MISO fees, charges, and other costs related thereto (e.g., financial scheduling fees, administrative costs, transaction charges). If ELL directs that the proposed resource be registered with MISO other than as a Capacity Resource (e.g., as a Load Modifying Resource), ELL currently expects that ELL would serve as the Market Participant for the resource. In such event, Seller will be required to cooperate with ELL to ensure that the registration and any qualification of the resource in MISO consistent with ELL's directions (e.g., as a Load Modifying Resource) are made in accordance with MISO Rules and ELL's reasonable requirements, including, without limitation, with regard to generator availability forecasting. Please see Appendix C, for additional information regarding Seller's responsibilities and obligations if Seller is the Market Participant for a contracted PPA resource under this RFP.

Any BOT Agreement based on a proposal in this RFP will require Seller and Buyer to commit to enter into a "MISO Agreement." Among other things, the MISO Agreement will obligate Buyer or its designee to serve as the Market Participant for the resource, subject to the potential transfer of its Market Participant rights and duties to Seller if the BOT transaction terminates prior to the Closing. The costs that Buyer or its designee incurs as the Market Participant for the resource before the Closing will be for Seller's account. The MISO Agreement will include certain limitations on Buyer's or its designee's rights and liabilities as the Market Participant and impose certain obligations on Seller during the period before the Closing that reflect Buyer's contingent rights to the resource.

#### 2.5.5. Proposals Without NRIS or NITS

Notwithstanding the NRIS or NITS requirements in this RFP, including, without limitation, those set forth in this Section 2.5, and ELL's strong preference for resources that can qualify as Network Resources of ELL in MISO, ELL will not reject, and will evaluate, proposals submitted for resources that do not include the required NRIS or NITS, subject to the proposal's compliance with the other requirements of this RFP, including the Threshold Requirements, and ELL's reservation of rights under Appendix E.

## 2.6. PPA Cost Recovery

Seller will be required to absorb the risks of the possible disallowance, disapproval, or preclusion of recovery by the LPSC and/or other Governmental Authorities of ELL costs incurred in connection with a PPA arising out of this RFP arising out of or relating to (i) Seller's negligence, fraud, willful misconduct, or other act or omission or (ii) breach of Seller's obligations under the applicable PPA ("Cost Recovery Risks"), excluding certain limited Cost Recovery Risks that will remain with ELL ("ELL-Allocated Cost Recovery Risks"). ELL-Allocated Cost Recovery Risks include (A) costs incurred by ELL in connection with the applicable PPA for which recovery was expressly disallowed, disapproved, or denied by the LPSC in its final order approving the PPA as in the public interest and prudent, provided ELL accepted the order as satisfying the LPSC regulatory approval condition to commencement of the PPA Delivery Term, and (B) payments or costs or expenses incurred by ELL in connection with the applicable PPA due exclusively to the active fault of ELL. Cost Recovery Risks expected to be borne by Sellers include, without limitation, unrecovered costs to replace Contract Capacity, Contract Energy, Environmental Attributes, and Other Electric Products not provided to ELL by Seller under the applicable PPA. ELL is willing to consider (but is under no obligation to accept) Special Considerations or proposals from Bidders that propose with specificity a different treatment or apportionment between ELL and Seller of Cost Recovery Risks and provide supporting rationale. Any proposed treatment of Cost Recovery Risks that would allocate all or substantially all Cost Recovery Risks to ELL is not contemplated.

#### 2.7. Environmental Considerations

Among other things, Bidder must include in its responses to Appendix D a viable environmental compliance plan and provide reasonable support for the viability of the plan. The plan must include reasonable descriptions of Bidder's plan to engineer, design, develop, procure, build, test, own/lease, operate, maintain, and repair the project (including the project site) in compliance with all applicable environmental laws (including regulations), permits, authorizations, and other requirements. Bidder must show that a recent "Phase I" or more comprehensive environmental site assessment of the project site has been performed in accordance with ASTM standards, environmental and other due diligence has been completed for the project (including the project site), and action plans have been established to a level sufficient to support all permitting and material environmental attribute accreditation activities.

## 2.8. Design and Operating Considerations

#### 2.8.1. BOT Resources

The following lists certain required generating resource equipment and design features for any BOT resource offered into this RFP:

- PV Module Manufacturer and Model from pre-approved list (see Appendix 9: Approved Manufacturers and EPC Contractors List of the Scope Book ("Solar BOT Scope Book Appendix 9"))
- PV Annual Degradation: no more than 0.5% on average
- PV Module Product Warranty: minimum ten (10) years
- PV Module Power Warranty: minimum 25 years
- Inverter Manufacturer from Approved List (see Solar BOT Scope Book Appendix 7)
- Inverter Voltage Rating: 1,500 VDC
- Inverter Product Warranty: minimum five (5) years
- Racking System Manufacturer from Approved List (see Solar BOT Scope Book Appendix
   9)
- Racking System Product Warranty: minimum five (5) years for moving parts, ten (10) years for structural parts
- Design Lifetime of the Plant: minimum 30 years
- Design Wind Speed, ASCE 7: Risk Category III
- Battery Manufacturer from Approved List (if Bidder offers a battery option with the proposal) (see Solar BESS Scope Book Appendix 1, Attachment 1)
- Battery Product Warranty: minimum ten (10) years (if Bidder offers a battery option with the proposal)
- Collector Substation Standard (see Appendix 1 of the Scope Book)Collector Substation Standard (see Appendix 1 of the Solar BOT Scope Book)
- High Voltage Overhead Transmission Standard (see Appendix 2 of the Scope Book)High Voltage Overhead Transmission Standard (see Appendix 2 of the Solar BOT Scope Book)
- Other equipment and design requirements and related terms for BOT resources, including terms on the potential addition of manufacturers and contractors to Scope Book Appendix 9, are set forth in Appendix B-2.

