PURA RFP #2023-05:

Interconnection Working Group (IX WG) Facilitator

Pre-Proposal Bidder's Conference

August 1, 2023

IX WG Overview

- 11/25/20 [Decision in Dkt. No 17-12-03RE06](#) established two interconnection working groups:
  - A policy working group and a technical working group;
  - The two interconnection working groups are either referred to individually as IPWG and ITWG, respectively, or collectively as the Interconnection Working Group or IX WG, which reflects that practical reality that the groups are administered together;
  - The IX WG is delegated to the Authority's Office of Education, Outreach, and Enforcement (EOE).

- The [mission of the IX WG](#) is as follows:
  - "To accelerate safe, reliable and economical interconnections of distributed energy resources in Connecticut, through a transparent and informal public forum where technical and policy stakeholders openly share their experience, knowledge and challenges, on common ground, where solutions and recommendations to policy makers strive for consensus, so that renewable energy in Connecticut can flourish, while leading the nation through an example of mutual respect and collaboration."
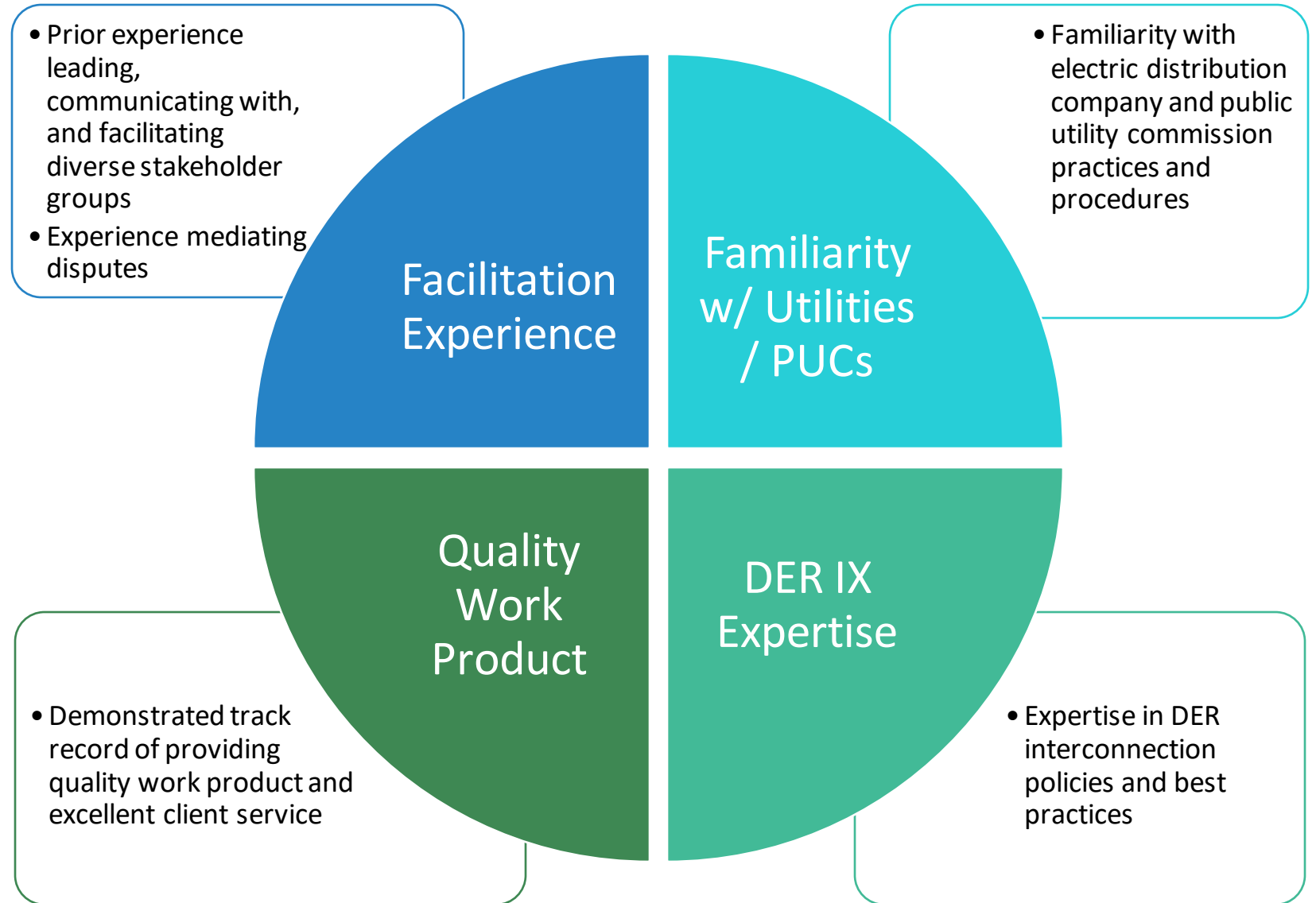
Consultant Responsibilities

