

PROCUREMENT SUMMARY

**EAST SAN FERNANDO VALLEY LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT, PUBLIC
PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR SOLAR PANELS AT MAINTENANCE AND
STORAGE FACILITY/PS84743000**

1.	Contract Number: PS84743000	
2.	Recommended Vendor: PCS Energy LLC	
3.	Type of Procurement (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> IFB <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RFP <input type="checkbox"/> RFP-A&E <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Modification <input type="checkbox"/> Task Order	
4.	Procurement Dates:	
	A. Issued: March 25, 2022	
	B. Advertised/Publicized: March 25, 30-31, 2022, and April 6, 2022	
	C. Pre-Proposal Conference: April 6, 2022	
	D. Proposals Due: May 31, 2022	
	E. Pre-Qualification Completed: July 14, 2022	
	F. Conflict of Interest Form Submitted to Ethics: June 2, 2022	
	G. Protest Period End Date: August 23, 2022	
5.	Solicitations Picked up/Downloaded: 82	Bids/Proposals Received: 2
6.	Contract Administrator: Lily Lopez	Telephone Number: (213) 922-4639
7.	Project Manager: Monica Born	Telephone Number: (562) 524-0597

A. Procurement Background

This Board Action is to approve Contract No. PS84743000 issued in support of a Public-Private Partnership (P3) for the design, build, finance, and oversight of operations and maintenance of solar photovoltaic (PV) power (commonly known as solar panels) generation system at the maintenance and storage facility for the East San Fernando Valley (ESFV) Light Rail Transit Project. Board approval of contract awards are subject to resolution of any properly submitted protest.

Prior to the release of the solicitation, Metro held a virtual Industry Outreach Event on December 3, 2021, to provide general information of the upcoming procurement opportunity and allow for prospective proposers to network and ask questions. The event also informed the small business community of the upcoming contracting opportunity and to increase and promote DBE participation.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued in accordance with Metro's Acquisition Policy under a P3 firm-fixed price contract. The RFP was issued with a DBE goal of 5%

Three (3) amendments were issued during the solicitation phase of this RFP:

- Amendment No. 1, issued on April 27, 2022, provided revisions related to the DEOD DBE Forms and Instruction to Proposers and extended the proposal due date to May 31, 2022;

- Amendment No. 2, issued on June 28, 2022, after receipt of proposals, provided revised Form 70 (Phase 2 and 3 Margin Percentage) and requested submission of best and final offers (BAFOs).
- Amendment No. 3, issued on July 8, 2022, provided revised Form 70 and Cost Allocation Matrix for Phase 2 Margin Percentage.

A virtual pre-proposal conference was held on April 6, 2022, attended by 33 participants representing 25 firms. A total of 19 questions were asked and responses were released prior to the proposal due date.

A total of 82 firms downloaded the RFP and were included in the planholders list. A total of two proposals were received on May 31, 2022, from the following firms:

- Ameresco, Inc. (Ameresco)
- PCS Energy LLC (PCSE)

B. Evaluation of Proposals

A Proposal Evaluation Team (PET) consisting of staff from Metro’s Program Management, Countywide Planning, and Environmental Services Department was convened and conducted a comprehensive technical evaluation of the proposals received.

The proposals were evaluated based on the following evaluation criteria and weights:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| • Capability and Experience | 35 points |
| • Project Understanding | 10 points |
| • Project Approach | 35 points |
| • Price | 20 points |

The evaluation criteria are appropriate and consistent with criteria developed for other, similar solar panels generation system procurements. Several factors were considered when developing these weights, giving the greatest importance to the capability, experience and project approach. The PET evaluated the proposals according to the pre-established evaluation criteria.

