

Q1. For the city provided transformer that was noted at 480V on the low side, could a transformer that accepts 600V be provided instead?

A: A three-phase 480V low side distribution transformer is specified in the RFP since this is the more common configuration for the pad-mounted equipment readily available to the Member cities and can typically be replaced more quickly in the event of a failure. All bids should be based on delivery at this voltage. However, IMEA is open to discussing a different interconnection voltage with the successful bidder.

Q2: Has IMEA completed studies of the member grids to ensure they can accept the full output of the proposed system sizes without any annual curtailment?

A: IMEA has reviewed hourly load data provided by each of the Member Cities involved in this RFP. Much of that data has been made available to prospective bidders on our website. The facility nameplate capacity specified for each proposed solar site takes into consideration the local Member city load that should be available to be served during daylight conditions, so no restriction on solar facility real power output is anticipated.

Q3: Would IMEA like the maximum system size (in order to minimize the PPA rate) along with the desired system rating of 500 to 1000kW-ac?

A: IMEA is open to evaluating higher nameplate capacity options than were specified in the RFP for each site, along with the RFP system rating of 500 and 1000kW-ac.

Q4: Does IMEA accept installing inverters that have only Modbus capability and not DNP3 capabilities?

A: Yes, we have the capability to do Modbus protocol if needed.

Q5. It was mentioned in RFP that IMEA and their Members enjoy certain tax exemptions. Does this mean that there is no sale tax on products purchase by PPA provider?

A: No, the tax exemption only applies to the property tax and the production of energy by solar facilities.

Q6. What is the setback from the center of ComEd 138kv Transmission tower on the North side of Oglesby site?

A: We recommend allowing at least a 50 feet fence/equipment set back from the centerline of the power line (which would be at least 35 feet south of the north perimeter shown on the solar site boundary survey). This should provide sufficient working room for utility crews maintaining the transmission line and avoid possible disruption to the proposed solar facilities.

Q7. Is union/prevaling labor a requirement for these projects?

A: As indicated in section 4.e of the PPA templet (exhibit 4) posted on our website "It shall be the responsibility of the Seller to determine applicability of and to comply, when applicable, with the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act 820 ILCS 130/01 et seq. If applicable, it shall be the responsibility of the Seller to monitor the prevailing wage rates as established by the Illinois

Department of Labor and any local government authority for any increase in rates during the project and adjust wage rates accordingly.”

Q8. What are Princeton’s setbacks, fence, and vegetation requirements?

- A) Development setbacks are 30 ft. from the front property line. Side setbacks can be reduced to 20 ft. from the side property lines.
- B) If fencing is necessary, it should be as inconspicuous as possible, utilizing black-coated wire and posts.
- C) Current code restricts grass height to not exceed 8 inches. Low grow fescue may be allowed subject to the Plan Commission’s approval.
- D) Prairie grasses are not appropriate for this development.

Q9. What are Marshall’s setbacks, fence, and vegetation requirements?

- A) Property line setbacks for the fence:
 - North and South is 1 ft.
 - West side (road side) is 25 ft.
 - East side (Lagoon) will be attached to existing fence.
- B) The city will consider flowering pollinator. However, if a grass is used it will have to be 8” or less.

Q10. The RFP states that “IMEA will provide support for evaluation of the interconnection requirements with the host Member cities’ distribution systems as described below in Section V.” Section V states, “The host Member city will provide the step up transformer and connection (including switching and protective devices) from the high side step up transformer terminals to its primary distribution system.” Can IMEA confirm that bidders should assume \$0 in ITC-ineligible interconnection-related expenses and upgrades?

A: IMEA confirms that bidders should assume no interconnection costs beyond the point of interconnection (the low side of the Member City provided transformer). The Member City is responsible for providing/installing the step up transformer and the interconnection from the transformer to the City’s distribution system. In the past, Member Cities have required IMEA’s PPA provider to post performance security as part of the Interconnection Agreement to protect the City’s investment in the facilities on its side of the interconnection from project cancellation by the PPA provider. The Member Cities in this round of projects may do so as well.

Q11. Can IMEA confirm that the 'delivery meter' for the delivered energy will be on the low side of the transformer?

A: The revenue metering would be located somewhere between the main breaker in PPA provider's switchgear and low side terminals of the step up transformer. The point of interconnection is the low side terminals of the step up transformer.

Q12. To ensure financial strength of bidders, should bidders include a letter of financing commitment from the anticipated long-term owners of the projects?

A: Yes, a commitment letter would be the preferred evidence of financial strength. Other forms of evidence will be considered. If the successful bidder will act more as a developer with an anticipated assignment to a subsequent long-term owner, then financial strength of the ultimate owner should be shown as well.

NOTE: IMEA staff, in an attempt to aid potential bidders on the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency Solar Photovoltaic Projects, has provided answers to these and other questions regarding this RFP form interested bidder. IMEA staff has answered these questions to the best of its abilities and to the best of our understanding of the current site conditions, ordinances, laws, and other regulations that exist and may apply to the proposed project. The questions and answers contained herein do not constitute changes in the RFP and IMEA assumes no liability for answers that may prove to be based on misassumptions or may inadvertently contain factual errors.