

# Green Choice Program (GCP)

## Overview of Major Changes to Final RFP

Released December 1, 2023

The PA has provided an overview highlighting material changes that have been made in the final RFP since Draft #1 was released. Kindly note that the 'RFP Section' column reflects the section headers in the final RFP. Unless the context otherwise requires, all capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the RFP.

RFP Section	Summary of Changes	Notes from the PA
<b>2.5.1 Milestones &amp; Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Adjusted the expected Proposal Submission Deadline to June 14, 2024, to account for Interconnection Feasibility Study results</li> </ul>	The PA reserves the right to make additional adjustments to timeline expectations, any further changes will be communicated via the GCP website and mailing list
<b>4.2.1 Target GCP Portfolio Size</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Adjusted the target GCP portfolio size to a minimum of 1,650 GWh and a maximum of 2,000 GWh</li> </ul>	The PA may, at its discretion, adjust the target portfolio size, and will notify the GCP mailing list of any adjustments
<b>5.4 Cyber Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Results from the Canadian Cyber Security Tool must be from no earlier than January 1, 2022</li> </ul>	This change was made to account for any changes in Canadian cyber-security requirements
<b>5.8 Commercial Operation Date</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Adjusted the Commercial Operation Date to no later than December 31, 2028</li> </ul>	This change was made in response to Proponent concerns regarding supply chain expectations and port congestion
<b>5.12 Procurement &amp; Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Included guidance from the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works (as Appendix 8.4) regarding Special Move Permits and considerations for the transportation of Generation Equipment and Major Equipment</li> </ul>	Questions should be directed to the NS Department of Public works via phone call at 1-844-696-7737 or via email at <a href="mailto:dpw-occ@novascotia.ca">dpw-occ@novascotia.ca</a>
<b>6.1 Price</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Removed the price cap, and allowed for the opportunity to be awarded 10 additional points for an energy rate less than \$65.00 / MWh</li> <li>&gt; Allowed for energy rate inflation (as a mechanism of the PPA) starting at PPA execution until the earlier of December 31, 2027, or Project COD</li> </ul>	These changes were made in response to Proponent concerns regarding supply chain challenges and general inflation risks

<p><b>6.2.4 Environmental Risk</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Expanded the Environmental Risk Questionnaire and corresponding RFP sections to include questions regarding Wetlands, Migratory Birds and Bats, and Human Health</li> <li>&gt; Allowed for Proponents with an approved EA (that corresponds with the proposed Project) to forgo the Questionnaire</li> </ul>	<p>These changes were made in response to feedback from the Province and Nova Scotian environmental groups</p>
<p><b>6.2.5 Project Site</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Generating Facilities or Major Equipment cannot be sited on Crown lands</li> <li>&gt; Interconnection Facilities and access roads will be permitted on Crown lands with an approved easement or right-of-way</li> </ul>	<p>Land conservation targets and the renewable energy targets have competing land interests both on the same timeline within the Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act, which commits the Province to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserving 20% of total land and water mass in the Province by 2030; and</li> <li>• A protected areas strategy to be released by December 31, 2023; and</li> <li>• 80% of electricity in the Province will be supplied by renewable energy by 2030</li> </ul> <p>The total sum of all Crown lands in Nova Scotia is 26% meaning that Crown lands may be needed to meet the 2030 targets for land conservation; however, while the updated protected areas strategy is being drafted, the Province needs to ensure that both interests are being addressed.</p> <p>Engagement on the strategy is open now, please find out more here:  <a href="https://ns20by2030.ca/">https://ns20by2030.ca/</a></p>
<p><b>6.3.1 Engagement with the General Public</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Adjusted the Minimum Criteria to require Proponents to have notified communities in close proximity to the proposed Site of their intention to submit a Proposal for the GCP no later than November 8, 2023</li> <li>&gt; All Proponents must support the creation of a formal report by M5 Public Affairs to summarize feedback from the communities in close proximity to the proposed Site</li> </ul>	<p>Proponents who have submitted an RFI have been notified of this requirement in advance of the deadline, any questions should be directed to the PA at <a href="mailto:novascotia@cohoclimate.com">novascotia@cohoclimate.com</a> and the community consultant at <a href="mailto:gcp@m5.ca">gcp@m5.ca</a></p>

<p><b>6.4.2 Social Programs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Capacity Building Plans or Benefits Agreements must directly benefit communities in close proximity to the proposed Site</li> <li>&gt; For additional points, the Capacity Building Plan or Benefits Agreement must benefit all Nova Scotians, the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, or another Underrepresented Group in close proximity to the proposed Site</li> </ul>	<p>This change was made to further align with the objectives of this section</p>
<p><b>6.4.3 Economic Benefits</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Adjusted the start date for eligible costs to be included in the local expenditure table to February 26, 2020, the date on which the Province announced an <a href="#">amendment to the Electricity Act</a></li> </ul>	<p>This change was made in response to requests from Proponents that may have made expenditures for their proposed Project as early as 2020.</p>