



Leading Collaborative Petroleum
and Renewable Energy Research.



Request for Proposals

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Stimulating Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia

RFP Release Date: December 16, 2020

Proposal Due Date: January 15, 2021 (5 pm ADT)

Contact

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1. Introduction

OERA is an independent, not-for-profit research organization that funds research aimed at reducing risk and encouraging the sustainable development of Nova Scotia's energy resources. OERA supports research into renewable energy technologies, cleantech initiatives and geoscience by facilitating collaborative, made-to-order teams of experts. Consistent with this mandate, the assessment of economic clean growth opportunities in Nova Scotia is the subject of this Request for Proposals (RFP). This RFP is issued by OERA in the context of a collaborative program funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Energy and Mines. This work supports the Province's broad energy policy objectives related to climate change, inclusive economic development, and the sustainable development of Nova Scotia's energy resources.

2. Context and Objectives

Context: Nova Scotia has set the target to become a net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emission economy by 2050. The pathway to reaching this important milestone will include a portfolio of decarbonization strategies, one of which is the electricity generation system decarbonization and subsequent electrification of end-uses. Electrification will increase the total and peak electricity demand in coming decades.

Satisfying the additional electricity demand will likely not be possible with the existing electricity system infrastructure. Investments in the electricity generation system will be necessary. It is therefore important to understand which options to produce low- and no-carbon electricity are technically and economically viable in Nova Scotia.

One of the options for Nova Scotia is tapping into its wind resources. With more than 500 MW of onshore wind in operation, Nova Scotia has one of the highest penetrations of wind energy into the electricity grid of any jurisdiction in North America. While onshore wind development is well-established in Nova Scotia, there is currently no offshore wind (OSW) development in the Province.

To attract OSW investment to Nova Scotia, it is important to understand the development in other jurisdictions. For example, Europe has developed, and the USA are developing, an active OSW industry encompassing the entire OSW supply chain. If Nova Scotia developed OSW in its coastal waters, it would compete for investment against these jurisdictions. Naturally, investors often select locations with minimized investment risks. It is important for the Province to understand what economic and policy conditions could minimize investor risk and be used to attract investment in Nova Scotian OSW developments.



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OERA proposes a report that (1) summarizes the policy and economic conditions in competing jurisdictions that have experienced OSW investments, (2) describes the economic and policy conditions required to attract OSW investment to Nova Scotia and (3) identifies a feasible timeline for OSW investment in Nova Scotia.

Objective: The objective of this project is to create a report that furthers the understanding of the policy-based investment tools that support the development of OSW in Nova Scotia.

3. Scope of Work

The scope of work consists of three primary tasks:

Task 1: Information Review and Data Gathering

Task 2: Assessment and Analysis

Task 3: Reporting

The final deliverable should focus on policy tools other than power purchase agreements (e.g. price on carbon, tax regimes, rebates on unused exploration/development commitments, etc.) and other instruments, such as providing scientific data for development areas. The resulting report will include a timeline, subject to identified conditions, for possible investment in OSW.

The final deliverable must cover the following topics, although the report structure can be defined by the proponent.

1. A jurisdictional scan of the policy and economic conditions in competing jurisdictions
The report should identify and review policy tools (other than PPAs) and other instruments (e.g. public availability of measured data) that have been used in other jurisdictions to attract investment in local OSW development. This includes an assessment of tools that are targeted at the OSW supply chain. The jurisdictions are to be defined by the proponent but should include the US and the UK.
2. An assessment of the tools appropriate for Nova Scotia to attract OSW investment
Building upon the jurisdictional scan, the report should identify the instruments that are suitable to attract OSW investment to Nova Scotia. It is important to outline similarities and differences between an appropriate Nova Scotian approach and the approaches taken by other jurisdictions.



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3. An investment timeline for OSW development in Nova Scotia

Drawing on the development timelines in other jurisdictions, the report should investigate what a realistic investment timeline could look like for Nova Scotia. An overview of when specific tools should be introduced to stimulate investment in OSW should be included.

