



SaskPower

Request for Information (RFI)

Supply of up to 500 MW of Firm Capacity and Energy

Inquiry Number: #1009772

Make all inquiries and send all questions to:

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majorprocurement@saskpower.com

1. Introduction

- 1.1 SaskPower is the main supplier of electricity in Saskatchewan, Canada. Founded as the Saskatchewan Power Commission in 1929 and reorganized as a Crown corporation under *The Power Corporation Act* of Saskatchewan, our mission is to ensure reliable, sustainable and cost-effective power for our customers and the communities we serve.
- 1.2 SaskPower serves more than 530,000 customer accounts. The company owns and operates three coal-fired power stations, seven hydroelectric stations, seven natural gas stations and two wind facilities with an aggregate generating capacity of approximately 4,000 megawatts. SaskPower also has 26 contracts with independent power producers in operation that supply approximately an additional 1,442 megawatts of electricity to the grid sourced from natural gas, wind, solar, and biomass facilities, as well as imports from outside the province.
- 1.3 SaskPower is on track to reduce emissions by 50 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030 as part of Saskatchewan's cleaner energy future. In order to make deep emission reductions, SaskPower will be working with independent power producers to develop significant renewable generation additions in Saskatchewan. Executing on plans to transition to lower carbon-producing generation through in-province generation development will be critical to SaskPower's future.
- 1.4 SaskPower has announced an increase of interconnection capacity between Saskatchewan and the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), increasing to 650 MW and targeted to be in-service as of October 1, 2027. Expanding transmission interconnections with SPP will help enhance reliability, resiliency and flexibility of SaskPower's system and enable future renewable generation development in Saskatchewan.
- 1.5 Prior to constructing expanded interconnection facilities, SaskPower is seeking to identify potential options for import sourced from the SPP footprint of up to 500 MW of firm capacity and energy to be available as early as October 1, 2027.
- 1.6 Responses to this RFI may include solutions that include firm capacity and energy supplied from facilities currently in-service or from facilities to be constructed. In either scenario, such facilities should be online in accordance with the details and timeline outlined in Appendix A - Overview.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of this RFI is for SaskPower to obtain information about potential options for supply of firm capacity and energy to be available as early as October 1, 2027.
- 2.2 Responses are made on a non-binding basis and will be used for information purposes only, to help inform SaskPower if there is sufficient interest and a viable business model to support firm capacity and energy purchase options from the SPP footprint.
- 2.3 SaskPower's primary interest is in a potential contract or combination of contracts (with one or more counterparties) that together provide 500 MW of firm capacity for a duration of ten years. Alternative timeframes may be proposed by a respondent. Appendix A – Overview details SaskPower's present understanding of this need and acceptable alternatives. SaskPower is interested in learning about any potential solutions regardless of these present assumptions and expectations.

2.4 SaskPower has issued this RFI to obtain information only. SaskPower is under no obligation to review any response, or to discuss the Information submitted, or to negotiate any purchase contract or any other agreement based on the information submitted, with anyone, or otherwise. SaskPower may cancel, abandon or terminate this RFI process at any time. This RFI does not constitute an offer or an invitation for proposal. Although this RFI directs that inquiries be made to a “Procurement Specialist”, to the email address majorprocurement@saskpower.com, and refers to “Procurement personnel” and to a “Procurement Department Address”, this RFI does not constitute a procurement nor does it form part of a procurement process. This RFI has been prepared to assist interested persons in assessing matters and does not purport to contain all of the information that a respondent may desire or require. SaskPower makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, by, under or pursuant to this RFI, in respect of any answers by SaskPower to any questions posed by respondents, or in respect of any information from third parties referred to in this RFI or as part of the RFI process.

2.5 No contractual relationship or legal duty will arise between SaskPower and a respondent prior to, upon or following the response of, or the provision of any information by, such respondent. Respondents are not required to participate in this RFI in order to participate in future procurement activities if a procurement were to be initiated in the future. SaskPower is not responsible for any costs, expenses or liabilities incurred in connection with any respondent’s review of this RFI or response to this RFI.

