

Request for Information

Energy Storage Solutions for Grid Services in the Caribbean Islands



December 18, 2018

DISCLAIMER: *This is not a Request for Proposals (RFP) or solicitation for formal proposals. The information developed through this RFI will be used to evaluate the market to provide energy storage solutions for some Caribbean islands which have partnered with the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI). This RFI does not constitute a commitment, implied or otherwise, that RMI will take action in this matter. RMI will not be responsible for any costs associated with the provision of responses.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to gauge interest from entities that can provide energy storage solutions under an Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) contract for electric utilities in various Caribbean islands that RMI supports.

These islands recently underwent the processes of creating National Energy Transition Strategies (NETS) or Integrated Resource Plans (IRP) and are embarking upon major investments in their power sectors. The NETS or IRP were developed through an inclusive process, which involved the Government, the national electric utility, and other key energy sector players in the respective countries with support from RMI. The outcome is a common fact base and consensus between stakeholders on the path forward for the national energy transition.

These islands use diesel gensets at partial load to provide spinning reserve. Additionally, as renewable energy investments increase on the grid, cycling of thermal gensets presents an operational challenge. Lastly, the daily load profile and afternoon peak is reasonably predictable. There is opportunity for energy storage to address some or all of these challenges, therefore RMI is gauging interest for supplying solutions for these countries and setting market influenced budgets for 2019.

2. PROJECT(S) INFORMATION

Small islands face numerous challenges with incorporating renewables into their grids. In an effort to achieve greater grid stability, reduce fuel use from spinning reserve, and reduce operational challenges associated with increased use of intermittent renewable energy resources such as solar and wind, islands are poised to incorporate utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESSs) into their grids. For many of these countries, this will be the first project of its kind.

The goal of these potential projects is to contract a BESS supplier and/or an EPC firm that will design, procure, construct and commission an energy storage system that will be owned and operated by the utility, to address the pertinent needs of the relevant islands.

RMI is seeking expressions of interest for energy storage solutions geared primarily towards the following two value streams:

1. Primarily spinning reserve with ancillary benefits of frequency response, voltage support and black start.
2. Peak Shaving / Smoothing (offsetting the mid-day peak which tends to last 4 hours).

This RFI seeks qualified respondents to provide preliminary information and budgetary estimates for energy storage solutions for these services.

3. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

RMI requests that respondents complete the attached questionnaire (Annex 1). The questionnaire and associated exhibits are requested to be sent by email to the following party:

Christopher Burgess
Director of Projects,
Islands Energy Program
Rocky Mountain Institute
cburgess@rmi.org

Please email the documents no later than 11:59 PM Eastern Caribbean Time, **Friday, January 18, 2018.**

Confidentiality

RMI recognizes that certain information contained in an RFI response may be considered confidential and, as permitted by applicable law, will treat as confidential any information clearly labeled as such.

Materials provided will be deemed confidential and restricted to review by RMI for the purpose of evaluating market interest.

Annex 1:

See separate EPC questionnaire