

Staff Report
Public Utilities Bureau
March 28, 2022

Subject

Authorization to the Executive Director to bind the agency into a one-year contract with The Brattle Group, Inc. pursuant to the requirements of 220 ILCS 5/8-512e.

Background

The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) enacted on September 15, 2021 obligates the Commission to take various actions to implement new programs, initiatives and directives to further the State's goals of transitioning Illinois to 100% clean energy. CEJA includes 220 ILCS 5/8-512, which requires the Commission to open an investigation no later than December 31, 2022 to develop and adopt a Renewable Energy Access Plan (Plan). To assist and support the agency in the development of the Plan, the Commission is required by statute to retain the services of technical and policy experts with relevant fields of expertise.

Competitive Solicitation

To retain the services of technical and policy experts with relevant fields of expertise, ICC Staff conducted two competitive solicitations that were published on BidBuy, the State's electronic procurement system. The first solicitation resulted in no acceptable offers. The second solicitation was published on February 7, 2022 through March 1, 2022 (22-524ICC-ICCSP-B-27371). BidBuy additionally notified 964 registered vendors within relevant industries of the solicitation. The Commission received multiple offers in response to the second solicitation.

The offers were evaluated and scored by a team of three Public Utility Bureau Staff from the Policy Division. Points were awarded based on the Offeror's experience, key personnel qualifications, submitted work plan, references, and commitment to diversity. The Offeror with the highest score to which ICC Staff recommends awarding the contracts is The Brattle Group, Inc. ("Brattle").

Brattle's bid indicates 18% of the one-year contract will be paid to a BEP sub-contractor, Great Lakes Engineering, Inc. (BEP is a State program and registry of businesses owned by minorities, females or disabled persons). The contract will be paid from agency funds to be received pursuant to CEJA.

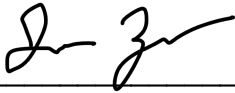
Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission grant the Executive Director authority to enter into a contract with The Brattle Group, Inc.

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