

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY POWER

2026 Project Development Playbook Request for Proposals

California Community Power

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

California Community Power (“CC Power”) is issuing this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) to retain a qualified project developer, owner’s engineer, consultant, or consulting team (“Consultant”) to develop a comprehensive “Project Development Playbook” for utility-scale solar plus lithium-ion energy storage project development in California and the California Independent System Operator (“CAISO”) market. CC Power seeks a Consultant with first-hand project development and project management experience who can approach this assignment as though they were responsible for planning and managing the development of a project on CC Power’s behalf.

The Project Development Playbook is intended to provide CC Power and its member community choice aggregators (“CCA”) with a practical understanding of the activities, workstreams, timelines, stage gates, costs, risks, decision criteria, and specialized resources required to advance a utility-scale project from initial development through Commercial Operation Date (“COD”). The work should not merely describe the development lifecycle, but should provide an actionable framework, supporting project-management tools, and decision-making resources that CC Power can adapt to and implement for the development of a greenfield project or the acquisition and completion of a mid-stage development project.

CC Power intends to use the resulting Playbook to help its members evaluate their tolerance for assuming project development risk and committing development capital, understand how risks and capital requirements evolve as a project matures, and establish a framework for making informed go/no-go investment decisions at key development stage gates. CC Power may subsequently pursue greenfield development or acquisition of a partially developed project and therefore seeks a Consultant whose Playbook can serve both as (i) an educational resource for CC Power’s members and (ii) as a practical roadmap for executing project development activities.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY POWER BACKGROUND

CC Power is a joint powers agency comprised of nine (9) California CCAs. CC Power allows its member CCAs to combine their buying power to procure new, cost-effective clean energy and reliability resources to advance local and state climate goals. CC Power focuses its procurement efforts on resources that are hard to find in the market, too big for members to effectively procure on their own, innovative and emerging technologies, and derisking new procurement approaches, such as asset ownership and greenfield development. 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 12% of electricity demand within the CAISO balancing authority area.

Table 1: CC Power Members

	Ava Community Energy serves approximately 1.7 million residents across Alameda County, unincorporated San Joaquin County, and the cities of Tracy, Stockton and Lathrop.
	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.
	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.
	Westlight Energy (formerly known as Peninsula Clean Energy) serves approximately 750,000 residents within San Mateo County and the City of Los Banos.

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Figure 1: CC Power Member Map

CC Power contracts with third party developers or independent power producers on behalf of its members by entering into power purchase agreements (“PPA”) or other forms of energy offtake or development agreements directly with the developer or power producer. CC Power separately enters into an agreement with its participating members who each subscribe to a percentage share of the offtake from CC Power, the “Project Participation Share Agreement” (“PPSA”), thus underpinning the payment and credit requirements for CC Power’s energy purchase agreement. Under the PPSA, each member agrees to assume an excess liability, above their own share of offtake, to cover the potential default of any other member in its obligations to CC Power and “step

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up” its share of the project, if such a default were to occur. This provides improved credit default coverage as compared to the weighted credit rating of the group of individual members, as it further mitigates default risk borne by the developer. CC Power, the developer, and each of the participating members also enter into a “Buyer Liability Pass Through Agreement” (“BLPTA”) wherein each participating member agrees to assume its offtake responsibilities directly if something were to happen to CC Power, cementing the liability and obligations of CC Power’s project participants to offtake from the developer’s project through CC Power or independently thereof. In the case of power project development, this structure would function similarly, with CC Power members agreeing to (i) offtake from the CC Power project, (ii) facilitate financing of the project, and (iii) provide milestone payments for project development according to their offtake shares prior to Notice to Proceed and financial close.

1.2. PURPOSE OF THE RFP

CC Power has evaluated the value of public ownership via build-transfer structures and monetization of direct pay tax credits as compared to traditional offtake contracts. This analysis demonstrated potential benefits to an ownership approach. However, despite solicitations in both 2024 and 2025, CC Power has not yet received a competitive asset purchase offer. CC Power’s evaluation to date has been primarily focused on ownership transfer occurring at or just prior to a project’s Commercial Operation Date (“COD”) or Notice to Proceed (“NTP”).

CC Power is now considering whether participation earlier in the project development lifecycle could improve access to ownership opportunities and/or reduce project costs. CC Power seeks to better understand the project development process to inform potential greenfield development or mid-stage project acquisition and development strategies. CC Power seeks a clear understanding of how energy projects advance from site diligence and acquisition through COD.

