

Rate Design Consultant Services Q&A

Answered in the order received

1. The scope of services requested in the rfp is more than what a one-person shop can handle. Therefore, is there a list of firms available that received this rfp so I can explore possible sub-contractor possibilities?

MBCP does not have a list of firms that received this RFP. The RFP was published on the MBCP website, LinkedIn and sent directly to the following vendors: Borismetrics, Navigant and Pacific Energy Advisors. MBCP cannot verify actual receipt by any vendor.

2. Do you have any specific milestones in costing and rate development that you need met? We would like to recognize these in developing our timeline.

The specific milestones are as follows: (1) Revenue requirements calculation, (2) Allocation of the revenue requirements among the customer classes, (3) Development of rates for each customer class, (4) Comparison of the developed rates against those of the IOUs, (5) Make any necessary adjustments to the developed rates to be competitive with the IOUs (6) Creation of a roll-out plan for a successful implementation of the rates, (7) Share finding and recommendations with the MBCP Boards (Operations Board in May 2020 and Policy Board in June 2020) (8) Participate in three workshops held in San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz and Monterey County during the remaining months of 2020 (June – December 2020).

3. Is separate pricing of your PG&E and SCE customers permissible? Do you have multiple climate zones in your (expanding) service territory?

It is expected that there will be two separate rates based on the differing cost of energy and accounting for the differing surcharges in total customer cost.

At the time of transition to the new rates, we will be providing service in climate zones three, four and five as defined by PG&E.

4. Please describe the data that you have available (or expect to have available). This includes customer billing and interval data, including time periods available.

We expect to have all customer billing and interval data for our current customers and historical data provided by PG&E and SCE for the expansion areas. Additionally, we are open to obtaining any other necessary data available from the IOUs. Availability of historical data is subject to PG&E and SCE responsiveness and completeness of their records.

5. Your “Rate Roll Out Plan” task that concludes the project is materially different in skill requirements than the tasks that precede it. This may limit the number of bids you receive if people are unable to complete all required tasks or form a team that can. Are you willing to separate the Rate Roll Out Plan from the other tasks, perhaps by allowing the project to be awarded to two different bidders?

The project will be awarded to one contractor, they may hire a subcontractor as they see fit.

6. Do you have an approximate date or target period for the roll-out? To how many customers will they be rolled out? (Somewhere between ~268k current customers and the ~460k anticipated in 2021?)

We are tentatively targeting Jan 2021 to do the rollout of the new rates to all of our customers, including those that we will enroll in the expansion scheduled to occur in 2021 (approx. 460k customers)

7. Is the roll-out intended to allow customers to choose or sign up for their rate plan or will it be more of a notification letting them know about the rate plan and its benefits?

More of a notification since the rates will be time of use based.

8. Would you prefer the roll-out to be more basic and low-cost, with minimal customization for the notification(s), or more of a strategic roll-out that varies the messaging by what is most likely to resonate with the customer?

Our current preference is to have a strategic rollout that would resonate with our customers.

9. There is no mention in the RFP of the Power Cost Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) directly. What is the consultant’s role with respect to the PCIA?

The PCIA, as with other nonbypassable generation charges, will need to be considered as a cost to the customer when ensuring that our costs are competitive with the IOUs.

10. It is assumed that all historical billing information by customer is available in a database format with key information such as kWh, kW(where applicable), TOU kwh(where applicable), & bill \$ components are available. Please confirm.

This information is available from our data vendor. Mode of delivery is to be determined between the awarded rate design consultant and our data vendor.

11. It is assumed that Power Contract information related to demand, energy and TOU charges are available. Please confirm.

Yes, power contract information is available. Demand, energy and TOU charges will be available from our data vendor.

12. Is there any hourly load data either by customer, customer class or in system total available digitally? Period of availability?

Interval data will be available for current customers

13. If MBCP is subject to power prices that are market and or hourly does MBCP maintain a record of such information in a database?

Yes.

14. On future areas of service by MBCP, is there any load data available?

We have received historical usage data from PG&E and SCE that will be available to the awarded vendor. MBCP does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of PG&E or SCE data sets.

15. When is the project's anticipated start date?

Nov 1, 2019

16. What is the anticipated duration for this project?

From Nov 1, 2019 to rollout in Jan 2021

17. MBCP notes that "In 2021, MBCP aims to adopt a conventional cost-plus approach to rate design". When does MBCP anticipate implementing the rates developed through this project? Specifically, does MBCP anticipate not implementing the rates developed through this project until 2021?

Correct. Specifically, Jan 2021.

18. When will MBCP have access to (and providing consultant access to) the customer load data for the communities that the RFP describes on p. 1 will be added in 2020 and 2021, respectively?

We have historical data provided by PG&E and SCE for the expansion areas. Additionally, we are open to obtaining any other necessary data available from the IOUs. MBCP does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of PG&E or SCE data sets.

19. Will MBCP have access to multiple historical years of customer load data for the added communities?

Currently we have only one but are amenable to obtaining more if necessary.

20. Does MBCP have data regarding current and projected DER penetration among customers it currently serves or plans to serve?

None at this time

21. Does MBCP have data regarding current and projected electrification among customers it currently serves or plans to serve?

MBCP recently conducted an Electrification Strategic Plan that included data regarding projected electrification in our current service territory and the 2020 expansion but does not include the 2021 expansion.

22. Does MBCP anticipate applying a rate design structure or TOU period(s) that are different from the relevant delivery utility's as a (potential) outcome of this analysis?

MBCP would be like to explore the above options through this project.