



**City of Tacoma**  
**Department of Public Utilities - Tacoma Power**  
**Utility Grid Modernization – Geospatial Roadmap and Governance Plan**  
**RFP Specification No. PI19-0086F**

**QUESTIONS and ANSWERS**

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Richelle Krienke by May 16, 2019. The answers to the questions received are provided below and posted to the City's website at [www.TacomaPurchasing.org](http://www.TacomaPurchasing.org): Navigate to *Current Contracting Opportunities / Services*, and then click *Questions and Answers* for this Specification. This information IS NOT considered an addendum. Respondents should consider this information when submitting their proposals.

**Question 1: As we determine if we should bid on this RFP, we want to understand if we are precluded from the future related implementation work if we win this contract.**

- a. **If the answer is yes to the above question, would we be permitted to work as a subcontractor on the implementation work?**
- b. **As the answers to the questions above will dictate whether or not we bid on the RFP, is it possible to provide an answer ASAP, rather than waiting until May 22?**

Answer 1: Yes. The contractor selected for award from this RFP will be excluded from participating in potential follow-on solicitations for implementation services.

- a. No. The contractor selected for award from this RFP will be excluded from participating in potential follow-on solicitations for implementation services.
- b. Answers to all questions will be posted together as soon as they are ready, which could potentially be before May 22. Individual responses and guidance are not provided.

**Question 2: Can a vendor participate as a sub-contractor on PI19-0086F and still be awarded the eventual implementation work as a prime contractor?**

Answer 2: See question 1.

**Question 3: We respectfully request a one week extension to the proposal due date.**

Answer 3: See Addendum 1 issued May 17, 2019, extending the submittal deadline to 11:00 AM, June 11, 2019.

**Question 4: How many departments/groups will participate in the discovery workshops? This list has been copied from the RFP, however we would like confirmation if this is accurate:**

- Power Management
- Rates, Planning, and Analysis
- Generation
- Utility Technology Services

- Shared Services
- Transmission
- Click! Network

Answer 4: All sections of Tacoma Power will have some level of participation, with the exception of Click! Network.

**Question 5: Is the company hired for the roadmap work excluded from performing any future implementation work?**

Answer 5: See question 1.

**Question 6: Section 2.03 in the RFP contains a very specific Scope of Work. Do we have to follow this exactly in our proposal or is there flexibility to restructure it provided the expected deliverables match?**

Answer 6: Respondents will be scored using criteria under Section 3.03.08.

**Question 7: Has a decision already been made to move to the latest Esri GIS platform from GE SmallWorld, or is the intent of this project to determine whether that will be a viable option?**

Answer 7: Yes, the decision has been made for Tacoma Power to move to the Esri platform for operational utility business purposes such as: Generation, Distribution, Transmission, etc..

**Question 8: We understand that Tacoma Power is comprised of the following seven sections:**

- Power Management**
- Rates, Planning, and Analysis**
- Generation**
- Utility Technology Services**
- Shared Services**
- Transmission and Distribution**
- Click! Network**

**For the purposes of estimating the durations/effort for onsite workshops with stakeholder, is it correct to assume that representation from all of the above will need to be included? Should particular focus be given to any specific section of the business that may be ‘power users’ of the current GIS technology?**

Answer 8: Yes, stakeholders from all sections of Tacoma Power, with the exception of Click! Network, will participate. No particular focus should be given.

**Question 9: Is it permissible to mark pricing information as ‘Confidential’?**

Answer 9: Nothing precludes you from doing so; however, the Washington State Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW applies. See Section 30 of the sample Services Contract (page 34) and Section 1.06 of the Standard Terms & Conditions (page 44).

**Question 10: Section 2.05 INSURANCE - Do we need to furnish an insurance certificate with our submittal?**

Answer 10: No. See Submittal Checklist on page 4 and documents required after award approval on page 5.

**Question 11: Does appendix B or C need to be redlined and included with our submittal?**

Answer 11: No.

**Question 12: Does Tacoma Power have an anticipated time-frame in months to complete this project?**

Answer 12: No.

**Question 13: In section 2.01.2 (page 10) of the RFP, Tacoma Power is described as the primary organization requesting services. Does this RFP only include only Tacoma Power, or should we account for all of TPU, including water, rail, and other support services?**

Answer 13: Only Tacoma Power.

**Question 14: What is the state of the current Tacoma Power GIS system? Can you describe current challenges or drawbacks with this configuration?**

Answer 14: Currently, there is no centralized GIS within Tacoma Power. Each section maintains their own engineering technicians whom are responsible for the data entry and upkeep their data. (Generation utilizes CAD and Transmission and Distribution utilizes General Electric SmallWorld and SpatialNet).

Utility Technology Services manages and supports Tacoma Power's GIS infrastructure, provides support and training for the web viewing application (SIAS and GSA) and maintains the primary relationship with General Electric for software licenses.

Tacoma Power currently uses General Electric SmallWorld (GESM) version 4.2 to geospatially manage the electric network and SpatialNet for its telecommunications network. AutoCAD and paper are used as a primary means to document lifecycle changes from original design to as-built, in addition to schematic representations of the networks. Tacoma Power does not currently utilize Internal Worlds, so there is no connectivity modeling between the generation, transmission network, and distribution networks. Tacoma Power uses alternative geometries for printing/plotting purposes, where one geometry is used for as-built prints and the other is used for quarter section prints.

**Question 15: What is the current level of integration with other systems, if applicable, such as:**

- a. Work management system(WMS)
- b. Outage management system (OMS)
- c. Customer information or billing system (CIS)
- d. Engineering circuit analysis software

e. Meter data management system (MDMS)

Answer 15: Tacoma Power's GIS has known automated integrations with:

- SAP – ERP/WMS/CIS
- CGI – OMS