**NOTICE OF PROPOSED AWARD (NOPA)**

**The Next EPIC Challenge: Reimagining Affordable Mixed-Use Development in a Carbon-Constrained Future**

 **Solicitation # GFO-20-305 Phase III**

**December 26, 2023**

On December 15, 2020, the California Energy Commission (CEC) released a competitive solicitation to fund a design-build competition. The intent of this competition was to challenge multi-disciplinary project teams to design and build a mixed-use development – using cutting-edge energy technologies, tools and construction practices - that is affordable, equitable, emissions-free and resilient to climate change impacts and extreme weather events. Up to $48,000,000 in Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) funding was available to fund applications in groups identified in the solicitation:

* Group #1: Bay Area Region
* Group #2: Central Valley/Northern California
* Group #3: Los Angeles Region
* Group #4: Imperial Valley, Inland Empire, and San Diego County

Of this $48 million, $12 million was used to fund 12 proposals (three proposals from each group) for up to $1,000,000 for the Design Phase. Applicants selected and funded for the Design Phase were eligible to receive up to $9,000,000 for the Build Phase of this solicitation.

To be eligible to compete in the Design Phase, applicants needed to have a passing Concept Application, consisting of a Project Abstract that summarized key project goals and objectives. The CEC received 42 Concept Application Abstract packages by the due date of May 7, 2021, of which 33 were eligible to compete in the Design Phase.

The CEC received 24 applications for the Design Phase by the due date of December 1, 2021. Each application was screened on a pass/fail basis using the criteria in the solicitation. All 24 applications passed the Administrative Screening, and 12 of the applications were awarded and funded for the Design Phase.

The applicants awarded in the Design Phase were asked to complete specific deliverables during their grant agreements, which could then be included in their applications to the Build Phase. The CEC received 11 applications for the Build Phase by the due date of September 29, 2023.

The attached NOPA identifies each applicant selected and recommended for funding by CEC staff for the Build Phase and includes the recommended funding amount and score for each. The total amount of recommended funding is $34,000,000.

Funding of proposed projects from this solicitation is contingent upon the approval of these projects at a publicly noticed CEC business meeting and execution of a grant agreement with each awardee. If the CEC is unable to timely negotiate and execute a funding agreement with an applicant, the CEC, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to cancel or otherwise modify the pending award, and award the funds to another applicant.

In addition, the CEC reserves the right to: 1) add to, remove, or shift funding between the different groups if there are insufficient passing proposals in one group; and 2) negotiate with successful applicants to modify the project scope, schedule, or level of funding.

This notice and awardees for GFO-20-305 are posted on the CEC’s website at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/awards>.

For information, please contact:

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