



**DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF STATE PROCUREMENT
ACTION AGENDA**



SUPPLEMENTAL April 1, 2020

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**22-S. SERVICES CONTRACT
*RETROACTIVE - Public Service Commission***

Contract ID: Offshore Wind Analyses and Application Review II – Sections 2.3.1 and 2.3.2
ADPICS No.: C90B0600005, C90P0600016 (Retroactive)

Contract Description: Expert consultation supporting the Public Service Commission in the process of fulfilling the tasks listed in the Clean Energy Jobs Act in two parts or functional areas: Estimating the Need for Transmission Upgrades and Associated Costs [Section 2.3.1 or FA1] and Evaluation of Applications to the Commission for the Approval of a Proposed Offshore Wind Project [Section 2.3.2 or FA2].

Awards: **FA1:** Axum Energy Ventures, LLC; Wilmington, DE
FA2: ICF Resources, LLC; Fairfax, VA (Local Office in Columbia, MD)

Contract Term: **FA1:** 04/02/2020 - 03/31/2027
FA2: 01/13/2020 - 01/13/2027 (*Retroactive*)

Amount: \$ 458,310 (FA1, *Single Proposal Rec'd*)
\$1,209,517 (FA2, *Retroactive*)
\$1,667,827 (Total)

Procurement Method: Competitive Sealed Proposals

Proposals:

FA1: Estimating the Need for Transmission Upgrades and Associated Costs
Axum Energy Ventures, LLC; Wilmington, DE \$ 458,310

FA2: Evaluation of Applications to the Commission for the Approval of a Proposed Offshore Wind Project

Offerors	Technical Ranking	Financial Offer (Ranking)	Overall Ranking
ICF Resources, LLC; Fairfax, VA (Local Office in Columbia, MD)	1	\$1,209,517 (2)	1
Levitan & Associates, Inc.; Boston, MA	2	\$1,199,540 (1)	2

MBE/VSBE Participation: **FA1:** 20% / 0% **FA2:** 20% / 0%

Performance Security: N/A

Incumbents: N/A



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22-S. SERVICES CONTRACT (cont'd)

Requesting Agency Remarks: A notice of the availability of the Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised on *eMaryland Marketplace Advantage* (eMMA) and posted on the Public Service Commission's website. Copies of the solicitation notice were sent directly to 317 prospective offshore wind vendors, 284 of which are MBEs and 22 are VSBEs. The RFP was issued seeking consulting services in compliance with the offshore wind portion of the Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019 and consisted of two parts or functional areas with the option to propose on either part or both parts: 2.3.1 (FA1) - Estimating the Need for Transmission Upgrades and Associated Costs; and 2.3.2 (FA2) - Evaluation of Applications to the Commission for the Approval of a Proposed Offshore Wind Project.

Three proposals were received in response to the RFP, and all were determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. A single proposal was received for Section 2.3.1, and two proposals were received for Section 2.3.2.

For FA1 - Section 2.3.1, the single proposal from Axum Energy Ventures, LLC was determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award with its demonstrated expertise in transmission planning, interconnection processes, and offshore wind energy. In addition, the offeror was determined to be responsible; the financial offer was considered fair and reasonable based upon a pricing comparison to the previous contract for Round 1 offshore wind applications, and it was determined that other potential offerors had a reasonable opportunity to respond to the solicitation. Therefore, award is recommended to Axum Energy Ventures, LLC (Axum), the sole offeror.

For FA2 - Section 2.3.2, ICF Resources, LLC was ranked overall #1 with the higher ranked technical proposal and the slightly higher price (less than 1% difference from the lower priced offeror that was ranked second technically). The technical experience and expertise demonstrated by ICF Resources, LLC in its proposal was determined to outweigh the slight difference in price. Therefore, award was recommended to ICF Resources, LLC as having the most advantageous offer to the State.

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Public Utilities § 7-703, the Public Service Commission is responsible for implementing the renewable portfolio standard for the State. Additionally, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Public Utilities § 7-704.1, the Public Service Commission is responsible for reviewing and approving proposed Round 2 offshore wind projects under the Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019.

In order to be compliant with the Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019, the Public Service Commission was required to have a consultant hired by January 2, 2020. The consultant was needed to assist with evaluation an assessments of an applicant's proposed offshore wind project.



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22-S. SERVICES CONTRACT (cont'd)

Agency Remarks (cont'd):

Based upon the Offshore Wind Application period opening, the Public Service Commission awarded Section 2.3.2 to ICF Resources, LLC on January 3, 2020. Because of the timing to have the contract for RFP Section 2.3.2 in place, the Public Service Commission is requesting retroactive approval of the contract award to ICF Resources, LLC.

No MBE or VSBE participation goals were established for FA1 based upon the insufficient subcontracting opportunities for these services. A 20% MBE and no VSBE participation goals were established for FA2 based upon the identified subcontracting opportunities and the limited available MBE and VSBE subcontractors.

Fund Source: 100% Special (Offshore Wind Operations)

Approp. Code: C90.001.03 and C90.001.23

Resident Businesses: No (Axum Energy Venture, LLC)
Yes (ICF Resources, LLC)

MD Tax Clearances: Axum Energy Venture, LLC 20-0209-0001
ICF Resources, LLC 20-0208-1100

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS ACTION

THIS ITEM WAS:

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

DEFERRED

WITHDRAWN

WITH DISCUSSION

WITHOUT DISCUSSION