Primary focus – Provide administrative services to the IX WG, including meeting facilitation; provide technical assistance to EOE staff regarding IX topics

Administrative Tasks	Technical Tasks

• Understand current status of IX WG meetings and topics by meeting with members of EOE and/or reviewing past meeting minutes;
 	
• Schedule and attend all IX WG meetings on a monthly basis;
 	
• Notify IX WG members of upcoming meetings and post schedule on publicly accessible websites and/or in Docket No. 17-12-03RE06;
 	
• Prepare draft meeting agendas and distribute to members and the public as necessary;
 	
• Coordinate the assignment of taking meeting notes among working group member organizations per the IX WG Governance document;
 	
• Mediate disputes among IX WG members; and
 	
• Oversee votes among the IX WG members.
	• Facilitate review of Interconnection Guidelines and Application Forms;
	
	• Facilitate IX WG discussion and development of strategies to improve transparency in the Interconnection Process, including but not limited to:
	   • Public distribution system interconnection queues;
	   • Identify best uses of hosting capacity maps;
	   • Establish and make public reporting requirements;
	   • Review of the Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions and the Shared Clean Energy Facility program solicitation documents for consistency with the interconnection process and to identify possible areas of improvement.
	
	• Draft report for filing with PURA when the IX WG has reached consensus or majority agreement on an issue.
	
	• Conduct review of national interconnection best practices and be prepared to provide Connecticut-specific recommendations to the IX WG.

Preferred Qualifications

- Prior experience leading, communicating with, and facilitating diverse stakeholder groups
- Experience mediating disputes

- Familiarity with electric distribution company and public utility commission practices and procedures

Facilitation Experience

Familiarity w/ Utilities / PUCs

Quality Work Product

DER IX Expertise

- Demonstrated track record of providing quality work product and excellent client service

- Expertise in DER interconnection policies and best practices

Proposal Requirements

- See Table 1 in Section III of the RFP
  - Contains all required proposal components
  - Please prepare proposals in the sequence given by this table
- See the *Cost Estimate Breakdown* template in Section III.E of the RFP
  - Allows reporting across standard cost categories for comparison

Next Steps

Event	Date	Action
RFP Schedule		
Notice of Intent to Bid	August 1, 2023	Submit via email to PURA.RFP@ct.gov
Deadline for RFP Questions	August 9, 2023	Submit to PURA.RFP@ct.gov
RFP Clarifications from PURA	August 16, 2023	PURA to post on RFP webpage and distribute to bidders
Proposal Due Date	August 30, 2023	Submit to PURA.RFP@ct.gov • PURA will contact applicants with clarifying questions if necessary
Consultant Selection	Tent. Early Sept. 2023	Both selected consultant(s), and non-selected consultants will be notified via email
Commencement of Services		
Contract Execution	Tent. Sept. 15, 2023	Countersigned by the Consultant and PURA by this date
EOE Staff coordination mtg	Tent. Late Sept./Early Oct. 2023	The Consultant and EOE staff will develop the IX WG schedule and discuss roles, among other topics
Consultant assumes IX WG duties	October 2023	Including all Administrative and Technical duties

Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Questions?