

# CALIFORNIA **COMMUNITY POWER**

2025 Geothermal Capacity  
Request for Information Instructions  
May 12, 2025

## PART 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 CC POWER BACKGROUND

California Community Power (CC Power) is a joint powers agency comprised of nine California Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs).

CC Power allows its member CCAs to combine their buying power to procure new, cost-effective clean energy and reliability resources to continue advancing local and state climate goals. CC Power members represent over 6.7 million residents across 112 municipalities spanning from Humboldt County to Santa Barbara County. In aggregate, CC Power's members serve approximately 30,000 GWh/year or 12% of electricity demand within the CAISO's service area.

The following is a brief description of CC Power's nine members:



**Ava Community Energy** serves approximately 1.7 million residents across Alameda County and will be extending service to the cities of Stockton and Lathrop within San Joaquin County in 2025.



**Central Coast Community Energy** serves approximately 1.1 million residents across Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, and Santa Barbara counties.



**CleanPowerSF** is operated by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and serves approximately 385,000 customers throughout San Francisco.



**Peninsula Clean Energy** serves approximately 750,000 residents within San Mateo County and the City of Los Banos.



**Redwood Coast Energy Authority** serves approximately 123,000 customers located across Humboldt County.



**San Jose Clean Energy** is operated by the City of San Jose and serves approximately 945,000 customers throughout San Jose.



**Silicon Valley Clean Energy** serves approximately 720,000 customers across 13 communities in Santa Clara County.



**Sonoma Clean Power** serves approximately 500,000 residents across Sonoma and Mendocino counties.



**Valley Clean Energy Alliance** serves approximately 167,000 customers across the cities of Woodland, Winters, Davis and unincorporated Yolo County.



**Figure 1: CC Power Member Map**

## 1.2 PURPOSE OF RFI

California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) decision D.21-06-035 ordered a state-wide procurement requirement of 1,000 MW of “firm, clean resources with zero on-site emissions” (“firm, clean resources” or “FCR”) by June 1, 2026 and D.23-02-040 subsequently moved the commercial operation deadline for these resources to June 1, 2028 (collectively the “Decisions”). In addition to meeting the requirements in the Decisions, CC Power seeks to procure firm, clean resources beyond 2031 to meet Resource Adequacy (“RA”), Renewable Portfolio Standard (“RPS”) requirements and clean energy goals (e.g. 24/7 clean energy targets) for its member CCAs. The development of firm, clean resources can also create local jobs in CCA member communities and contribute to the reliability and resiliency of California’s grid. To meet the requirements under the Decisions and the goals stated above, member CCAs engaged CC Power to originate and procure geothermal resources on their behalf. By engaging the development community through this RFI, CC Power plans to facilitate the development of firm, clean resources by identifying the primary constraints to developing more geothermal capacity in California and supporting policy and legislative activity to help achieve California clean energy goals.

This Request for Information (“RFI”) solicits information from developers with geothermal projects in all stages of the development process. CC Power intends to utilize information detailed in Part 3 and the rubric in Section 5.1 of these RFI instructions to shortlist proposals after which shortlisted offerors and CC Power will negotiate and sign Memorandums of Understanding (“MOUs”) establishing a commercial partnership in the development of geothermal projects with a path to signing a PPA(s) for mature geothermal projects or portfolios of projects.

## 1.3 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

CC Power is requesting information from developers of geothermal projects or other firm clean resources that meet the criteria detailed in D.21.06-035 and D.23-01-040 as well as geothermal projects with projected operational dates later than 2031. While no minimum developmental maturity milestones are required to submit information for consideration, CC Power will evaluate and score proposals based on the qualitative evaluation criteria detailed in Part 3 of these instructions and will prioritize those projects for MOUs and/or PPA negotiations that are deemed the most mature, meet the most qualitative selection preferences, and/or offer most competitive pricing proposals.

# PART 2. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

## 2.1 GENERAL

Unless otherwise instructed, all proposals must be submitted in accordance with the instructions of this RFI to be considered for review. CC Power may entertain certain non-conforming offers but encourages Respondents to engage with CC Power ahead of making such offers to gauge interest and get feedback on how to align, to the extent possible, with the framework of the RFI's offer outline.

