

83C Questions and Answers

- (19) With regard to the Expandable Transmission proposal, can you please provide more detail as to the schedule and variation in projects that the Expandable Transmission should accommodate in order to best achieve the RFP's objectives? For example, what should be used as the basis for designing expandable transmission with regard to: Timing of interconnect of subsequent projects that would use the Expandable Transmission? Location of such projects? Sizes of such projects? Technical characteristics of such projects, in particular with regard to electrical engineering parameters needed to design the future project's transmission?

Answer: The timing, locations, and specific technical characteristics of future Offshore Wind Generation projects seeking interconnection to Expandable Transmission facilities will not be known until provided by the developers of such projects at the time they submit their interconnection requests associated with bids in response to future RFPs. Because of this, the Evaluation Team is relying on bidders to propose Expandable Transmission designs that are flexible enough to accommodate a range of possible future Offshore Wind Generation project proposals.

It is also up to bidders to propose the extent to which Expandable Transmission facilities should be constructed now (i.e., in response to this RFP), and to what extent such construction should await future interconnection requests from other Offshore Wind Generation projects, if any. Under such an approach, the Expandable Transmission design could be supplemented or modified in the future if there are requests for the use of such facilities or if one or more Offshore Wind Generation interconnection requests incorporate technical characteristics unforeseen by current designs.

The flexibility of an Expandable Transmission Proposal to accommodate future Offshore Wind Generation interconnection requests would be a positive factor in its evaluation, other things being equal and assuming the flexibility can be accomplished at a reasonable cost. See also the response to Question 24.

- (24) Please confirm that for the 1600MW Expandable Transmission component of a bid, it is not necessary to have made an interconnection application to the ISO in order to meet the minimal or threshold bid requirements?

Answer: In order to clarify the intent of Section 2.2.1.3.2 of the RFP, the bidder must have made an interconnection request with ISO for the MWs associated with its generation bids in response to this RFP. In addition, the bidder must include a plan that would explain with reasonable detail the consistency of its proposal with RFP Section 2.2.1.3.2 which contemplates that this is an initial solicitation that is part of a staggered procurement schedule, and thus there would be a staggering of any future interconnection requests by additional Offshore Wind Generation facilities. At the bidder's discretion, the bidder may

choose to consult with ISO-NE prior to filing its proposal to gain a full understanding of the most appropriate interconnection request(s) necessary to meet ISO-NE requirements and satisfy the requirements of the RFP.