



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

for

20 MW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

Belize, 2024

Prepared by:
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2 ½ Miles Phillip Goldson Highway
Belize City, Belize
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Overview

The Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) is inviting suitably qualified companies, not limited to the country of Belize, to submit Expressions of Interest for the supply of 20MW/80MWh of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) for the National Electricity Grid of Belize to support the integration of more renewable energy sources into the energy supply mix and to help satisfy public demand for electricity services within the country over the next fifteen (15) years.

This Expression of Interest (EOI) aims to:

- Understand the technologies for BESS available in the market.
- Identify potential suppliers and contractors with relevant experience that can deliver BESS within BEL's stipulated timeline.
- Gather preliminary cost estimates for the engineering, construction, and procurement of 20MW/80MWh of BESS.
- Assess the technical and operational requirements for the integration of BESS into the National Grid.

In pursuit of the foregoing objectives, BEL will pre-qualify prospective bidders that satisfy the minimum capacity requirements to finance and develop 20MW/80MWh of Battery Energy Storage Systems.

The present call for an EOI is not an invitation to tender. Only prospective bidders deemed qualified, as determined at this stage, may be invited to participate in the ensuing Request for Proposals (RFP).

Background and Context

On March 12, 2024, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) issued its **Final Determination and Order** in respect of **BEL's Least Cost Expansion Plan (LCEP)**. In that Order the PUC approved, among other generation and system expansion projects, the installation of 20 MW of BESS via a competitive bidding process to come online by the first quarter of 2027. **BEL seeks to add this 20MW/80MWh of battery energy storage capacity by March 2025.** The accelerated project timeline is necessary to help mitigate the current and continuing risk of capacity shortages due to the sharp increases in-country demand which has exceeded available power supply from existing in-country power sources.

Scope of Work

The Company is seeking project developers with the managerial, financial, and technical competence and proven track record to design, finance, build, and commission the BESS in a manner compatible with generally accepted standards of quality and performance under a capital lease agreement with the option to purchase and transfer to BEL under terms to be negotiated. Project developers are expected to



obtain all relevant environmental permits, construction permits and other required permits and licenses.

Companies expressing an interest in participating in the Request for Proposals will have to prove their capacity to design, finance, construct, and operate BESS as outlined in the eligibility criteria below.

Eligibility Criteria

Companies responding to the EOI must provide the information and documents demonstrating they are qualified to perform the services and meet the eligibility criteria listed in this Call for Expressions of Interest as set out below:

List of attributes	Requirements
A. Company Profile	Overview of the company, including history, legal status, ownership structure, Mission or corporate strategy, areas of expertise, as well as the key personnel and their qualifications.
B. Project Experience	Summary of BESS projects undertaken in the past five (5) years with cumulative capacity of at least 20 MW in which the applicant has been one or all the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Engineering, Procurement, Construction (EPC) contractor▪ Operations & Management (O&M) contractor▪ Independent power producer (i.e. equity sponsor with operational control of the asset)
C. Financing Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Evidence of previous experience with project financing of renewable energy/energy storage over the last five (5) years. Outline of potential financing structures and terms for the proposed project.▪ Financial statements of the applicant company, or companies if applicant is a consortium, for the two (2) most recent financial years.
D. Project Design	High-level plan for integrating BESS into the existing grid infrastructure, inclusive of key milestones, timelines, high-level cost estimates to enable commercial operating date on or before March 2025.
E. References	At least two references from beneficiaries of projects of similar scope as the subject of this EOI.



Evaluation Criteria for EOI

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) will use the criteria set out below to evaluate the eligibility of respondents to participate in the RFP.

Criteria	Description
Experience and Expertise	1. Demonstrated experience in the design, construction, and operation of large-scale BESS projects. This includes past projects, technical qualifications, relevant certifications and strength of references provided.
Financing Capacity	1. Demonstrated financial stability, performance, and creditworthiness as evidenced in financial statements and support documents provided. 2. Attractiveness of high-level financing offer/plan.
Project Design and Delivery	1. Comprehensiveness of the high-level plan and reasonableness of timelines for major milestones and sufficiency of resources to deliver on same within targeted commercial operating date.

General Instructions and Submission Details

Companies responding to this EOI may act as part of a formal consortium to leverage their capabilities provided that the consortium in total fulfills all eligibility criteria mentioned above. EOI from respondent companies failing to provide the requested information will be disregarded.

Eligible respondents satisfying the minimum requirements stipulated in this EOI will qualify to participate in the Request for Proposals.

Mode of Submission

EOI must be submitted electronically to **bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz**

EOI submissions should specify the reference number **BID #2024-2440 EOI Battery Energy Storage Systems** in the subject of the email.

Deadline for Queries and Submissions

EOI submissions must be received by **5:00 p.m. (GMT-6) on Friday, September 6, 2024.**

Any requests for clarification about the contents of this Expression of Interest shall be sent via email **bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz** and received no later than **5:00 p.m.**



(GMT-6) on Friday, August 23, 2024. Answers to questions/inquiries will be posted on the BEL's website (www.bel.com.bz).

This EOI does not entail or imply any commitment either financial or otherwise on the part of the requestors in the person of BEL, or any of its affiliates.