May 18, 2015

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

for

Southeast Wyoming Grid Analysis and Power Resource Study

Required for use by:

Southeast Wyoming Economic Development District (SWEDD) and other economic development entities located in Platte, Goshen, Laramie and Albany counties in southeast Wyoming.

All proposals and other communication must be delivered via email to:

Josh Boudreau
Chairman of the SWEDD Board of Directors
jboudreau@laramie.org

A Pre-Bid Conference Call will be held on Friday, May 29, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. MST. The call-in number and passcode are 1-310-372-7549 and 325430 respectively.

Submissions must be received by 5:00 p.m. MST on July 1, 2015.

The Scope of Work (SOW) and other requirements has been posted on the SWEDD website.
### Request for Proposal (RFP)

**PURPOSE:** Southeast Wyoming Economic Development District obtained grant funding to develop a study to provide Southeast Wyoming Economic Development District (SWEDD) a resource which will aid in the identification of strategic development opportunities in its four-county region which includes Platte, Goshen, Laramie and Albany counties in southeast Wyoming. The study will provide SWEDD and other economic development entities in the state with a resource to share with industries or business activities with above average power requirements in order to attract such entities to Wyoming.

**GOAL:** This analysis will be used as a resource for new businesses considering Southeast Wyoming as a site including, but not limited to, data centers, furnace applications, mining operations, natural gas, bio gen, wind, nuclear, coal to liquids (CTL), gas to liquids (GTL) and other generation infrastructure.

**PROJECT SCOPE:** The following describes the proposed program scope and general responsibilities of the Consultant to provide thorough professional consultation of the project.

Consultant will create and submit a Planning and Strategy Report to include all of the elements described below:

**Scope of Work (SOW):**

1. Create a model and perform analyses for the current southeast Wyoming grid and address estimated power prices for medium and large users of power. Also, a discussion relative to possible new transmission projects in the next 5 years and if built, their impact on the southeast Wyoming grid. Such projects should be limited to the Wyoming-Colorado Intertie Project; the TransWest Express Project and the Energy Gateway Projects, if relevant.

   a. An indication of power prices for medium and large users of power relative to both renewal energy and fossil fuel based power generation; and include assessment of regulatory market changes promulgated and proposed.

   b. If new transmission projects are built in the next 5 years, their impact should include thermal loading, voltage, reliability and congestion relief benefits.

   c. Assess the performance gains for deployment of “smart grid” technologies, such as Dynamic Thermal Line Rating” to enable transmitting greater power over existing grid assets.

**Deliverable:** Model and analyses report of the current southeast Wyoming grid and power prices. New transmission projects will be identified with impacts.

**Methodology:** Research, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information. (Both the University of Wyoming and WestConnect, a subregional planning group within the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) have conducted some grid analysis within the area of interest)
2) Determine the geographic and wild life habitat attributes or barriers that could create problems for siting or for connection to the grid including the ability to service large scale producers or users of power. Geographic barriers could include topographic obstacles to development with respect to power access, etc. This would include a discussion relative to power quality disturbance, which is generally defined as any change in power (voltage, current, or frequency) that interferes with the normal operation of electrical equipment. Also, it should be noted that the majority of land in the four county area is privately owned.

**Deliverable:** Report on geographic and wild life habitat attributes or barriers identified that could create problems for siting or for connection to the grid including power quality disturbance.

**Methodology:** Research, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information.

3) Identify potential access points for generators and consumers and include estimated costs of interconnection including any estimated costs for power substations.

**Deliverable:** Report on potential access points for generators and consumers identified including costs.

**Methodology:** Study of the grid for access points, research, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information.

4) Identify existing and planned sources of power in the southeast Wyoming grid. Include where relevant in the discussion, possible sources of power available for new and large consumers, which can be made available by Southwest Power Pool; Western Area Power Administration; Black Hills; Tri-State Generation & Transmission; Basin Electric; and Nebraska Public Power District.