#### 2.8.2. PPA Resources

The following lists certain required generating resource equipment and design features for any solar PPA resource offered into this RFP:

• PV Module Manufacturer from a pre-approved list (see Exhibit 1 (Approved Manufacturers List) to Attachment B-1 to Schedule B of Appendix C (PPA) ("PPA Exhibit 1")

- Inverter Manufacturer from Approved List (see PPA Exhibit 1)
- Racking System Manufacturer from Approved List (see PPA Exhibit 1)
- Design Wind Speed, ASCE 7: Risk Category III (see item 1 of Attachment B-1 to Schedule B of Appendix C (PPA))
- Battery Manufacturer from Approved List (if Bidder offers a battery option with the proposal) (see Solar BESS Scope Book Appendix 1, Attachment 1).

Other equipment and design requirements and related terms for solar PPA resources, including, without limitation, terms on the potential addition of manufacturers to PPA Exhibit 1, are set forth in Attachment B-1 to Schedule B of Appendix C (Model Solar PPA) and the Model Solar PPA.

## 2.9. Supplier Information

Any project arising out of this RFP is expected to generate commercial opportunities for businesses that supply goods and services to the resources solicited by this RFP. ELL has an interest in understanding the effects of proposed projects on businesses located in the state of Louisiana and on small and small disadvantaged businesses. Appendix H includes information regarding local and HD suppliers that Bidders are required to provide as part of their Proposal Packages and/or should consider when developing the terms of their proposals.

#### 3. SELF-BUILD OPTION

ELL may submit into this RFP one or more solar PV projects as self-build options (each, a "Self-Build Option," and together, the "Self-Build Options"). Each Self-Build Option must be for a Solar PV facility that is consistent with the RFP's design criteria for developmental generation resources and within the capacity requirements defined in this RFP.

A Self-Build Option may utilize existing infrastructure and resources at ELL sites, including existing administrative or plant support infrastructure (e.g., office facilities). Generation from a Facility offered as a Self-Build Option may interconnect with an existing ELL transmission located at or near the site.

ESL will require that the completed submission for any Self-Build Option, including the cost estimate for the Self-Build Option (a "Self-Build Option Proposal"), and any proposal offered in this RFP by an Entergy Competitive Affiliate, be submitted to the Bid Event Coordinator and the IM prior to the receipt of proposals from all other Bidders, and no later than 5 p.m. CPT on the day before the first day of the Proposal Submission Period (the "Self-Build Option Proposal Submission Deadline"). After the Proposal Submission Deadline, the IM and the Bid Event Coordinator will provide redacted data and information from the proposals received to the Evaluation Teams (see Section 6 below) at approximately the same time. All proposals, including the Self-Build Option(s), will be evaluated on a consistent basis, as described in certain appendices to this RFP and in this Main Body, and, subject to the other terms hereof, on the time frame set forth in Section 4.1

below. As discussed in more detail in Appendix G, the Evaluation Teams (see Section 6 below) will not include any member of the Entergy self-build commercial team or support services team working on the Self-Build Options and will operate independently of these two teams.

The IM, in consultation with ESL, may choose to retain an independent consulting engineer to evaluate the reasonableness of the construction cost estimates of the Self-Build Options and, potentially, to undertake a similar evaluation for any other resource supporting a proposal submitted in this RFP. The IM may instead choose to assess the reasonableness of such estimates by reference to other relevant and competent information available to the IM. The IM will consult with ESL to (i) determine a process for selecting and retaining the independent consulting engineer, (ii) develop the scope of work to be performed by the consulting engineer, and (iii) determine how the engineer's report will be utilized in this RFP. In addition, ESL may retain an independent consulting engineer to estimate the cost to Buyer to have an independent owner's/buyer's engineer monitor the development and construction of a proposed third-party resource after selection through the completion of construction and provide related engineering services to protect Buyer's interest.

#### 4. RFP PROCESSES

#### 4.1. RFP Schedule Overview

The RFP Schedule is critical for Bidders interested in participating in this RFP. The RFP Schedule in the table below follows Order U-36697 and sets forth the milestone events and the corresponding milestone dates for this RFP. The RFP will consist of one (1) Bidders Conference and four (4) "**Procurement Windows**" during which proposals will be accepted. As indicated in footnote 3 below, the timing for execution of, and completion of the expedited regulatory approval process outlined in U-36697 for, Definitive Agreements will vary. Milestone events and dates shown below are target dates and are subject to change. There are no pre-designated target amounts for any of the Procurement Windows, subject to the overall target (up to 3,000 MW<sub>AC</sub>) for this RFP. After consultation with the IM, notice of any change to the then-current RFP Schedule will be posted on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website.

<b>RFP Milestone</b>	stone Milestone Date						
RFP Documents Issued	August 13, 2024						
Bidders Conference and Q&A Session	September 5, 2024						
	Procurement Window 1	Procurement Window 2	Procurement Window 3	Procurement Window 4			
Bidder Registration	8:00 a.m. CPT	8:00 a.m. CPT	8:00 a.m. CPT	8:00 a.m. CPT			
Period*	September 12, 2024	March 13, 2025	September 11, 2025	March 12, 2026			
	to 5:00 p.m. CPT						
	September 17, 2024	March 18, 2025	September 16, 2025	March 17, 2026			