In addition, the price evaluation criteria consisted of three sections with pre-established parameters to reflect the phases of the project designed to establish a level playing field and to arrive at one price that would be evaluated with the understanding that only the amount listed under Phase 1 would be used for the Contract Value (subject to clarification and/or negotiations) as follows:

1. Phase 1 Pre-Construction Lump Sum Fee;
2. Phase 2 Margin Percentage – (for evaluation purposes only) with an estimated contract price for Phase 2 of \$4,750,000;

3. Phase 3 Margin Percentage – (for evaluation purposes only) with an estimated Phase 3 contract price of \$500,000.

During the period of June 2 to June 13, 2022, the PET members independently evaluated and scored the technical proposals. Both firms were invited for oral presentations on June 21, 2022, which provided each firm the opportunity to present each team's qualifications and respond to PET's questions.

Following the interviews, the PET finalized technical scores based on both written proposals and the oral presentations. On June 22, 2022, the PET agreed that the final ranking of proposals scored PCSE's proposal as the highest ranked firm. The PET concluded that PCSE's proposal presented the highest degree of capability and experience as well as demonstrated the best understanding of the project approach.

Qualifications Summary of Firms:

PCSE

Overall, PCSE demonstrated strong technical capabilities, thorough implementation plan and direct relevant experience working on similar types of projects. PCSE has applied and achieved net energy metering and interconnection agreements, including with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). The Project Manager and Energy Resource Manager have experience on alternative delivery projects through the concept, design and construction phases on privately finance projects of similar size. Their implementation plan showed an in-depth understanding of the project along with anticipated challenges and solutions based upon other projects. PCSE also demonstrated direct experience with transparent cost estimating and emphasized the importance of communication within their team, their client and third parties.

Ameresco

Overall, Ameresco demonstrated the technical capabilities to design and construct the project but did not demonstrate the experience of applying and achieving net energy metering and interconnection agreements with LADWP. Ameresco's Project Manager appeared to have relevant experience and the structure of the team showed an understanding of the project. The challenges and solutions presented showed Ameresco understood the key issues and approach to implementation of the project but lacked some details on collaborative, transparent pricing.

A summary of the PET scores is provided below:

1	Firm	Average Score	Factor Weight	Weighted Average Score	Rank
2	PCSE				
3	Capability and Experience	77.14	35.00%	27.00	
4	Project Understanding	86.70	10.00%	8.67	
5	Project Approach	78.08	35.00%	27.33	
6	Price	100.00	20.00%	20.00	
7	Total		100.00%	83.00	1
8	Ameresco				
9	Capability and Experience	58.09	35.00%	20.33	
10	Project Understanding	80.00	10.00%	8.00	
11	Project Approach	72.86	35.00%	25.50	
12	Price	77.30	20.00%	15.46	
13	Total		100.00%	69.29	2

C. Price Analysis

The recommended price has been determined to be fair and reasonable based upon an independent cost estimate (ICE), adequate price competition, technical evaluation, fact finding, and BAFOs.

	Proposer Name	Proposal Amount	Metro ICE	Award Amount
1.	PCSE	\$1,063,190 (Phase 1)	\$1,180,000	\$1,063,190 (Phase 1)
		10% Margin Percentage (Phase 2)		10% Margin Percentage (Phase 2)
		12% Margin Percentage (Phase 3)		12% Margin Percentage (Phase 3)
2.	Ameresco	\$1,077,096.83 (Phase 1)		
		20% Margin Percentage (Phase 2)		
		8% Margin Percentage (Phase 3)		

D. Background on Recommended Contractor

The recommended firm, PCSE, located in Culver City, California, was established in 2016. PSCE operates within the Renewable Energy Semiconductor Manufacturing sector, providing services and products addressing the demand of the entire energy grid ecosystem by creating innovative electric vehicle charger solutions, demand response tools, and solar development.

PSCE has installed 200+ solar power systems in the Los Angeles area ranging from 30kW systems up to 1MW. These projects include government buildings, such as airports and other city-owned lands. Other projects are commercial, including hotel chains, factory warehouses, large multifamily buildings.

The proposed Project Manager has several years of experience in the solar development process: O&M, procurement, project development, and project management. The proposed Project Manager will be the lead project developer in the solar and storage installation.