

Task Order – Long-Term RFO Support Services for 2026 Clean Energy & Reliability RFO

Questions & Responses

#	Question	Response
1	Does CPA have an internal budget range or not-to-exceed amount for this Task Order, either in total or by task grouping (Tasks 1–4)	Proposers should submit pricing reflective of the level of effort required to provide the services set forth in the Task Order.
2	Based on prior CPA RFOs, approximately how many bidders and total offers does CPA anticipate for the 2026 RFO?	Over the last three Clean Energy and Reliability RFO cycles, the number of proposals has ranged from 80 to 137 per year, while the number of unique proposers has ranged from 38 to 66 annually.
3	Is CPA open to third-party hosted submission platforms, or does CPA prefer a platform that can be fully transferred or archived at the conclusion of the RFO?	CPA has no preference and is open to both approaches. CPA must be able to retain a record of all submissions and deliverables following the RFO but those may be preserved in downloadable files or reports.
4	Are key milestone dates considered firm, or should Proposers anticipate potential shifts tied to Board scheduling?	Please see Task Order Section 5.2: The key events for CPA’s 2026 Clean Energy and Reliability RFO are listed below and are subject to change.
5	What level of CPA internal analytical support should Proposers assume during Tasks 2 and 3?	Proposers should assume no analytical support from CPA during Tasks 2 and 3 aside from providing feedback on CPA’s preferences and assisting with responses to questions asked by Proposers in the Q&A process.
6	<p>Eligibility – Exhibit D2 (Certification of No Conflict of Interest) Exhibit D2 states that CPA “will not contract with... profit-making firms or businesses in which its employees may have participated in the preparation of the bid or proposal of the Task Order.”</p> <p>Could CPA please clarify whether a for-profit firm remains eligible if employees of that firm who would perform work under the Task Order also participate in the preparation of the firm’s proposal?</p>	Exhibit D2 relates to firms participating in the creation of the Task Order. No such third-party services were used in the creation of this Task Order.



7	<p>Pricing Structure – Fixed Price vs. Not-to-Exceed The RFO describes pricing on a “fixed cost basis,” while Exhibit C, Part 3 appears to reference a Not-to-Exceed (NTE) structure.</p> <p>Can CPA clarify whether proposals should be structured as:</p> <p>A firm fixed price, A not-to-exceed amount with hourly or task-based pricing underneath, or A fixed price by task with flexibility for partial awards?</p>	<p>Please see Task Order Section 7.1: Pricing should be proposed on a fixed price basis.</p>
8	<p>Technology Platform Requirements The Scope of Work requires proposers to:</p> <p>“Provide a submission platform that accommodates a high volume of bidders, with multiple, differentiated offers from each bidder,” and “Host a website for receipt of offers.”</p> <p>Can CPA clarify whether proposers must provide a fully proprietary software platform, or whether a configurable third-party or hybrid solution is acceptable?</p>	<p>CPA will consider any platform that accomplishes the stated scope of work outlined in this Task Order.</p>
9	<p>Valuation Model Requirements (Excel-Based Models) The RFO requires development of Excel-based valuation models (provided in unlocked format) covering RPS-only, RPS plus storage, RA-only, gas tolling, and storage-only offers.</p> <p>Please clarify:</p> <p>a. Whether CPA expects a single integrated valuation framework or multiple offer-type-specific models; and b. The extent to which CPA expects these models to be production-ready tools for future solicitations versus models tailored specifically to this RFO.</p>	<p>a) The model must allow a comparison and ranking of all proposals using the same framework, assumptions and price environment, where applicable, across all offer sets. b) The selected Proposer must provide a valuation model tailored specifically to this RFO that can meet the requirements of this Task Order.</p>

10	<p>Task 3 – Evaluation and Board-Facing Deliverables Task 3 includes responsibilities such as preparation of a comprehensive longlist, analysis of offers, and presentation of RFO metrics and trends to CPA’s Board Energy Committee.</p> <p>Can CPA confirm:</p> <p>a. Whether the selected consultant is expected to play a lead analytical role in offer evaluation (in addition to independent monitoring); and</p> <p>b. The anticipated level of direct interaction with CPA’s Board or Board committees (e.g., presentation support vs. attendance and briefing).</p>	<p>a) The selected Proposer will be expected to take a lead analytical role in offer evaluation.</p> <p>b) The role will not include direct interaction with CPA’s Board or Committees.</p>
11	<p>Partial Awards / Task-Specific Selection The RFO states that CPA may select proposers “for one or all tasks” and may award to multiple vendors.</p> <p>Please clarify:</p> <p>a. Whether CPA anticipates separate pricing by task to facilitate partial awards; and</p> <p>b. Whether proposers should explicitly state which tasks they would or would not accept if selected individually.</p>	<p>a. Please review Task Order Section 7.2, which provides a detailed description of pricing structure requirements.</p> <p>b. No.</p>