CC Power currently operates using a light staffing approach to facilitate joint action amongst its member CCAs and thus seeks to minimize hiring required for project development responsibilities, instead preferring to utilize third parties where possible and reasonable.

CC Power is issuing this RFP to retain a qualified Consultant to scope the full project development lifecycle for a generic greenfield solar plus storage project to be developed in California, within CAISO. The Consultant’s deliverables (set forth in Section 2.1 below) are intended to serve as:

1. An actionable guide on the process, workstreams, subject matter experts, costs, and risks across each of the various phases of the project’s lifecycle to improve CC Power’s members’ understanding of the development process;
2. Informing a go / no-go assessment by each of CC Power’s members as to whether to approve a greenfield development effort and/or inform the diligence and potential purchase of a mid-stage development project for CC Power’s completion and ownership thereof; and
3. A playbook for CC Power to utilize in undertaking actual project development.

This RFP does not seek advice regarding a specific project acquisition or transaction. It also does not include a mergers and acquisitions market assessment, negotiation of transaction structures, nor development of CC Power’s final capital allocation and governance strategy.

Following the completion of this RFP, CC Power may elect to enter into the purchase of a mid-stage development power project with the intent of completing development upon it and/or may elect to

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initiate a greenfield development project to advance its own solar plus storage project development efforts from scratch. CC Power intends to use the deliverables from this Project Development Playbook project to inform its project development activities for these potential next steps. Respondents to this RFP are encouraged to articulate within their proposals whether they would be interested and available for a consulting engagement to be hired as a project manager to inform and advance these purchase and/or development activities and what their rates would be.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICES AND RESPONDENT QUALIFICATIONS

2.1. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Consultant is to (i) develop a comprehensive written playbook for guiding project development, (ii) develop key, relevant project management and decision-making tools, frameworks, and communication templates for managing project execution, and (iii) deliver an online (Microsoft Teams) presentation(s) involving a PowerPoint deck and allowing for discussion, questions, and answers from CC Power's members' procurement teams on the proposed project development plan for a generic, hypothetical, California, utility-scale, solar plus lithium-ion storage resource, e.g., a 100 MW solar plus 100 MW / 400 MWh lithium ion storage project connecting in PG&E service territory at transmission-level voltage and operating within the CAISO markets.

To be clear, the principal objective is not merely to describe the project development lifecycle, but to provide CC Power with an actionable project development plan and management framework that could be adapted to an actual greenfield or acquired mid-stage project. The deliverables should be sufficiently detailed so that CC Power could use them to identify required activities, engage appropriate third-party resources, establish a project budget and schedule, make stage gate investment decisions, and oversee project development through COD.

The Consultant's deliverables should clearly lay out how to conduct high-quality project development from start to finish, including, at a minimum:

- Setting forth and describing the major development workstreams, their major components, milestones, activities, and dependencies;
 - Examples of potential workstreams include: site diligence and selection, community engagement, environmental reviews and permitting, interconnection and deliverability, engineering design, EPC¹ selection, equipment and warranty selection, financing, construction, telemetry and communications, testing and commissioning, CAISO market integration, and transition to operations;
 - Provide indicative Gantt charts for the overall project development process and each of the major workstreams and stage gates;
- Identify the deliverables, decisions, resources, and timeframes required to advance each stage to completion and the appropriate point at which authorization of the next stage should occur;
- Describe typical subject matter expertise required to support each component of the workstreams;

