

**Clean Energy Grid Action Request for Proposals:
Legislative Lobbying Consultant
February 21, 2023**

Overview

Clean Energy Grid Action (“CEGA”) is diverse 501(c)(4) organization with a mission to advocate for policies to expand, modernize, and integrate the high-capacity transmission grid to achieve greater security, reliability, affordability, and sustainability of electric power service in the United States. A resilient and reliable transmission grid is the backbone of a modern grid and a strong economy, but regional and interregional transmission is not being planned or built at the rate necessary to meet our current and future electric demands. Federal policy must be improved to ensure the grid is efficiently planned and developed and that costs are distributed equitably.

In order to further its mission, CEGA is seeking one or more government relations and/or public affairs expert consultant(s) to assist CEGA with its bipartisan federal advocacy efforts and to advance legislative policies that are in line with CEGA’s mission. This contract would run approximately between the end of the first quarter of 2023 through December 31, 2023 with an option at CEGA’s sole discretion to extend through December 31, 2024 (the remainder of the term of the 118th Congress).

Statement of Work

CEGA seeks to retain the services of one or more qualified firm or individual(s) to assist CEGA with bipartisan legislative advocacy and education. In particular, CEGA is looking for a consultant to:

- Assist in developing a federal political engagement plan designed to achieve CEGA’s goals;
- Identify and develop/strengthen relationships with key legislators across the political spectrum, including by coordinating meetings for CEGA leadership and stakeholders with elected officials and congressional staff on Capitol Hill—with a primary focus on House and Senate Committee leadership and policymakers that have been, or could be, transmission champions;
- Work to pass and achieve CEGA’s legislative agenda by lobbying members of the Legislature, their staff, and other federal government officials, including but not limited to planning and executing virtual and/or in-person convenings or Congressional fly-in events;
- Communicate the goals and need for policy reform to key influencers in the legislative process;
- Assist in organizing and conducting educational sessions for recently elected members of Congress and their staff;

- Provide regular updates on advocacy efforts and legislative engagement to CEGA staff and stakeholders, including through written status reports that track engagement and oral updates to the CEGA Board or its affiliated organization, Americans for a Clean Energy Grid; and
- As requested, track and report on federal legislation that may intersect with or have an impact on CEGA's mission.

During the course of this contract, CEGA shall not participate or intervene, nor shall CEGA's consultant participate or intervene on behalf of CEGA, in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office to an extent that would disqualify it from tax exemption under IRC section 501(c)(4).

Eligible Offerors

Eligible offerors must demonstrate experience to perform the duties described under the scope of work, including but not limited to:

- Strong existing relationships and experience engaging with legislators and skilled at building new relationships;
- Experience with federal government affairs and advocacy, particularly experience with engaging on and advocating for federal funding, appropriations, administrative law, and infrastructure improvement policies.
- Ability to translate complex material and the need for policy reform to legislators and their staff, including, for example, information related to tax incentives and federal funding; transmission siting, permitting, and planning processes; transmission-related regulations, rules, and standards of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, North American Electric Reliability Corporation;
- Ability to work with diverse interests;
- Creativity and strong critical thinking, writing, and analytical skills.

Submission Requirements

To Apply: Please submit an electronic proposal to Will Sherman at williams@dgardiner.com by 5 pm ET on March 1, 2023 and include "CEGA Legislative Lobbying Consultant" in the subject line. Proposals should include:

- An executive summary consisting of a brief overview of the Consultant's experience and the planned scope of work;
- A statement of firm qualifications that addresses the required experience listed under "Eligible Offerors";
- A proposed work plan, including a proposed strategy to build and execute an effective advocacy campaign and a proposed timeline for the work;

- The names of the persons who will perform the tasks outlined in the scope of work, and bios or resumes of each proposed team member;
- A proposed budget, including hourly rates for team members;
- A list of two to three references who were provided with services similar to those described in the scope of work; and,
- A statement disclosing any potential conflicts for this work.

If the proposer is applying for a portion of the work (e.g. only conservative outreach or only progressive outreach), please make that clear in the proposal.

Consultant Selection

All expenses related to responding to this RFP shall be borne by the bidders. CEGA retains the right to award a portion, or all, of this contract to one or more offerors that best meets the requirements of this RFP, or to withdraw the RFP with no advance notice. Activities will commence after a contract has been executed.

Timing

Application Deadline: March 1, 2023, by 5:00 pm ET

Planned Selection Deadline: March 10, 2023

Preferred Start Date: week of March 13, 2023

End Date: December 31, 2023