## 2.2 COST OF RESPONDING

Respondent will bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its proposal. Neither CC Power, its affiliates, nor any agent of CC Power will be responsible or liable for any costs, regardless of the cost or outcome of the proposal process.

## 2.3 RESPONDENT'S REPRESENTATION

By submitting a proposal, each Respondent represents that they have read and understood these RFI Instructions, and is deemed to have read, understood, and agrees in principle to the terms and conditions of the MOU term sheet.

## 2.4 PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL

Respondents must submit proposals to [solicitations@cacommunitypower.org](mailto:solicitations@cacommunitypower.org) in the format laid in Part 3 of these Instructions.

Cc Power will accept proposals until 11:59 pm Pacific Prevailing Time on May 30, 2025.

## 2.5 CONFIDENTIALITY

All documents submitted in response to this RFI will become the property of CC Power upon submittal. CC Power may be required to disclose information received pursuant to this RFI in accordance with requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act or the California Public Records Act (CPRA). Upon submission, all proposals shall be treated as confidential until the selection process is completed. Once the selection process is complete, all proposals shall be deemed public record.

Exceptions to disclosure may be available to those parts or portions of proposals that are justifiably and reasonably defined as business or trade secrets, and plainly marked by Respondents as "Trade Secret", "Confidential", or "Proprietary". CC Power will endeavor to protect any such marked information to the extent permitted under the CPRA. However, CC Power shall not, in any way, be liable or responsible for the disclosure of any such record or any parts thereof, if disclosure is required or permitted under the CPRA or otherwise by law.

In the event CC Power receives a CPRA request for any of the aforementioned documents, information, books, records, and/or contents of a proposal marked "Confidential", "Trade Secrets", or "Proprietary", CC Power will notify the Respondent as soon as practical that such request has been made. The Respondent shall be solely responsible for taking whatever legal steps are necessary to protect information deemed by it to be confidential information and to prevent release of such information to the person or entity that made the CPRA request. If the Respondent takes no such action after receiving the foregoing notice from CC Power, CC Power shall be permitted to comply with the CPRA request and is not required to defend against it. Respondents agree to defend and indemnify CC Power from all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with any action, proceedings, or liability arising in connection with the CPRA request.

A blanket statement of confidentiality or the marking of each page of the proposal as confidential shall not be deemed sufficient notice of a CPRA exemption, and a Respondent who indiscriminately and without justification identifies most or all its proposal as exempt from disclosure or submits a redacted copy may be deemed non-responsive.

## PART 3. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENTS

This section outlines the content and format requirements for all proposals submitted in response to this RFI. Respondents are asked to provide the requested information to the best of their ability and to the extent possible in each section below. If the information cannot be provided (for example if no interconnection application has been submitted) please put "N/A" under each section heading. CC Power reserves the right to conduct any further due diligence it considers necessary to fully understand and evaluate proposals prior to entering into any MOU.

The Project Proposal should include relevant project details as applicable following the format below:

- Section 1: Executive Summary
- Section 2: Offeror Information including company name, location, history, partners / affiliates / parent(s), energy project development and operation experience (particularly in the project site's state), past and current energy projects completed and in development, financial strength, access to financing and supply chain, and project team members.
- Section 3: Project description, including technology, capacity, expected annual energy production, energy production variability, available ancillary services, hydrological variability, water rights, operating constraints, ramp rates, capacity degradation rate, auxiliary loads, augmentation requirements, etc.
- Section 4: General project development timeline incorporating key milestones and anticipated development challenges and mitigation strategies.
- Section 5: Site description, including status of site control (including any easements), gen-tie rights of way status, additional site control requirements.

