

**Request for Proposals:  
Regional Transmission Planning Scorecard  
January 11, 2023**

**Overview**

Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (ACEG) is a broad-based, multi-stakeholder, public interest education and advocacy coalition focused on the need to expand, integrate, and modernize the North American high-capacity grid in order to achieve greater security, reliability, affordability and sustainability of electric power service in the United States.

Numerous studies demonstrate the need both for more robust regional and interregional infrastructure to ensure system resilience and reliability, and to improve regional and interregional planning processes to support the development of such infrastructure. To assist ACEG with its advocacy efforts related to improving transmission planning—including advocacy related to ensuring planning assesses future needs, evaluates a full range of solutions, and increases cost effectiveness of new infrastructure—ACEG is seeking a consultant with expertise in regional transmission planning to develop a transmission planning scorecard to benchmark and evaluate current planning processes.

**Statement of Work**

ACEG seeks technical and policy expertise from qualified firms and individuals to assist with developing a regional planning scorecard and to evaluate and grade planning regions using the evaluation metrics. In particular, we are looking for a consultant to:

- Based on the consultant’s own expertise, a preliminary review of regulatory documents, and interviews with relevant stakeholders, develop a set of quantitative and qualitative metrics that evaluate the strength of planning processes. The metrics should include, but not be limited to, an evaluation of:
  - whether the planning methodology examines and develops solutions to address both current and future system needs;
  - whether the planning processes result in multi value and cost-effective lines;
  - the level of transparency and stakeholder engagement in the planning processes;
  - whether the planning process result in lines that cross utility or regional footprints;
  - the miles of actual transmission lines built: (1) that were approved through the regional planning processes, (2) as interconnection facilities, and (3) as local facilities.

- Review existing tariffs and actual planning processes for each planning region to rate the strength of each planning region with respect to the quantitative and qualitative metrics;
- Draft a comprehensive report that identifies the strengths and weaknesses of individual regional planning processes, grades them on performance, and notes the improvements that would result in a higher grade, and provides a comparison of the strengths and weaknesses of planning regions.

### **Eligible Offerors**

Eligible offerors must demonstrate technical capability and experience to perform the duties described under the scope of work, including but not limited to demonstrating experience with:

- Engaging in or providing expert advice on transmission planning processes (e.g. conducting planning for a region, engaging in region stakeholder meetings on transmission planning, engaging in planning dockets at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission);
- Reviewing regional planner tariffs and analyzing planning models and data inputs;
- A diversity of planning methods, and the strengths and weaknesses of each;
- Engaging, soliciting input, and incorporating viewpoints of various stakeholders;
- Developing evaluation metrics; and,
- Drafting technically sound and accessible reports that can be used by both transmission and energy industry experts and general policymakers.

### **Submission Requirements**

**To Apply:** Please submit an electronic proposal to Will Sherman at [williams@dgardiner.com](mailto:williams@dgardiner.com) by 5 pm EST on January 27, 2023 and include “ACEG Regional Planning Scorecard” in the subject line. Proposals should include:

- An executive summary consisting of a brief overview of the Consultant’s experience and the planned scope of work;
- A statement of firm qualifications including links to examples of previous work;
- A proposed work plan, including a proposed timeline for the work;
- The names of the persons who will perform the tasks outlined in the scope of work, and bios or resumes of each proposed team member;
- A proposed budget, including hourly rates for team members; and,
- A statement disclosing any potential conflicts for this work.

### **Consultant Selection**

All expenses related to responding to this RFP shall be borne by the bidders. ACEG retains the right to award a portion, or all, of this contract to one or more offerors that best meets the requirements of this RFP, or to withdraw the RFP with no advance notice. Activities will commence after a contract has been executed.

### **Timing:**

**Application Deadline:** January 27, 2023, 5:00 pm EST

**Planned Selection Deadline:** By February 3, 2023

**Preferred Start Date:** Early February 2023

**End Date:** May/June 2023