



RFTA Solicitation No. 12-063

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Comments on a Compressed Natural Gas Best Practices Questionnaire

Date Issued:

Friday, December 14, 2012

Comments Due:

Monday, January 14, 2012, 4:00 p.m. (MT)

Contact:

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RFTA SOLICITATION No. 12-063
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)
Comments on a CNG Best Practices Questionnaire

THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION FOR PRODUCTS OR SERVICES.

Summary

The Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (“RFTA”) is seeking comments on a Best Practices questionnaire that will accompany a Request for Proposal (RFP) solicitation for a long term wholesale natural gas contract. This natural gas will be converted to Compressed Natural Gas (“CNG”). This RFP is expected to be released sometime in 2013.

The Best Practices questionnaire will be included in the evaluation and scoring criteria in the formal RFP. The questionnaire will provide proposers an opportunity to be awarded bonus points in the evaluation process for their compliance with the questionnaire. There is no penalization for non-compliance.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED: *This questionnaire is not to be answered at this time. RFTA is only interested in receiving comments on the content and type of questions and how relevant they are regarding best practices in this field.*

This RFI is for planning purposes only and should not be construed as a solicitation for bids, proposals or offers. This RFI should not be construed as an obligation on the part of RFTA to award a contract, make a purchase or pay any cost incurred in preparation of responses nor should it be construed as a means to pre-qualify vendors.

Information that any interested party wishes to submit will be provided voluntarily and with the understanding that this RFI is for information gathering purposes only; this is not a formal solicitation, nor will a guarantee that submitted comments will be incorporated in a formal solicitation. A formal solicitation may be issued subsequent to this RFI.

DO NOT SEND:

- Answers to the questions
- Brochures
- Catalogs
- Marketing information
- Pricing information
- Proprietary information

INCLUSION OF THE ABOVE MATERIALS IN RESPONSE TO THIS RFI WILL RESULT IN THE PROVIDER BEING DISQUALIFIED FROM RESPONDING TO ANY ENSUING FORMAL SOLICITATION. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.

Use of the Microsoft Word Track Changes Tool. This document is being submitted in Microsoft Word with the “Track Changes” tool enabled. You may use Track Changes to add to, subtract from, or otherwise alter the source document, with those changes (and the original text) clearly delineated. Should you not be familiar with this tool, responses may be returned in whatever format is comfortable for you.

Format of Responses. RFTA requires that responses to this RFI be submitted via electronic mail (“email”) to procurement@rfta.com . **Please indicate in the subject line “Comments to 12-063”.** All responses that are received by RFTA in response to this RFI will be considered public records subject to the Colorado Open Records Act (C.R.S. 24-72-201 to 24-72-309) and shall be fully open to public inspection. Notwithstanding the Respondent’s claim of or designation of information as a trade secret or proprietary information, the determination whether it is or not will be made by RFTA under Colorado state law.

Approach to Comments. Please address the following, along with any other issues that you believe are pertinent:

- Are there any best practice management methods you are currently using that are not included in the questionnaire?
- Are any questions listed that would preclude you or others from responding to the RFP or not completing the questionnaire? If so, please identify.
- If responding to the RFP, do you have sufficient information to complete this questionnaire?
- Is there anything you would like to see added to the questionnaire to clarify RFTA’s intentions? If so, please identify what, and where such detail should be included.
- Are any of these questions mandatory practices or policies within the industry and not voluntary best practices?

Background

In an effort to be both environmentally and fiscally responsible and invest in domestic fuels, the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority’s (RFTA) Board of Directors has approved the use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as an alternative fuel in the RFTA bus fleet. A CNG compressor station has been installed at RFTA’s Glenwood Springs Maintenance Facility (GMF) and will be operational by January 2013. In addition, RFTA has ordered 22 Gillig CNG powered buses for delivery in 2013; Four in January and 18 in June. The buses will be used for the VelociRFTA project, the country’s first rural Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project that will operate along the 40 mile State Highway 82 corridor between Glenwood Springs and Aspen, Colorado.

RFTA is seeking a supply of wholesale natural gas to be compressed into CNG at our facility in Glenwood Springs, Co. This contract will be a minimum of one year and up to five years, depending on market projections and competitive pricing. RFTA has a two-

fold goal in utilizing CNG for vehicles in its fleet: First, the use of CNG represents a significant cost savings for RFTA; secondly, CNG has the potential to be an environmentally less impactful fuel source than conventional transportation fuels.

In an effort to fulfill the latter goal, RFTA's CNG policy emphasizes environmental and community values. When evaluating proposals, RFTA will consider price and the policies and practices companies have in place or are willing to put in place to mitigate the negative environmental and community impacts of natural gas development, production and transportation while keeping fair and open competition.

