Resilient Neighborhood Pilot: Short Form Request for Proposals

May 18, 2023

As climate change continues to increase the frequency and severity of damaging storms across the state, including GMP’s service territory, it is critical to accelerate the transition from fossil fuel to clean electricity in our daily lives. Vermont state policy sets out this goal, and GMP has been a nationwide leader in pioneering new solutions to help customers make this switch, while transforming the grid and driving down costs and carbon for all customers. Based on this proactive work, GMP is partnering with O’Brien Brothers to pilot a fully electric Resilient Neighborhood in South Burlington, Vermont.

GMP is seeking a partner to provide turnkey installations of 25 residential solar and battery energy storage systems (BESS) for a new construction development. The goal is for the systems to provide extended home energy backup to customers and peak reduction and other grid services to benefit all customers, similar to GMP’s existing BESS programs. Proposals can be a turnkey solution that is installed and sold to GMP through a purchase and sales agreement, or a combination of a PPA agreement for the solar component and purchase and sale agreement for the storage component.

Project location:

The Resilient Neighborhood is located off Old Farm Road, South Burlington, VT. Attachments A and B outline the site plans for the 25 homes where solar BESS will be installed. This includes 10 single family homes and five triplex buildings, with three triplex units in each building.

Required features of the solution include:

1. Storage Systems: The preferred BESS is a combination of Powerwall+ with Powerwall 2, however, any BESS proposed requires an existing integration with GMP’s load control systems. Preferred proposals should include Powerwall+ with two Powerwall 2s for each single family home and Powerwall + with one Powerwall 2 for individual triplex units.

2. Solar Systems: Proposals should include a solar system paired with the BESS in each single family home and triplex unit. For single family homes, the preferred system should be approximately 8kW and located on the rear roof planes. For the triplex buildings, the preferred system should be approximately 12kW, maximize the rear roof planes, and can also utilize the front roof planes. The goal is to maximize the value per kilowatt-hour across the 25 systems, rather than maximizing the system size on each roof. GMP will work with the selected partner to further determine the final sizing and layouts for the solar systems.

4. Equipment installation/workmanship guarantee of at least 10 years.

5. The solution must conform to GMP interconnection requirements and adhere to all local and state permitting requirements. GMP will work with the selected partner to develop a permit approval plan.

Proposals should provide the following information:

1. Equipment specifications:
   a. Commercial equipment specifications and warranty information

2. Offer price:
   a. Per unit for BESS
   b. Per watt for solar systems

3. Proposed equipment configuration and electrical profile:
   a. Methodology used to generate the projected generation

4. Maintenance and operating plan:
   a. Availability estimate and maintenance requirements
   b. Installation/workmanship warranties, service rates, and approach to maintaining availability and meeting performance guarantees

5. Project management plan

6. Contractor Safety Agreement and Certificate of Insurance Requirements:
   a. A Contractor Safety Agreement and Certificate of Insurance Requirements to be completed for each Offer have been posted on the RFP website

7. Development experience:
   a. A description of the qualifications of the applicant including recent relevant project development experience demonstrating the applicant has completed projects of similar technology and scope

RFP Schedule:

GMP will review any proposals submitted on or before June 2nd. Proposals should be submitted via email to rfp@greenmountainpower.com.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the information above, in addition to the overall quality of the application. Please direct all questions to craig.ferreira@greenmountainpower.com.
Attachment A - Site Plan
Attachment A - Site Plan cont.
Attachment B - Single Family Home

Rear Elevation

Front Elevation