

**(Name of Tribe/Consortium)**

**Request for Information**

**(Name of Project)**

This Request for Information (RFI) is being issued by (Name of Tribe/Consortium). (Name of Tribe/Consortium) is analyzing the feasibility of a (Project type/ Size), (Name of Facility/project), on (Location), through funding provided by the (funding source). The project is tentatively targeted for construction in (DATE), however the final construction date will be subject to the terms and conditions of purchase power agreements and other project agreements. The proposed site under consideration is a (area in acre) located on the (LOCATION), with natural gas and water resources in the vicinity, in addition to excellent insolation. Electric transmission is available on the site, and is suitable for up to (X) MW. With a conductor upgrade, transmission capacity of (X) MW is indicated.

We invite you to submit an information package in support of the proposed project by (Date Due) to our project (consultant/manager), (Name).

The RFI is directed at a defined group of established organizations that may have interest in becoming a supplier for the project, or becoming a partner of the (Tribe or Consortium). This RFI will enable suppliers to formally register their interest, provide company information, submit a product offering, and identify an approach towards satisfying the needs of the project.

This RFI serves to request information for planning purposes only. It does not constitute, and should not be considered a procurement, engineering, development, or financial assistance solicitation. All responses will be treated as confidential.

**Issue Date: (DATE)**

**Due Date: (DATE, TIME, TIME ZONE)**

**1. Solicitation Type:** Request for Information

**2. Contact Information:** (Name, Contract Company/Employer of Project Manager)

(Name Contractor/Project Manager)

(Street Address)

(City, State Zip

Phone: (Phone)

Fax: (FAX)

Email: (EMAIL)

**3. (Name of Tribe/Consortium, Names of Councilmembers/ConsortiumMembers)**

(Contractor/Project Manager Name) will provide contact info for the representatives above upon

request.

#### **4. Project Background**

At an "Executive Deal Structuring Principles" meeting held in (DATE), the (TRIBE/Consortium) convened an assembly of several Tribal members and representatives to consider potential collaborative Tribal energy project development opportunities. The Tribes collectively had strong interest in the value that renewable development in particular can add to their goals – both in terms of alignment with the Tribes' cultural values of sustainability and resource stewardship, and in terms of diversifying their economic development and investment activities.

The (Consortium) involves Tribes from (states(s)), which seek to determine the feasibility of developing power generation projects that leverage available renewable and conventional fuel supplies, optimum siting locations, access to the electrical and natural gas infrastructures, and key power markets, thus forming the basis for a multi-Tribal project. The energy project development activities contemplated by (Consortium) will provide renewable energy in the (region), and contribute to the region's ability to meet its renewable portfolio goals. For the Tribes, this effort helps them to meet self-sufficiency and self-determination goals, build Tribal capacity, and create jobs as well as economic development opportunities.

During 2006, (Consortium) members identified and evaluated possible organizational models, and developed a Memorandum of Understanding; conducted studies of existing renewable and conventional resources and renewable technologies; completed surveys to assess each (Consortium) member's level of interest and commitment in such a project; and completed a fatal flaw analysis of several potential projects. Through these studies, the (Consortium) group identified (technology type) technology as the most viable for its purposes. Acknowledging that generation from a (technology type) facility has the potential to create energy value, capacity value, and solar renewable energy credits, (Consortium) participating members believed it could best move toward a successful project development opportunity by involving the (technology type) industry in the engineering, design, and planning of the project. (Consortium) members also believed that the most effective way to engage the (technology type) community was through the issuance of an RFI.

#### **5. RFI Objectives**

The objective of this RFI is to obtain information related to the development of a (technology type) of approximately (X) in size, or the appropriate project size for the (area in acre) parcel under consideration. If feasible, the (Consortium) members are interested in initiating construction in late 2008 with commercial operations in 2009.

(Consortium) is evaluating multiple project development models that assume some level of Tribal equity ownership, and a proposed site provided by (Consortium). (Consortium) members have evaluated various technology forms, and believe that proven (technology type) technology is best suited for this initial project. However (Consortium) encourages respondents to submit alternative configurations, such as solar with thermal storage or solar hybrid projects. Variations

from the preferred size, location, and schedule will be considered, provided valid data is made available and results in a least cost, highest value (technology type) project.

