

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL “RFP No. PS20210169  
NEU: LOW-CARBON THERMAL ENERGY SUPPLY FOR NORTHEAST FALSE CREEK

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS NO. 4

ISSUED ON: October 8, 2021

Q4.1	<p>We have a question about the “Interface Between Distribution Network and Energy Supply” referenced in section 3h of the RFP, respecting the delineation of the cost responsibilities between the Supplier and the City.</p> <p>Our interpretation of this section is that the Supplier must make the space available and include the costs of that space in the rates, including electrical and fibre optic interconnection facilities and a thermal meter. However, we are unclear if the Supplier should estimate the costs of the pumps, expansion tanks and distribution controls (the NEU distribution equipment) and whether the proposed rates should include those costs. Based on our reading of the RFP, the Supplier will provide the physical space and the facilities necessary for the City to install their NEU distribution system. The Supplier will also include the costs of the space and the interconnection facilities in the rates, but the City will pay for and own the NEU distribution equipment.</p> <p>Can you please either confirm our understanding or clarify it for us?</p>
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	<p>iv. City control over the flowrate of system water being sent to the Supplier and returned to the City's distribution network by the Supplier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With flowrates estimated to be up to 150-200 litres per second at buildout</li> <li>• With an acceptable pressure drop across the interface being consistently maintained</li> <li>• Generally set so pumps ramp up/down to maintain a 172 kPa minimum differential pressure at all connected buildings</li> <li>• With distribution system pressures not exceeding 1034 kPa With the ability to increase or decrease system flow with a pressure set point offset or direct control over pump output (at the control of the City)</li> </ul> <p>v. Space and provisions for the NEU distribution system including: pumps (lead/lag/spare configurations), thermal expansion tanks (N+1), and distribution controls. The Supplier is responsible for securing and providing adequate space required for installing and housing the NEU distribution equipment. The Supplier is also responsible for providing the electrical feeds to the required NEU equipment including a backup power supply for NEU distribution pumps and controls. Access to the space to be secured through a statutory right of way in favor of the City;</p> <p>vi. Provisions for the City to have remote and local access to all required data points (flow rate, supply/return temperature, supply/return pressure, equipment input and output, plant output, plant efficiency, metered energy, etc.);</p> <p>vii. Provisions for the City to have remote and local control over the supply temperature set point, supply pressure set point, and distribution pumps at all times. Remote control to be over a platform that can be integrated into the existing plant control system currently used by the City;</p> <p>viii. Provisions for a fibre optic network connection to enable remote communication with the plant;</p> <p>ix. Utility grade thermal energy metering that can be inspected and monitored by the City at any time.</p> <p>A hydraulically separated system would be preferred to simplify ownership boundaries, but alternatives that meet the requirements above will also be considered. Close collaboration between the Supplier and the City will be required during the design phase. <u>The Supplier is responsible for the costs of providing the space and provisions specified in this section and designing the interconnection with the NEU distribution network, including required NEU distribution equipment, to the satisfaction of the City.</u></p>
<p><b>A4.1</b></p>	<p><b>Your understanding of the interconnection cost delineation appears accurate. For clarity, with respect to the interconnection cost delineation, the Supplier should include for the following costs in the provided rates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Interconnection design</b></li> <li>- <b>The structure and space required for housing the NEU distribution system equipment</b></li> <li>- <b>The required services for the NEU distribution system equipment (electrical feeds on backup supply, fibre-optic network connection)</b></li> <li>- <b>Controls provisions to provide the City with required operational data points and enable integration between the two systems</b></li> <li>- <b>Utility grade thermal energy metering</b></li> </ul> <p><b>The City will assume the costs for supplying, installing, operating, and maintaining the required distribution system equipment (including distribution pumps, expansion tanks, and controls) in the space provided.</b></p>