**Deliverable:** Report on planned sources of power identified in the southeast Wyoming grid.

**Methodology:** Research all sources of power, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information.

a. Provide the power suppliers an opportunity identified in Task 4 to provide input from their points of view concerning current power availability; new transmission and/or generation contained in their planning process; their perception of grid constraints within the four county region; and reliability issues relative to the four (4) business activities listed above under “Goals”. In addition, when communicating with the power providers report on the availability of interruptible power and discuss what stand-by power sources and their performance characteristics would be available during such times in which interruptible power isn’t available in order to ensure reliability. (The Wyoming Infrastructure Authority can assist with contact information)

**Deliverable:** Report of power suppliers identified along with points of view concerning current power availability and new transmission and/or generation contained in the planning process as well as professional perception of the grid constraints identified with the four county region and reliability issues relative to the four business activities identified under "Goals." A report of the availability of interruptible power including what stand-by power sources that are available during times which interruptible power is not available to ensure reliability.
**Methodology:** Research to determine all power suppliers, meetings and discussions with those suppliers to acquire the needed information.

b. Identify all certificated service territories within the four counties of distribution systems because of their vertically contractual arrangements with wholesale power suppliers. Contact the Wyoming Infrastructure Authority for more information.

**Deliverable:** Report on certificated service territories within the four counties of distribution systems identified.

**Methodology:** Research all certificated service territories, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information.

c. Define long-term power contract potential and quality of power for mining, data-center, industrial and commercial facilities that may develop in the area.

**Deliverable:** A definition of long-term power contract potential and quality of power for mining, data center, industrial and commercial facilities incorporated into the project.

**Methodology:** Research long-term power contract potential, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information.

5) Identify other infrastructure which would serve new business in each county area—i.e. natural gas pipelines, water, rail, etc. Identify whether some counties have specific attributes that would be attractive to specific industries such as large industrial operations or data centers. Included in this list should be possible environmental impacts such as sage grouse core areas; air quality attainment risks, transmission corridors; pipeline corridors; etc----these could best be identified as overlays, by subject matter, on a map of the four county area.

**Deliverable:** Report on infrastructure which would serve new business in each county area will be identified. Counties' specific attributes attractive to specific industries will be identified, including a list of environmental impacts/barriers.

**Methodology:** Research, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information. This would include county economic developers to determine potential new businesses.

6) Geographically define the risk of reliability of power for industries by industry including appropriate sites for such in the four county area.

**Deliverable:** Report on the risk of reliability of power for industries will be defined including appropriate sites.

**Methodology:** Research and study risks of reliability, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information.
7) Define sources of potential renewable generation development - areas of potential and grid access for power developers, and potential sources of renewable energy for large scale customers like data-centers that would prefer cleaner technologies. Include a discussion on the likelihood of sources of bio fuel for generation. Include analysis on energy firming needs to mitigate variability of renewable energy resources available.

**Deliverable:** Report on potential renewable generation development will be identified including areas of potential and grid access for power developers and potential sources of renewable energy for large scale customers. Likelihood of sources of bio fuel for generation will be identified and explained.

**Methodology:** Research, meetings and discussions with professionals in the field to acquire the needed information.

8) Identify existing studies by the Wyoming Infrastructure Authority (WIA) and others which are relative to new business in the area.

**Deliverable:** Studies commissioned by the WIA and others.

**Methodology:** Work with the Wyoming Infrastructure Authority as well as research to acquire the needed information.

**TIMELINE**

- **Publishing of the RFP:** May 18, 2015
- **Pre-bid Conference Call:** May 29, 2015 at 2:00pm MST. The purpose of the call is to review the SOW; address clarifying questions; and to provide other information. The call-in number and passcode are 1-310-372-7549 and 325430 respectively.
- **Deadline for Submission of Proposals:** Responses to this RFP must be delivered by email to the Chairman of the SWEDD Board of Directors, Josh Boudreau, via email at jboudreau@laramie.org. Submissions must be received by 5:00 p.m. MST on July 1, 2015.
- **Selection of the Successful Respondent:** SWEDD shall select the successful respondent and communicate such on or before 5:00 p.m. MST on July 31, 2015.
- **Review Sessions:** As provided below.
- **Completion Date—Final Study:** The Study shall be completed on or before December 11, 2015. Any delays will be assessed a $250.00 penalty per day. Consideration will be given for any delays caused by SWEDD. A final draft shall be sent to the SWEDD Representative on or before December 4, 2015 for review and comment by SWEDD.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

