

NOVA SCOTIA GREEN CHOICE PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Addendum 4: Revisions to GCP RFP (Timeline and Federal Funding)

The Procurement Administrator (the “PA”) is issuing the following Addendum to the following sections of the Green Choice Program Request for Proposals:

- Section 2.5 Proposal Submission Process
- Section 2.7 Federal Funding

An updated version of the RFP that contains the revisions outlined in this Addendum has been uploaded to the [Proponent Documents](#) tab of the GCP website, and the original version has been removed. Below, the PA has included a redline of each above noted section outlining the changes made. Please note that the PA has also updated the [GCP Timeline](#) to reflect these revisions.

Redlines Between Original Sections and Updated Sections:

2.5 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS

2.5.1 MILESTONES & TIMELINE

The following timeline sets out the schedule of milestone dates and timelines in this RFP process. All times provided are in Atlantic Standard Time.

RFP Milestone	Date
Request for Information Deadline	September 21, 2023
RFP Date of Issuance	December 1, 2023
Notice of Intent to Bid Deadline	June 7, 2024 NOTE: The PA intends to set the deadline a minimum of 5 days following UARB approval of the PPA. If approval is received beyond May 31, 2024, the PA will adjust all deadlines and dates listed below in accordance with the delay.
Inquiries Deadline	June 14, 2024
Proposal Submission Deadline	June 28, 2024
RFP Evaluation Period	The 40 Business Days following the Proposal Submission Deadline
Proponents re-submit Energy Rates	September 27, 2024 <u>October 11, 2024</u>
Shortlisted Proposal Notification Date	October 4, 2024 <u>October 18, 2024</u>

Shortlist Portfolio Interview Period	Within 10 Business Days after the GCP Shortlist Portfolio Notification Date (anticipated for October 7²¹, 2024 - October 21 <u>November 4, 2024</u>)
GCP Portfolio Notification Date	15 Business Days after the GCP Shortlisted Proposal Notification Date (anticipated on October 25 <u>November 8, 2024</u>)
Delivery of Final Report on RFP	Within 60 calendar days after the GCP Portfolio Notification Date
Target Agreement Execution Period	Within 90 calendar days after the GCP Portfolio Notification Date (anticipated on January 23 <u>February 6, 2025</u>)
Request for Debriefing Deadline	Within 5 Business Days after the date whereby each Selected Proponent has executed the Agreement (anticipated on January 30 <u>February 13, 2025</u>)

The PA reserves the right to amend the above timelines in the RFP, including to accelerate or postpone any of the dates, or add, eliminate, or re-order any of the steps. The PA will notify Proponents of any amendments to the above timelines via the GCP mailing list and by posting an update to the [Timeline](#) tab of the GCP website.

2.7 FEDERAL FUNDING

Proponents are encouraged to explore all federal funding opportunities to make their Energy Rate more competitive, including any available investment tax credits.

2.7.1 CANADIAN INFRASTRUCTURE BANK (CIB) FUNDING

Subject to CIB Board Approval, the CIB plans to offer Proponents concessionary financing through a two-product package: 1. Repayable Loan Facility (RLF); and 2. Indigenous Equity Initiative (IEI) loan (both products are detailed below). The IEI Loan will only be offered to proponents who accept the RLF and not on a standalone basis. These products are available to all GCP Proponents on an opt-in basis.

The CIB seeks to build infrastructure that reduces GHG emissions, creates employment and enables Canadians to access energy from sustainable sources. To assist with the GCP initiative, the CIB will offer GCP Proponents an RLF. The RLF will provide Proponents with funding of up to 30% of total project costs, net of grants. The RLF has become the CIB's standard offering for renewable projects and procurement of renewable electricity.

The CIB has made a concerted effort to reduce the infrastructure gap in Indigenous communities across Canada by working with First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities to explore opportunities to collaborate on projects. As a result of this effort, the CIB's second product offering will provide Indigenous partners with an IEI loan. The IEI Loan will fund the lesser of 90% of the Indigenous equity stake, 10% of the total capital cost net of grants and \$100M.

The Procurement Administrator and CIB will also co-host a webinar on Friday, August 9, 2024, to provide additional details regarding the CIB's product offering and address any questions or concerns. You may find the webinar registration details [here](#).

Proponent Tasks:

To pursue this opportunity, interested Proponents will need to complete the following tasks ahead of re-submitting an Energy Rate to the GCP:

Proponent Task/Milestone	Timing
Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) between Proponent and CIB	Executed 8/2 – 8/16

CIB pricing model template	CIB to send on 8/16, Proponents to complete by 9/13 8/30
CIB verification of pricing model	Between 9/13-10/4 8/30—9/20
Proponents re-submit pricing for their Proposal to the PA	By 9/27 10/11

For avoidance of doubt, Proponents that elect to opt-in to the CIB product AND are able to produce a memo from the CIB to guarantee funding and confirm understanding of Proponent assumptions, will be expected to submit an updated Energy Rate (Section 6.1). The re-submitted Energy Rate must be less than the initial Energy Rate submitted in the Proposal. The PA will re-score Section 6.1 for each Proponent based on the new portfolio of Energy Rates. No other sections will be re-evaluated.

Given this update, the PA will be pushing back key milestones in the GCP by several weeks. Specifically, please note the following revised deadlines, as detailed in Section [2.5.1 Milestones & Timeline](#):

Key Milestone	Prior Deadline (as communicated on 8/2) Prior Deadline	New Deadline New Deadline
Shortlist Portfolio Notification Date	10/4 8/23	10/18 10/4
Interviews between Proponents and PA	10/7 – 10/21 8/26—9/16	10/21 – 11/4 10/7—10/21
GCP Portfolio Notification Date	10/25 9/20	11/8 10/25
Target Agreement Execution Date	1/23/25 12/20	2/6/25 1/23/25

How to Submit Questions:

If you have any questions on the GCP or RFP process, please contact novascotia@cohoclimate.com. For questions related to the CIB product, please contact GCP@cib-bic.ca. The deadline to submit questions related to the CIB product or impacts on the RFP is **August 21, 2024**. The Procurement Administrator and CIB will seek to provide responses by **August 26, 2024**, prior to the submission of the CIB pricing model template.