



Stakeholder FAQ for REOI Information Session

What types of projects are eligible for REP Round 1?

- Projects that are at least 5 MW (AC) in size and utilize an eligible fuel type (wind, solar, biomass, hydro and geothermal) are eligible to participate.

What are the eligibility requirements for biomass projects?

- Biomass facilities must use an eligible biomass fuel, and, in the case of a forest resource, a sustainable forest resource. Further information is available on www.aeso.ca/rep on the *REP news and updates* page.

Are behind-the-fence projects eligible or does output need to be put on the Alberta grid? *

- Projects eligible to participate in REP Round 1 must, among other things, deliver 100 per cent of a project's contract capacity to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES), must be separately metered and must sell their power into the Alberta Power Pool. A behind-the-fence **project** will be subject to these eligibility requirements.
- The behind-the-fence **process** (as opposed to a behind-the-fence project) describes the AESO's process to connect projects to a distribution system, or, for an expansion project connecting to the transmission system where no transmission connection facilities are required. These projects may be eligible to participate in REP Round 1 if they meet the criteria described above in addition to other criteria that will be described in the Request for Qualifications documents.

What is meant by new and expanded projects?

- Definitions for new and expanded projects are provided on www.aeso.ca/rep on the *REP news and updates* page. These definitions will be further refined when the AESO releases the draft Renewable Electricity Support Agreement (RESA) on April 28, 2017.

Do I need to demonstrate I have control of the lands for my project site in my RFQ submission?

- Yes, all bidders need to demonstrate site control at RFQ.

Are there any restrictions to the number of MW that can be awarded to one bidder?

- No, there are no restrictions on the number of MW that can be awarded to one bidder, provided that no single proposed project exceeds 400 MW.

Can REP Round 1 projects energize earlier than December 1, 2019?

- Yes, however, support payments will not be provided any earlier than April 1, 2018.

Will successful REP projects be required to follow the AESO Connection Process?

- Yes, REP Round 1 will require projects to follow the existing AESO Connection Process. This process has proven successful and connects customers in a timely fashion. REP projects will be treated no differently than other projects in the process.
- For more information on the AESO Connection Process, please visit www.aeso.ca/grid/connecting-to-the-grid.

Does the AESO need to file a Needs Identification Document (NID) with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for each successful REP project?

- Yes, the AESO is required to file a NID with the AUC to connect all generation projects, including REP projects. Please contact the AUC directly at www.auc.ab.ca with any questions related to their processes.

If my REP project is successful, am I exempt from any ISO rules or tariffs? For example, do I still need to pay the Generating Unit Owner's Contribution (GUOC)?

- There are no exemptions for successful REP Round 1 projects. As with any other project, the existing legislative and regulatory framework will apply.

* This response was updated April 25, 2017 to provide further clarity.

What is the RFQ submission fee?

- As part of its RFQ submission, each bidder will be required to pay a non-refundable submission fee. This fee will vary for each bidder based on the number of projects and the total size of the projects submitted. It will be calculated as follows:
 - \$1,000/MW of the aggregate nameplate capacity of all projects submitted by a bidder (minimum of \$10,000 and maximum of \$50,000); plus
 - For each project submitted in addition to the first, a fee of \$2,500.
- The submission fee is non-refundable unless the AESO cancels the competition, in which case the fee will be returned in full to the bidder.

Are there any other fees that will be levied on competition participants?

- If a bidder is awarded a RESA, it will be required to pay the AESO the following fees to help recover the AESO's costs related to implementing and administering REP Round 1:
 - A fee of \$0.75/MWh over the first 3 years of the RESA support period; and
 - A fee of \$0.30/MWh over the 20 year RESA support period.

What information about interested parties and their projects may the AESO make public at each stage of REP Round 1?

- At REOI, the AESO may make public the contact names and contact information of interested parties who submitted an EOI Form.
- At RFQ, the AESO reserves rights to make certain information public. Further details on what may be made public will be available in the RFQ.
- At the close of REP Round 1, the AESO will make the names and bid prices of successful proponent(s) public.

Is REP Round 1 subject to FOIP?

- The AESO is a public body subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP Act) and may be required to disclose certain information. Interested parties should be aware that third party information can be requested under the FOIP Act; however, the right of access is not absolute. The FOIP Act recognizes several legitimate reasons to refuse access to information (outlined in Sections 16-29 of the FOIP Act), including harm to business interests. The AESO is committed to protecting information that qualifies for an exemption. Third parties are active participants in the request process and do maintain the right to provide input during the decision making process and the right to appeal any disclosure decisions.

Where can I find more information about Alberta's transmission system?

- The AESO is mandated through legislation to operate the Alberta Interconnected Electric System in a safe, reliable and economic manner, and plan a transmission system that meets electricity demand today and in the future. General information about timing and location of future transmission facilities to meet Alberta's needs can be found in the AESO's *2015 Long-term Transmission Plan* available at www.aeso.ca/grid/long-term-transmission-plan. The AESO plans to release the *2017 Long-term Transmission Plan* in November 2017.

Is there a guide to assist Alberta landowners who have been approached by a renewable energy developer seeking to lease land for the development and construction of renewable energy projects?

- Yes, download the Negotiating Renewable Energy Leases landowner guide from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry at [www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/All/agdex16246](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$Department/deptdocs.nsf/All/agdex16246).

I have further questions and comments regarding the RESA. Will the AESO provide an opportunity for further consultation on the RESA?

- The AESO appreciates the stakeholder feedback it received on the key provisions of the RESA in December 2016. This feedback is reflected in the updated key provisions which were approved by the Minister of Energy and posted on www.aeso.ca/rep on March 31, 2017. There will be no further consultation on the RESA.

When will the full form of the RESA be available?

- The full form of the draft RESA will be available on the REP SharePoint site on April 28, 2017 when the RFQ stage begins.

Do I need to submit an EOI Form in order to participate in the RFQ?

- No, submitting an EOI form is not a prerequisite to participating in the RFQ stage of REP Round 1.

What is the timing for future REP competitions?

- There will be a series of REP competitions to meet the Government of Alberta's target of 30 per cent renewables by 2030. Information on future REP rounds will be made available in the future.