

**Request for Proposals Q&A for
CRC Project SM-CR-9, ""Assess the Battery-Recharging and Hydrogen-Refueling Infrastructure
Needs, Costs and Timelines Required to Support Regulatory Requirements for Light-, Medium-,
and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicles"**

May 24, 2023

In addition to the initial question, we were hoping to get some further clarification related to the T&C:

- Is there opportunity to re-define the ownership of the IP developed within the project? I.e., can this be licensed to CRC (w/ full use as described in RFP), but ownership is retained by the contractor?
 - Alternatives to the example IP clause provided in the RFP are:
 - The contractor can own IP but must agree to grant CRC a perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use throughout the world and allow CRC to sub-license as CRC sees fit.
 - Both parties can agree to place all IP in the public domain.
 - CRC will not enter into an agreement to pay for the development of IP that CRC Members would be required to pay for a second time if they wish to use it.
 - As written, do you view the IP developed (e.g., related models) as owned by CRC and not permitted for further use by contractor?
 - I believe this is answered above, but the bidder should include any concerns they have about this topic in their proposal.
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- We are currently developing the requisite proposals and plan to submit by the end of the week. In the interim, if you could offer any further clarity related to required timing of the formal proposal and/or the selection process it would be greatly appreciated.
 - CRC's intention is to review technical proposals as submitted, and expects to make an award when proposal is submitted of sufficiently high quality to meet the technical needs defined in the request for proposals.
 - Any bidder considering sending CRC a proposal for this project should notify CRC of their intentions and expected timeline to allow the panel to consider their proposal.
 - If the solicitation is closed at any time, CRC will make an announcement to all invited bidders.
 - Note that CRC is inviting proposals at this time of sufficient detail and clarity to support a direct award proceeding to contracting, there is not a pre-proposal / formal proposal process. However CRC may reply to a proposal with requests for clarified / updated proposals, invite bidders to consider teaming arrangements if individual proposals are not fully responsive, or make awards to multiple bidders to meet the objectives of the research.
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- Can you share the intention of this study? Will it be used to make a policy recommendation for / against the EPAs Notice of Proposed Rulemaking?
 - CRC doesn't make policy recommendations, we perform research and publish the results. Our final research results are available to the public, for the benefit of everybody. ***For more context on CRC's role, see the following presentations:***
 - [Understanding CRC](#)
 - [Impact of CRC Research](#)
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May 19, 2023

- The notification indicates a due date of 30th June for some deliverables. Can you clarify:
 - What datasets will be made available by the CRC and by when? (the specification mentions some models/datasets but it is not clear if these will be made available by CRC or if the consultants have to obtain these independently)
 - CRC does not have data sets to provide, so it should be assumed that the contractor will obtain these. NREL has agreed to participate in the project in an advisory capacity and this may be relevant in sourcing project information, but the contractor should address their plans for getting the needed information in their proposal.
 - What target date do you have in mind for the appointment of a consultancy team?
 - CRC is working with the goal of getting the work started as soon as possible, with no specific date in mind.
 - Will the 30th June date be revised if the reception & appraisal of proposals take longer than you have planned?
 - Bidders should provide information on what is achievable by June 30th, and what information in response to the project Statement of Work will be available at a later date.
- The deadline for proposal is 'as soon as possible' – could you indicate a cut-off date?
 - There is no date at this time – bidders should notify CRC of their intent and when they can provide their proposal so that the timeline for a decision can be determined and announced.
- There is no deadline indicated, nor budget, for the Extended deliverables. Both would be useful to estimate the level of detail expected. Are you able to provide some indication please?
 - CRC does not predetermine a budget and is focused on the highest possible technical quality of the research – at the best available price as determined by the bidding process. The timeline for the extended deliverables is not predetermined but timeliness of the deliverables is one of the criteria for evaluating the proposals.
- Exhibit C does not mention a liability cap – is that something that can be added?
 - Flexibility in limiting contractual liability is possible; bidders should state their concerns in their proposal.