



RFQ-25-401 Pre-Bid Conference

Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

Elizabeth Butler, Contract & Grant Manager

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Welcome & Introductions

- **Elizabeth Butler**, Commission Agreement Manager (CAM)
- **Diana Grady**, Commission Agreement Officer (CAO)
- **Javier Perez**, Compliance Analysis Unit Supervisor
- **Che Geiser**, Standards Compliance Branch Manager
- **Will Vicent**, Building Standards Deputy Director

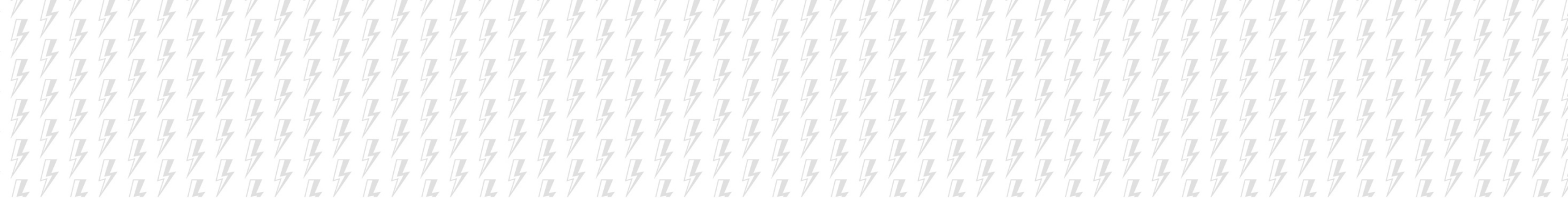
Agenda

TIME	TOPIC
1:30 p.m.	Welcome & Introductions
1:35 p.m.	Solicitation Overview
1:50 p.m.	Scope of Work
2:00 p.m.	Format, Required Documents & Method for Delivery
2:05 p.m.	Evaluation Process and Criteria
2:15 p.m.	Business Participation Programs
2:20 p.m.	Federal Requirements
2:25 p.m.	Questions & Answers (Q&A)

Housekeeping Items

- Webinar is being recorded
- Participants are muted during presentation
- Virtual participation options during Q&A period:
 - Enter questions in Q&A
 - Raise hand
 - Press *9 on telephone

