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**Austin Energy
721 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704**

#	Question	#	Response
1	Does Austin Energy have a preference for a certain term?	1	No, no particular preference. We have PPAs terms ranging from 12-25 years.
2	Do you need a CA in place with us in order for us to submit our proposal?	2	No, CAs are not required or preferred. Please mark any confidential information as Proprietary. See Section 3A. of the RFP.
5	What are the main applications that Austin Energy is looking for from battery storage system (e.g. energy time shifting, capacity, ancillary services)?	3	Time shifting and AS primarily.
4	Is there a specific type of Ancillary Service that AE is seeking (e.g. Responsive Reserve, Reg Up/Down, FRRS)?	4	No specific type
5	Can energy storage be priced in \$/kW-yr or must it be priced in \$/MWh?	5	\$/kW are acceptable if that fits better with the application being proposed
6	For the utility-scale BESS option, please confirm if Austin Energy is looking for a power purchase agreement (PPA) from the BESS or if Austin Energy wants an EPC delivery and will own / operate the BESS themselves? This section seems to indicate Austin Energy would own & operate the BESS, meaning for BESS only projects it would be EPC delivery.	6	If tax benefits are available, and since AE is unable to directly capture those potential benefits, we prefer a PPA structure in that scenario. Otherwise, we will consider other structures as a part of our evaluation process.
7	Does Austin Energy have a preference for the ratio of solar/storage capacities for paired project?	7	No particular preference
8	Can Austin Energy provide more detail about how they envision utilizing storage within their portfolio and whether it is more focused on ancillary service value or energy storage value?	8	We're open to considering various available applications but AS service and energy time shifting are two of particular interest.
9	On page 7 of the RFP document under Section B Proposal Format, it states " <i>Term Sheet – Provide a summary of the principal features of the Proposal, including offered pricing, the critical development milestones and other operational aspects of the proposal, including the proposed point of interconnection.</i> " Are we to provide a Term Sheet of key PPA terms or an Executive Summary of the project and proposal?	9	An executive summary is fine but please note any details that may affect pricing.
10	Attachment 1 provides a link for a questionnaire. Are all bidders required to complete the questionnaire within 7 business days of submitting a proposal?	10	The questionnaire is for Proposer's who have, or think they may have, a conflict of interest as detailed in the document
11	Would AE accept a proposal for an Energy Storage project located at an AE owned site (non-PPA)? Can AE provide a list of preferred AE-owned locations to host a Energy Storage project?	11	The RFP scope does not specifically contemplate such an arrangement. At some point we may consider it, but not at this time.
12	Does AE have a MWh per nameplate MW (aka, duration or C-rate) preference for sizing Energy Storage projects?	12	Our preference is 2-4 hours of storage capability with full AS capability. We are open to considering other options however.



13	Given your Proposal Format in 3.B, under what section should we submit information related to Renewable Energy Generating Facility (summarized in 2.A1) and Energy Storage Technology (summarized in 2.A2)?	13	Details regarding the proposed facilities and/or technology can be included with the Term Sheet section.
14	Does AE value hub settlement to mitigate basis risk under this RFP, and if so will AE provide QSE services for a project delivering energy to the POI but settling financially at an ERCOT hub?	14	We will consider hub settlement instead of busbar. In such case, we prefer that the project developer/owner handle the QSE role but will consider either arrangement.
15	What is the storage value proposition to AE outside your territory?	15	To potentially add value to AE's utility scale renewable portfolio which is currently based outside our service territory.
16	Does AE see any value to paying more on average for an energy profile delivered in more valuable hours per ERCOT pricing?	16	Possibly. It will depend on the overall model evaluation.
17	Does Austin Energy get any benefit from balancing functions outside their territory?	17	Yes, potentially.
18	Would AE be open to having a contract for the battery only in the summer period (or some other season), with the project maintaining merchant control at other times of the year? The solar farm that the battery would be connected to would have a price per MWh settled prior to charging the battery.	18	We are open to considering any potential arrangement.
19	What would you like for "A detailed description of the technology that either exists or will be constructed on the site to provide the renewable energy and capacity"? (A1.2)	19	A general summary outline of the project components will be sufficient.
20	What would you like for plant design? (A1.3)	20	Plant design includes many of the other listed items in that section. A description of those will be sufficient.
21	Is there a maximum distance from AE's service territory that the project can be located? Or as long as it is within ERCOT it will be considered?	21	No maximum, any location in ERCOT will be considered.
22	The bid outlines that AE prefers battery storage projects to have full Ancillary Service capability. Could you go into more detail as to what specific services would benefit AE the most? b. In other words, what are the greatest grid-related issues that Austin Energy faces?	22	We are interested in any and all service options that may be available. We are more focused on what opportunities storage options may provide; for instance, energy time shifting and AS.
23	The RFP states that AE is interested in long-term purchases of up to 250MW. Is there a minimum amount that AE will consider?	23	Not specifically although past experience has indicated better value in the 200-250 MW range. That said, we have executed PPAs for capacity of around 100 MW.
24	Does AE have a preference for a specific term within the confines of what is stated in the RFP (10-25 years)?	24	No specific preference.
25	Does AE have a preference for a specific nodal point of delivery, if any?	25	No, but congestion analysis is an integral part of our overall project modeling.



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26	Is there any type of locational preference for a busbar deal?	26	No particular preference; we are seeking the best overall value for AE and its customers.
27	For VPPA deals, is there a settlement location preference (e.g. North Hub, Houston Hub, etc.)?	27	No particular preference; we are seeking the best overall value for AE and its customers.
28	Specific to the preference for a Solar + Storage project, is there a location that AE has in mind for maximizing that facility's (S+S) value?	28	No particular preference; we are seeking the best overall value for AE and its customers.
29	Is there a specific use case or use cases that Austin Energy is interested in for the battery system?	29	We are open to considering what is available but see energy time shifting and AS as having potential value.
30	For a Solar + Storage bid, would Austin Energy most likely transact at the busbar vs. at a market hub?	30	We will consider either
31	For the battery component, does Austin Energy expect to have dispatch rights during the entirety of the contract?	31	Yes
32	For Solar + Storage systems, does Austin Energy prefer DC-Coupled or AC-Coupled?	32	We're essentially agnostic.
33	Does Austin Energy prefer a certain term length, noting that the range allowed within the parameters of the RFP is 10-25 years?	33	No specific preference.
34	Does Austin Energy prefer settling at the project POI or at an ERCOT Hub? - What criteria will Austin Energy use in determining whether to transact/settle at the project busbar vs. an ERCOT regional trading hub?	34	We will consider either one and make our internal assessment of basis risk between the 2 points.
35	Please confirm that there is no settlement during negatively priced hours regardless of settlement location (POI vs. ERCOT Hub).	35	Yes, to the extent AE does not intend to purchase energy during negatively priced settlement intervals.
36	What is the expected timeline for the remainder of this solicitation (e.g. shortlist, award, PPA execution)? - What is the timing for all of the approvals in relation to the targeted PPA Execution date?	36	Depending on the number of projects proposed, the evaluation to determine a short list may take up to 6 weeks. Timelines vary, but once a short list is determined and a finalist selected (6 weeks +/-), we will negotiate PPA(s) (4 weeks +/-), then seek advisory board and Austin City Council approval (4 weeks +/-).
37	Are there any additional approvals needed for Austin Energy to enter into a contract outside of AE Executive Management and Austin City Council?	37	Other than advisory boards, no.