

Akwesasne Housing Authority
Invitation for Indian-Owned Economic Enterprises to Submit Statements of
Intent to Respond to Upcoming Request for Proposals
Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative
Deadline: January 3, 2017

The Akwesasne Housing Authority (“AHA”) has been awarded a \$1,000,000 community-scale installation grant under Department of Energy (“DOE”) EERE Deployment of Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects on Indian Land (“DOE Grant”) to assist AHA with the installation of at least 614.74 kW of ground-mounted solar (the “Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative”) to meet the electrical needs of Buildings 4, 8 and 14 at AHA’s Sunrise Acres Complex, numerous low-income individual residences, and potentially other buildings. The Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative will take advantage of National Grid’s (AHA’s local utility provider’s) remote aggregated metering and community solar programs.

AHA invites Indian-owned firms to submit statements of intent to respond to an upcoming request for proposals (“RFP”) to implement the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative. AHA shall receive such statements of intent until 2:00 p.m. local time on **January 3, 2017** at the offices of AHA, 378 State Route 37, Suite A, Hogansburg, NY 13655. With its statements of intent, each Indian-owned firm must complete and submit a Contractor’s Pre-Qualification Statement for the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative, which can be found on AHA’s website and can be picked up at the offices of AHA.

Below is a partial list of the requirements that apply to the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative:

1. Because of the importance of receiving funding for the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (“NYSERDA”), qualified RFP respondents must:
 - a. Be a Participating Contractor with full status in the NYSERDA NY-Sun Program for systems above 200kW in size with respect to all of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe’s Reservation in New York;
 - b. Be a Participating Contractor with full status in the NYSERDA NY-Sun Program for systems 200kW and smaller in size with respect to all of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe’s Reservation in New York; and
 - c. Agree to take all required steps to receive NYSERDA funding for the benefit of AHA.
2. Qualified RFP respondents must agree to install the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative at a reasonable cost.
3. Qualified RFP respondents must have experience in successfully installing at least one solar project that is at least 200 kW in size.
4. Qualified RFP respondents must agree to provide five (5) years of operation and maintenance of the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative and to train at least three (3) Tribal members to take over operation and maintenance after that time. Operation and maintenance shall include at a minimum:

- a. Physical site inspections that will be performed annually to confirm each installation is maintaining the structural integrity as designed. This includes, but is not limited to, inspecting the modules, connection points, racking and wires.
 - b. A simulated power outage that will be performed annually to confirm inverter power cycling and shutdown. When power is reestablished, real-time monitoring will confirm that the inverter powers up properly and normal operation of the solar arrays occurs.
 - c. Soiling management and cleaning of solar modules when necessary. Upon the annual site inspection, if debris or soiling on the solar modules warrant cleaning of an array, the arrays will be cleaned.
 - d. Real-time online monitoring that will be utilized to track the energy production of the solar facility. This real-time monitoring will provide detailed production reports. Constant monitoring can help provide critical information to troubleshoot technical problems, outages, and subsequent service call response.
5. Qualified RFP respondents must agree to obtain all permits and approvals for installation of the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative.
 6. Qualified RFP respondents must agree to install photovoltaic panels with at least a 25-year warranty, ground-mount racking systems with at least a 10-year warranty and inverters with at least a 10-year warranty.
 7. Qualified RFP respondents must agree to comply with and assist AHA in its compliance with 2 C.F.R. Parts 200 and 910 and all other terms and conditions of the DOE Grant.
 8. Qualified RFP respondents must agree to provide a six-year parts and labor warranty on the solar facilities and to pass through for the benefit of AHA all of the warranties provided by the equipment manufacturers.
 9. Qualified RFP respondents must agree to train and provide jobs related to the installation of the Community-Scale AHA Go Solar Initiative to at least eight (8) Tribal members.
 10. Qualified RFP respondents must demonstrate their ability to cost-effectively monetize the investment tax credit and depreciation benefits available for solar facilities for the financial benefit of AHA, without reducing the value to AHA of the DOE Grant or the NYSERDA funding.
 11. Qualified RFP respondents must be registered with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's Compliance Division and will be required to comply with the Policy on Mohawk Preference.

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