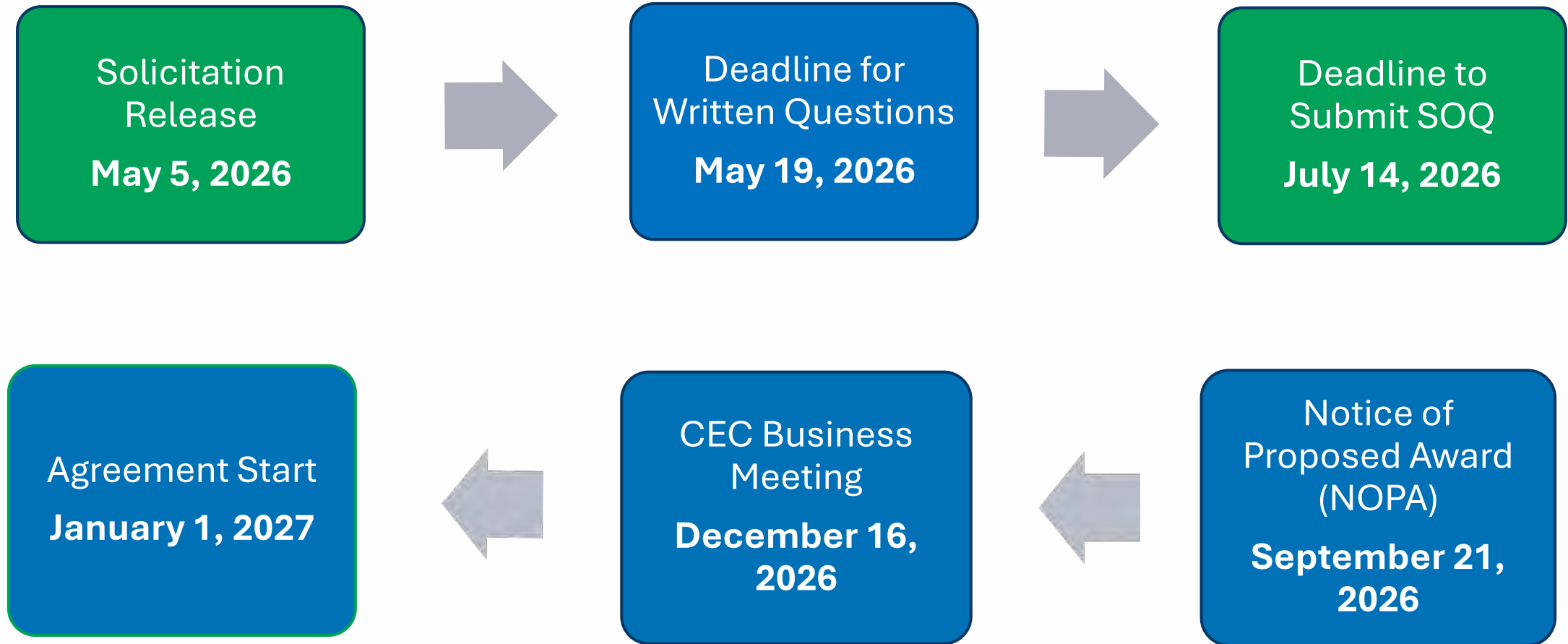




Solicitation Overview

RFQ-25-401: Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

Solicitation Process



Background Information

- Warren-Alquist Act
 - Established primary energy policy & planning agency
- Mandated Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Energy Code)
 - Updated on a three-year cycle
 - Single-family residential, multifamily & nonresidential buildings
 - Reduce wasteful, uneconomic, inefficient, or unnecessary use

Energy Code Goals

- Lower energy costs for Californians
- Improve energy affordability
- Advance energy efficiency
- Contribute to California's climate action goals

Current Landscape (1 of 2)

- Lack of Comprehensive Compliance Data
- Compliance Rates Study
- Key Definitions:
 - Process-Based Compliance
 - Energy-Based Compliance

Current Landscape (2 of 2)

- Previous studies presented divergent findings
 - Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) Programs
 - Regional Energy Networks (RENs)
 - Unpermitted construction

Building Categories

1. Existing single-family residential buildings
2. Existing multifamily residential buildings
3. Existing nonresidential buildings
4. Newly constructed single-family residential buildings
5. Newly constructed multifamily residential buildings
6. Newly constructed nonresidential buildings
7. Covered processes

Agreement Purpose

- Provide technical support for:
 - Energy Code compliance evaluation program
 - Workforce development market research
 - Compliance improvement pilot solutions
 - Other related work supporting compliance improvement

Key Activities & Dates

ACTIVITY	ACTION DATE	TIME
Solicitation Release	May 5, 2026	N/A
Pre-Bid Conference	May 19, 2026	1:30 p.m. (PDT)
Deadline for Written Questions	May 19, 2026	5:00 p.m. (PDT)
Distribution of Questions/Answers	June 16, 2026	N/A
Deadline to Submit Statement of Qualifications	July 14, 2026	11:59 p.m. (PDT)
Discussions with Firms	August 10-11, 2026	N/A
Notice of Selection	August 26, 2026	N/A
Cost Negotiations	August 27, 2026 – September 11, 2026	N/A
Notice of Proposed Award	September 21, 2026	N/A
CEC Business Meeting	December 16, 2026	N/A

Funding

- \$11,500,000 available for 3-year contract
- Federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Codes funding
- CEC reserves right to reduce amount

Work Authorizations (WAs)

- Resulting contract conducted as WA Agreement
- Work must be authorized via executed WAs
- WA defines scope of work, budget & schedule

Retainer Contract

- No-fee “retainer” contract
- Held on retainer & assigned work via WAs
- No minimum or maximum funds guarantee

Eligible Firms

- Open solicitation for public & private entities
- Prime Contractor single entity, not a group of representatives
- Prior to CEC business meeting:
 - Corporations, LLCs, LPs & LLPs
 - Secretary of State (SOS) registration & good standing
 - Sole proprietors using fictitious business name
 - County registration & provide evidence