Proposal Submission Fee Payment Deadline*	5:00 p.m. CPT September 30, 2024		5:00 p.m. CPT March 31, 2025		5:00 p.m. CPT September 29, 2025		5:00 p.m. CPT March 30, 2026		
<b>Self-Build Option</b>	8:00 a.r	n. CPT	8:00 a.m. CPT		8:00 a.n		8:00 a.m. CPT		
Proposal	October 2	*	April 28, 2025		October 27, 2025		April 27, 2026		
Submission Period*	to 5:00 p.m. CPT		to 5:00 p.m. CPT		to 5:00 p.m. CPT		to 5:00 p.m. CPT		
	Novembe	November 1, 2024		May 2, 2025		October 31, 2025		May 1, 2026	
Proposal	8:00 a.r	n. CPT	8:00 a.m. CPT		8:00 a.m. CPT		8:00 a.m. CPT		
Submission Period*	November	4, 2024 to	May 5, 2025 to		November 3, 2025 to		May 4, 2026		
(other than for Self-Build	5:00 p.r	n. CPT	5:00 p	.m. CPT	5:00 p.m. CPT		to 5:00 p.m. CPT		
Option Proposals)	Novembe	r 8, 2024	May	9, 2025	November 7, 2025		May 8, 2026		
Selections Announced*	January 10, 2025		July 1	1, 2025	January	9, 2026	July 10	, 2026	
Definitive									
Agreement	January 20, 2025		July 21, 2025		January 19, 2026		July 20, 2026		
Negotiations Begin*									
	PPA	BOT	PPA	ВОТ	PPA	BOT	PPA	ВОТ	
Definitive		Ootobor	Dohmsoms		Angust	Ootobor	December	March	
Agreements	July 2025	October	February	May 2026	August	October			
Executed* <sup>3</sup>		2025	2026		2026	2026	2026	2027	
Regulatory	December	March	June	Santambar	December	March	April	Inly	
Approval Process Complete* <sup>3</sup>	2025	2026	2026	September 2026	2026	2027	April 2027	July 2027	

Without limiting the terms of Appendix E (Reservation of Rights), ESL reserves the right to modify the RFP Schedule (including any milestone or milestone date) at any time in its sole discretion. ESL will endeavor to timely notify all participants in this RFP of any such modification.

The RFP documents dated August 13, 2024, are the final RFP documents for this RFP, subject to ESL's and ELL's reservation of rights under Appendix E.

#### 4.2. Bidders Conference

ELL has scheduled a teleconference/webcast for potential Bidders and other stakeholders on the date set out in the RFP Schedule for the Bidders Conference. The Bidders Conference will give participants a high-level overview of, and other information concerning, this RFP and related processes and is open to all interested Persons. ELL and ESL personnel and the IM will be available at the Bidders Conference to answer questions about the RFP Schedule, the Bidder Registration Process, the Proposal Submission Process, the evaluation process, technical RFP issues, and proposed transaction terms and conditions, and to respond to other requests for information about this RFP.

<sup>\*</sup> Target dates subject to change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The time required to negotiate and execute Definitive Agreements typically varies by transaction type and depends upon numerous other factors. Similarly, the date on which the regulatory approval process concludes for a transaction turns on the execution date of the Definitive Agreement, the amount of docket congestion, and other circumstances that can differ materially from transaction to transaction and Procurement Window to Procurement Window.

The Bidders Conference will be recorded and the recording posted along with written materials presented during the Bidders Conference on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website. Bidders are advised that those written materials may not duplicate all the information provided during the Bidders Conference and some of the information may become outdated and/or no longer accurate.

Responses to questions received during the Bidders Conference will be posted on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website. Following the Bidders Conference, ELL will continue to accept questions concerning the RFP at <a href="ellrfp@entergy.com">ellrfp@entergy.com</a> and to post responses on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website until the date set out in the RFP Schedule as the commencement of the first procurement window. Please refer to Sections 6.2 and 6.3 below and Appendix G for additional information concerning questions submitted in connection with this RFP. To the extent inconsistencies exist between the RFP documents and the Bidders Conference presentation or the responses to questions received during the Bidders Conference posted on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website or provided orally, the RFP documents will control.

Bidders or other parties that plan to attend the Bidders Conference must notify ELL of their planned attendance no later than 5:00 p.m. CPT September 3, 2024. Attendance notices should be sent to the Bid Event Coordinator at ellrfp@entergy.com and should include the name of the participating organization, as well as the name, title, email address, and telephone number of each individual representing the participating organization during the Bidder Conferences. Upon receipt of an attendance notice, the Bid Event Coordinator will provide the dial-in/Webex meeting details to the registered participant(s).

## 4.3. Bidder Registration Process

To be eligible to submit a proposal, Bidder must complete the Bidder Registration Process during the Bidder Registration Period. For each Procurement Window, Bidder Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. CPT on the Bidder Registration start date specified in the applicable RFP Schedule and end at 5:00 p.m. CPT on the Bidder Registration end date specified in the applicable RFP Schedule for such Procurement Window (the "Bidder Registration Period," and the deadline for Bidder Registration, the "Bidder Registration Deadline").

To register for this RFP, Bidders are required to submit a completed Bidder Registration Agreement and the documentation requested therein to the Bid Event Coordinator, copying the IM, via email at the respective addresses provided in Bid Event Coordinator and Independent Monitor sections above, by the applicable Bidder Registration Deadline. Bidders will bear the risk of failing to submit a completed Bidder Registration Agreement and the documentation requested therein by the applicable Bidder Registration Deadline. The Bidder Registration Agreement must be executed by an officer or other representative of Bidder who is authorized to sign on Bidder's behalf. Only Bidders registered in accordance with this RFP will be permitted to submit proposals in this RFP, and only proposals registered in accordance with this RFP will be eligible for submission. After completion of Bidder Registration, the Bidder will receive evaluation identification numbers for each registered proposal.

The following documentation must be submitted in this RFP to complete the Bidder Registration Process and to receive the necessary identification numbers and the results of the creditworthiness evaluation of the Seller Parent for Proposal Submission:

- Bidder Registration Agreement
- Bidder Registration Form
- The fully executed GIA with MISO, if applicable, or the MISO DPP application for the 2020 or 2021 DPP queue (or a later MISO DPP queue for which MISO has provided a Phase 1 DPP study result for the resource at the time of proposal submission) and the queue number assigned to the proposed resource.