The RFI Scope of Interest data fields will prompt participants to submit technical information regarding design configuration, physical components, performance characteristics, and financial obligations necessary to meet project requirements.

## **6. Scope of Interest**

(Consortium) intends to use the information provided in response to this RFI to refine its preliminary financial models to effectively analyze (technology type) technology for large-scale commercial applications, and identify possible industry partners. Interested parties are asked to submit specified information on any of the following systems:

- (technology type)
- (technology type)
- (technology type), including hybrid projects

The following Scope of Interest questions are very comprehensive, and given this initial assessment, respondents need not answer each. However, respondents should submit information in sufficient detail to allow (Consortium) to assess the respondent's capabilities and experience as a solar provider, to develop a complete and thorough understanding of the proposed technology, and to make an informed decision on whether to pursue CSP development on its proposed site.

Respondents are requested to provide the appropriate level of information on the following elements:

- **Company Information**
  - Corporate overview
  - Project experience
  - Proposed technology experience
  - Financial resources
  - Strategic alliances/partnerships
  - Previous work with Native American or First Nations communities
- **Conceptual Design Characteristics (for a (x)-acre parcel)**
  - Technology
  - Nameplate capacity (MW)
  - Hourly output profile
  - Intermittency characteristics
  - Aperture area
  - Thermal storage application
  - Solar to electric efficiency
  - Basis of performance projections
  - Consumption when plant is not generating power

- Expected performance degradation over time
- Project Location
  - (Tribe/Consortium) Proposed Site (# acre parcel)
    - Developer expectations/assumptions
    - Solar resource
    - Land
    - Ground Elevation above MSL Range
    - Noise Profile
    - Transmission
    - Water
    - Financial
    - Restrictions
- Project Schedule and Assumptions
  - Siting/Permitting
  - Engineering
  - Procurement
  - Construction
  - Start-up
  - Operations
  - Impact of aggregated development concept
- Development Phase Cost Analysis
  - Direct costs
    - Equipment
    - Labor
    - Site Preparation
  - Project costs
    - Infrastructure
    - Transmission step-up
    - Transmission interconnection
    - Start-up
  - Financing costs
    - Debt/Equity structure
    - Required Internal Rate of Return
    - Potential Investors/Partners
- Operating Cost Analysis
  - Capital Cost
  - O&M Costs
  - Levelized Cost of Energy
  - Fixed costs
    - Description
    - Annual escalation
  - Variable costs

- Description
  - Annual escalation
  - Water requirements \$/acre ft. per MWh
    - Cooling
    - Mirror cleaning
  - Annual maintenance outage costs
    - Requirements
    - Assumptions
  - Extended outage cost and assumptions
- PPA Requirements
  - PPA parameters for SWTEC/developer financed IPP project
    - Time of delivery
    - Capacity
    - Solar Renewable Energy Credit ownership
    - First year price
    - Annual escalation rate
    - Cost based on 20 year agreement
    - Cost based on 30 year agreement
    - Capacity payment
    - With 30% ITC
    - With 10% ITC
    - Guaranteed annual solar output
    - Method of guarantee
    - Capital/Operating Lease
    - Ownership Options
- Key Assumptions/Risk Analysis
  - Equipment availability
  - Material inflation forecast
  - Contingency expense
  - Annual generation forecast
  - Renewable Market Attributes and Incentives
    - Investment Tax Credit (ITC) analysis
    - Production Tax Credit (PTC) analysis
    - Renewable Energy Credit analysis
    - 5-yr MACRS accelerated depreciation

## 7. Response Preparation

The RFI shall be submitted in the format set forth in Section 6 (Scope of Interest). The RFI response shall include:

- Title Page with RFI title, company name, and contact information
- Respondent Company Information
- Proposed Project Technical Data

## 8. Disclaimer

This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes and does not constitute a solicitation. Responses to this notice are not offers and acceptance of a response does not create a binding agreement between a respondent and (Consortium) or any of its members.

(Consortium) reserves the right to take no further action in response to the information received or may consider partnering, procurement, licensing, or other transactions to acquire additional information.

In the event it is determined that the information provided in response to this RFI warrants further analysis, development, or purchase, a separate negotiation will ensue.

Respondents are responsible for all expenses associated with responding to this RFI. Responses will not be returned.