



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

Request for Proposal Questions & Answers: Set 2

RFP Title: Rhode Island Energy Efficiency Market Potential Study

RFP Number: EERMC-2019-01

Date of last question included in this document: 4/15/2019

- 1. Q:** On page 29 under Data Security Protocols, it states: “Data and reports from National Grid are required to complete the requirements of this study. Bidders should complete National Grid Digital Risk and Security Questionnaire and provide supporting documentation as needed. The selected vendor must comply with National Grid information security requirements and maintain appropriate measures for the protection of personal information.” Can you please provide the questionnaire, or a link to National Grid’s questionnaire?

A: Please email john.richards@nationalgrid.com to request a copy of National Grid’s questionnaire.

- 2. Q:** The RFP on page 11, states an expectation that the MPS will analyze a comprehensive list of existing and emerging technologies. Is there a threshold of technical potential for a measure below which the EERMC would not be interested in the potential for the technology? If so, what would that threshold be?

A: No threshold – the term ‘comprehensive’ is intended to permit inclusion of any measures deemed worth studying. Part of the selected vendor’s role will be to make this type of assessment regarding measures to include, which should be based on technical factors such as measure savings and costs as well as practical factors such as time needed to effectively model that measure (e.g. it may be worth including a measure with very low total potential only if it is easy to model and incorporate in the study, but for a measure with greater potential, even a complex, relatively time-intensive characterization may be warranted). The EERMC, through its Consultant team, will be able to provide guidance on this topic as well once the study is under way.

- 3. Q:** The RFP desires for each measure a parameter called “penetration” (see page 16). Please define the relative time scale for which penetration is to be assessed.

A: Penetration should be modeled for each measure over the entire study period (2021-2026), and may vary over time for each measure (annual data will be sufficient to reflect these changes).

- 4. Q:** The RFP desires for each measure a parameter identified as “total applicable end use energy” (see page 16). Please describe what this is and in what units it is represented.

A: *Total applicable end use energy* means the amount of energy consumed by a particular end use. Broadly speaking, an *end use* represents a group of related technologies, like those responsible for space heating, or interior lighting. The concept of *total applicable end use energy*



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is important because it represents the total pool of energy that one *end use* can reduce through the implementation of efficient technologies in place of less efficient ones.

5. **Q:** P21 references sensitivity analyses and budget scenarios. How many sensitivity scenarios does the EERMC anticipate being performed? What will influence the number of scenario/sensitivity analyses?

A: The ‘sensitivity analyses’ referred to on P21 correspond to different program achievable scenarios. As stated in Question 2 of Request for Proposals Questions and Answers: Set 1, up to four program achievable scenarios should be expected, with more possible if time and budget permit. Of note, simple sensitivity analysis to single universal parameters, such as discount rate, should be analytically much easier to implement, and are not necessarily covered by this statement. While no commitment is made regarding what is/is not permissible to drive the need for sensitivity analysis, areas such as evolving product standards, incentive levels, changes to relevant statute, PUC resolutions, and interim potential study results are good examples.

6. **Q:** P21 identifies a task to report results by service area. Please clarify: Is this task to be performed for all fuels or only electricity?

A: All fuels.

7. **Q:** Page 11 of the RFP indicates that revisions and reporting are anticipated to occur in the first quarter of 2020. In percentage terms, how much of the project does EERMC expect to be performed in 2020?

A: This is difficult to answer, as it depends in part on the quality of the initial analysis conducted during 2019. However, broadly speaking, at least 5% will occur in 2020, and fairly exceptional circumstances would be needed to justify >20% of work occurring in 2020.

8. **Q:** Does the response to question 4 from the pre-bid call re: conflicts of interest with National Grid apply only to past work with National Grid in Rhode Island? Or, does this apply to any historic work with National Grid, even if outside Rhode Island?

A: Any past implementation work with either National Grid Rhode Island or National Grid Massachusetts will be considered a conflict of interest and render a firm ineligible to be considered for this RFP.