In summary, this report will compile and review available information from other jurisdictions regarding tools that are used to encourage investment in OSW and define an appropriate approach and timeline for Nova Scotia.

4. Deliverables

Upon project completion, the proponent will provide:

(1) A report that presents the findings of Tasks 1 and 2. Both a draft version and final version are required with the opportunity for the review committee to recommend reasonable changes to the draft version for inclusion by the proponent in the final version before the project ends.

(2) A presentation (in PowerPoint) to the review committee to accompany submission of the draft version of the report. The presentation will review the project and its main findings.

(3) A communication plan that details how to communicate the results of the report in a structured manner to key stakeholders.

5. Timelines

The proponent is expected to host regular project status meetings via video conference. OERA will host the kickoff meeting. The following timeline outlines OERA's expectations with respect to timing.

RFP release date: December 16, 2020

Proposal due date: January 15, 2021 (5 pm AST)

Project kickoff: January 25, 2021

Final report: March 31, 2021 (latest)



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6. Funding

Funding available for this project is capped at a maximum of CAN \$ 50,000 including taxes. Proposals that exceed this amount will not be considered. Note that proposals will be rated first in terms of experience/team/work plan and second in terms of value. Please include hourly rates in the proposal.

Please note that OERA reserves the right not to proceed with project award.

7. Proponent Qualifications

The successful applicant must have proven experience in policy analysis and the analysis of OSW developments. Work experience with fiscal policy instruments in the electricity sector is beneficial. Proposals should explain the experience and qualifications of the project team and provide references where available (both literature and previous clients).

Proposal Requirements

- The proposal should be concisely worded with clearly described objectives, methods, budget, schedule, and deliverables. Maximum 15 pages excluding appendices, title page, and cover letter. Please assemble all components into a single PDF document.
- The proposal should include a description of the Respondent's organization and its relevant experience with similar projects. The Respondent must also describe the relevant work experience of the key staff assigned to this project and their roles on the project. This material should be summarized in the body of the RFP and can be presented in more detail, if needed, in the appendix.
- Please provide a project organizational chart showing the role and reporting hierarchy of project partners, and reporting lines to the OERA review committee.
- A single electronic document is sufficient. Please ensure the proposal or cover letter is signed by an officer or equivalent with authority to bind the Respondent to the statements made in the proposal.
- The electronic copy should be uploaded in PDF format to the OERA-FTP site available at <https://oera.sharefile.com/r-r255513c7e3504ac7b29d8f2bc98aba1a>: The file name should include an abbreviated form of the proponent's name.

8. Questions and Clarifications

OERA will accept content-related questions from interested applicants on an ongoing basis until 5 pm AST December 22, 2020. A Q&A page will be available on the OERA website



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<https://oera.ca/opportunities/request-proposals/rfp-stimulating-offshore-wind-development-nova-scotia>. The names and organizations of those submitting questions will remain anonymous; only the question and OERA’s response will be posted. Interested parties are encouraged to check the Q&A page for updated information and/or clarifications that may help in completing their proposal.

Please submit your questions by email to Sven Scholtysik (sscholtysik@oera.ca).

9. Evaluation

This project will be administered through OERA. As shown below, proposals will be quantitatively evaluated against a set of criteria.

Factor	Weight
Experience and Knowledge: Qualifications, experience and capabilities of the company and delivery team; demonstration of local knowledge relevant to this study.	40%
Project Plan, Approach and Methodology: Proponent demonstrates an understanding of the project service requirements and has outlined a clear and effective work plan. Proposal describes the objectives, methodology, milestones and deliverables, and a sound approach in undertaking this project. Communication format and frequency between the proponent and OERA are clearly described.	40%
Proposal Presentation and Organization: Proponent describes an achievable schedule with well-defined milestones and demonstrates the ability to complete the work on or before the desired completion date. The project will offer good value for the proposed budget. The budget is clear, complete, and well-described. The proposal includes all RFP requirements, demonstrates attention to clarity, grammar, presentation, and comprehensibility.	20%
Total:	100%