## **Evaluation Identification Numbers**

Following submission of its completed Bidder Registration Agreement and the documentation requested therein, Bidder will be issued a unique Bidder ID, a Resource ID for each registered resource, and a Proposal ID for each registered proposal. Bidder IDs, Resource IDs, and Proposal IDs will be used by Bidders in the Proposal Submission Process and in connection with the evaluation of proposal information received by ESL. The use of Bidder IDs, Resource IDs, and Proposal IDs is part of ESL's process to ensure that appropriate protections are in place to minimize the dissemination of information that explicitly identifies Bidders to individuals not involved in the RFP evaluation.

## 4.4. Proposal Submission Fees

Bidders are required to pay a Proposal Submission Fee of \$5,000 for *each* proposal registered in the RFP. Proposals that are alternatives to each other will be considered separate proposals, including proposals that include differences in pricing, the commercial operation date, the term of PPA, and any other difference, and should be registered as separate proposals. The same or similar proposals offered by a Bidder in different Procurement Windows will be treated as separate proposals, each with its own Proposal Submission Fee. Bidders will be permitted to offer multiple proposals for the optional BESS for its proposed resource. The initial battery proposal (if any) for the resource will not be considered an alternative proposal and Bidder will not be assessed a Proposal Submission Fee for its submission. Each subsequent battery proposal for the resource will be considered an alternative proposal and will result in an incremental \$1,000 Proposal Submission Fee for each such proposal. No Proposal Submission Fee will be due for Self-Build Option Proposals (ELL would be paying itself).

ESL will bill Bidder the total Proposal Submission Fee due from Bidder for each proposal for this RFP within three (3) Business Days following the end of the Bidder Registration Period. Bidder will be required to remit payment of the Proposal Submission Fee(s) in full in accordance with the instructions provided in the invoice. Payment will be due by the date specified in the applicable RFP Schedule (the "**Proposal Submission Fee Payment Deadline**"). **Bidder's failure to submit the** 

Proposal Submission Fee for a proposal by the Proposal Submission Fee Payment Deadline will result in the elimination of such proposal from this RFP.

In the event a Proposal Submission Fee is not paid in full by the Proposal Submission Fee Payment Deadline and it is unclear which proposal was not supported by payment of the required Proposal Submission Fee, ESL will have the discretion to determine which proposal to eliminate or what other action(s) to take.

Proposal Submission Fees will be refunded to Bidders only in the following circumstances:

- Bidder registers a proposal and pays the Proposal Submission Fee but does not complete Proposal Submission for the registered proposal;
- Bidder registers a proposal, properly completes Proposal Submission, but subsequently withdraws the registered proposal prior to the Proposal Submission Deadline; or
- ELL cancels or terminates this RFP prior to completion of the evaluation of proposals for the Selection List.

If Bidder, or any proposal submitted by Bidder, becomes ineligible or is eliminated from this RFP for any reason other than a reason set forth in the bulleted items immediately above, including, without limitation, if no proposals are selected for the Selection List after ELL has completed its evaluation of proposals, Bidder's Proposal Submission Fee(s) will not be returned.

## 4.5. Proposal Submission

The "**Proposal Submission Process**" requires each Bidder to submit to ESL, for each Procurement Window, a "**Proposal Package**" *for each proposal registered and submitted in this RFP in such Procurement Window.* The Proposal Package will include:

- A Proposal Submission Agreement signed by an officer or other representative of Bidder who is authorized to sign the agreement and tender the submitted proposal(s) on Bidder's behalf;
- A completed Proposal Submission Template (Excel sheet);
- A completed Viability Self-Assessment;
- A completed Due Diligence Questionnaire (Appendix D) and related attachments (as a point of emphasis, Bidders may *not* submit one set of responses and attachments covering two or more proposals), including, without limitation;
  - the requested generation profile for two years (Excel Sheet);
  - documents requested by the questionnaire;
  - the required demonstration that Bidder or Seller has the requisite control over the project site; and
  - a project summary;
- A completed, properly executed Form of Credit Certification (see Annex F-1 to Appendix F) and, if requested by ESL, a completed, properly executed accounting certificate; and

• All other documents and information that Bidder is required to provide under this RFP for the proposal submitted.

All proposal submissions are required to be made through PowerAdvocate to the Bid Event Coordinator. Bidders should not send, and the Bid Event Coordinator will not accept, paper copies of proposals or proposals delivered other than through PowerAdvocate. For any Procurement Window, Bidder must deliver the complete Proposal Package(s) for its proposal(s) by the applicable Proposal Submission Deadline or the Self-Build Option Proposal Submission Deadline, as applicable, for the proposal(s) to be considered for this RFP.

After the Bid Event Coordinator has electronically received Bidder's completed Proposal Package, Bidder will receive a confirmation of receipt from the Bid Event Coordinator. Bidder should contact the Bid Event Coordinator if a confirmation is not received within one (1) Business Day after Bidder's submission of the Proposal Package.

Bidder will bear the risk of any failure of Bidder to submit the completed Proposal Package by the Proposal Submission Deadline or the Self-Build Option Proposal Submission Deadline, as applicable, as required by this RFP. Proposals not delivered in accordance with the requirements of this RFP are untimely and may be eliminated from consideration in this RFP. Proposals that do not include all agreements, material, and information required by this RFP may be considered non-conforming and rejected on that basis.

#### 5. PROPOSAL EVALUATION

#### 5.1 Overview and Assessments

Following the Proposal Submission Deadline for each Procurement Window, the RFP proposal evaluation process will begin. Proposals will be assessed for compliance with the Threshold Requirements to identify significant high-level risks or RFP nonconformities associated with such proposals. Proposals will be evaluated against the evaluation parameters stipulated in Order U-36697. Applying qualitative and quantitative assessments, the proposals will be assigned a proposal ranking and a recommended disposition. A final list setting forth the proposal(s) (if any) selected for negotiation of a Definitive Agreement (the "Selection List") will be created.

