

INVITATION TO BID
150kW Solar Array

I SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

The Town of Brandon undertakes to complete the above-captioned project and invites bids for construction of a 150kW AC capacity net metered array, including design, permitting, procurement, construction, electrical infrastructure improvements and GMP interconnect fees.

II PROPOSAL GUIDELINES AND FORMAT

Contractors must submit a written proposal entailing the work required by the Town; proof of insurance; and if not a prior (within the past 7 years) vendor of the Town of Brandon, references to three previous clients. The Town of Brandon is requesting lump sum bids.

Bids must be received by the Town of Brandon by Friday 12 January 2024 at 4PM and may be delivered by hand, by USMail, or by email:

Town of Brandon, Town Manager, 49 Center St, Brandon VT 05733
shopkins@townofbrandon.com

Clarifying questions: Seth Hopkins, town manager (802) 247-3635 x210

The winning bidder will be selected by the sole judgment of the Town of Brandon town manager based on technical expertise and experience, cost, project schedule, and completeness of proposal. The Town of Brandon reserves the right at its sole discretion to reject any and all bids, wholly or in part, to waive any informalities or any irregularities therein, to accept any bid even though it may not be the lowest bid, to call for rebids, to negotiate with any bidder, and to make an award which in its sole and absolute judgment will best serve the Town's interest. The town manager reserves the right to investigate the financial responsibility of any bidder to determine bidder's ability to assure service throughout the term of the contract. The selected contractor will work for the Town of Brandon and will be responsible to the Town for satisfactory completion of the project. Payment for services rendered in accordance with the contract will be made within 30 days of successful completion of the final inspection of the work required and performed. All contractors and subcontractors must have the following, and provide proof thereof, prior to executing a contract with the Town of Brandon:

- License or certification for any work to be provided, as required
- Insurance coverage as noted in this document

3 PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Lump sum cost for work must include the following (continues next page):
The contractor will meet, or cause to be met, the following elements of the project:

Construction of a 150kW AC capacity net-metered array, including design, permitting, procurement, construction, electrical infrastructure improvements and connections, and GMP interconnect fees.

A CPG (certificate of public good) submittal for this project is to be filed by the contractor on behalf of the Town prior to June 30, 2024. Construction must be completed by September 1, 2024.

This project is contingent upon a positive bond vote by the voters of Brandon on Town Meeting Day 2024. Notwithstanding the results of that vote, funding for permitting costs is in place now. Should the bond vote fail, any award of bid will be deemed rescinded and the project will not proceed. Bidders acknowledge that this is sufficient notice and that no compensation will be due should the bond vote fail, except for reimbursement of actual costs of permit applications advanced on behalf of the Town for this project.

The winning contractor will provide an underground connection of electricity produced by this array to existing GMP infrastructure.

The system is to be ground-mounted with commercial grade framing.

The array will be surrounded by an 8' fence according to industry standards with a gate locked with a coded padlock.

The contractor will clear brush and other vegetation onsite to facilitate installation of the array and fencing area in a manner to allow for future mowing.

Location: On 1.5 acres or less of the Southeast corner of the lot identified as Lot F of a parcel designated by tax map ID 6-1-45.01 at the west end of Robert Wood Drive in Brandon. Setbacks of 30' from adjacent property lines and 40' from the road / right-of-way are required.

The contractor will install a data monitoring system wired into a cellular network to allow the contractor and the Town to monitor the production with a customized graphic display. This software will include automatically generated emails regarding production problems for the contractor and Town. The contractor will provide a prepaid 5 year cellular modem.

The contractor will provide a 5 year complete warranty on the PV system. Solar panels will have at least a 25 year warranty of 85% rated output. A minimum 12 year warranty on solar panel workmanship will be provided. Inverters will have at least a 10 year warranty and the framing system at least a 20 year warranty.

4 REQUIREMENTS

Required Professional Services

Contractor Services are to be provided by an insured contractor, including subcontractors, in good-standing with the State of Vermont, holding any required certifications for the proposed work to be completed. Services will be procured by competitive bid, and must be consistent with the Town of Brandon's bidding policy and are subject to the regulations in 24 CFR 85.36 as it pertains to procurement services. All contractors who wish to bid on the advertised project must meet all the minimum qualifications established by the Town of Brandon.

Contractors are responsible for any and all permits, notices and certifications, and shall provide a copy of all to the town. Contractors shall provide the town with copies of the permits or certifications that no such permits are needed.

The Town of Brandon makes no warranty that the site is safe to work on. Roadway and associated structures may have been structurally compromised and the site itself may be unstable. The contractor shall have a health and safety plan for workers on site, comply with all OSHA/VOSHA rules, and shall post the site during work for authorized personnel only.

The contractor shall not operate on the site earlier than 6AM or later than 8PM.

The Contractor must provide certificates of insurance to show that the following minimum coverages are in effect:

Workers Compensation: With respect to all operations performed, any contractors shall carry workers' compensation insurance in accordance with the laws of the State of Vermont.

General Liability and Property Damage: All contractors shall carry general liability insurance having all major divisions of coverage including, but not limited to:

Premises - Operations

Products and Completed Operations

Personal Injury Liability

Contractual Liability

The policy shall be on an occurrence form and limits shall not be less than:

\$1,000,000 Per Occurrence

\$1,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Products/Completed Operations Aggregate

\$ 50,000 Fire/ Legal/Liability

Any contractors shall be required to name the Town, its officers and employees as additional insureds for liability.

Automotive Liability: The contractor shall carry automotive liability insurance covering all motor vehicles, including hired and non-owned coverage, used in connection with the Agreement. Limits of coverage shall not be less than: \$1,000,000 combined single limit.

End of Invitation to Bid

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