



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

FOR

Renewable Electricity

RFP-0007939-FAC-2022-WE

RFP Deadline: April 13, 2022

**BY: The Regents of the University of Michigan
Procurement Services
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RFP for Renewable Electricity Procurement

I. Introduction

The University of Michigan (U-M) is committed to achieving carbon neutrality for all Scope 2 emissions (purchased electricity) for the Ann Arbor, Dearborn and Flint campuses by 2025. To meet this goal, U-M seeks to procure 100 percent of purchased electricity from renewable (solar and/or wind) energy sources. U-M is seeking proposals for a Power Purchase Agreement or a Michigan Public Service Commission-regulated renewable electricity option that addresses the criteria outlined below, where the Renewable Energy Credits are transferred to U-M or retired on its behalf.

The respondent may have other beneficial programs to offer in the spirit and intent of the university's recommendations included in the President's Commission on Carbon Neutrality (PCCN). In your response, please describe potential programs consistent with the [PCCN recommendations](https://www.fulcrum.org/concern/monographs/vh53wz224) (<https://www.fulcrum.org/concern/monographs/vh53wz224>) and the [university's mission](https://president.umich.edu/about/mission/) (<https://president.umich.edu/about/mission/>) the respondent is willing to provide at no additional charge to the university. Those additional programs may or may not be accepted by the university at its sole discretion.

II. Timeline

- Renewable energy project(s) are commercially operational no later than July 1, 2025.

III. Selection Criteria

U-M seeks renewable (solar and/or wind) electricity project proposals that meet the following requirements:

Power Needs

- Project proposals must meet all or part of U-M's projected purchased power needs (shown below) that are not already being met by renewables. The university is interested in opportunities for generation supply to increase overtime as university purchased power needs may increase over time.

U-M Campus	Projected Needs
Ann Arbor	125,000,000 kWh/year
Dearborn	24,000,000 kWh/year
Flint	10,500,000 kWh/year
Total	159,500,000 kWh/year

Renewable Energy Development Impact

- Project proposals must have an additive impact on renewable energy development, meaning that the project would not happen without U-M, individually or as a group of collective buyers, influencing the development of new renewable electricity generation sources in the marketplace.
- Describe the proposed project(s), current status and project stage, including the degree to which the development is currently subscribed.
- U-M has a strong interest in decarbonizing the energy supply in the region from which it receives electricity and is therefore only considering projects located in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) region. Preference given to projects in close proximity to the University of Michigan.
- U-M has a strong interest in decarbonizing the energy supply in the State of Michigan. U-M is a public state university funded by Michigan taxpayer dollars, recognizes the job creation, economic benefits, public health benefits and social and environmental justice benefits renewable energy developments bring, and therefore has a strong preference for Michigan-based proposals.
- Preference will be given to projects with a Generation Interconnection Agreement (GIA) from MISO at the time of the RFP response, or demonstration of ability to execute an agreement if applicable.

Power Supply and Rates

- Describe the expected power supply, delivery date and power source.
- Describe the contract duration options and associated rates.
- State the cost/kWh rate, duration for which the rate is guaranteed, and the factors that influence the rate.

Emissionality

- Provide the estimated annual hourly generation profile(s) of the project(s) (aka an 8760 profile).
- State the exact project location(s) and proposed grid connection(s).
- Provide the marginal emissions rate of the grid region where the project is/will be located (some data is available through [WattTime](#), [AVERT](#), or the [Azevedo's group Electricity Marginal Factors Estimates](#)).

Project Site Community Engagement

- Describe your commitment to Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) with communities near the proposed project site(s).
- Describe community engagement practices that will be followed prior to, and during the development of the project.
- Describe economic benefits to the host community beyond business as usual.

Environment and Social Governance (ESG)

Workforce

- Describe the sourcing and/or subcontracting plan.

Economic benefits to and beyond the local community

- Describe explicit corporate policies or commitments related to ethical workforce management, diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, and/or local workforce development programs.

