



VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY

PR-04- 25

Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Territory wide

AMI Solution RFP

Date: October 29, 2024

ADDENDUM IV

VIWAPA AMI RFP Questions and Responses

October 25, 2024

1. Appendix J, Page 2, Network Coverage Plan: Will VIWAPA provide additional data regarding any existing physical network infrastructure that the authority owns including capacity and physical connectivity? **Answer: No**
2. SOW, Page 9, AMI Communications Network: Is there a requirement for the NOC and any managed service infrastructure to be located locally in the territory? **Answer: No. However, if the managed services infrastructure is located outside of the United States, this should be noted in your response.**
3. PR-04-25, page 3, Pre-Bid Meeting: Will vendors be able to get access (logical and/or physical) to representative facilities prior to bid submission as needed? Eg. Network substation, common data center, etc. **Answer: No, access cannot be given in the timeline that has been identified.**
4. Addendum 2, Post pre-bid meeting addendum: For bidders that are interested in working in a consortium will a list of contact information be made available to the bidder pool? **Answer: No list of bidders will be published.**
5. Reference Appendix A – Did VIWAPA intend to include the solution architecture? It is referenced in the Appendix A table of contents. **Answer: No**
6. Reference Appendix A – Is VIWAPA expecting any major upgrades to the CIS, MDMS, or OMS within the next 3-5 years? **Answer: The MDMS will be upgraded as part of the systems integration network. There are no plans for upgrades to the CIS or OMS.**
7. What is the accuracy of GPS coordinates in Exhibit E for **existing** meter locations? **Answer: The accuracy of the current LAT/LON data is not known at this time as it was collected by a third party and VIWAPA would look to the vendor to provide the appropriate safeguards for their network design.**
8. During the meter deployment phase, will VIWAPA provide location assistance where needed? **Answer: Yes, within reason. The Offeror is expected to have local resources with knowledge of the islands.**

9. Are there meter locations with medical tags (or support accounts) identified in the meter location file that require appointments? E.g., meter locations that cannot have power interrupted. **Answer: No**
10. Are there meter locations which require security access e.g., airports, military facilities, government buildings, wharfs, piers, docks, etc. **Answer: Yes, but these should be minimal.**
 - a. What are the location descriptions? **Answer: Not provided.**
 - b. If yes, what form and class meters? **Answer: Not provided.**
 - c. What are the security requirements? **Answer: Not provided. VIWAPA would look to the selected vendor to work with VIWAPA when the time is appropriate for such detail.**
11. What are the GPS capture resolution requirements for **new** meter installations (typical capture accuracy grades: greater than 3 meters, submeter, sub-foot, decimeter, centimeter)? **Answer: Please see response to question 9 in the October 15th question set.**
12. Will the Utility provide multiple **secure** project warehouse/staging areas for each island, during deployment operations including planning, meeting, daily maneuvering/operations, receiving inventory, storing inventory, managing waste, scrap, and recycling? **Answer: No. The Offeror is responsible for all warehousing and staging areas and the security of the meters.**
13. Will there be parking available for the installation contractors fleet vehicles overnight at the same secure warehouse/staging area? **Answer: No. The Offeror is responsible for all warehousing and staging areas, including parking.**
14. To support planning and warehouse (sizing) requirements, what are the utility's expectations for handling legacy meters?
 - a. Duration of hold over for billing validation? **Answer: There is no requirement to hold legacy meters for any period of time.**
 - b. Labeling and organizational requirements? **Answer: There is no requirement to remove any labelling from legacy meters.**
 - c. Disposal responsibilities? **Answer: As stated in the RFP, Offeror is responsible for disposing of all removed meters off island. Disposed meters will also need to be disposed of in accordance with EPA guidelines and provide the cradle to grave documentation.**
 - d. Recycling requirements? **Answer: Meter disposal should be in an environmentally responsible manner whether they are recycled or scrapped. They would need to be recycled in accordance with EPA guidelines and provide the cradle to grave documentation.**
 - e. Scrapping requirements? **Answer: Meter disposal should be in an environmentally responsible manner whether are recycled or scrapped. In the case of meters being scrapped, it is required that they be scrapped outside of the USVI territory provide the cradle to grave documentation.**
15. Are there any licensing or permit requirements? **Answer: This was answered in question 7 of the October 15th question set.**
16. What are the customer outreach requirements for the installation contractor? **Answer: This was included in the RFP details.**
17. Who is responsible for providing customer outreach and communications materials? **Answer: VIWAPA.**
18. Which entity will receive customer calls, the utility customer service or the installation contractor? **Answer: Offeror must have a call center for receiving and initiating customer calls presumably mainly for the purpose of scheduling meter exchange appointments..**

Offeror's call center must have the ability for bi-directional forwarding of calls made to the wrong call center.

19. Is the preference to hire and train local WAE union personnel to deploy meters and perform repairs on utility and customer side? **Answer: This is up to Offeror. Offeror should provide details in your response.**
20. Can you please clarify what is being asked of us in Requirement Comm-9 in Appendix B? **Answer: Comm-9 is the definition of network steady state that is to be used for answering Comm10, 11, 12 where this is reference to "the above" definition of steady state".**
21. Which party is responsible for managing compliance with the Davis Bacon Act requirements? **Answer: Offeror.**
22. There is a pause for 1 month for meter deployment while "Initial Deployment Acceptance" is being conducted. Can we continue to install during the period while "Initial Deployment Acceptance" is a being conducted? **Answer: No**
23. Can you provide any further details regarding your expectations for "Network enhancements to accommodate water and streetlights for future expansion at the discretion of the utility?" **Answer: There are no requirements for the network design to support water or streetlights. VIWAPA only wants to know that the chosen solution can support these items and acknowledges that additional network infrastructure may be necessary.**
24. We kindly request two weeks extension of time to submit the proposal. (Dec. 6th, 2024). **Answer: No extensions will be given.**
25. Please confirm that you could accept the documents signed by Docusign. **Answer: Yes Docusign documents can be accepted.**
26. Please be so kind as to provide in editable format Appendix A, B, and K. **Answer: Appendix A and K will be provided in Word format. Appendix B is already in Excel format.**
27. As the information on the proposals needs to be handled carefully and confidentially, we kindly ask you to confirm VIWAPA would be able to sign our own NDA. **Answer: VIWAPA will not sign Offeror NDA's. Offeror must mark confidential sections of the proposal as such. Simply marking and entire proposal as confidential will not be allowed.**