After the selection process has been completed and any selections made by ELL, the Bid Event Coordinator will notify each Bidder, for each proposal it submitted, whether the proposal is on the Selection List (if any) or has been eliminated from further consideration in the particular RFP Procurement Window. Without limiting its rights under Appendix E, ELL expects to proceed to negotiate the terms of a Definitive Agreement with a Bidder having a proposal on the Selection List.

The proposal evaluation process in this RFP will be carried out by five (5) separate evaluation teams (each an "Evaluation Team"):

- > the Economic Evaluation Team ("**EET**");
- > the Viability Assessment Team ("VAT");
- ➤ the Accounting Evaluation Team ("**AET**");
- ➤ the Transmission Evaluation Team ("**TET**"); and
- ➤ the Credit Evaluation Team ("CET").

The roles and responsibilities of the Evaluation Teams are described in this section. ESL may include as a member on any Evaluation Team, or contract with, any third-party agent, consultant, advisor, expert, contractor, or representative to assist in the evaluation of proposals as ESL deems necessary or appropriate.

Another team, the RFP Administration Team, will act to ensure that each Evaluation Team has the information needed to perform its analysis and act to facilitate the evaluation of proposals by all Evaluation Teams so that the evaluation process results in the proper assessment of the economics and other relevant elements of the proposals. The RFP Administration Team, with ELL's approval, may also eliminate proposals from this RFP based on the team's independent review of the proposals or recommendations or input provided by one or more of the Evaluation Teams. In addition, the Bid Event Coordinator may consult with members of the RFP Administration Team from time to time on matters related to questions whether information regarding a proposal may be needed by or should be made available to an Evaluation Team. The RFP Administration Team will also prepare and distribute the results of this RFP for each Procurement Window to appropriate individuals at ELL and may recommend to ELL the placement of proposals on the Selection List for each Procurement Window or the elimination of proposals.

Each of the Evaluation Teams, the RFP Administration Team, and the Bid Event Coordinator will have the right to ask Bidder clarifying questions to obtain additional information that it believes may help with its understanding, review, or analysis of Bidder's proposal. Clarifying questions from any of the Evaluation Teams, the RFP Administration Team, or the Bid Event Coordinator are expected to be communicated by the Bid Event Coordinator to Bidder through PowerAdvocate. The Bid Event Coordinator may also request Bidder's participation in one or more meetings to obtain clarification or additional information regarding a proposal. Upon the Bid Event Coordinator's reasonable request and reasonable prior notice, Bidder will be expected to make available its duly authorized officers, representatives, and advisors to participate in meetings requested by the Bid Event Coordinator, ESL, or ELL and/or answer questions or provide information related to its proposal or participation in this RFP.

The evaluation process is designed to facilitate the fair and impartial evaluation of all proposals received in this RFP and to result in the selection of one or more proposals that meet the RFP's requirements and ELL's needs at the lowest reasonable cost to ELL's customers, taking into account reliability, risk, and other relevant factors. The process will be conducted in a carefully controlled manner, using procedures, methods, evaluation criteria, and assumptions that will be developed prior to the receipt of proposals. ESL will document key assumptions and model constructs and provide this documentation to the IM before the receipt of proposals; however, the

Evaluation Teams will retain full discretion to use the evaluation methods and assumptions they consider appropriate to identify those proposals that best meet the needs of ELL and the requirements and objectives of this RFP.

Any Bidder invited by ELL to finalize a Definitive Agreement will be expected to use its reasonable best efforts to take, or cause to be taken, all actions and to do, or cause to be done, all things necessary or appropriate to finalize, execute, and deliver such Definitive Agreement as promptly as possible.

## **5.1.1** Threshold Requirements Assessments

After the Proposal Submission Deadline, the necessary Evaluation Teams and/or the RFP Administration Team will review the proposals offered into this RFP in order to determine compliance with the Threshold Requirements. Proposals that fail to satisfy the Threshold Requirements may be eliminated from this RFP on that basis or may be allowed to continue in the evaluation process. The retention of a proposal that fails to fulfill the Threshold Requirements after the initial Threshold Requirements evaluation does not preclude the subsequent elimination of the proposal from this RFP on account of the Threshold Requirements failure(s) or for other reasons.

#### **5.1.2** Economic Assessments

The EET is responsible for evaluating the economics of proposals received in this RFP and developing the economic ranking of such proposals. The EET's evaluation will rely on identifying proposals consistent with the evaluation parameters approved in Order U-36697. The EET may also utilize and rely on additional tools and methods that it deems necessary or appropriate for the effective assessment of proposal economics, including, but not limited to, qualitative considerations and/or alternative structures that may be requested by ELL. The EET may perform sensitivity analyses.

#### Economic Evaluation Methodology

A preliminary methodology for the economic evaluation of proposals offered into the RFP follows. The actual process is expected to reflect adjustments made from time to time to the preliminary process.

The EET will identify proposals that have economic terms that are consistent with the LPSC-approved economic evaluation parameters. The EET's economic evaluation will be performed in a manner consistent with the terms of Order U-36697 and will include the screening, without limitation, of the following proposal components, as they apply to the proposal being assessed.

BOTs and Self-Build	PPAs
Options	(\$/kWh)
$(\$/kW_{AC})$	

Acquisition Cost	All-in PPA Energy Pricing
Transmission,	Imputed Debt
Interconnection, and	Cost
Deliverability Costs	
Land Acquisition Cost	Other Costs
or	(if applicable)
Land Lease Costs	
Other Costs	
(if applicable)	
Capacity Factor	Capacity Factor

The economic evaluation of battery energy storage systems was not contemplated by the LPSC-approved parameters. If a proposal for an optional BESS is submitted in this RFP, the EET will determine the appropriate economic evaluation methodology for the BESS.

