

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

NEWS RELEASE

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DPUC Receives 33 Qualification Submissions from 20 Bidders in Capacity RFP

In a remarkable demonstration of interest, the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) has received 33 project qualification submissions from 20 different entities in response to the RFP issued on September 15, 2006 soliciting requests for new or additional generation or demand-side resources in order to reduce the cost of energy and capacity for Connecticut ratepayers. Bidders had to prepare lengthy detailed filings to demonstrate their financial and technical wherewithal for this stage of the procurement process.

The DPUC, authorized by the legislature's Energy Independence Act, is taking a proactive and innovative approach to address Connecticut's energy challenges in designing this procurement process, in order to reduce and stabilize Connecticut end consumer rates.

DPUC Chairman Don Downes said, "We were very pleased to see such strong interest from bidders at the qualification stage. The number, the diversity, and the sophistication of the qualification proposals submitted indicate that we should be able to procure a competitive portfolio of projects to reduce Connecticut's costs of power while still meeting key policy objectives like reducing peak electric demand and good environmental stewardship."

The 33 project qualification submissions represented a combined total of more than 6,000 MW of capacity, although some of these submissions constitute different proposals for the same site. The projects registered included the full spectrum of resources that the RFP was designed to solicit - new gas-fired and oil-fired facilities, repowering of existing, retired or deactivated generation units, demand-side reduction, conservation and energy efficiency technologies. The 20 entities who submitted qualification submissions constitute a wide array of participants in the electricity sector, ranging from international independent power producers, local generation developers to local utilities. There was also a strong response from a variety of companies focused on demand side activities.

In a special meeting yesterday morning, the DPUC also approved the final Master Agreements for Generation and Demand Resources. These Master Agreements are available on the DPUC website as well as on the RFP website. The next and final stage in the procurement process will be the submission of binding Financial Bids, which are due on December 13, 2006.

For more information on the RFP, please visit the RFP website at: www.Connecticut2006RFP.com or contact the RFP Coordinator at: RFPCoordinator@Connecticut2006RFP.com.