

Request for Proposals (RFP) for Energy Consulting Services

1.0 Introduction

The Town of Richlands, Virginia, is seeking proposals from qualified energy consulting firms to assist with the procurement of natural gas and the development of operational policies for a new 5-megawatt (MW) generator. The selected firm will provide technical and economic expertise to ensure the project is both efficient and financially sound.

2.0 Scope of Services

The successful firm will be expected to provide two primary services:

2.1 Natural Gas Procurement Assistance

- Conduct market analysis to identify potential natural gas suppliers and pricing options.
- Provide technical and economic review of proposed natural gas supply contracts.
- Develop a strategic plan for natural gas purchasing, considering market volatility, seasonal demand, and supply reliability.
- Assist in negotiations from an economic and technical standpoint.

2.2 Economic Dispatch & Operations

- Develop a comprehensive economic dispatch plan and policy for the 5-MW generator. This plan should define the conditions under which the generator will be operated to maximize economic benefit (e.g., dispatching when grid electricity prices exceed the cost of natural gas and operation and maintenance).
- Create detailed procedures and protocols for the daily operation and management of the generator.
- Develop a framework for data collection and analysis to monitor the generator's performance and the effectiveness of the economic dispatch policy.
- Provide training to Town staff on the developed policies and procedures.

3.0 Proposal Requirements

Interested firms must submit a proposal that includes the following sections:

- **Firm Background:** An overview of the firm, its experience, and its specific expertise in power generation, natural gas markets, and economic dispatch modeling.
- **Consultant Résumés:** Detailed résumés of the specific consultant(s) who will be assigned to this project.
- **Project Methodology:** A detailed explanation of the firm's approach to each aspect of the scope of services.
- **Proposed Fee Structure:** A detailed breakdown of all consulting fees and costs.
- **References:** A list of at least three (3) professional references for similar services provided within the last five years.