R.11-05-005: RPS Procurement Reform

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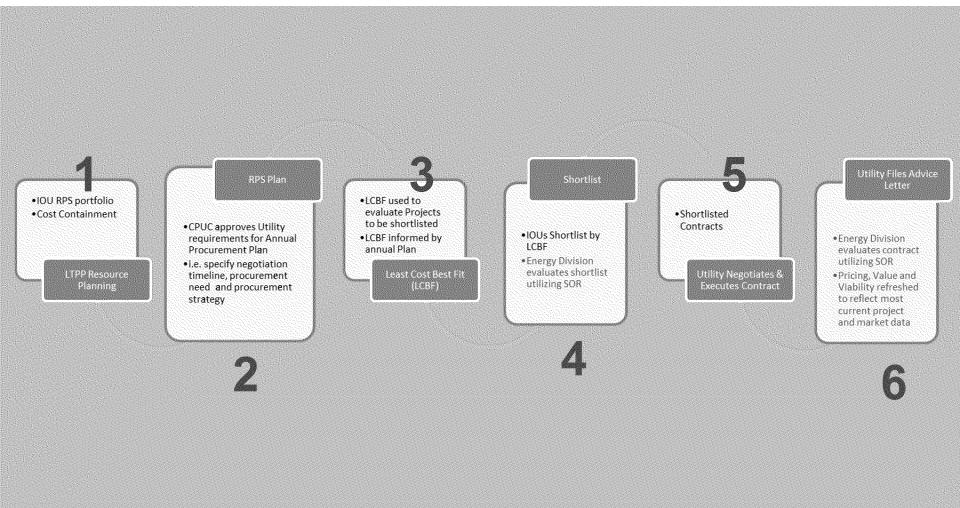
Housekeeping

- 1. Workshop Logistics
- 2. Overview of Agenda
- 3. In-scope vs. out-of-scope
- 4. Objectives for Workshop
- 5. Next Steps

Agenda

9:30-10:00	Housekeeping Opening Comments by Commissioner Ferron Importance of RPS Procurement Reform
10:00-11:00	Standards of Review for Shortlist
11:00-11:30	Timeline for Submission of Contracts
11:30-12:00	Expedited Review of Purchase and Sale Contracts
1:00-2:00	Standards of Review for Amended PPAs
2:00-3:00	Standards of Review for Bilateral PPAs
3:00-4:00	Standards of Review for PPAs Beyond the Scope of the Advice Letter Process
4:00-4:30	Wrap-up and Closing Comments

RPS Procurement Continuum



Standards of Review for Shortlist

Summary:

 File IOU shortlist as a Tier 3 Advice Letter. This will put more emphasis on the review of the shortlist and expedite the contract review process.

Rationale:

 Ensure that shortlisting process results in potential contracts that reflect authorized need and appropriate value and viability

Issues Raised by Parties:

- Timeline must be established for Commission approval of shortlist
- More projects may be shortlisted than are needed for RPS compliance

Standards of Review for Shortlist

Agenda Items:

- •Merits of escalating shortlist to a Tier 3 Advice Letter
- Merits of limiting shortlist to a ratio of annualized need

Timeline for Submission of Contracts

Summary:

- Contracts must be executed within one year after the approval of an IOU's shortlist
- Contracts must be filed with the Commission for approval within one month from the execution date of the contract.

Rationale:

 Ensure that shortlisted projects and executed contracts reflect current market value and IOU portfolio need

Issues Raised by Parties:

- Does not account for extraneous circumstances that may cause delay
- 30 day requirement for submission of executed PPAs is too short

Timeline for Submission of Contracts

Agenda Items:

- •Importance of limiting the timing of contract negotiations
- •Parameters to allow an extension of the contract execution deadline

Expedited Review of Purchase and Sale Contracts

Summary:

- (Purchase and Sale) Contracts < 5 years are eligible to file T1
 Advice Letters instead of T3 Advice Letters given SOR are met
- (Purchase Only) Contracts > 5 years that use commercially proven technology can file T2 Advice Letters instead of T3 Advice Letters given SOR are met

Rationale:

 Streamlines the procurement review process for certain types of projects through the use of a standard non-modifiable contract

Issues Raised by Parties:

- Doesn't include existing resources, repowers and expansions for expedited review
- Doesn't allow for slight modifications that provide ratepayer benefits that might not be captured with a pro forma contracts
- Some SORs are hard to obtain for contracts with later CODs

Expedited Review of Purchase and Sale Contracts

Agenda Items:

- •Allowing non-material modifications for standard offer contracts greater than five years in length.
- •Adding a 5-year RPS procurement product in the list of pre-authorized LTPP bundled procurement products for IOUs.
- •Relaxing the requirement for short-term contracts to come online within one year.
- •The adequacy of the proposed viability hurdles for expedited review of contracts greater than 5-years in length Are they presumptive? A good starting point? Acceptable?

SOR for Amended Contracts

Summary:

- PPAs that change technology must be re-bid into next solicitation. Other material contract amendments need to meet SORs and be filed as a Tier 3 Advice Letter.
- Non-material changes do not require rebidding or a T3 advice letter

Rationale:

- Projects requiring material modifications must re-bid into a solicitation to ensure that it remains competitive.
- Deters speculative approach to solicitations.

Issues Raised by Parties:

- Modifications that provide ratepayer, developer, and IOU benefit should be allowed to file a T3 Advice Letter
- Need clarification on what is a non-material change, i.e., modification that does not require a T3 advice letter

SOR for Amended Contracts

Agenda Items:

- •What "changes in technology" require projects to be re-bid into the next solicitation?
- •What "substantial changes" require projects to be re-submitted via a Tier 3 advice letter. What constitutes a "minimal change?"
- •Should modifications that offer ratepayer benefit be submitted via a Tier 3 advice letter?
- •Should an amended PPA be required to show better ratepayer value than the original PPA in order to be filed as a T3 advice letter?

SOR for Bilateral PPAs

Summary:

 Bilaterals are held to a higher standard of review and must meet minimum project development milestones in order to be considered for CPUC approval.

Rationale:

 Discourages bilateral contracts that circumvent the competitive solicitation process and ensures that bilateral contracts reflect authorized need and value/viability

Issues Raised by Parties:

 Doesn't define the process/requirements for IOUs to justify execution of a bilateral contract that could provide substantial benefits.

SOR for Bilateral PPAs

Agenda Items:

- •Defining the parameters that constitute a legitimate need for bilateral contracts.
- •The merits of disallowing the execution of a bilateral contract without an annual RPS solicitation.

SOR for PPAs Beyond the Scope of the Advice Letter Process

Summary:

- Contracts greater than 1% of bundled sales and contracts not comparable on value, price, viability, or using a non-commercial technology must be filed via application.
 - Contract, including price, is made public

Rationale:

 T3 advice letter is not appropriate for contracts that do not meet SORs. Application process is more appropriate when dealing with disputed value/need or policy.

Issues Raised by Parties:

- Proposal is too permissive reject all amendments
- "Non-commercial technology" is not clearly defined
- 1% threshold is arbitrary and does not accurately mitigate risk associated with larger projects
- Public price discovery breaches confidentiality rules

SOR for PPAs Beyond the Scope of the Advice Letter Process

Agenda Items:

- •Why shouldn't there be a higher standard of review for contracts that don't align with SORs for need or value? Note: long-term fossil procurement is done via the application process.
- •Is it appropriate to only use the advice letter approval process for technologies whose value/need has been quantified in a commission proceeding?
- •Strengths and weaknesses of price discovery and associated changes to the PUC's confidentiality matrix?

Wrap-up and Next Steps