

October 27, 2023* Updated November 16, 2023 (changes in red)

CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SECTION 16a-3n – SOLICITATION RE ENERGY DERIVED FROM OFFSHORE WIND FACILITIES THAT ARE CLASS I RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

I. Introduction

On August 31, 2022, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) issued its 2022 Procurement Plan Update (Procurement Plan Update),¹ announcing procurements that DEEP planned to undertake to implement the findings and recommendations of the 2020 Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) for Connecticut.²

On March 7, 2023, DEEP issued a Notice of Proceeding and Public Meeting initiating a procurement for energy derived from offshore wind, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16a-3n (the Act).³ The Act grants the DEEP Commissioner the authority to procure energy derived from offshore wind and lists specific considerations the Commissioner shall make when selecting proposals.

DEEP convened a Commission on Environmental Standards (Commission), pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16a-3n(a)(4), to review the best available research and data on environmental and commercial fisheries mitigation during offshore wind construction and operation and to make recommendations on what a sufficient environmental mitigation plan should include. The Commission provided its final recommendations to DEEP on July 26, 2023.⁴

On July 25, 2023, DEEP issued a Notice including a Draft Request for Proposals (Draft RFP) and opportunity for written comment.⁵ DEEP received 52 sets of comments on the Draft RFP.⁶

On September 8, 2023, DEEP issued a Request for Information (RFI) regarding offshore wind project indexing formula.⁷ DEEP received five responses to the RFI.⁸

 $\frac{\text{https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DEEPEnergy.nsf/c6c6d525f7cdd1168525797d0047c5bf/1453e97c0234ef9e852589f800726}{474/\$FILE/Updated\%20Notice\%20of\%20Draft\%20RFP\%20(OSW).pdf}$

 $\frac{\text{https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DEEPEnergy.nsf/c6c6d525f7cdd1168525797d0047c5bf/bc11db35710652e785258a24006ce}{82d/\$FILE/RFI\%200SW\%20Indexing.pdf}$

¹ https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/energy/IRP/2022-Procurement-Plan-Update.pdf

² https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/energy/IRP/2020-IRP/2020-Connecticut-Integrated-Resources-Plan-10-7-2021.pdf

³ See also Section 1 of Public Act No. 19-71, https://www.cga.ct.gov/2019/act/pa/pdf/2019PA-00071-R00HB-07156-PA.pdf

⁴ See Final Recommendations of the 2023 Commission of Environmental Standards (July 26, 2023), https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DEEPEnergy.nsf/c6c6d525f7cdd1168525797d0047c5bf/a8521dbefbcfea33852589f8006a3d 5e/\$FILE/Final%20CES%202023%20report%207-26-23.pdf

⁶ https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DEEPEnergy.nsf/\$EnergyView?OpenForm&Start=1&Count=30&Expand=2.1&Seq=2

⁸ https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DEEPEnergy.nsf/\$EnergyView?OpenForm&Start=1&Count=30&Expand=2.1&Seq=2

On October 3, 2023, DEEP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (MA DOER) and the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (RI OER), which enables a potential coordinated selection of offshore wind as each state solicits offshore wind energy generation through their respective state procurements.⁹

II. Request for Proposals

DEEP issues this Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit offers from private developers for eligible electricity generating resources in order to secure cost-effective energy generated by offshore wind. DEEP exercises its procurement authority under the Act to receive and evaluate proposals and select up to 2,000 MW that help achieve the policy goals of affordable, equitable, and reliable emission-free energy.

DEEP held a Bidders' Conference on **November 16, 2023 at 1:00 PM**. Register <u>HERE</u>. The bidders' conference can be viewed by clicking this link and DEEP's presentation slides are available here.

Please send any questions regarding the RFP to <u>DEEP.EnergyBureau@ct.gov</u> by **November 27, 2023**. DEEP will post responses to questions on Energy Filings and THIS WEBPAGE by December 8, 2023.

Bidders must submit a Request for Submission Instructions by emailing DEEP at DEEP.EnergyBureau@ct.gov by **December 1, 2023** in order to be eligible to bid.

Bids must be submitted to DEEP by January 31, 2024.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact DEEP.EnergyBureau@ct.gov if you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, or require some other accommodation. If you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint, you may submit your complaint to DEEP Office of Diversity and Equity at (860) 418-5910 or via email at deep.accommodations@ct.gov. In order to facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, program or event.

⁹ https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/energy/Procurements/MARICT-Offshore-Wind-Procurement-Collaboration-Memorandum-of-Understanding--Final-10323-CEM-Sig.pdf