

2026 SWEPCO RFP

Question & Answers



Posted 6/19/2026

Question #1: If a solar project is contingent on BESS being contracted at the same time, is a separate solar-only proposal required?

Answer: For PSAs, combined Solar + BESS proposals are acceptable. However, bids will not be accepted if the project depends on a different buyer or separate offtake arrangements for other phases. BESS is only eligible under PSAs and CPAs. For this RFP, only solar will be evaluated under PPAs.

Question #2: Where can I find the link to the electronic Project Summary Form mentioned in Section 6.4 of the RFPs?

Answer: The link for the electronic Project Summary will go live two weeks prior to bid submittal.

Question #3: We understand that if we participate in the PPA RFP with a DISIS 2024 queue project, the offered \$/MWh bid price must remain fixed for at least 120 days from the Proposal Due Date of July 29. As you are aware, the second-round interconnection cost results for the 2024 cluster are expected to be released on November 20. In this regard, we would like to ask whether, if our project is selected for the shortlist, it would be possible to revise the PPA bid price during the subsequent negotiation process based on the updated interconnection cost information.

Answer: Yes. Due to the SPP schedule, if a project is selected for the Short List and the result of the SPP DISIS Phase 2 study results in a change to the project's estimated transmission costs, the bidder will be given the opportunity to update its bid price to account for these costs. A copy of the new SPP study will be required to be submitted at the time of the price update. Following this price update, the economics of the proposal will be reevaluated. Based on this evaluation, SWEPCO/AEP will determine if the proposal shall move forward with negotiations of a definitive agreement.

Question #4: If the project becomes economically unfeasible after the SPP Phase 2 results are released and we withdraw our bid after being shortlisted, would there be any penalties imposed?

Answer: There would not be any penalties imposed.

Question #5: We would appreciate confirmation on whether a Letter of Credit (L/C) or any similar security instrument is required during the PPA negotiation phase following shortlist selection.

Answer: A letter of credit or other security fund is not required during the shortlist phase. Credit would first be posted at or shortly after contract execution.

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Question #6: Does SWEPCO prefer projects where the interconnection transmission owner is SWEPCO?

Answer: The preference is that the transmission owner is SWEPCO, but other transmission owners will be considered.

Posted 6/12/2026

Question #1: Could you please confirm whether any proposal fee, bid fee, or other participation-related fee is required for submitting a proposal under the PSA, PPA, or CPA RFPs?

Answer: No fees (proposal, bid or otherwise) are required for participation in any of the three SWEPCO 2026 RFPs

Posted 6/4/2026

Question #1: The approved vendors listed all have 48m+ lead times for 161kV MPTs. Therefore, to meet SWEPCO's desired 2028 COD, a bidder would already need to have an AVL 161kV MPT to allocate to this project, otherwise, the earliest achievable COD would be 2030-2031. We have a 161kV Siemens MPT available. Siemens is approved on SWEPCO's 765kV vendor list, but not on its 138kV/161kV list. Would SWEPCO consider extending Siemens's approved vendor status to the lower-voltage category?

Answer: Bidders are expected to propose MPT equipment that complies with the Approved Vendor List (AVL) as set forth in the RFP. Proposals that include an MPT from a manufacturer that is already on the AVL (for any voltage class) but that proposes a different size not currently listed may be submitted with an exception, and such proposals will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis based on the specific manufacturer and equipment details. However, proposals that include MPT equipment from manufacturers that are not included on the AVL in any capacity will be considered non-conforming.

Question #2: Our project is not currently in the SPP interconnection queue; however, we have secured the major equipment necessary to meet the required COD timeline and believe we can satisfy the commercial, operational, and contractual requirements outlined in the RFP under a PPA structure. The RFP indicates that eligible projects must currently be in SPP Queue Cluster 2024-001 or earlier, or in the ERAS queue. We wanted to ask whether this requirement is considered a strict disqualifier for projects not yet in the queue, or whether SWEPCO would still consider a project that enters the queue immediately.

