

Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan: Information and Directions

Prospective Proponents that will require a Crown land lease must receive a Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan through the PA as a part of the RFP process. The Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan Proponent Form is due by 5pm AST on Friday February 11th, 2022. The Proponent Form can be found on the Updates tab of the RBP website.

The section on Crown land from the RFP and detailed instructions to acquire a Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan can be found below. These instructions will also be reflected in Section 6.1.5.3 of the RFP. Reach out via email to novascotia@customerfirstrenewables.com if you have any questions.

Unless the context otherwise requires, all capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Rate Base Procurement Request for Proposals (the "RFP"). Definitions have been included below in advance of the RFP Date of Issuance.

Section 6.1.5.3 Crown Land (to be included in the RFP)

It is a Minimum Criteria for Projects sited on Crown land that any final Project Boundary included in the Proposal does not contain a Critical Flaw (i.e., the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan does not produce a "red" output within the Project Boundary). Proposals must include a Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan as an indication that there are no initial Critical Flaws within proposed Project Boundary.

Proponents will have the opportunity to use the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan to revise their Proposals prior to submission by removing Project Boundaries that were found to have a Critical Flaw. Any Crown land included in the Project Boundary of a configuration must be included in the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan. A Proponent may not adjust the Project Boundary to include any Crown land not contained in the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan in the Proposal. Under such circumstances, the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan requirement will not be satisfied and the applicable configuration and/or Proposal will not be accepted. There will not be an opportunity to receive a second Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan.

For any Projects using Crown land, the PA will review the Project Boundary for Critical Flaws. Proposals with a Project Boundary that contains a Critical Flaw are not eligible to be scored. Proponents should note that the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan does not include ground truthing or site visits. A more detailed review takes place during the Crown land lease process run by NRR after the Agreement is executed. For avoidance of doubt, the absence of a Critical Flaw does not mean a Proponent will receive a Crown land lease. Selected Proposals will be eligible to apply for the Crown land lease application process.

Directions for the Crown Land Desktop Scan

1) Return Form: Proponent notifies the PA if it requires a Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan by sending this form and any attachments to the PA by 5 PM AST on Friday February 11th, 2022.

2) Include Data for Scan: Proponent shares data on the Project Boundary with the PA and the PA shares it with the Crown land team. The Proponent must include an outline and buildable area maps (i.e., shapefiles) of the Project Boundary (see definition below). The shape files must include the following associated file extensions at a minimum: .shp, .shx, .dbf, and .prj. Access roads must use the line feature with proposed width.

3) Receive Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan: The Crown Land team will conduct a Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan and provide an output, which the PA will return to Proponents within 12 Business Days of when the form is due. Proponents should note that the output will not include access roads.

Output from the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan

The output of the Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan is a map and a table that assesses risk as follows:

- **"Yellow:"** Does not contain a Critical Flaw at the time of the scan.
- **"Red:"** The proposed Project Boundary overlaps with at least one data layer that results in a Critical Flaw at the time of the scan. As a result the Proposal fails to meet the Minimum Criteria to be scored.

Definitions:

Agreement means a power purchase agreement for eligible Renewable Low-Impact Electricity with NSPI.

Business Day means a day, other than a Saturday or a Sunday or a statutory holiday, on which banks are open for business in the Province of Nova Scotia.

Critical Flaw means a Project Boundary that overlaps with a data layer that likely precludes that land from being the subject of a Crown lease at the time of the scan.

Facility means one or more generators described in the Project Description having, in the aggregate, the Name Plate Capacity, which generate Energy exclusively from the Energy Source and deliver Energy through a meter to the Delivery Point and includes, without limitation, all the electrical apparatus and equipment owned and operated by Seller and used for the purpose of generating and delivering Energy, and all protective and other associated equipment and improvements (including all transmission lines and substation equipment up to the Point of Change of Ownership (as such term is defined in the Generator Interconnection Agreement).

Generation Facility has the meaning set out in the Generator Interconnection Procedures.

Generation Equipment means the equipment that is required to generate electrical current, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes turbines, modules, inverters, and trackers.

Interconnection Facilities has the meaning set out in the Generator Interconnection Procedures.

Major Equipment means the equipment other than Generation Equipment that is necessary to deliver the Energy output, includes step-up transformers, switchgear, relays, and protection devices.

Minimum Criteria means the minimum criteria which Proposals must satisfy to be scored for the Rate Base Procurement (and for the avoidance of doubt, to be eligible to become a Selected Proposal).

Preliminary Crown Land Desktop Scan means the output generated in respect of Crown land, as described in section 6.1.5.3.1.

Project Boundary means the collection of various boundaries surrounding the footprints of land disturbed for the construction and development of the Facility and the Interconnection Facilities up until the Point of Interconnection. Namely, the Project Boundary consists of the polygons surrounding the land required for the Generation Facility (including Generation Equipment such as turbines, modules, inverters, and trackers), the Interconnection Facilities (including Major Equipment such as step-up transformers, switchgear, relays, and protection devices); and access roads.

Proponent means a Person registered under the RFP for the purpose of submitting a Proposal, having submitted or received transfer of a Notice of Intent to Bid, who is responsible to develop, finance, own and operate the Project. For greater certainty, the Proponent must have a Controlling interest in the Project at the time of Proposal submission and at the time that the Agreement is executed.