Solicitation Webpage (1 of 2)

- All documents available on [solicitation webpage](#)
 - Updates posted there
- [CEC email notification subscription service](#)
 - Subscribe to receive updates & information
 - Solicitations, Awards, and Funding Workshops Announcements

Solicitation Webpage (2 of 2)

Home > Funding > Solicitations > RFQ-25-401 - Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

RFQ-25-401 - Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

SOLICITATION TYPE Request for Qualification	PROGRAM Building Energy Efficiency Standards
SOLICITATION NUMBER RFQ-25-401	RELEASE DATE May 05, 2026
SOLICITATION STATUS Active	SUBMISSION DEADLINE July 14, 2026, 11:59 pm
DIVISION Efficiency	QUESTIONS DEADLINE May 19, 2026, 5:00 pm

Important: For this solicitation, applications will be submitted using the Grant Solicitation System (GSS) . For assistance, please see [How to Apply using GSS](#).

Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to select a Prime Contractor to lead a team of professional architectural and engineering consultants to provide technical support for:

- The California Energy Code compliance evaluation program, including the design and execution of methodologically defensible evaluations to address critical statewide data gaps and improve the CEC's understanding of both process-based and energy-based compliance.
- Improving the State's intelligence regarding Energy Code compliance through evidence-based identification of systemic challenges, regional variations, and root causes of noncompliance, informed by empirical field data rather than program attribution or advocacy-focused analyses.
- Establishing a technical foundation for future statewide Energy Code compliance rates analyses, including the development and validation of evaluation methodologies, sampling frameworks, data collection instruments, and analytical approaches that can be replicated and scaled in subsequent studies.
- Supporting implementation of recommendations from the "California Energy Code Compliance Gap Analysis" staff report by providing technical evaluation, feasibility assessment, and empirical evidence to inform enforcement strategies, compliance improvement priorities, and future policy development.
- Conducting comprehensive field studies across defined building categories and compliance definitions, recognizing the performance-based nature of the Energy Code, the existence of multiple compliance pathways, construction-phase access limitations, and the inherent complexity of evaluating energy-based outcomes at scale.
- Identifying and supporting technically grounded compliance implementation solutions, including evaluation-informed recommendations, pilot concepts, workforce-related technical assistance, and implementation-ready tools or frameworks that enable State, regional, and local partners to improve Energy Code compliance outcomes based on documented findings from the evaluation activities. Web Team uses the purpose paragraph on the web page and Listserv email announcement to specify the solicitation's purpose

SOLICITATION FILES

-  [00 RFQ-25-401 Solicitation Manual_ada.docx](#) ★
-  [01 RFQ-25-401 Att 01 Contractor Status Form_ada.docx](#)
-  [02 RFQ-25-401 Att 02 Darfur Contracting Act_ada.docx](#)
-  [03 RFQ-25-401 Att 03 DVBE_std_843.pdf](#)
-  [04 RFQ-25-401 Att 04 DVBE Bidder Declaration.pdf](#)
-  [05 RFQ-25-401 Att 05 Contractor Certification Clauses_ada.docx](#)
-  [06 RFQ-25-401 Att 06 Standard Agreement Example.pdf](#) ★
-  [07 RFQ-25-401 Att 07 Client References_ada.docx](#)
-  [08 RFQ-25-401 Att 08 Iran Contracting Act_ada.docx](#)
-  [09 RFQ-25-401 Att 09 CA Civil Rights Certification_ada.docx](#)

SOLICITATION EVENTS

- MAY** Pre-Bid Conference - RFQ-25-401 -
19 Energy Code Compliance
Evaluation Support
May 19, 2026 | 01:30 PM - 03:00 PM
Remote Access Only

Scope of Work (SOW)