Answer: As stated in the RFP, it's an eligibility and threshold requirement that you need to be active in the 2024-001 or ERAS queue to be able to participate. Therefore, unfortunately we cannot consider projects that aren't in the queue.

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Posted 5/8/2026

Question #1: Can you confirm whether all equipment vendors are required to be on your approved vendor list, or is it possible to consider alternative vendors provided they satisfy the technical requirements specified in the RFP document?

Answer: All vendors utilized must be on the Approved Vendor List.

Question #2: Regarding the Mattison Storage Project, I understand from the diagrams that the BESS Substation will be on the power plant land and at the property line is the "End of Developers Scope." Does that mean that the Main Power Transformer will be in SWEPCO's scope and procured by SWEPCO for this opportunity? Is the MPT already procured in that case?

Answer: The collection substation and all equipment will be part of the developer's scope and should be included in their bid. SWEPCO does not have an MPT procured.

Question #3: Can SWEPCO confirm the approved vendor list for the Main Power Transformer for 161kV? The GEN-4570 specification Section 4.14 does not list 161kV.

Answer: The AVL for 161kV MPTs will be the same as the AVL for 138 kV MPT's.

Question #4: Can SWEPCO confirm the latest AEP/SWEPCO insurance spacing requirements for groupings of BESS site equipment?

Answer: 25 ft between asset blocks of \$15MM or greater.

Posted 4/24/2026

Question #1: For a PSA, is a Long Term Service Agreement expected to be part of the bid?

Answer: Bidders may include a LTSA as an optional component of their proposal. However, an LTSA is not required as part of a PSA bid, and the PSA proposal may not be contingent upon SWEPCO awarding an LTSA. SWEPCO/AEP will determine whether to include or pursue an LTSA as part of any final agreement.

Question #2: Will the Bidders Technical Conference slides be posted to the RFP website.

Answer: Yes

Question #3: To confirm, SWEPCO will not be accepting standalone storage as a PPA/ESA/toll contract, correct?

Answer: Confirmed. Proposals for standalone or co-located storage will not be eligible to participate in the PPA RFP. Standalone storage proposals will be accepted in both the PSA and CPA RFPs.

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Question #4: Can you provide any additional color on how SWEPCO views standalone storage in its upcoming RFP effort? Can you verify any COD/volume/duration preferences?

Noting the following in SWEPCO's 2024 IRP Preferred Plan:

- [2024 IRP Preferred Plan](#) (SWEPCO):
 - Excludes battery storage and wind (pg. 12)
 - Includes new Combustion Turbine (CT), Combined Cycle (CC), WSH Fuel Switch (converting to natural gas), and Solar
 - SWEPCO includes annual and cumulative build limits in its modeling (limits on BESS are low at only 50 MW/year of 4-hour storage and 20-100 MW per year of the longer durations. Cumulative build limits on BESS range between 200-500 MW over the entire study period.)

Any feedback you can provide on limits on BESS (see last bullet above) and what the procurement outlook is for BESS would be helpful.

Answer: SWEPCO is pursuing projects that can achieve a Commercial Operation Date no later than 12/1/2031 (Draft PSA RFP Section 3.2). With respect to Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), new projects must include options for both 4-hour and 6-hour storage durations (Draft PSA RFP Section 3.6.3).

The resource build limits in the 2024 Arkansas Integrated Resource Plan are planning assumptions and do not represent procurement caps for this RFP. SWEPCO will evaluate all conforming proposals consistent with the PSA RFP evaluation framework.

Question #5: Will bids for resources that are coming online for the 2030 planning year be accepted in the CPA RFP?

Answer: Under the 2026 SWEPCO CPA RFP, delivery may begin only in Planning Years 2027, 2028, or 2029. Resources coming online for the 2030 planning year are not eligible.

Question #6: Is the Mattison Site Visit on April 23, 2026 mandatory for bidders?

Answer: The Site visit is not mandatory for participation in the RFP.