## **5.1.3** Viability Analysis.

The VAT reviews and assesses the technical, environmental, energy source supply, and commercial merits of proposals. Each Bidder will be required to provide a self-assessment for each proposal it submits into this RFP.

The viability assessment will be carried out by subject matter experts (each, an "**SME**") who are members of the VAT. The subject matter expertise of VAT team members for this RFP includes:

- Plant & Equipment/Operations;
- Environmental:
- Commercial:
- Real Estate; and
- Other disciplines, as appropriate.

Each VAT SME will be responsible for providing an overview and assessment of each proposal with respect to his or her area(s) of expertise.

The VAT will develop a risk assessment and overall risk/viability profile of proposals received in the RFP. The VAT's evaluation will be based on a qualitative assessment of various criteria in general risk categories, including Bidder's responses to the questions and requests included in Appendix D. Bidders are expected to provide complete responses to Appendix D (as applicable to their proposals) at the time of proposal submission. FAILURE TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSES TO APPENDIX D INQUIRIES COULD NEGATIVELY AFFECT A PROPOSAL'S OVERALL VIABILITY ASSESSMENT. The qualitative assessment will incorporate quantitative measures that result in an overall rating for a proposal. A criteria and category rating will be

developed for the proposal by scoring multiple criteria in several risk categories, using pre-defined criteria. The weighted sum of each risk category's result will be totaled to determine the VAT's overall rating of the proposal. The final viability rating will be factored into the evaluation of proposals by the RFP Administration Team.

The VAT's risk and viability evaluations will include assessments of resource capabilities, project development risks, environmental compliance risks, construction risks, completion risks, safety concerns, proposed commercial terms (including Special Considerations), resource deliverability, regulatory considerations, and other factors the VAT determines may bear on a proposal's risk and viability. The VAT may seek and incorporate into its viability assessment input from other Evaluation Teams. Without limiting Appendix E, ESL and ELL will have the right to reject a proposal on the ground that the proposal, in the judgment of the applicable Evaluation Team(s), ESL, or ELL, does not meet the criteria for viability established in connection with this RFP or otherwise is not viable.

## **5.1.4** Accounting Assessments

The AET will perform an assessment to determine the accounting treatment of proposed PPAs and accounting implications of the proposed Definitive Agreement. The assessment will include, but is not limited to, an analysis of:

- ➤ for PPAs, whether the proposed PPA contains a lease and, if so, whether the lease would result in the recognition of any long-term liability for ELL or its Affiliates under the rules in effect during the term of the proposed PPA, in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 842;
- ➤ for PPAs, whether the legal entity owning the subject generation asset during the contract term is a variable interest entity ("VIE"), and if so, the entity required to consolidate the VIE throughout the term of the proposed PPA, in accordance with FASB ASC 810;
- ➤ for PPAs, whether the proposed PPA is or includes a derivative and, if so, the appropriate accounting for the derivative, in accordance with FASB ASC 815; and
- whether there are any other adverse accounting implications or effects to ELL or any of its Affiliates arising out of the proposed Definitive Agreement.

The AET's accounting assessment of PPA proposals will include assessments based on the existing accounting standards at the time of the AET's assessment and/or those in effect during the term of any PPA arising out of a proposal hereunder. Its assessment may also include assessments based on accounting standards that may be in effect if the AET determines that such standards will or may apply to any PPA arising out of a proposal hereunder and that it is feasible and appropriate for the AET to evaluate the proposal applying such standards.

ELL will not enter into a PPA or any related agreement pursuant to this RFP that will or may result in the recognition of a long-term liability on the books of ELL (or any of its Affiliates), whether the long-term liability is due to lease accounting, the accounting for a VIE or derivatives, or any other applicable accounting standard. Upon ESL's request, Bidder must include in the Proposal Package a certification from Bidder that, to the best of Bidder's knowledge, the proposed PPA will not result in, under the accounting standards in effect at the time of the certification or that will be in effect at any time during the contract term of the proposed PPA, the recognition of a long-term liability by ELL or any of its Affiliates on its or any of its Affiliates' books. The certification must be prepared under the direction of and signed by the Principal Accounting Officer or other officer of Bidder, or a parent thereof, who performs a managerial accounting function, has expertise in the recognition of long-term liabilities by purchasers in PPAs, and has been involved in the preparation of the proposal ("Accounting Officer"). The certification must be prepared and dated reasonably contemporaneous with the submission date of the Proposal Package.

If Bidder is required to provide the accounting certificate described above, the Accounting Officer must promptly notify the Bid Event Coordinator in writing if and after Bidder becomes aware (i) prior to the submission of the Proposal Package that it will be unable to provide the accounting certificate described above, specifying the reasons therefor, or (ii) after the submission of the Proposal Package containing his or her certification that there has been any development, event, or circumstance that would change, or could reasonably be expected to change, the accounting treatment of the proposed PPA included in the Proposal Package or otherwise would cause, or could reasonably be expected to cause, the certification of the Accounting Officer to be inaccurate or incomplete in any material respect, specifying the reasons therefor.

Bidder will be required to make available to the AET or ESL all information and materials, including any and all assumptions made by Bidder, any of its Affiliates, or any of its or their representatives (*e.g.*, accountants), necessary for or reasonably requested by the AET or ESL to verify and/or independently determine the accounting treatment associated with a PPA proposed by Bidder and otherwise conduct its evaluation of Bidder's proposal.