RFQ-25-401: Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

SOW Tasks

TASK #	TASK NAME
1	Agreement Management
2	Technical Project Management
3	Evaluation Research Design
4	Sampling Plan Development and Validation
5	Qualitative Information Gathering
6	Field Data Collection
7	Data Processing, Data Analysis, and Quality Assurance
8	Reports, Presentations, and Knowledge Transfer
9	Workforce Development Technical Assistance
10	Jurisdictional Funding Readiness and Implementation Support
11	Contingencies

Qualified Statistician Review (1 of 2)

- **Must include dedicated & qualified subcontractor firm (at least 1)**
 - Designated Qualified Statistician Reviewer must:
 - Have appropriate academic training
 - Have 5 years minimum professional experience (statistics, biostatistics, econometrics, applied mathematics, or closely related field)
 - Be independent from study implementation
 - Not perform field data collection or analysis
 - Submit all deliverables directly to CEC
 - Report directly to CEC on key design decisions
 - Disclose any conflict of interest
 - CEC reserves right to approve, reject, or replace designated Reviewer

Qualified Statistician Review (2 of 2)

- **Contractor responsibilities:**
 - Identify all subcontractor firms possessing required expertise
 - Coordinate with Reviewer to provide technical review & quality assurance
 - Establish & maintain organizational separation of duties between:
 - Subcontractor/employees providing Reviewer services
 - Other employees/Subcontractors providing services
 - If uncertain whether a separation of duties is required:
 1. Submit a written description with relevant details
 2. Wait to receive written approval from CEC
 3. Assign individuals to the activity in question

Task 1: Requirements

- Maximum budget:
 - 10% of total Agreement budget
- Work and deliverables:
 - Dedicated, experienced & qualified admin person required
 - Technical staff person cannot be assigned

Task 1: Receipt of Confidential & Personal Info

- **Confidential/personal information list:**
 - Building owner/tenant & stakeholder contact information
 - Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) information
 - Project-level building plan details
 - Project-level building audits
 - Building-level data
- **Required deliverables:**
 - Information Security Program Plan (ISPP)
 - Signed ISPP Attestation Form
 - Signed Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs)
 - Annual employee security awareness training certificates

Task 1: Form 805











- Form 805
 - Due within 5 days of start date
 - Identifies individuals designated as consultants
 - Employees working strictly on admin tasks, including Task 1, are not consultants
 - Employees working on Tasks 2-11 are consultants

Task 1: Form 700

- Form 700
 - All consultants must file a Form 700
 - Due within 30 days of starting work
 - **Important:** Before submitting SOQ, confirm all Task 2-11 team members are willing to file
- Required deliverables:
 - Form 700s

Standard Agreement Example (Attachment 6)

SOLICITATION FILES

-  [00 RFQ-25-401 Solicitation Manual ada.docx](#)
-  [01 RFQ-25-401 Att 01 Contractor Status Form ada.docx](#)
-  [02 RFQ-25-401 Att 02 Darfur Contracting Act ada.docx](#)
-  [03 RFQ-25-401 Att 03 DVBE std 843.pdf](#)
-  [04 RFQ-25-401 Att 04 DVBE Bidder Declaration.pdf](#)
-  [05 RFQ-25-401 Att 05 Contractor Certification Clauses ada.docx](#)
-  [06 RFQ-25-401 Att 06 Standard Agreement Example.pdf](#)
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SOLICITATION EVENTS

MAY 19 Pre-Bid Conference - RFQ-25-401 - Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

May 19, 2026 | 01:30 PM - 03:00 PM
Remote Access Only

ATTACHMENT 6
STANDARD AGREEMENT EXAMPLE **SCO ID: 3360-XXXXXXXX** **RFQ-25-401**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
STANDARD AGREEMENT

<small>STD 213 (Rev. 04/2020)</small>	AGREEMENT NUMBER XXX-XX-XXX	PURCHASING AUTHORITY NUMBER (If Applicable)
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---

1. This Agreement is entered into between the Contracting Agency and the Contractor named below:

CONTRACTING AGENCY NAME
State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission)

CONTRACTOR NAME

2. The term of this Agreement is:

START DATE
XX/XX/XXXX

The effective date of this Agreement is the start date, or the signature date this agreement was signed by the California Energy Commission representative below, or the approval date by the Dept. of General Services (if required), whichever is later. No work shall commence until the effective date.