¹ EPC: Equipment, procurement, and construction contractor

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- Identify which functions are typically performed by developers, independent consultants, regulatory bodies, or other parties, and advise upon the feasibility of outsourcing the roles within the purview of the developer, understanding CC Power's desire for a light touch on in-house hiring for development expertise;
- Identify and recommend representative companies and consultants with demonstrated expertise and CAISO experience in each area;
- Describe how to best manage and facilitate coordination across subject matter experts involved in the project, including a RACI or similar matrix for key workstream components, who needs to be involved in what discussions, and best practices for staying aligned in an efficient manner throughout the development process;
- Estimate indicative costs associated with each major component of each workstream, expressed as a \$/MW or fixed \$ cost, as appropriate and accounting for historical and forward-looking trends to the extent possible;
 - Cost information should be useful to inform an estimate of overall project development costs from whichever stage CC Power may choose to enter into the development process for any given project;
- Articulate principal development risks, bounds of uncertainty, and indicative probability of project success at each stage;
 - Identify factors materially affecting project success and key diligence criteria to inform go / no-go decisions;
 - Specify key risks in project development, when they're likely to be addressed, their likelihood, impact, mitigations, contingencies, and who (i.e., what stakeholder(s)) should own managing or mitigating the risk;
 - Present risks in a quantifiable manner: suggest an appropriate framework for translating remaining development risk at the point of acquisition and probability of successful COD into a development-risk adjustment that could inform CC Power's evaluation and quantitative valuation of a project;
- Develop frameworks and examples of what key project controls, tools, systems, dashboards, reporting, communications or other practices CC Power should implement to manage the status of development progress, compare costs to budget, track development timelines, and to inform go / no-go decisions by executive leadership and the CC Power board at each stage gate;
 - Recommend an appropriate reporting and communication framework for CC Power staff, participating members, executive leadership and the CC Power board throughout development, including recommended cadence, dashboard content, escalation thresholds and stage gate approval materials.
- Identify key criteria CC Power should evaluate and summarize the diligence appropriate at each stage prior to committing additional capital in development or purchasing a project:
 - Recommend a decision-making framework and criteria for advancing from each stage gate into the next that would be used to authorize incremental capital allocation and authorization of work; and

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- When evaluating a mid-stage development project for acquisition, what criteria should be assessed to determine development maturity, key risks to potential project failure, incremental development work required, incremental expenditures required to complete development, etc.

The Consultant should distinguish between conclusions supported by market data, industry benchmarks, independent research, and professional judgment, and clearly cite sources and identify limitations where reliable data is unavailable.

2.2. CONSULTANT QUALIFICATIONS

CC Power seeks a Consultant with experience in the following areas:

- Required:
 - Demonstrated first-hand experience managing development of utility-scale solar generation and lithium-ion energy storage projects within CAISO and California through major development milestones and COD;
 - Project management;
 - Site diligence, selection, and acquisition;
 - California energy project permitting;
 - Community engagement;
 - CAISO interconnection process;
 - Power project engineering and design process;
 - EPC selection and management / coordination;
 - Energy project cost estimation / budget management;
 - Project development risk assessment;
 - Project finance, including tax equity and debt financing; and
 - Executive-level briefings and presentations
- Preferred:
 - Experience with other renewable and energy storage technologies;
 - Project labor agreements and working with union labor;
 - Power project construction oversight;
 - Power project telemetry, communications, and CAISO market integration requirements;
 - Power project testing and commissioning; and
 - Energy project mergers and acquisitions and/or Build Transfer transactions.

Respondents to this RFP seeking to serve as CC Power's Consultant ("Respondents") are not required to provide all expertise within one firm. Respondents should describe the team working on the project and clearly identify which portions of the scope will be performed directly and which will be performed by subcontractors or partners.

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2.3. CONTRACTING APPROACH

CC Power anticipates entering into a professional services agreement with the selected Respondent. CC Power believes an appropriate structure for this agreement to be a fixed fee contract to be paid upon completion of the services and presentation of deliverables. CC Power is open to considering additional contracting structures.

CC Power may:

- Negotiate modifications to the proposed scope;
- Award only selected tasks;
- Retain one Respondent as lead Consultant and separately procure specialized support;
- Authorize certain work separately; or
- Reject all proposals and/or decline to award the RFP.

Respondents should identify assumptions regarding:

- CC Power staff availability;
- Access to proprietary databases or use of third-party data;
- Legal, tax, engineering, or other specialist support;
- Other matters materially affecting scope or cost.

3. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENTS

A complete proposal should include the following.

3.1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Provide a concise summary of:

- The composition, experience and background of the Respondent or Respondent team;
- Understanding of the assignment;
- Proposed approach to delivering the requested information;
- Key differentiators of Respondent;
- Proposed schedule; and
- Total proposed cost.

3.2. RESPONDENT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

In Respondent's proposal submission for this RFP, Respondents should provide a write-up covering:

- Company background and organizational structure;

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- Relevant California and CAISO project development experience, including numbers, types, and MW of projects completed and materially engaged on, high level descriptions of the most relevant projects developed, and a clear description of areas of responsibility of the Respondent or Respondent team;
- Experience with each of the qualification requirements set forth in Section 2.2;
- Experience identifying, working with, and managing third party subject matter experts, EPCs, and OEMs across the development lifecycle;
- Any comparable advisory engagements completed within the last five (5) years;
- Relevant proprietary tools, databases, or benchmarks to be referenced; and
- Experience advising public agencies, utilities, developers, investors, or project owners.

