

**Americans for a Clean Energy Grid Request for Proposals:
FERC Legal and Policy Assistance
February 7, 2024**

Overview

Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (“ACEG”) is a diverse, multi-stakeholder, public interest education and advocacy 501(c)(3) organization focused on the need 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.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is poised to issue a transformative transmission planning and cost allocation rule in Docket RM21-17¹ that will direct planning regions to engage in proactive and comprehensive long-term regional planning and to file revised tariffs to comply with the new requirements. FERC is also considering additional action on transmission-related policies and rules including with respect to interregional planning and transfer capability requirements, transmission incentives, and reliability/resilience standards. ACEG seeks the assistance of one or more expert legal or policy consultant(s) who can support ACEG’s engagement in FERC matters and strategize additional FERC advocacy efforts that can advance transmission expansion and modernization.

Statement of Work

ACEG seeks to retain the services of one or more qualified legal or policy experts (either firm(s) or individual(s)) to provide FERC-related strategic advice and advocacy support to advance regional and interregional transmission development. Offerors may submit bids for all or a portion of the activities but must clearly indicate in their response which portions of the work they are bidding on.

¹ *Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection*, 179 FERC ¶ 61,028 (2022).

Specifically, the consultant(s) will:

- Assist ACEG with preparing for the transmission planning and cost allocation rulemaking by:
 - Reviewing and providing ACEG with a written analysis of each Order No. 1000 transmission planning region's planning processes and governing documents that identifies, among other things, specific ways in which the region is already planning proactively and comprehensively, the benefits the region is considering (if any), the region's cost allocation methodology(ies), and areas of needed improvement.
 - Providing ACEG and its stakeholders with strategic advice on advocacy actions needed in specific regions to comply with the FERC rule and to advance more comprehensive transmission planning. If readily available, provide ACEG and its stakeholders with examples of strong tariff language.
- Assist ACEG with ensuring each planning region is appropriately strengthening its transmission planning and cost allocation processes in compliance with FERC's rule by:
 - monitoring the Order No. 1000 regional compliance planning processes and providing ongoing expert strategic advice to assist ACEG in advocating for improvements where necessary.
 - as needed, assisting ACEG with drafting comments on regional compliance plans.
- Assist ACEG in building consensus policies on interregional transmission planning and development to inform related advocacy efforts at FERC.
- Monitor and identify additional opportunities for ACEG to engage at FERC and advance policies and rules that lead to proactive transmission development, including opportunities in docketed proceedings and technical conferences.
- Support ACEG in participating in FERC rulemakings and other proceedings that involve transmission issues, including for example by drafting comments for formal proceedings, FERC workshops, and technical conferences, and proposing talking points for ACEG-nominated workshop/conference participants.
- Assist ACEG in educating ACEG supporters on pending issues at FERC and ways they can support ACEG's advocacy efforts.

This engagement will continue through December 31, 2024, with potential extension for an additional year.

During this contract, ACEG’s consultant will not participate or intervene on behalf of ACEG, in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office to an extent that would disqualify ACEG from its tax exemption status.

Eligible Offerors

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

- Extensive experience advocating at FERC in both formal proceedings and informal contexts such as workshops and technical conferences.
- A strong background in transmission planning, development, and cost allocation.
- Creativity and strong critical thinking, research, writing, and analytical skills.
- Extensive experience providing strategic advice and identifying opportunities to advance an organization’s mission.
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines.
- Experience in multiple Order No. 1000 regions and in reviewing regional transmission planning processes and analyzing transmission tariffs (preferred).

Submission Requirements

To Apply: Please submit an electronic proposal to Applications@cleanenergygrid.org by 5 pm ET on February 20, 2024, and include “ACEG FERC Support” 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 approach and timeline.
- 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 budget that proposes either a monthly retainer or a total budget with 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.

- A statement disclosing any potential conflicts for this work, and an explanation of actions, if any, that can be taken to minimize or eliminate such conflicts.

Consultant Selection

All expenses related to responding to this RFP shall be borne by the bidders. ACEG 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: February 20, 2024

Planned Selection Deadline: March 8, 2024 (If necessary, ACEG may request interviews with select bidders)

Proposed Start Date: By March 15, 2024