THROUGH END DATE
XX/XX/XXXX

3. The maximum amount of this Agreement is:
\$0.00

4. The parties agree to comply with the terms and conditions of the following exhibits, which are by this reference made a part of the Agreement.

Exhibits	Title	Pages
Exhibit A	Scope of Work	1
Exhibit B	Budget Detail and Payment Provisions	7
Exhibit C *	General Terms and Conditions (GTC 02/2025)*	Online
Exhibit D	Special Terms and Conditions	27
Exhibit D-1	Confidential Deliverables and Pre-Existing Intellectual Property Lists	3
Exhibit E	Conflict of Interest	6
Exhibit F	Federal Terms and Conditions	9
Exhibit G	Agreement Contacts	1

Items shown with an asterisk (*), are hereby incorporated by reference and made part of this agreement as if attached hereto. These documents can be viewed at <https://www.dgs.ca.gov/OLS/Resources>

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THIS AGREEMENT HAS BEEN EXECUTED BY THE PARTIES HERETO.

CONTRACTOR

CONTRACTOR NAME (if other than an individual, state whether a corporation, partnership, etc.)

CONTRACTOR BUSINESS ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
PRINTED NAME OF PERSON SIGNING	TITLE		
CONTRACTOR AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED		



SOQ Format, Required Documents & Method for Delivery

RFQ-25-401: Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

Method for Delivery (1 of 2)

- Start the process early!
 - [Grant Solicitation System \(GSS\)](#)
- **Automatically closes at 11:59 p.m. on July 14, 2026**
 - Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)
 - Full submittal must be complete before 11:59 p.m.
 - **Important:** No proposals will be accepted after the deadline
- [GSS How to Apply: Tutorial and Tips for Applicants](#)

Method for Delivery (2 of 2)

- First time users must register
- Submit each document as a separate file
- Do not combine multiple documents
- Confirmation email after required documents successfully uploaded
- Hard copy or email/fax submissions will not be accepted

Grants Solicitation System

Log In

Email

Password

[Forgot your password?](#)

[Don't have an account?](#)

Format & Organization

- Statement of Qualifications (SOQ)
 - Details qualifications to perform Scope of Work (SOW) tasks
 - Section 1, Administrative Response
 - Section 2, Technical Response
- Typed using standard 11-point font
- Single-spaced with blank line between paragraphs
- Pages numbered & sections titled
- **Important:** Do not include price quotes or bids

Section 1, Administrative Response

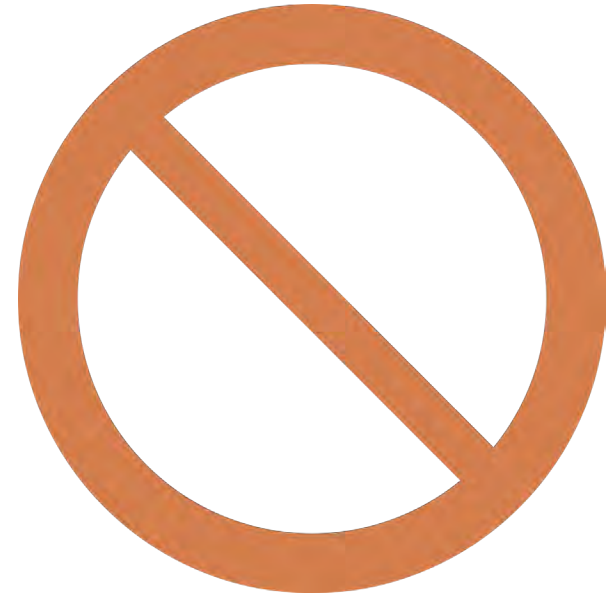
REQUIRED ITEMS	ATTACHMENT #
Cover Letter	N/A
Table of Contents	N/A
Contractor Status Form	Attachment 1
Darfur Contracting Act Form	Attachment 2
DVBE Declarations Form (Std. 843)	Attachment 3
Bidder Declaration Form (GSPD-05-105)	Attachment 4
Contractor Certification Clauses	Attachment 5
Iran Contracting Act Form	Attachment 8
Civil Rights Law Certification	Attachment 9