- Section 6: Permitting status, potential challenges and mitigations, any community engagement activities undertaken.
- Section 7: Interconnection description and status, including: interconnection location and plan, interconnection application / study / agreement status, key interconnection milestone dates, transmission upgrade dependencies, deliverability plans and risks.
- Section 8: Supply chain plans and considerations, including lead times for major equipment, procurement status, past experience with intended equipment suppliers, plans for compliance with or waiver of domestic content requirements, tariff and price risks and mitigation plans.
- Section 9: Project financing plans, including use of equity, debt and tax-equity, timing of financing plans, form of tax credit monetization, intent to retain or sell ownership stake, intent to secure grants or loan guarantees, and interest in and considerations relating to a sale of all or a portion of the project to CC Power.
- Section 10: Project partners, including any planned investors, financiers, EPC, equipment suppliers, O&M providers, union labor engagement, tribal engagement, local community engagement, etc.
- Section 11: Key highlights of the project pricing and terms for any offer variations, in table format summarizing: offer number, delivery date, agreement type, term, capacity, energy duration, pricing escalation, any other offer variables, and any mutual exclusive / inclusive / volume limitation requirements associated with the offer variations.

Respondents should provide enough detail, especially for unique or innovative projects, to allow for a meaningful evaluation of the proposed project.

## PART 4. RFI PROCESS COMMUNICATION

### 4.1 RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES

All questions, requests, and other inquiries or communications from or on behalf of Respondent to CC Power about this RFI must be directed in email to [solicitations@cacommunitypower.org](mailto:solicitations@cacommunitypower.org) in accordance with the timeline provided.

### 4.2 SCHEDULE

Below are the RFI milestone dates. CC Power reserves the right to adjust dates. Following the submission deadline, all submitters will be notified of date changes via email and a posting on CC Power's RFI website.

The RFI process will proceed in accordance with the following schedule.

MILESTONE	DATE/TIMEFRAME*
RFI Announcement	May 12, 2025

RFI Response Due	May 30, 2025 (11:59 PM PPT)
Shortlist Notification	June 30, 2025
Anticipated Date to Execute All MOUs	September 30, 2025

\* CC Power reserves the right to modify dates presented here

## PART 5. PROPOSAL EVALUATION

CC Power will evaluate RFI responses based on completeness of responses in each of the sections in Part 3 of these RFI Instructions. Submissions will be evaluated using the scoring rubric summarized in Section 5.1. A final shortlist will be presented to CC Power's members for demonstrations of interest before advancing to the selection and negotiation of MOUs. Successful Respondents will be notified via the [solicitations@cacommunitypower.org](mailto:solicitations@cacommunitypower.org) email address that they been selected for MOU negotiations.

### 5.1 EVALUATION CRITERIA

Metric	Description
<b>Developer Experience</b>	Has developer successfully built geothermal projects previously? Has developer managed the development of a geothermal project in all stages including exploratory drilling, permitting, interconnection, site control acquisition, engineering, construction, and operations? Does developer currently have an asset that is operational? What other renewable or drilling development experience does the team have?
<b>Capacity and Timing</b>	What is the expected commercial operation date for the project(s)? What is the expected build out of capacity over time for the project(s)?
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Where is the project located? Is the project able to connect directly to a CAISO point of interconnection?
<b>Technology</b>	If the developer is utilizing new or proprietary technology, has that technology been demonstrated previously and at what scale of maturity (i.e., proof of concept, pilot, commercial demonstration, fully commercial)? What is the potential value for the geothermal industry from any technology innovation the developer is pursuing (i.e., in terms of cost reductions, supply increase, etc.)?
<b>Resource Potential</b>	What is the level of maturity in proving out the subsurface energy generation potential? What studies have been performed? Have drilling locations been identified? Has flow testing been performed? What is the expected total dependable electricity production potential (MW) of the resource?
<b>Site Control</b>	Does the project or portfolio have site control through direct ownership, a lease or an option to lease? Does the project or portfolio of projects hold rights of way over any easements to interconnect the project? If developer does not yet have site control, e.g., in the case of requiring a Record of Decision from Bureau of Land Management, what does the process look like for securing site control?