Responsible Material Sourcing and Management

- Preference will be given to goods or services manufactured or provided in America if they are competitively priced and of comparable quality.
- Preference will be given to goods or services manufactured or provided by Michigan businesses if they are competitively priced and of comparable quality.

Land Use and Environmental Conservation

- Describe the existing condition of the project site (e.g., farmland, forest, brownfield, etc.).
- Describe the location of the project site (e.g., adjacent to a conservation easement or lands owned by land trust or managed for wildlife).
- Ensure all applicable local, state, and federal regulatory permits associated with land use are obtained.

Wildlife Protection

- Describe how the project addresses wildlife, natural resources including any voluntary actions goes above and beyond standard industry practices and legal requirements to minimize wildlife impacts through voluntary actions.
- Share any explicit corporate stewardship policies or commitments related to biodiversity and/or renewable energy and wildlife.

Education and Research Opportunities

- Clearly articulate the education and/or research opportunities that would be available for the U-M community (students, staff and faculty) over the project lifespan (e.g., live data availability, research opportunities on or around project site(s), etc.).

“Town-Gown” Benefits

- Describe energy or sustainability benefits (e.g., reducing community reliance on fossil fuel energy toward a reliable, clean, equitable, and affordable energy future) accruing directly to the communities surrounding the U-M campuses (Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint) over the project lifespan.

Corporate Sustainability Commitments

- Describe explicit corporate policies or commitments related to climate action and/or decarbonization.

Presidents Commission on Carbon Neutrality (PCCN)

Describe how the submission is in alignment with the strategies, goals, and principles as identified in the PCCN Report including those listed in Appendix M: Purchased Electricity Strategies Evaluation Criteria.

IV. Deliverables

- TBD but likely to include:
 - Renewable Electricity Purchase Agreement
 - Renewable Energy Credits transferred to or retired on U-M's behalf

V. Supplemental Information

Respondents are encouraged to provide additional information on the company's approach to community engagement and environmental stewardship, including corporate policies, practices and track record related to these topics. The questions below are provided to help inform such responses.

Community Impact

- Describe community engagement measures in place that are designed to be responsive to community needs over the project lifespan.
- Describe what opposition, if any, toward the project has arisen in the community and how it has been addressed.
- Describe the benefits to the host community that are responsive to community needs (e.g., economic benefits, visible/tangible benefits, etc.).
- Describe the project decommissioning plan as it relates to the project site community.
- Identify past and current efforts to engage the project site community in other projects previously developed, describing the current perception of the project by the local community.
- For similar previous projects, describe workforce demographics (e.g., Percentage of the workforce that are graduates of a state or federally approved apprenticeship program, percentage of workforce under collective bargaining, total number of jobs created over the project lifespan, percentage of jobs filled by the local community, etc.).
- Describe workforce programs, targets or standards.
- Feel free to include up to three contact names from a past or current project site community that can speak to workforce issues and the developer's engagement practices (e.g., community members, elected/appointed official, etc.).

Environmental Impact

- Provide a detailed description of the sourcing plan and requirements for project materials for this project or for similar previous projects.
- Describe the project decommissioning plan as it relates to the project materials.
- Describe explicit corporate stewardship policies or commitments related to responsible and ethical material sourcing and management.

- List the environmental permits and discretionary approvals required from tribal authorities, status of approvals, and schedule to complete permits.
- List environmental studies undertaken thus far and describe key findings.
- Describe how the project goes beyond standard industry practices and legal requirements to minimize disturbance of soils or wetlands and/or to enhance ecosystem services.
- Describe in detail the wildlife due diligence assessments that have been completed for the project to understand what species of concern may be impacted by the renewable energy development project. Describe the findings, including what species were identified as impacted.
- Summarize, where applicable, what federal, state, and local agencies have been communicated with regarding potential wildlife impacts, and any concerns identified during these discussions.
- List required wildlife permits and provide information as to whether the permits have been obtained, schedules for attainment, or explanations as to why permits are not being pursued.
- Describe how the proposed project development will expedite the retirement of existing fossil fuel generation facilities in the proposed project region. Provide as much specificity as possible.