

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 19-197

ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS UTILITIES

Development of a Statewide, Multi-Use Online Energy Data Platform

Order on Selected Consultant Following a Request for Proposals

O R D E R N O. 26,861

July 27, 2023

In this order the Commission approves the Governance Council's selection of a consultant to assist in developing the design and cost estimates for integrating utility back-end processes with the proposed data platform. The Commission looks forward to the consultant's assessment of the needed software modifications. The Commission defers ruling on the request for confidential treatment pending receipt of additional information from the parties.

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 5, 2023, the parties submitted a request for proposals (RFP) to the Commission for review. The submission was made pursuant to the Commission's Order No 26,589 (March 2, 2022). That order required the parties to "submit the RFP for the consultant to assist with developing software for the integration of the utility back-end and utility application programming interface (API) for the Data Platform to the Commission for review and approval prior to issuance." *Id.* at 16. The Commission authorized issuance of the RFP in Order No. 26,776 (February 23, 2023). On May 19, 2023 the parties submitted a revised RFP and on June 8, 2023 the Commission approved the RFP, Order No. 26,842. The Governance Council filed a letter with the

Commission on July 20, 2023 announcing its selection of a winning bidder and requesting Commission approval to contract for services consistent with the RFP.

II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

Pursuant the Commission's duties under RSA 378:51, III, the Commission continues to monitor the parties' efforts to develop software to implement the statewide data platform. The Commission thanks the parties for their efforts in soliciting bids through the RFP and selecting a winning bidder.

The utilities provided a suggested work-flow chart for the timing of various deliverables on October 6, 2022. The Commission approved that high level chart in Order No. 26,701 (October 11, 2022). In Order No. 26,842 the Commission asked the parties to update the chart to show the status of the various development tasks with further detail on or before July 31, 2023. We appreciate the updated work-flow chart submitted with the July 20, 2023 letter and look forward to receiving consultant recommendations in late September 2023.

We rely upon the members of the Governance Council (GC) to use their technical expertise to evaluate the consultant's qualifications. We believe that the winning bidder's estimate for services is reasonable based on the scope of work described in the RFP. We therefore authorize the GC to move forward with contracting with the winning bidder and managing the consultants' work.

We will not rule on the GC's request to keep the name and cost of services of the selected consultant confidential at this time. Instead, we ask that the GC provide the Commission with its reasons for requesting confidential treatment as required by N.H. Code of Admin. R. Puc 203.08. When the Commission receives the required information, it will rule on the request for confidential treatment.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

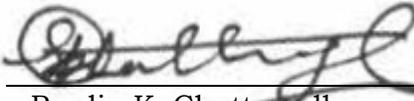
ORDERED, that the Governance Council may proceed with contracting with the winning bidder at the stated cost, to provide the services described in the RFP; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that we will defer ruling on the request for confidential treatment until the Governance Council provides additional information as described in this order.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-seventh day of July, 2023.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 19-197

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