3.3. PROPOSED APPROACH AND DELIVERABLES

Respondents should provide a high-level summary of their understanding of the proposed scope and deliverables for completing this Project Development Playbook project, including any items that Respondent feels CC Power should include within the scope but has not considered herein. Respondents should deliver a list of the proposed project development workstreams and their major components that will be set forth in the Playbook and should specify what areas of or topics relating to project development ought to be prioritized with greater detail and supporting information, and what may be less relevant and may be touched upon at a higher level.

Respondents should articulate how their deliverables will both (i) serve to educate CC Power and its members and (ii) serve as an actionable playbook and set of tools for putting these processes into actual practice for CC Power to pursue its own project development activities. Respondents are encouraged to describe how they will structure the written deliverables to achieve these mutual objectives without serving just an informational report but also serving as an execution plan for project management.

Respondents should clarify the level of detail they would propose articulating within the deliverables, using examples of what would be considered the appropriate level of detail to include.

Respondents should articulate how they propose to undertake the work of assembling the deliverable materials, who will be responsible on the Respondent team for what topics or deliverables, any outside resources or third parties Respondent may need to include for support on the project, any proposed collaboration with CC Power and/or its members, and any other information that will inform the approach, timing, risks, and costs of delivering the requested deliverables of the project. Respondents should also explain how they will distinguish factual market evidence from professional judgment.

For CC Power to be able to make an informed selection of a Respondent who will best achieve CC Power's goals of delivering informative but actionable results, Respondents should provide a sample of their proposed deliverables that is prepared or adapted specifically for this RFP by Respondent or someone on Respondent's team. CC Power requests that each Respondent provide a sample of their deliverables that covers the site acquisition and diligence process for a solar plus storage project that includes:

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1. A section of the proposed written playbook (expected about 2-4 pages) for “Site Diligence and Selection” that demonstrates the components of the Scope outlined in Section 2.1;
2. A Gantt chart(s) showing workstreams, dependencies, indicative timeframes, and stage gates; and
3. A PowerPoint presentation employing examples of images, screenshots, charts, graphs, or other graphics to help communicate information being presented from the written playbook (expected to be about 2-4 content slides)

The above deliverables do not need to cover the entire process for a site diligence and selection but rather should demonstrate the level of detail and quality of deliverables that Respondent expects they would provide to CC Power in their potential role as Consultant. Respondents are asked to clarify (i) what their assumed scope is within this sample of the site acquisition and diligence process, (ii) what would otherwise be further articulated in the deliverables for this project, and (iii) who on Respondent’s team was involved in the preparation of the sample.

3.4. PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Respondents should provide a proposed schedule identifying:

- Proposed kickoff date;
- Project scoping and clarification period with CC Power;
- Data collection and Consultant’s project work period;
- Delivery of draft Playbook, tools, and charts, or material sections thereof;
- Delivery of final Playbook, tools, and charts;
- Delivery of presentation materials;
- Other key milestones, as appropriate; and
- Proposed schedule for check-ins and status updates on the development and delivery of this project.

CC Power anticipates a project duration of approximately 2-3 months and would like to target completion of the final Playbook and presentation by early 2027.

3.5. COST PROPOSAL

Respondents should provide a cost proposal for a fixed fee contract for services to execute upon the scope and deliverables detailed in Section 2. Respondents should provide assumptions supporting the overall project cost estimate, including billing rates, subcontractor costs, and any other relevant information. Respondents should break down any major, distinct deliverables into discrete work items with their own cost estimates (e.g., cost of developing a complex project management and oversight tool should be separated out in case CC Power does not wish to include it within the scope). Respondents should advise on any proposed optional work or assumptions that may be outside of the Respondent’s proposed scope of work that would trigger incremental costs, if selected by CC Power for inclusion.

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As referenced in Section 2.3, CC Power is open to other forms of contracting. If this is of interest to Respondent, please provide enough information on proposed costs and contracting structure to properly evaluate such an alternative approach.

3.6. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND REFERENCES

Respondents shall disclose relevant relationships with any of the following firms that may create a conflict of interest with CC Power or any of its member agencies:

- Energy project developers;
- Consultants;
- CC Power members;
- Regulatory agencies; or
- Any others.

Respondents should describe how potential conflicts will be managed, particularly when recommending representative companies or consultants.

Respondents should provide at least three (3) references who can vouch for Respondent's work on wholesale power project development activities and/or comparable consulting engagements.