3. Preferred Response Format

SaskPower prefers that the respondent submits the Information using the forms set out as Appendix B – Respondent Details and in Appendix C – Response Details and Format.

4. Questions

Questions relating to this RFI should be submitted to the Procurement personnel named on the RFI cover page, preferably by e-mail at majorprocurement@saskpower.com. Respondents should submit questions on or before the Deadline for Submission of Questions set out in this RFI.

SaskPower may, in its sole and unfettered discretion, distribute responses to questions received by SaskPower to the enquiring respondent only, or to any or all respondents. SaskPower is under no obligation to provide a response to any question and may elect to respond to questions received at any time, even those received after the Deadline for Submission of Questions. SaskPower may require one or more respondents to enter into a non-disclosure agreement with SaskPower in a form acceptable to SaskPower.

The respondent should seek clarification, on or before the Deadline for Submission of Questions, from SaskPower of any matter the respondent considers to be unclear. SaskPower is not responsible in any way whatsoever for any misunderstanding by the respondent or any of its advisors.

5. Information Submission

5.1 Respondents should label the response with the RFI Title [“Supply of up to 500 MW of firm capacity and energy”], the respondent’s name and address, and the Inquiry Number.

5.2 Responses must be submitted using the following methods:

- (a) by submitting their response online through the Merx Electronic Bid Submission (EBS) system as a portable document format file (PDF) on or before the Response Deadline (see RFI cover page).

Respondents are responsible for making arrangements directly with Merx regarding the use of any services offered by Merx including the Merx EBS system, and to familiarize themselves with all necessary information regarding uploading their responses on the Merx EBS system. Note: Merx is an independent contractor and not an agent, servant, subsidiary or affiliate of SaskPower. SaskPower does not own or control the Merx EBS system and is not responsible for its operation, functioning or malfunctioning; or

- (b) by submitting their response via email to majorprocurement@saskpower.com

6. Additional Information

SaskPower may invite respondents to provide further context, elaboration and information pertaining to any information provided to SaskPower.

7. Confidentiality of Respondent Information

Though SaskPower makes efforts to keep respondent information confidential, it cannot guarantee the confidentiality of all information it receives with a response. If the respondent has concerns about confidentiality, they should contact the Procurement personnel named on the RFI cover page at the Procurement Department Address. SaskPower is subject to legal requirements that may require disclosure of information including, without limitation, under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Saskatchewan). Respondents are advised that their responses may be disclosed, on a confidential basis, to advisers retained by SaskPower, and/or to Crown corporations (as defined in *The Crown Corporations Act, 1993* (Saskatchewan)) and Government of Saskatchewan agencies or ministries, including its boards, commissions or panels.

8. RFI Timetable

SaskPower may in its sole discretion extend or change any of the dates, delete, or re-order any of the activities, in the following table, or add activities not described in the following table. Any extension or change of dates, or addition, deletion or re-ordering of any activities will be made via an addendum to this RFI. Unless otherwise expressed in this document, any reference in this document to this RFI, means this RFI as amended by any one or more addenda, and any reference to respondents includes potential respondents.

Date Of Issuance of RFI	October 14, 2022
Deadline For Submission of Questions	November 7, 2022
Response Deadline	November 14, 2022, 3:00 p.m. Central Standard Time

APPENDIX A - OVERVIEW

The following list describes SaskPower's present understanding of the anticipated supply need and the opportunity to provide firm capacity and energy to fill that need. SaskPower is interested in learning about any potential solutions regardless of these present assumptions and expectations.

