

**Western Inter-States Hydrogen Hub  
WISHH Prime Contractor Request for Proposals**

**Q&A**

**Posting Date: August 1, 2022**

**CORRECTION NOTICE:** The following correction to the Request for Proposals was posted August 1, 2022.

**Correction A: Page 5**

**Section 2. SCOPE OF WORK**

**4. Part 4 – Hydrogen Hub Planning, Development, Construction & Operation.**

**Correction B: Page 6**

**Section 3. PROJECT PERIOD:** The initial engagement period will cover **Parts 1-3** of the Scope of Work, with the option to extend performance to **Part 4** based on DOE awards and approvals.

**Q&A**

***Q1. Does the DOE fund require matching contributions? And if it does, will ability to contribute be a requirement for the EPC?***

A1. The DOE does require a match; however, the Prime Contractor does not need to provide all the match independently. A plan will need to be developed to determine how all project partners will fulfill the matching/cost share requirements.

***Q2. One of the concerns is that there is a requirement for having experience with \$1B+ projects with DOE. How can that requirement be met?***

A2. It will be important for the Prime Contractor and project team to demonstrate experience with significantly large projects; preference will be given to those with experience with projects funded by DOE.

**Q3. It seems you are looking for a technical partner to help you with the proposal creation which could just be an Owners Engineer role. Is that correct?**

A3. No. It is anticipated the same prime contractor will recommend and implement an overall management structure and program administration model in support of the WISHH coalition, prepare the DOE concept paper, prepare a full proposal for submission if encouraged by DOE, and provide management and implementation of a project portfolio and network of physical projects if future DOE funding is awarded for project engineering and implementation.

**Q4. Will the project need an owner/operator for the project?**

A4. The prime contractor, and the project team as may be appropriate, must demonstrate experience, capacity and approach to provide **all elements** of the Scope of Work as described in the RFP. If future DOE funding is awarded then the same prime contractor will provide engineering, management and implementation of a portfolio and network of physical (infrastructure and facilities) and non-physical (workforce, EEEJ (Energy, Equity, and Environmental Justice), etc.) projects. See page 5, Part 5. Hydrogen Hub Planning, Development, Construction & Operation and reference to Regional H2Hubs NOI.

**Q5. Are you open to accepting bids as a consortium partner with other parties?**

A5. Yes. A single proposal from a consortium of partners would be considered, provided it addresses the full scope of work and demonstrates the required experience and capacity to provide all elements of the Scope of Work.

**Q6. What other types of partners do we need to add to our team?**

A6. The Prime Contractor respondent may propose a project team and must demonstrate its experience and capacity to provide all elements of the Scope of Work.

**Q7. When does the WEA (Wyoming Energy Authority and WISHH) anticipate beginning Part 1 of the work? Would the WEA expect to begin the work before or after the DOE issues the FOA?**

A7. We anticipate beginning September 2022. However, the Scope of Work in this RFP tracks the anticipated phases based on currently available information from DOE and is subject to change.

**Q8. Since the Part-1 and 2 scopes are limited to planning/onboarding and concept study), how important is the qualification of large government contracts with DOE contracts preferred?**

A8. It is the desire of WISHH for the prime contractor selected to manage the hub over the lifetime of DOE funding, and therefore the prime contractor should demonstrate the full range of qualifications outlined in the RFP.

**Q9. Our understanding is that out of the four parts of scope, the award by WEA [and WISHH] will be limited only for the Part-1 (onboarding, planning and preparation) and Part-2 (Concept paper), and this is a pre-DOE funding award that will be paid for by WISHH members. The award will not be influenced by DOE funding / FOA that is expected to be issued during or after Part-2 completion. If the above is true, then please confirm the need for qualification requirement of “government approved cost-accounting system” is meant for WY or WISHH member states accounting systems and not DOE / FAR audits.**

A9. It is the desire of WISHH for the prime contractor selected to manage the hub over the lifetime of DOE funding, therefore it is necessary to meet the referenced qualification requirement because it is intended the Prime Contractor selected will provide services for all project components; including preparation of a full proposal for submission if encouraged by DOE and future DOE funding for development of a project portfolio, engineering and implementation.

You may submit two separate cost proposals. One cost proposal may be for Parts 1 and 2, the “Onboarding” and “Concept Paper” work, being done “at-risk” with payment only upon the award of DOE funding. The other proposal may be for Parts 1 and 2 being paid for prior to funding award.

**Q10. We understand that the prime contractor selected for Part-1 and 2 will not necessarily be selected automatically for the Parts 3 and 4, as these phases of the project development and implementation are subject to DOE funding. So, will the bidding be reopened post completion of Parts 1, 2?**

A10. It is not intended for the bidding to be reopened post completion of Parts 1 and 2. See Section 3, page 6: “... the intent is for the prime contractor selected pursuant to this RFP to manage the hub over the lifetime of DOE funding.”

**Q11. You have requested two cost structures – “at-risk” with payment upon award of DOE funding – does this mean at the end of Parts 1 and 2? And if we chose to not provide at-risk cost option, will our bid be rejected?**

A11. Yes, the at-risk portion is for work performed during Parts 1 and 2. Your bid will not be rejected if you chose only to submit a proposal with a pay-as-you-go cost structure. However, you are welcome to submit two cost structures, one with at-risk, and one without.

**Q12. Timing/Collaboration: Given the scope of this effort, we may need to partner with one or more subcontractors. However, the scope and requirements of those specific efforts is likely to evolve over the course of Parts 1-5 of the work, and therefore, it may be difficult to fully select and confirm specific suppliers at this time. Would it be acceptable to propose a set of possible subcontractors at this time?**

A12. Yes.

**Q13. Scope: Is WEA looking for a single bidder for the entire project, or is it okay to bid for a portion of the work?**

A13. A proposal for the requested scope of work must be from a primary contractor/lead organization, which may propose a project team or consortium. The proposal submission must be for a single bid (see Section 5. Proposal Preparation Requirements #12 Cost Breakdown). Bids for a portion of the work will not be considered. The intent is for the prime contractor selected to manage the Hub's full scope of work over the lifetime of DOE funding. Note the Scope of Work and Project Period correction below that was posted on August 1, 2022.

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**Q14. Project costs: Just to clarify, is the RFP asking us to propose two different commercial structures, that is, what it would cost us if it was 100% at risk vs. if we were paid as we go?**

A14. Yes.

**Q15. References: Should we include references as part of our submission, and would it count towards the overall page count?**

A15. A proposal is limited to 20 pages. Should you decide to include additional page(s) of references, know the Review Team is not obligated to read beyond the 20-page limit.

**Q16. What is the timeline for the RANGE scope of work / when will their deliverables be ready for review as part of Phase 1?**

A16. The timeline for the deliverables from RANGE is to be ready to be included in the development of the Concept Paper.