

Questions and Answers for RFQ EM-004-2020
August 5, 2019

1. Q: Section 1.10 of the RFQ describes the ways in which the Trust will select service providers after they have been prequalified for each of the four research areas. Three different mechanisms are described: “The Trust will [1] request support based on past experience or qualifications for the task, or [2] request quotes for specific SOWs, or [3] will notify the list of potential contractors about a project and select a contractor based on availability.” Can you please provide a breakdown of the number of projects issued under the previous cycle of this RFQ (EM 005-2018) that were negotiated under each of these three mechanisms for each of the four research areas (Economic Modeling, Program Evaluation, Program Design, and Interval Data Modeling)? Am I correct in assuming that projects issued under the 1st and 2nd mechanism are not necessarily released to all the firms that qualify under a particular research area?

A: The Trust issued at least 9 contracts under RFQ-EM-005-2018, but each contract may have contained several smaller projects. The number of projects in each service area is hard to determine, as project areas have a tendency to overlap. The Trust does not necessarily release projects in a given service area to all firms qualified in that service area.

2. Q: We were qualified EM-005-2018 but never received any notifications about funded projects for section 3.4 (Interval Data Analysis). Can you tell us if any projects were awarded for this under the 2018 RFP? Can you tell us the likelihood that any funded projects will occur under EM-004-2020 during the anticipated contract term?

A: See above. The Trust is not prepared to make an estimate of the number of projects awarded under this RFQ.

3. Q: Are you expecting single firms to apply under this RFQ, or should firms combine into teams?

A: Firms can apply under this RFQ either alone or as part of a group.

4. In our response to Section c (Company Profile), can we provide up to 2 pages per service area (as listed in Section 3. Potential Services and Assignments), or are we limited to 2 pages total, regardless of the number of service areas for which we’re submitting a response? Or perhaps 1 additional page per additional service area (e.g., 4 pages if responding to 3 areas)?

A: As stated in the RFQ Section 5.4.c, the company profile is limited to “2 pages maximum per company on the team,” so a proposal with 1 team would be limited to 2 pages.

5. Since entities vary in how they use the term, can you please provide more detail on what is meant by a “virtual energy audit”?

A: In the past the Trust has used the definition that a virtual energy audit combines interval data with other data sources to create a characterization of a building’s energy usage without going on-site. The Trust is open to other definitions and approaches.

6. In section 5.3, the last bullet (“The hourly rates and”) seems to be missing text. Could you please provide the rest of the bullet(s)?

A: That bullet was included by mistake. It has been removed and a clean version has been uploaded to the [website](#).