Section 2, Technical Response

REQUIRED ITEMS	ATTACHMENT #
Approach to Tasks in SOW	N/A
Project Team Organizations Structure & Cost Minimization	N/A
Project Team Relevant Experience & Qualifications	N/A
Analytical Tools	N/A
Client References	Attachment 7
Examples of Previous Work Products	N/A

Confidential Information

- Cannot accept SOQs that:
 - Contain confidential information
 - Have any portion marked confidential



Modifying or Withdrawing SOQs

- Before submission deadline:
 - May request to withdraw or modify submitted SOQ
- After submission deadline:
 - May only request to withdraw submitted SOQ
- Cannot be timed to expire on a specific date
 - SOQ is considered non-responsive

Evaluation Process & Criteria

RFQ-25-401: Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

SOQ Evaluation Process

- Stage One: Administrative & Completeness Screening
 - Pass/fail
 - SOQs that fail or do not fully comply may be disqualified & eliminated
- Stage Two: Evaluation of Qualifications
 - 100 total points possible

Administrative & Completeness Screening Criteria

- Received before exact set time/date deadline
- Firm and subcontractors not suspended for violating Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) law
- All required attachments are included and properly executed
- Does not contain false or intentionally misleading statements or references
- Does not intend to mislead State in its evaluation
- No conflict of interest
- Does not contain confidential info or any portion marked confidential
- Firm agrees to terms and conditions

Grounds to Reject an SOQ

- Unsigned or not prepared in required format
- Firm submitted multiple SOQs
- Does not comply or contains caveats conflicting with solicitation or is otherwise non-responsive
- Firm has not responded to Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) Royalty Review letter
- Includes Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) that presents an unacceptable level of risk

Evaluation of Qualifications

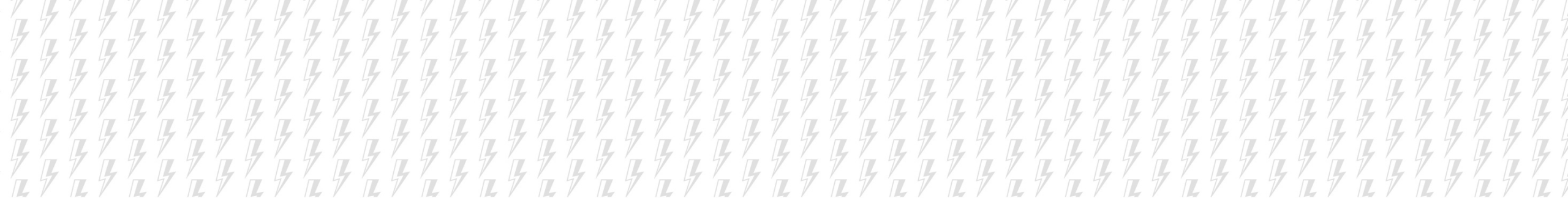
- Pass Administrative & Completeness Screening
- Review and score based on Evaluation Criteria
 - Preliminary technical score average of combined scores
- Discussions with top 3 scoring Firms
- Notice of Selection
- Cost negotiations
 - **Important**: Include all team members in SOQ

Evaluation Criteria

CRITERIA #	CRITERIA DESCRIPTION	MAX POINTS
1	Approach to Tasks in SOW	20
2	Project Team Organizational Structure & Cost Minimization	20
3	Project Team Relevant Experience & Qualifications	30
4	Analytical Tools	10
5	Client References	5
6	Example of Previous Work Products	10

Notice of Proposed Award (NOPA)

- Upon completion of cost negotiations:
 - NOPA will be posted to the [solicitation webpage](#)
 - Notification will also go out via the [CEC email notification subscription service](#)
 - Solicitations, Awards & Funding Workshops Announcements



Business Participation Programs

RFQ-25-401: Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

Business Participation Program Requirements

- **Required:** None
- **Optional:** Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Incentive
 - Only available to Firms that pass Stage One screening
 - Disabled veteran definition:
 - Veteran of U.S. military, naval, or air service
 - Service-connected disability of at least 10%
 - Domiciled in California