3.7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As set forth at the conclusion of Section 1.2, CC Power aims to initiate its own project development activities within the next six (6) to twelve (12) months, whether by purchasing a mid-stage project and completing it, or by initiating a greenfield development activity. Respondents to this RFP are encouraged to articulate within their proposals whether they would be interested and available for a consulting engagement to be hired as a project manager to inform and advance these purchase and/or development activities. Interested Respondents should set forth how they would envision supporting these potential activities, anticipated contracting structure, what their rates would be, how much lead time they may require, and other relevant information to inform potentially securing Respondent as a third-party project manager to execute upon CC Power's potential next steps.

4. PROPOSAL EVALUATION

CC Power will screen responses for completeness and responsiveness to the eligibility requirements stated above. CC Power will evaluate each aspect of the Respondent's proposal in its sole discretion, including the sample portion, answers to clarifying questions, follow-up interviews/discussions, reference checks or other reasonable diligence.

4.1. PROPOSAL EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Submissions will be evaluated using the scoring metrics summarized below. Respondents will be notified via the solicitations@cacommunitypower.org email address whether or not they have been selected for interviews and final award. CC Power may interview Respondents and request clarification or revised proposals.

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Table 2: Evaluation Metrics

Metric	Description
Relevant Experience	Demonstrated solar plus storage project development experience and expertise across the breadth of the project development lifecycle and for various CAISO projects; Project team qualifications and breadth of experience; and/or Experience with third party consultants who may support actual project development activities.
Proposed Project Deliverables	Demonstrated understanding of scope and deliverables and CC Power’s purpose for using these deliverables to be placed into practice for actual project development activities; The proposed level of detail is appropriate to make information actionable without being too high level to be useful nor overwhelming or excessively time-consuming or costly to deliver to CC Power; Demonstration of high-quality sample materials that clearly and helpfully present relevant information at an appropriate level of detail on a subset of the components of the site acquisition and diligence process; Respondent provides recommendations on key considerations for structuring and delivering this project to inform best practices for project development, including concepts that are outside of what has been set forth herein, but which are relevant to successful project delivery; Proposed deliverables are perceived as likely to be useful and effective for building comfort and understanding among CC Power’s members for making an informed decision on authorizing a greenfield development project or acquiring a mid-stage development project; and Proposed deliverables are perceived to likely be actionable for CC Power’s advancement of a plan for executing a greenfield development project or acquiring and completing a mid-stage development project.
Timing & Cost	Time estimates are reasonable and within CC Power’s targeted timeframe for deliverables; and Overall costs and cost assumptions are reasonable, justified, and can be defended by CC Power within its budget authorizations for the proposed scope.
Proposed Project Management	Proposed schedule and process is reasonable; Respondent’s team has sufficient availability for completing the project;

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	Respondent has appropriate expectations for engagement with CC Power in scoping, providing feedback, signing off on deliverables, and communicating on issues that may come up; and Respondent conveys that they will implement effective project management of the project and completion of the deliverables.
Potential Synergies	While not required for the selection of a Consultant for this project and to be treated solely as a secondary consideration, CC Power will consider any potential synergies associated with the potential ongoing project management support that could benefit from continuity starting with this Project Development Playbook RFP through to actual project management of a mid-stage development or greenfield development project.

5. RFP PROCESS COMMUNICATION

5.1. COMMUNICATIONS ON RFP UPDATES

Interested Respondents are encouraged to subscribe to CC Power’s mailing list by filling out the requested contact information at the bottom of CC Power’s home page at www.cacommunitypower.org. CC Power will utilize its mailing list to email updates on any changes to the RFP Instructions, including dates and deliverables; status updates, such as posting of the Q&A documents or notice of award; and any other material communications relating to the RFP that are relevant to all Respondents.

5.2. RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES

All questions, requests, and other inquiries or communications from or on behalf of Respondent to CC Power about this RFP must be directed in email to solicitations@cacommunitypower.org in accordance with the timeline provided below and must include the words “Project Development Playbook RFP” in the subject line to distinguish the communications from other solicitations that may be concurrently ongoing.

Subject to any potential confidentiality concerns, CC Power intends to post all questions submitted by Respondents (common questions will be aggregated), as well as responses to those questions on the RFP website. All questions will be anonymized to shield the identity of Respondents who posed the questions. CC Power’s objective in posting questions and answers is to afford Respondents equal access to information potentially relevant to their proposals. Respondents are urged to submit RFP questions as early as possible, in consideration of the proposal submission deadlines. Responses to questions will be posted in accordance with the timeline provided.