#### **5.1.5** Transmission Assessments

The TET is responsible for assessing the interconnection, deliverability, and transmission costs and risks associated with proposals received in this RFP, identifying and estimating for this RFP the timing, scope, and costs of transmission upgrades required to interconnect and deliver the energy output of the proposed resources to the applicable Electric Interconnection Point or Injection Point, reviewing proposals for compliance with the interconnection, deliverability, and transmission requirements of this RFP, evaluating other interconnection, deliverability, and transmission aspects of proposals, and informing the RFP Administration Team of the results of its assessment. Its cost estimating responsibilities will include, without limitation, developing and providing to the RFP Administration Team cost estimates associated with interconnection, deliverability, or transmission upgrades not identified in a Bidder's proposal but identified by the TET or appropriately identified in the proposal but, in the TET's opinion, misestimated.

The TET will utilize existing tools, and may develop and/or utilize additional tools, to perform its evaluations in this RFP. The TET's proposal evaluation will include analysis similar to ESL's standard analysis for long-term transmission system reliability planning and deliverability matters. The TET may perform sensitivity and other analyses that the team finds to be of value. The TET will use information Bidders provide in their Proposal Packages, any supplemental information Bidders provide to the TET or the RFP Administration Team regarding the proposal, and other information available to the TET and allowed to be used in such analysis.

The specific analyses the TET expects to perform in its evaluation of proposals may include the following:

- NRIS deliverability analysis
- ERIS deliverability analysis
- Steady state power flow analysis to identify potential projects based on ESL's annual TPL-001-5 analysis and ESL's Local Planning Guidelines and Criteria
- Transient Stability, Voltage Stability, and Short Circuit analyses per TPL-001-5 and ESL's Local Planning Guidelines and Criteria
- Cost estimating and scheduling analysis for interconnection and transmission facilities.

In conducting its proposal evaluations, the TET will be considering, among other things, the deliverability of power from the proposed resource, the resource's effect on system reliability and the deliverability of power from other resources, and the adequacy of interconnection, deliverability, and transmission cost estimates and upgrades identified in the proposals to meet all applicable NERC, MISO, and ELL requirements, criteria, and standards and all applicable laws.

#### 5.1.6 Credit/Collateral Assessments

The CET will analyze each proposal to assess potential credit risks and attendant collateral requirements and credit costs. The CET's evaluation seeks to assure that Seller's credit quality, when considered in the context of a Bidder's proposal to ELL, complies with Entergy's corporate risk management standards for solar resource RFPs, and that any requirement for material credit support associated with the proposal is made known to Bidder in advance and can be appropriately considered in the preparation and evaluation of the proposal. Appendix F contains important additional information about the credit evaluation process and the credit requirements for this RFP.

Bidder's Proposal Package must contain a completed certification, in substantially the form attached to Appendix F as Annex F-1, from Bidder that (i) it has reviewed and understands to its satisfaction the terms of Appendix F and the credit provisions of the Model BOT Agreement or the Model PPA, as applicable to its proposal, and has considered such terms in the development of the proposal(s), (ii) its proposal pricing reflects to its satisfaction the costs, terms, and risks of the credit support that Seller is or may be required to provide for the proposed transaction under the terms of Appendix F and the applicable Definitive Agreement, and (iii) it accepts, and has taken no special

exception to any of, the core credit terms of Appendix F or the applicable Definitive Agreement. The certification must be prepared under the direction of and signed by the Treasurer or other officer of Bidder, or a parent thereof, who performs a managerial credit oversight function, has expertise in solar project financing and providing credit support to buyers of new-build generation facilities or of long-term power supply therefrom, and has been involved in the preparation of the proposal ("**Treasury Officer**"). The certification must be prepared and dated reasonably contemporaneous with the submission of the Proposal Package.

#### **5.1.7** Resource Selection

Using inputs provided by the Evaluation Teams, the RFP Administration Team will prepare a final report that ranks the evaluated proposals, provides the results of the RFP, and may make recommendations for selection of proposals on the Selection List (if any). The RFP Administration Team will select proposals recommended to be included on the Selection List (if any) based on a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, relative economics, ability to meet relevant planning objectives (including diversification of Solar PV technology, experience with battery energy storage systems, and considerations of resource location and resource composition), deliverability, viability, accounting, and transactional considerations. The RFP Administration Team will provide the final report to members of the ELL Operating Committee and other authorized recipients of the report that the RFP Administration Team deems appropriate. Any selections will be made by the President and CEO of ELL (or designee).

## 5.2 Notification of Evaluation Results; Commercial Negotiations

After the completion of evaluations for the applicable Procurement Window, the Bid Event Coordinator will communicate to each Bidder the status of its proposal(s) and whether additional discussions or negotiations are warranted. As noted, ELL expects to negotiate the final terms of a Definitive Agreement with Bidder(s) on the Selection List (if any). Proposals not making the Selection List will be considered rejected.

ESL's receipt of a proposal or the placement of a proposal on the Selection List does not constitute or indicate ESL's or ELL's agreement, commitment, representation, or promise to transact on the basis of the proposal or ESL's or ELL's acceptance of any term of the proposal. Without limiting Appendix E, each of ESL and ELL (i) has no obligation, and makes no commitment or promise, of any kind, to enter into a Transaction with any Bidder, including a Bidder with a proposal on the Selection List, or to be bound by any term proposed by Bidder in this RFP, and (ii) more generally, has no obligation or liability of any kind whatsoever in connection with or arising out of this RFP except as and to the extent expressly set forth in a Definitive Agreement or a provision binding upon ESL or ELL in a letter of intent to which ESL or ELL is a party.

## **6 MISCELLANEOUS RFP MATTERS**

The statements contained in this RFP are made subject to the Reservation of Rights set forth in Appendix E of this RFP and the terms and acknowledgements set forth in the Proposal Submission Agreement.

