

Questions and Answers (Round 4)

IMEA Request for Proposals

Issued 3/30/2022

Solar Photovoltaic Project at

Marshall, Oglesby and Princeton, IL

Q1. QA Round 2 included answers clarifying setbacks, fence, and vegetation requirements for the Marshall and Princeton sites. Can IMEA please confirm setback, fencing, and vegetation requirements for the Oglesby site? Can IMEA confirm if Bidders should assume flowering pollinator seeding for the Oglesby site? Is there a grass height standard in the local code that would prevent Bidders from offering flowering pollinator habitats?

A. Fencing requirement: Subject to City's review, please follow the NEC requirement of 7' high, or 6' + 1' of barbed wire.

Vegetation requirement: City is open to Pollinator mix, subject to final approval.

Setbacks: 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. There is a 10 ft set back on the south side (adjacent the haul road).

Q2. Related to the above question, we noted that for the Princeton site, "current code restricts grass height to not exceed 8 inches, and low grow fescue may be allowed subject to the Plan Commission's approval." Can IMEA confirm that flowering pollinator seeding is not desired for the Princeton site?

A. Correct, the flowering pollinator seeding is not desired for the Princeton site.

Q3. For the Marshall site, the QA Round 2 answer explains that: "the city will consider flowering pollinator. However, if a grass is used it will have to be 8" or less." Based on Sol's experience maintaining pollinator habitats at solar project sites, we have determined that it is not feasible to use flowering pollinator seeding if the grass must be 8" or less. Can IMEA confirm if they prefer bidders to assume pollinator seeding in the Marshall PPA pricing, assuming that grass height of >8" will be permitted, or does IMEA prefer that all Bidders refrain from pricing in pollinator seeding in order to meet the <8" grass height standard?

A. The city may approve the Pollinator seeding for the solar site, however it is subject to their final approval.

Q4. Can IMEA confirm if all Bidders should include in proposed PPA pricing a Performance Assurance collateral payment in the form of a Letter of Credit or other security and for what amount? The PPA template notes that "Purchaser will provide Seller with written notice requesting Performance

Assurance in an amount determined by Purchaser in a commercially reasonable manner (which amount shall not exceed \$1,000,000) to assure performance of Seller's obligations under this Agreement." This collateral payment would be paid out throughout the PPA term and is independent of the additional Performance Assurance requirement described in the RFP which requires an

\$150,000/MW-AC collateral payment between PPA execution and Commercial Operation.

- A.** IMEA confirms that the \$150k collateral requirement in Section 7(o)(i) of our PPA terms and conditions document is IMEA's preferred method of ensuring performance during the post contract execution phase and the construction phase. IMEA further confirms that its preferred language in Section 7(o)(ii) of the PPA for the post COD collateral requirement would only be triggered if IMEA has reasonable grounds to believe that Seller's creditworthiness or performance under the PPA has become unsatisfactory, and then only for so long as the creditworthiness remains unsatisfactory. The amount would be a reasonable amount based on the facts at the time, but not to exceed the maximum number. The final contract terms are subject to negotiation, including the maximum number for post COD performance assurance, and IMEA will give serious consideration to all bids. We will certainly understand if your bid contains a price that is tied to a statement proposing a different performance assurance provision or if your bid price includes the cost of securing the Letter of Credit. Please understand that this will also affect the potential successfulness of your bid.