Please note that responses to questions about any aspects of the RFP will only be answered via the formal Q&A process.

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5.3. SCHEDULE

The proposed RFP milestone dates are listed below. CC Power reserves the right to adjust dates. Following the submission deadline, all Respondents will be notified of date changes via email and as posted on the RFP website. Please refer to the RFP website for the most up-to-date timeline information.

Table 3: RFP Schedule

BID SCHEDULE – ACTIVITY	RFP MILESTONE ²
RFP Announcement	9/1/2026
Deadline for Questions from Respondents	9/18/2026
Q&A Responses Posted	Answers will be posted and updated as questions are received and processed.
RFP Responses Due	9/25/2026 10/2/2026
Respondent Interviews	10/5 to 10/9/2026 10/12 to 10/16
Notice of Selection	10/16/2026 10/23/2026
Execute Contract	10/30/2026 11/6/2026
Target Draft Playbook and Tools Delivery Date	1/15/2027
Target Draft Presentation Delivery Date	1/29/2027
Target Live Presentation Delivery Date	2/10/2027
Target Final Playbook and Tools Delivery Date	2/19/2027

6. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS

6.1. GENERAL

Unless otherwise instructed, all proposals must satisfy eligibility requirements set forth in the RFP and be submitted in accordance with these RFP Instructions to be considered for evaluation.

6.2. COST OF RESPONDING

Respondent will bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its proposal. Neither CC Power, its affiliates, members, 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 Dates may be subject to change and will be communicated via updates to CC Power's RFP website and email distribution list

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6.3. RESPONDENT'S REPRESENTATION

By submitting a proposal, each Respondent represents that they have read and understood the proposal documents, are familiar with the local conditions under which the work is to be performed and agrees in principle to the terms and conditions of the pro forma professional services agreement included on the RFP website.

6.4. REQUIRED APPROVALS

Each proposal must state that the Respondent has obtained all necessary internal approvals for the submission of and intent to enter into negotiations with respect to the Project Proposal, prior to the submission of the Project Proposal.

6.5. PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL

All responses should be submitted to solicitations@cacommunitypower.org by **September 25, 2026 by 11:59 PM Pacific Standard Time**, unless extended by an Addendum to these RFP Instructions. The RFP will close at this time and will not accept late proposals.

Questions can be directed to solicitations@cacommunitypower.org by the deadline set forth in Section 5.3. Answers will be posted to the CC Power's solicitations website at <https://cacommunitypower.org/solicitations/> and will be publicly available by the deadline set forth in Section 5.2.

6.6. CONFIDENTIALITY

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

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 are 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 may notify Respondent and provide it with an opportunity to seek a court order to limit disclosure. CC Power may also be willing to redact or withhold confidential information from disclosure in the event that Respondent agrees to defend, indemnify and hold CC Power harmless from any challenge associated with such redaction or non-disclosure.

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.

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6.7. CONTRACTUAL CONSIDERATIONS

All Respondents are deemed to agree in principle to the terms and conditions of the professional services agreement posted on the RFP website, unless they provide a redlined agreement or term sheet specifically identifying how key provisions that are assumed in the pricing of proposal(s) are to be modified. All proposals will represent a firm offer to contract on the terms and conditions of the agreements included as RFP materials.

6.8. AWARD

CC Power reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Prior to awarding a proposal, CC Power may have discussions with Respondents whose proposals are under consideration.

Negotiations arising out of the proposals may be conducted with any or all Respondents at CC Power's sole discretion. Respondents selected within the RFP process will be expected to enter into a professional services agreement within two (2) weeks following the award of the proposal.

7. DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this RFP 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, consultants nor affiliates 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 RFP process, Respondent acknowledges that it has read, understands, and agrees to the terms and conditions set forth in these RFP 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 RFP. All Respondents should note, however, 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 selection. Furthermore, CC Power may, at its sole discretion and without notice, modify, suspend, or terminate the RFP without liability to any organization or individual. Any modification to this RFP will be made by addendum. This RFP does not constitute an offer to buy from nor 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 and approved by its General Manager and/or board of directors, as applicable.

If selected, a Respondent may be invited to enter into a contract with CC Power. CC Power may elect to split up the work among multiple Respondents and may negotiate and execute contracts

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with different Respondents on differing timelines. 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 RFP in evaluating its contents, providing a response, or, if selected by CC Power, negotiating, delivering and executing any definitive agreements that arise from this RFP. Respondents to this RFP 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, consultants nor affiliates.