- a) SaskPower is interested in learning about firm capacity and energy solutions that are available to be supplied starting October 1, 2027.
- b) SaskPower's primary interest is in a potential contract or combination of contracts (with one or more counterparties) that together provide 500 MW of firm capacity for a duration of ten years. Alternative timeframes may be proposed by a respondent.
- c) Capacity and energy must either be sourced from or delivered to the WAUE settlement area on firm transmission.
- d) SaskPower will consider all generation technologies, including generation paired with energy storage, and the emissions intensity in tonnes/GWh of the proposed supply will be one of the key considerations in selecting potential project, with preference given to low or non-emitting options.
- e) For the purposes of this RFI, SaskPower defines firm capacity as the amount of energy available for production or transmission which is guaranteed to be available at nearly any given time. The firm capacity must meet NERC requirements for accreditation for submission in NERC's Long Term Reliability Assessment.
- f) SaskPower is open to considering a range of capacity factors (energy) associated with the firm capacity.
- g) SaskPower's needs are for physical energy. However, SaskPower is open to learning about options for financial delivery of energy.

APPENDIX B – RESPONDENT DETAILS

SaskPower prefers that respondents use this response format and sequence.

1. Cover Letter & Summary

Provide a general overview of the respondent’s business, its interest in the opportunity described by this RFI and a brief summary of the information it has provided in its response.

2. Respondent Contact Details

Provide the following contact information, which SaskPower will use to direct its correspondence.

CONTACT DETAILS			
2.1	Name of the entity in whose name any future proposal will be submitted:		
2.2	Contact name for enquiries:		
2.3	Contact position (Job Title):		
2.4	Contact Address:		
	<i>Street No.</i>	<i>Street Name</i>	<i>City/Town</i>
	<i>Prov/State</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Postal/Zip Code</i>
2.5	Telephone number:		
2.6	Fax number:		
2.7	E-mail address:		
2.8	Website address (if any):		

3. Respondent Details

Describe the respondent's business in detail. This might include an organizational chart or details about the entities, people or groups who would be engaged in what is described in the response, including for example, development, ownership and operation of any facility(ies) or other elements of the response, for which information has been provided. If the respondent intends to utilize and/or partner with other entities or consultants, provide similar details about them.

APPENDIX C — RESPONSE DETAILS AND FORMAT

Response

Provide information requested, as well as any other information the respondent feels is relevant. Responses should be assembled in the order and format listed in this Appendix C – Response Details and Format.

1. Proposed Solution(s)

Provide a description of one or more solutions that detail the respondent’s proposed plan to achieve SaskPower’s expectations as outlined in Appendix A - Overview of the RFI. Please set out any assumptions, concerns and conditions related to the respondent’s ability to achieve the proposed solution offered.

Responses should include:

- a. A description of the method of delivering and guaranteeing supply of firm capacity or energy. Ensure the description clearly describes either the physical or financial delivery proposed.
- b. A description of any other relevant characteristics that might give the proposed solution an advantage or disadvantage when compared to other options.
- c. A description detailing any differentiation between existing projects, projects currently in development and projects in planning that are not currently built.

2. Capacity

The respondents should describe the expected amount of energy available based on their response and how a capacity factor higher or lower than that included in their response may affect pricing.

3. Price

Provide a description of the respondent’s proposed approach to valuing energy delivered, with reference to a shared intention to offer fair value.

Detail factors and variables that could have cost implications and share insights into any available benchmarks or reference prices.

4. Experience

Provide an outline of the respondent’s experience in developing, operating, or maintaining power generation facilities with specific emphasis on projects similar to the submitted solution(s).

5. Term / Duration

Detail the contract term proposed in your response for energy delivery (duration, start and end times).

The respondent should describe how the contract length may affect the pricing and other features of their response including GHG emission reduction opportunity.

6. Governance

Provide information on the required governance, permitting, licensing, regulations and approvals. Responses should consider environmental benefits or challenges, in addition to the GHG emissions profile, site characteristics, access to or dependence on funding programs.

Provide the anticipated GHG emissions profile of the proposed solution. Provide any available options to further reduce the GHG emissions profile and how that might impact cost.

7. Facility

If the response includes a prospective facility, provide a description or high-level schedule detailing the status of the proposed project including level of study if applicable (e.g., prefeasibility, front end engineering design study), status of funding, construction timeframe, anticipated in-service date.

Provide available details on how the proposed facility connects or will connect (status of interconnection queue) to the grid.

8. Risks and Mitigations

What risks and mitigations are anticipated for the submitted solution(s)?