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CNG BEST PRACTICES QUESTIONNAIRE

PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS ONLY. DO NOT ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

PART I – Compliance With Established Standard:

- 1.1 Is the gas provider enrolled in the EPA Gas Star Program?
(<http://www.epa.gov/gasstar/index.html>)
- (a) Yes or No
- 1.2 What was the last year a report was filed? _____
- 1.3 Are the gas provider's wells registered on FracFocus? (<http://fracfocus.org>)
- (a) Yes or No
- 1.4 Has the gas provider filled out the Environmentally Friendly Scorecard – posted on Garfield County, CO website? (<http://www.garfield-county.com/oil-gas/documents/Scorecard%20for%20human%20health%20impacts.pdf>)
- (a) Yes or No
- 1.5 Has the gas provider filed a Comprehensive Drilling Plan with the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC)? “Rule 216 Comprehensive Drilling Plans: This gives operators the option to prepare a comprehensive drilling plan. The plan identifies foreseeable oil and gas activities in an area and facilitates discussion of potential impacts and development of practices to minimize impacts to public health, safety, welfare, and the environment.”
(<http://www.ourcolorado.org/what-we-do/energy/oil-gas/cogcc-fact-sheet-cdps-121808.pdf>)
- (a) Yes or No
(b) If yes, Please provide a copy of the Comprehensive Drilling Plan.
- 1.6 Is the gas provider a member of Community Counts or a similar program?
(<http://www.communitycountscolorado.com>)
- (a) Yes or No

PART II, Business Practices – Answers to the following questions should relate to how the gas provider incorporates Best Management Practices (BMPs):

- 2.1 Does the gas provider use a third party system to identify sensitive ecosystems and lands and avoid drilling in those areas? An example of such a system is Development

by Design, developed by the Nature Conservancy.
(<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/colorado/howwe-work/energy-by-design-in-colorado.xml>).

- (a) Yes or No
- (b) If yes, please provide documentation.

2.2 Has the provider used an internal system to identify sensitive ecosystems and lands and avoid drilling in those areas?

- (a) Yes or No
- (b) If yes, please provide documentation.

2.3 Land Use-Roads/Infrastructures

2.3.1 What practices/policies does the provider utilize to reduce the initial and interim size of roads, infrastructure and well pads? *Limit to 200 words.*

2.3.2 Please describe mitigation policies, if any, regarding occupied housing and schools. *Limit to 200 words.*

2.4 Community Impacts

2.4.1 Describe the gas supplier policies regarding community engagement. *Limit to 200 words.*

2.5 Water Quality/Quantity (Proposer may attach document providing information)

2.5.1 Percentage of water recycled _____.

2.5.2 Percentage of wells using closed loop technologies _____.

2.5.3 Please describe other methods used to minimize the use of fresh water and reduce the amount of produced water. *Limit to 200 words.*

2.6 Air Emissions

2.6.1 Does the gas supplier use green completion technologies?

- (a) Yes or No
- (b) If yes, percentage of green completions company-wide _____.
- (c) Percentage of green completions company-wide in Colorado _____.
- (d) Provide details as appropriate. *Limit to 200 words.*

- 2.6.2 Is the gas supplier company testing or using zero emission technologies?
(a) Yes or No
- 2.6.3 Describe any other practices the gas supplier uses to reduce or monitor air emissions from development and production at well sites. *Limit to 200 words.*
- 2.6.4 Are there Methane detection systems on sites?
(a) Yes or No
(b) If yes, please describe what technology is used. *Limit to 200 words.*
- 2.6.5 Provide percentage of natural gas wells using natural gas to provide power at site _____.
- 2.7 Monitoring (Proposer should provide documentation of policy or practice relating to the following questions.)
- 2.7.1 Does the gas supplier engage in pre-drilling/development baseline air quality testing?
(a) Yes or No
- 2.7.2 Does the gas supplier engage in pre-drilling/development baseline water quality testing?
(a) Yes or No
- 2.7.3 Does the gas supplier engage in ongoing monitoring of air quality?
(a) Yes or No
(b) If yes, with what frequency? _____
- 2.7.4 Does the gas supplier engage in ongoing monitoring of water quality?
(a) Yes or No
(b) If yes, with what frequency? _____
- 2.7.3 Does the gas supplier engage in post drilling/development air quality testing?
(a) Yes or No

2.7.4 Does the gas supplier engage in post drilling/development air and water quality testing?

(a) Yes or No

2.8 Overall Management (Optional)

2.8.1 In two pages or less, please provide any additional information describing the gas provider's environmental practices and community engagement activities.