

Shivwits Band of Paiute Indians
Solar-Hydroelectric Power Project



Request for Qualifications
Design and Preliminary Engineering Report
EDA Award No. 05-79-06201

Statements of Qualification are due by 4:00 p.m. Mountain Time on May 12, 2023.
Shivwits Band of Paiute Indians, 6060 W. 3650 N., Ivins, UT 84738

EDA Award No. 05-79-06201

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1. Introduction & General Information

A. Background

The Shivwits Band of Paiutes (Tribe) is a federally recognized Indian Tribe based in Southwest Utah. The Shivwits Reservation encompasses over 28,000 acres.

The Tribe is researching the possibility of constructing a solar-hydroelectric power project (Project) on the Reservation, which would combine a small-scale solar farm with a closed pumped hydro unit. The Band had tentatively identified a location on the Reservation for the project.

The Tribe received funding pursuant to an award from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to conduct design and engineering studies, including the production of a Preliminary Engineer Report and a feasibility report for a pumped water storage power plant, for the project.

B. Purpose of RFQ

The Tribe seeks to obtain a highly qualified, capable firm to act as the Design/Engineer during the planning of the Project. The selected firm's services for the Project will include, but are not limited to, preparation of hydraulic, schematic, and structural concept design, subsurface investigation, civil site design and engineering, archeological and cultural survey and clearance, and meeting various grant reporting requirements such as quarterly reports.

The Tribe will strongly consider a firm with significant experience in the production of preliminary engineering reports for energy projects, including pumped hydro projects. The Tribe is not obligated to enter into any contract with firms based on terms or conditions.

C. Instructions

Proposals must be submitted by 4:00 P.M. MT on May 12, 2023, through email to the following:

Shivwits Band of Paiute Indians
Attn: Cameron Echo Hawk, Project Manager
cechohawk@shivwitsbc.com

2. Scope of Work

Note: The final Scope of Services is subject to change following the selection process and negotiations with the selected firm. Therefore, the Tribe reserves the right to make revisions.

A. Essential Duties and Responsibilities

The firm will work with the Project Manager and the Tribe's Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to address the elements required under the scope of work, and to set and meet deadlines for tracking the firm's progress.

The selected firm will complete an on-site subsurface and topographical survey investigation to produce a comprehensive preliminary engineering report, detailing the feasibility and requirements for buildout of the solar-hydroelectric power project.

B. Scope of Services to be Provided:

- a. Architectural and Engineering/Concept Design
 - i. Entails the design for the solar and hydro systems, including tanks, penstocks, pumps, and other appurtenances required for the hydro plant, as well as design of individual solar panel system, orientation and layout.
- b. Archeological Clearances
 - i. Involves close work with a Cultural Monitor designated by the Tribe to prepare a survey of existing records of cultural resources and consultation with members of the Tribe and the Cultural Committee.
- c. Environmental Compliance
 - i. Identify environmental processes including federal, local, state, and Tribal permitting that may be required prior to construction of the Project.
- d. Site Design & Layout
 - i. Onsite access/roadway design, drainage study and plan, preparations for a traffic study
- e. Site Work
 - i. Focusing on water source and geotechnical suitability, including subsurface testing through soil sampling and wells to determine quality, depth, and reliability of groundwater
- f. Site Survey & Base Mapping
 - i. Including preparation of a record of survey and setting project boundaries as necessary, drafting easement and rights-of-way documents, and performing aerial study and imagery, including site topography study.

3. Federal Grant Requirements

All contracts, services, purchasing, and activities must conform to U.S. Economic Development Administration regulations, as funding assistance for this project is provided through the EDA. Firms and counsel should be familiar with the full range of applicable compliance requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations at 2 CFR Part 200.

A. Instruction to Applicants

Submissions in response to this RFQ should be submitted electronically to the address below. The submission must be received by **4:00 p.m. Mountain Time on May 12, 2023.**

Shivwits Band of Paiute Indians
Attn: Cameron Echo Hawk, Project Manager
cechohawk@shivwitsbc.com

Any proposals received after the specified date and time will be rejected and returned unopened. Proposals may not be modified after the submission deadline. The Tribe reserves the right to extend the time for submittals.

Firms may contact Project Manager Cameron Echo Hawk at cechohawk@shivwitsbc.com with any questions they may have about their submission or the scope of the Project.

B. Proposal Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

Submissions should address the criteria listed below. The following categories and criteria will be considerations in the evaluation and determination of the most qualified and capable firm for the project.

1. **Interest and provision of services:** A statement of interest in working with the Tribe and engaging in the design and engineering work for the proposed project. The submission should also address how the firm plans to provide the Scope of Services as required by this RFQ as required by federal procurement guidelines.
2. **Availability:** A statement on the availability and commitment of the firm to undertake the scope of services and complete the report by February 1, 2024.
3. **Location and Size of Firm.**

4. **Experience and Qualifications:** Include the firm's previous experience with similar projects.
5. **Qualifications of professional personnel proposed for the project:** Include a short bio for each professional expected to work on the project from the firm.
6. **Disclosure:** Submission must disclose any possible professional or personal conflicts of interest in conducting the design and engineering work for the project, including working with the Tribe and working on a project pursuant to funding from the EDA.

C. Evaluation of Submissions

Upon close of the submission deadline, the selection committee will begin review of each submission. The selection committee will rate each submission with the *Criteria for Firm Selection* below and will prepare a recommendation report to the Shiwits Band Council. The Band Council reserves the right to reject any and all submissions, to waive any informalities or irregularities, and to select the firm determined to be most advantageous to the project. Each firm submitting qualifications will be notified after the final selection has been made.

The firm selected pursuant to this RFQ will be competitively procured, pursuant to standards set forth in 2 CFR 200. The firm selected will be the firm determined by the selection committee to be most advantageous to the project.

Criteria for Firm Selection

The selection committee will use the following criteria – and maximum points available – to evaluate each submission.

1. Interest in the project (10):
 - a. Including dedication to working with a sovereign Tribe and conducting concept design for a renewable energy project.
2. Provision of Scope of Services (30)
 - a. Including firm's ability to provide each identified service.
3. Availability (10)
 - a. Firm's ability to effectively engage with the project and client and provide the services prior to the anticipated completion date of the project (February 1, 2024).
4. Location and Size of Firm (10)
5. Related Experience (20)
6. Qualifications of personnel (20)

- a. Including specialized knowledge and experience.

D. Proposed Process and Timeline

Date	Description
April 12, 2023	Release RFQ announcement
May 12, 2023	RFQ submission deadline at 4:00p.m. Mountain Time
May 12 – May 19, 2023	Selection committee reviews RFQ
June 5, 2023	Anticipated contract start date with selected firm/Firms not selected are contacted
February 1, 2024	Project Completion/Preliminary Engineering Report Released

5. Additional Information

- A. Public Information:** All information, documentation, and other materials submitted in response to this solicitation is considered non-confidential and/or non-proprietary and may be subject to public disclosure.
- B. Type of Contract:** The final contract shall be negotiated between the selected firm and the Tribe and shall be mutually acceptable to the parties. The contract will be based on a fixed price with a price cap.
- C. Withdrawal:** Firms may withdraw submissions at any point prior to the date and time set for closing of applications.
- D. Incurring Costs:** The Shivwits Band of Paiutes is not liable for any cost incurred by firms responding to this proposal.
- E. Questions:** Questions regarding the RFQ should be addressed to the Project Manager Cameron Echo Hawk at cechohawk@shivwitsbc.com.