DVBE Information & Requirements

- Find certified DVBEs using the [Department of General Services \(DGS\) online certified firm database](#)
- Printing/copying services not eligible
- Cannot be suspended for violating DVBE law
- Must perform Commercially Useful Function (CUF)
- Business must be formally certified by the Office of Small Business and DVBE Services (OSDS)

DVBE Incentive

- Participation of 0.01% or greater will receive incentive points

PROPOSED DVBE PARTICIPATION LEVEL	DVBE INCENTIVE POINTS
0.01% to 0.99%	1
1.00% to 1.99%	2
2.00% to 2.99%	3
3.00% to 3.99%	4
4.00% or over	5

- **Important:** If awarded, Contractor must adhere to the exact DVBE participation level and purpose identified on the DVBE Declarations Form (Attachment 3) and Bidder Declaration Form (Attachment 4).

Federal Requirements

RFQ-25-401: Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment

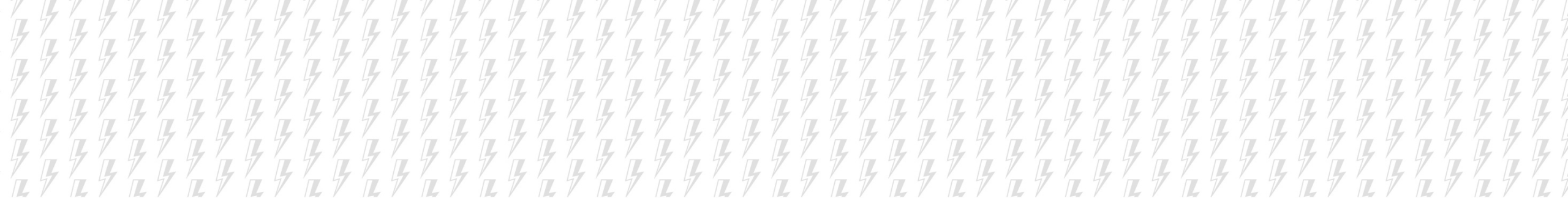
- Federal award funds cannot be used for lobbying (directly or indirectly)
- Firms receiving \$100,000 or more in federal funds must:
 - Submit certification have/will not use federal funds for lobbying
 - Certification Regarding Lobbying
 - Disclose of lobbying with non-federal funds to influence federal awards
 - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Debarment & Suspension

- Cannot be on governmentwide exclusions list in [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#), including debarment & suspension:
 - Contractor and its principals & affiliates
 - Subcontractors and their principals & affiliates
- Definitions:
 - “Principal” defined in [2 CFR 180.995](#)
 - “Affiliate” defined in [2 CFR 180.905](#)
- Prior to CEC business meeting:
 - Contractor must verify & submit certification

Other Requirements

- Comply with federal, state & municipal law
- Perform all work in United States
- Notify if anticipate involvement by foreign nationals
- Comply with reporting requirements
- Comply with Clean Air & Federal Water Pollution Control Acts
- Flow down all federal requirements in subcontracts
 - Also applicable to State of California requirements



Questions & Answers (Q&A)

RFQ-25-401: Energy Code Compliance Evaluation Support

Written Questions

- Submit written questions to:
 - Diana.Grady@energy.ca.gov
 - Assigned point of contact for **all** questions
 - Subject line: RFQ-25-401
- Deadline:
 - 5:00 p.m. (PDT) on Tuesday, May 19, 2026
- Q&A document:
 - Posted to [solicitation webpage](#)
 - Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Question & Answers (Q&A)

- Use Zoom raise hand function
 - Zoom Phone Controls:
 - *9 – Raise hand
 - *6 – Toggle mute/unmute
- Type questions in Zoom Q&A box
- Submit written questions
 - Send to: Diana.Grady@energy.ca.gov
 - Deadline: 5:00 p.m. (PDT) on Tuesday, May 19, 2026
 - Subject line: **RFQ-25-401**

Thank you!

SOQs due by 11:59 p.m. (PDT) on July 14, 2026