<b>Permitting</b>	Has the project or the portfolio acquired the necessary permitting for confirmation well(s)? Has the project or portfolio submitted an application for an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement and if so, at what stage is that application and what are the required or expected mitigations, if any?
<b>Interconnection</b>	Has the project or portfolio submitted an interconnection application? Has it received any interconnection study results? What are the known interconnection upgrade costs for providing deliverable capacity? Is there available capacity at the intended point(s) of interconnection? Does the project have a signed interconnection agreement?
<b>Transmission</b>	If the project or portfolio is outside of the CAISO, does the project or portfolio possess transmission service rights to wheel the power to a CAISO intertie? Describe the proposed path and expected costs to wheel the power to the proposed CAISO intertie. Are there available import allocation rights at the identified intertie?
<b>Equipment Selection</b>	What is the level of maturity of any engineering work the developer has conducted for the geothermal power plant? Has developer identified any suitable suppliers? What potential exposure to tariffs does the project have?
<b>EPC Selection</b>	Has the developer selected or anticipate selecting a specific EPC vendor? Who is the EPC?
<b>Financing</b>	What is the status of the developer's financing for exploration and early-stage development work? Has the developer received financing for the project(s)? Does developer have financing parties identified for future project development activities?
<b>Indicative Pricing</b>	If possible, please provide an indicative price (\$/MWh) for a power purchase agreement corresponding to a 15-, 20- and/or 30-year term for the project(s) and/or a price for purchase of the project just prior to commercial operation, along with a breakdown of the expected annual operating and maintenance expenses.

## DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this Request for Information ("RFI") has been prepared solely to assist prospective Respondents in making the decision of whether or not to submit a proposal. CC Power does not purport this information to be all-inclusive or to contain all of the information that a prospective Respondent may need to consider in order to submit a proposal. Neither CC Power nor its employees, officers, nor consultants will make, or will be deemed to have made, any current or future representation, promise or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the information contained herein, or in any document or information made available to a Respondent, whether or not the aforementioned parties know or should have known of any errors or omissions, or were responsible for its inclusion in, or omission from, this document.

By participating in this RFI process, a Respondent acknowledges that it has read, understands, and agrees to the terms and conditions set forth in these RFI Instructions. CC Power reserves the right to reject any proposal that does not comply with the requirements identified herein, or to

waive irregularities, if any. The proposal documents, unless otherwise designated, are confidential, are the property of CC Power, and are only for the purpose of the Respondents' preparing and submitting a proposal in response to this RFI. All Respondents should note that any material submitted to CC Power may be subject to the Public Records Act laws of the State of California.

CC Power further reserves the right to communicate with individual Respondents to ask clarifying questions about their proposals prior to making a short-listing decision. Furthermore, CC Power may, at its sole discretion and without notice, modify, suspend, or terminate the RFI without liability to any organization or individual. Any modification to this RFI will be made by addendum. This RFI does not constitute an offer to buy or create an obligation for CC Power to enter into an agreement with any party, and CC Power shall not be bound by the terms of any offer or proposal until an agreement has been fully executed. CC Power may negotiate and execute contracts with different Respondents on differing timelines. If selected, a Respondent may be invited to enter into a contract with CC Power. Where negotiations do not result in mutually agreeable terms, CC Power may choose not to execute a contract with the Respondent. CC Power shall not be responsible for any of the Respondent's costs incurred to prepare, submit, negotiate, or to enter into an agreement, or for any other activity related to meeting the requirements established in this solicitation. All submittals shall become the property of CC Power and will not be returned.

CC Power has no obligation to reimburse, compensate, or otherwise pay the costs incurred by Respondents to this RFI in evaluating its contents, providing a response, or, if selected by CC Power, negotiating, delivering and executing any definitive agreements that arise from this RFI. Respondents to this RFI are solely responsible for all costs incurred by them when evaluating and responding to this document, and any negotiation costs incurred by the Respondent thereafter. CC Power may, in its sole discretion and without limitation, refuse to accept any and all proposals and to evaluate proposals and proceed in the manner it deems appropriate, which may include deviations from the expected evaluation process, the waiver of any requirements, and the request for additional information. Rejected Respondents will have no claim whatsoever against CC Power nor its employees, officers, nor consultants.