- **SWEDD Representative:** For all correspondence relative to this RFP, the designated representative is Josh Boudreau, Chairman of the SWEDD Board of Directors. All correspondence shall be in the form of email to jboudreau@laramie.org.
• Provide a detailed timeline for completion of the analysis, draft deliverables and final deliverables. Such shall include a minimum of four (4) key deliverables. Conference calls or meetings shall be scheduled with the SWEDD Development and Review Committee every six (6) weeks to review the progress of the analysis. The members of the Development and Review Committee shall be designated by SWEDD.

• The analysis report shall contain an executive summary

• Respondents should plan to provide ten (10) bound color copies and one (1) electronic copy of the final report, and any other accompanying deliverables. This includes electronic files for any/all the maps developed or referenced in the SE WY Grid & Power Resource Analysis. Respondents shall provide a cost per additional bound copy of the report in the event more copies are required within one (1) year following the completion of the final report. The cost of such additional copies shall be separate from the cost contained in the proposal.

• The Successful Respondent shall present the purpose of the Study together with preliminary findings at the Wyoming Infrastructure Authority (WIA) Fall Energy Conference in Jackson, WY on October 8-9, 2015 at the Snow King Resort. In addition, the Successful Respondent shall present the final Study at the WIA’s Winter Energy Conference in 2016 at a location and date to be determined.

RESPONSE CONTENTS and FORMAT: All submittals shall provide the following information for consideration:

• Description of Firm, Management, and Team Members: Provide a brief description of your organization and the team that will be assigned to work on and deliver the product. Identify key personnel and their qualifications, telephone number, and contact person for all subcontractors. Southeast Wyoming Economic Development District reserves the right to approve or reject all consultants or internal staff performing consulting services. State their qualifications, indicating the relevant educational background and work experience. Respondents should present their understanding of the project requirements, identifying any exceptions, clarifications, or foreseen/potential problems that must be addressed to fulfill the project requirements.

• Description of Subcontractors: SWEDD will entertain either sole source proposals from single firms (which may or may not utilize subcontractors at their discretion) or joint proposals from multiple firms. However, to be eligible for consideration, any joint proposal (1) must provide a single point of management contact for SWEDD, and (2) must identify a single project manager (coupled with internal vendor management controls over the various joint proponents), to oversee the deliverables of the SE WY Grid & Power Resource Analysis. Identify any portion of the scope of work that will be subcontracted.

• Firm Qualifications: Provide a list of projects with relevance to developing a planning strategy for energy and transmission opportunities along with public/private partnerships, and any experience in or understanding of rural communities.

• Scope of Work: Respondents should describe their plan for accomplishing the work, indicating the number of person-hours allocated to each task. Also, provide an explanation of how each work task, will be approached.
• **Product Value:** Explain how you intend to offer valuable information on the energy and transmission. Demonstrate your firms understanding of the issues relevant to this project.

• **Work Samples:** Provide brief descriptions of at least two recent generation and transmission projects (or similar projects) prepared by your firm. Demonstrate your relationships with the energy and transmission industry and how you intend to use their expertise within this project.

• **References:** Provide at least three client references relevant to this type of project.

• **Bid not to exceed:** The funding for this effort has been *capped at $107,500.00* and any bid exceeding that amount will be disqualified.

• **Development and Review Committee:** The Committee shall consist of up to eight (8) qualified individuals to review the responses and select the successful respondent.

**CONTACT:**

**Josh Boudreau**  
Chairman of the Board  
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