

1/07/2011

**Landfill Treatment Plant/Wastewater Solar Bid
Educational Question/Answer Session September 27, 2010**

- A1) What has been the cause of the multiple delays?**
(Questions, responses and project submittal dates.)
Questions were received concerning the viability of the landfill project because of the construction of the 1980s vintage landfill cap, under requirements applicable at the time. Representatives of the town met with officials of DEP and DOER. The DEP did not have any overriding concerns with the current landfill cap and did not anticipate that its current condition would impede issuance of a post-closure use permit for the solar project or require major modifications. That being said, the successful proposer will need to obtain a new post-closure permit. The post-closure permit request will be subject to review by DEP.
- 1) What is the useable area at the Landfill to be used for bidding purposes?**
Please see [Appendix F \(Plans A, B, C\) of the Bid Documents](#).
- 2) What is the physical and chemical composition of the clay piles and is there accurate data on the volume of this material?**
Yes, please see [Answer Appendix A](#).
Will that clay be available for regarding?
Yes
- 3) Clarification on timeframe for submitting questions.**
Please see [Bid Addendum #1-3](#).
- 4) What does the waste in the landfill consist of?**
Residential and commercial trash.
- 5) Are any liner system components located under any portion of the landfill?**
No.
- 6) Please confirm that there is no existing gas collection system on any portion of the landfill.**
Confirmed.
Is there a gas assessment survey or monitoring data for the landfill?
No.
- 7) Is data available concerning the depth, content and age of waste materials?**
Landfill operations ceased in 1985, no other data is available.
Do you have an as built?
Please see [Answer Appendix B](#).

- 8) Is there monitoring of the sink rate/settlement?**
No. As an anecdotal observation, the check-in shed to the transfer station sank approximately 2 ½ inches in twenty years.
What is on the bottom?
Clay
Any liner?

No.
Can we add lifts?
No
- 9) Is there any run off system and where is it located and do we have a study regarding the run-off?**
Please see [Answer Appendix C](#).
- 10) Who will be responsible for ongoing maintenance?**
The proposer will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance, the level of which will be specified in the new post-closure use permit issued by DEP.
- 11) How tall for the clearance for maintenance?**
The level of on going maintenance will be determined in the new post-closure use permit issued by DEP. We anticipate that maintenance under a new post-closure use permit will be similar to current maintenance requirements, which are specified in the current post-closure use permit, see [Answer Appendix E](#).
- 12) When was the last survey performed and by who, may we have a copy?**
Please see [Answer Appendix C](#).
- 13) Gas activity/groundwater, do you monitor it? Do you need clearances?**
We do not monitor gas activity. Groundwater is monitored via monitoring wells which are located outside of the landfill area.
- 14) Security, what do you have and what is allowed?**
Currently there isn't any security. The RFP calls for security to be provided by the successful proposer. The Town of Acton will review and approve the particular fencing and other security arrangements proposed.
- 15) Who is at the state monitoring the project?**
DEP - Worcester and DOER – Boston.
Is a Mass DEP or an independent assessment available?
Please see answer to question A1.
- 16) When was the landfill capped?**
In 1988.
- 17) Who designed the cap?**
The Town of Acton.

- 18) **Are there wetlands involved in the landfill areas?**
Please see [Appendix F \(Plans A, B, and C\) of Bid Documents.](#)
Are there any Species or wild life? - has there been a study?
Please follow the link:
http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhosp/regulatory_review/priority_habitat/online_viewer.htm
What is the wetland no-build buffer zone?
75'
- 19) **Are there Board of Selectmen Rules and Regulations or Zoning Permits needed?**
Depending on the proposal, site plan review by the Board of Selectmen will probably be necessary. Possible zoning relief may also be required from the Board of Appeals.
- 20) **Will the EPA accept a closure permit?**
The EPA has deferred to the DEP on this site. The DEP has issued the current post-closure permit.
- 21) **What is the electrical usage for the building?**
Please see [Answer Appendix D.](#)
Who provides it?
NStar.
Will power needs change?
Not forecasted at this time.
- 22) **Who currently owns the utility lines?**
The high voltage lines are owned by NStar. The internal conduits are owned by the Town of Acton.
- 23) **Is there a Post-Closure Engineering report?**
Please see [Answer Appendix E.](#)
- 24) **Can we access recent landfill reports prepared by the town through the town website?**
Please see answers to questions 7, 8, 9 and 13.
- 25) **Can bid on both solar projects?**
Yes, but they need to be bid separately.
- 26) **Do you prefer a lease agreement vs a PPA and are we allowed to bid a combination?**
Please see project evaluation criteria contained in the RFP.
- 27) **Will you need a Town Meeting Vote?**
No, the Town Meeting has already authorized these projects
- 28) **What is the motivation behind the project?**
The greening of current town operations.
- 29) **What type of scoring system will be used to rate the bids.**
Please see project evaluation criteria contained in the RFP
- 30) **Who put the panels on the Highway garage?**

NexAmp

- 31) **How much is the personal property tax rate in the Town for this type of property?**
Currently the FY11 tax rate is \$18.08 per thousand dollars of value.
- 32) **Can we please have AutoCAD versions of the site plans that were included as attachments with the RFP?**
Please see [Answer Appendix F](#).
- 33) **Has the town had any environmental non compliance issues in the past with the landfill?**
No.
- 34) **Will the Town consider interviewing bidders who have presented acceptable technical proposals?**
Yes.
- 35) **Can you tell us about your proposal screening criteria?**
While we understand that cents/KW hour will be an important factor, what weight will be given to the quality of the proposing team, it's record and ability to execute projects in MA and to execute consistent with what was proposed - in terms of the technical achievement and the economics/power cost projected? Can you reassure this potential bidder that other evaluation factors will be considered?
Please see project evaluation criteria contained in the RFP.
- 36) **Given the risk and volatility in the SREC market, and unrealistic value in the SREC value resulting in projects having their financing fall through after a signed contract, what assumptions should bidders make around SREC?**
Each proposer should assess for themselves the opportunities and risks involved with the SREC program.
- 37) **Given the differences in an SREC market, where the return and savings are dictated by performance and financing partners are reliant on the integrity of the PPA provider, will there be a minimum number of completed installations required?**
Please see project evaluation criteria contained in the RFP.