#### **6.1 Authorized Bidder Communications Channels**

Except as otherwise expressly provided in this RFP, all communications, including questions, regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to the Bid Event Coordinator (using the contact information provided above in the Bid Event Coordinator section). Any contact or communication concerning this RFP (i) between Bidders, or representatives of Bidders, on the one hand, and personnel or employees of ESL other than the Bid Event Coordinator, on the other hand, or (ii) between different Bidders, or representatives of different Bidders, made without the specific, prior written consent of the Bid Event Coordinator, is, in each case, not allowed and grounds for disqualification of the non-compliant Bidder(s). Bidders are, of course, permitted to communicate internally within their organizations and to their representatives with regard to this RFP as necessary.

## **6.2** Posting Questions

Bidders and other interested Persons are invited to submit questions and comments about this RFP to the Bid Event Coordinator. All questions or comments regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing via email sent to <a href="mailto:ellrfp@entergy.com">ellrfp@entergy.com</a> (for questions and comments prior to Bidder Registration) or through PowerAdvocate (after Bidder Registration). Interested Persons are requested to submit questions as promptly as possible to ensure the timely receipt of ELL's or ESL's response. ESL requests that all questions be submitted to the Bid Event Coordinator by no later than the date set out in the RFP Schedule as the commencement date of the first Procurement Window.

Subject to ESL's consideration of the confidentiality concerns, ESL intends to post all questions submitted by Bidders, as well as ESL's responses to those questions, to the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website. All questions will be posted anonymously, to shield the identity of Bidders who posed the questions. ESL's objective in posting questions and answers publicly is to afford Bidders equal access to information potentially relevant to their proposals.

ESL expects to provide answers to questions received during the Proposal Submission Period only to the extent the questions are specific to an actual proposal submission issue (and those answers may or may not be posted on the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website).

## **6.3** Questions Involving Confidential Information

Bidders should frame their questions, if possible, so that the answers do not require the disclosure of information that is confidential to ESL or ELL, or any of their respective Affiliates. If ESL receives a question that calls for, in its opinion, an answer that would contain such confidential information and the provision of such confidential information is necessary and appropriate for ESL's response, then ESL will respond to the question in writing, via PowerAdvocate after Bidder Registration, but only if Bidder posing the question has executed and returned to ESL a confidentiality agreement in form and substance acceptable to ESL.

Similarly, Bidder's questions should be structured to avoid, if possible, the disclosure of Bidder's confidential information. If Bidder believes that certain Bidder information contained in a

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question it intends to submit is confidential, it is strongly urged to attempt to exclude such information, whether by redaction or other means, and then to submit the question. If Bidder believes it is necessary or advisable to submit the question without redacting or otherwise shielding its confidential information, Bidder should, without divulging its confidential information, notify the Bid Event Coordinator in writing of the purpose of the question and the nature of the confidential information so that ESL can determine whether Bidder's question requires the disclosure, either by Bidder or by ESL, of Bidder's confidential information, or whether such disclosure is unnecessary or can be avoided. If ESL determines that the disclosure of confidential Bidder information is necessary and appropriate, ESL will execute a confidentiality agreement acceptable to ESL so that the question may be submitted. Questions containing confidential Bidder information that are submitted timely will be answered by ESL by electronic mail or express mail sent to Bidder.

## 6.4 Contact with MISO

Under the MISO Tariff, MISO currently provides functional supervision of the Entergy Transmission System and acts as transmission provider with respect to the granting of transmission service, including interconnection service, on the Entergy Transmission System or on other transmission systems under MISO's functional supervision. Inquiries about these aspects of the Entergy Transmission System or other transmission systems in MISO under MISO's functional supervision should be directed to MISO at its South Region Transmission Planning Office, (504) 846-7100. Bidders are directed to the MISO website, <a href="www.misoenergy.org">www.misoenergy.org</a>, for information about MISO.

## 6.5 Confidentiality Procedures for Bidder Registration and Proposal Submission Information

ESL has procedures that its employees, agents, and consultants participating in the evaluation of proposals will be required to follow in order to protect the confidentiality of Bidder information provided in response to this RFP. The procedures are described in detail in Appendix G of this RFP – Process for Protection of Proposal Information.

#### 6.6 Affiliate Rules and Codes of Conduct

All employees of ESL, any Entergy Operating Company, or any Entergy Competitive Affiliate must adhere to the Affiliate Rules and Codes of Conduct as applicable. A link providing access to complete copies of the Affiliate Rules and Codes of Conduct is available at the ELL 3 GW Solar RFP Website.

## 6.7 Multi-Person Bids

If Bidder is comprised of more than one Person, the individual members may enter into contribution, indemnity, allocation, sharing, or other similar arrangements or agreements amongst themselves to allocate their respective rights and obligations; however, no such agreement or arrangement will affect any right reserved to ESL or ELL in connection with this RFP or otherwise

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disadvantage ELL relative to its position with other Bidders without ESL's prior written agreement, either on its own behalf or as agent of ELL. Bidder must fully disclose to the Bid Event Coordinator all such contribution, indemnity, allocation, sharing, or similar arrangements or agreements. Disclosure may be accomplished by means of a written letter to the Bid Event Coordinator by the Proposal Submission Deadline or the Self-Build Proposal Submission Deadline, as applicable. Bidder may be required to respond to subsequent diligence inquiries concerning the arrangements or agreements.

## 6.8 Sale of Bidder or Project

The sale, conveyance, assignment, or transfer of control or ownership, in whole or in part, direct or indirect, of any resource registered by or for Bidder or any Affiliate thereof to participate in this RFP and/or Bidder's or any such Affiliate's rights with respect to any registration and/or proposal submitted into this RFP is not contemplated and may result in the resource's or proposal's elimination from this RFP, including after any selection of the proposal for the Selection List. Bidder must promptly notify the Bid Event Coordinator of any sale, conveyance, assignment, or transfer of control or ownership, in whole or in part, direct or indirect, of any resource registered by or for Bidder or any Affiliate thereof to participate in this RFP and/or Bidder's or any such Affiliate's rights with respect to any registration and/or proposal submitted into this RFP.