



# NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING INNOVATIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

PIN #: 85617RFI001

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# INTRODUCTION

The City of New York’s Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to gather input from vendors of innovative renewable energy technologies. DCAS is looking to identify renewable energy technologies that are relatively new to the market or have not been widely deployed in New York City municipal facilities. The information from this RFI will be used by the City to create a short-list of technologies to be considered for participation in DCAS’s Innovative Demonstrations for Energy Adaptability (IDEA) Program Phase IV.

The IDEA Program seeks to leverage the potential of innovative technologies to improve energy efficiency, increase the use of clean energy technologies and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from City government buildings. As part of Mayor Bill de Blasio’s *One City: Built to Last* plan, \$5.3 million has been invested to date in emerging technology demonstration projects.



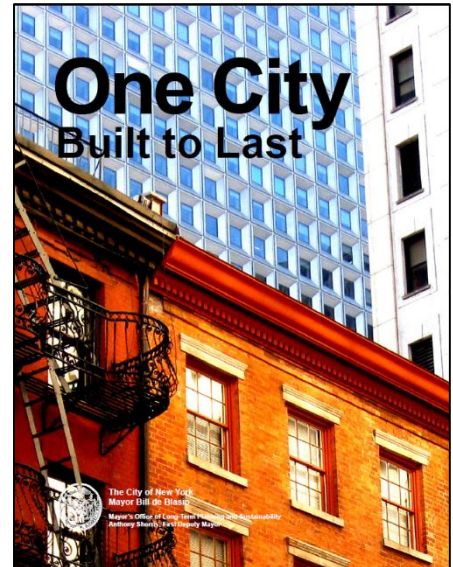
# DEMONSTRATING CLEAN TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The City of New York has committed to achieving the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions citywide 80 percent by 2050 over a 2005 baseline, as announced in Mayor Bill de Blasio's climate action plan: *One City: Built to Last*. To provide the leadership to meet this long-term goal, DCAS Energy Management (DEM) is responsible for the interim goal to reduce GHG emissions from City government buildings 35 percent by 2025.

To help reach these emission reduction targets, DCAS developed the IDEA demonstration program in 2014. IDEA engages vendors of new or under-utilized energy technologies to test their solutions in City buildings, while addressing a specific building system or operational need. DCAS then evaluates the potential for installation across the City's broader building portfolio. The IDEA program helps streamline vendor engagement and tests the technologies for their impact in advancing GHG reduction goals.

To date, DCAS has advanced three phases of the IDEA program, focusing on building controls, energy storage and HVAC optimization, respectively. Through IDEA Phases I-III, demonstration projects are complete or underway at 29 locations. With this RFI, the City is launching IDEA Program Phase IV, focused on advancing innovative renewable energy technologies. Demonstration projects will be fully funded by the City and prioritized based on the potential for clean energy generation, GHG reductions, replicability across the City's portfolio of buildings and properties, energy savings, and job creation.

For each IDEA demonstration, DCAS will assess the technology's performance by following industry recognized measurement and verification standards. DCAS will use performance data to evaluate and share information from the successful technologies with the private sector and other City agencies through a central clearinghouse of case studies, performance results, and analytics.



## PURPOSE OF THE RFI

DCAS seeks information from vendors regarding renewable energy technologies that generate power, reduce energy load on the existing utility grids, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environmental quality of the area. Technologies should be UL-certified (or equivalent) and commercially viable and available, but relatively new to the New York City market as a whole. Vendors should propose renewable technology solutions that have the potential to be beneficial across a variety of City building types or properties. The information from this RFI will be used by DCAS to identify technologies to be considered for participation in IDEA Program Phase IV.

If a technology solution is selected for IDEA Program Phase IV, vendors offering the technology must be able to provide turnkey demonstration projects. Vendors will be responsible for installing and commissioning the project, providing on-site training, producing a one-year performance assessment, and a presentation of the technology's operations and its effect on the building or property. Performance assessments must be based on industry recognized measurement and verification performance protocols.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The City's objectives for the IDEA Program Phase IV are:

- Reducing NYC's carbon footprint.
- Spurring the development of energy technologies that are cost effective and replicable across a large portfolio of municipal buildings.
- Creating jobs and economic investment in the renewable energy sector.
- Creating effective partnerships with the private sector, New York State and other governmental entities in order to achieve City, State and regional energy goals.
- Accelerating the adoption of innovative renewable energy technologies new to the NYC market.
- Maximizing the renewable energy potential across the City's portfolio of buildings and property.

# SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following items are requested to give the City the information necessary to evaluate the respondent's technologies and qualifications. Submissions should not exceed fifteen pages.

Submission Requirements		
1	Respondents Information	Contact information including: (1) firm name; (2) address (PO Box addresses will not be considered); (3) name and title of principal contact, and their telephone number and email address.
2	Experience & Background	Vendors should demonstrate that they have previous experience, in house engineering and construction management capacity to provide a turnkey delivery and installation of the proposed renewable technology in a NYC facility or property
3	Requirements of Technology	Identify what baseline conditions (e.g. type of energy used, type of distribution system, type of existing controls, occupant and operating schedules, etc.) would provide the best opportunity for savings of grid energy and replicability across buildings.
4	NYC & Other Governmental Experience	Provide detail on previous City or other governmental experience. Information for potential City vendors can be found here: <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/selltonyc/html/home/home.shtml">http://www.nyc.gov/html/selltonyc/html/home/home.shtml</a>
5	Energy Production & GHG Reductions	Provide estimated energy generation potential, performance specifications and associated GHG emission reductions.
6	Regulatory & Permitting Requirements	Describe any regulatory or construction code issues that might affect the proposed technology, or project proposal. Describe in detail the UL [or recognized NRTL] test results associated with the technology.
7	Informational Requirements	Describe information needed from the City to generate a complete installation proposal, such as building construction details, accessibility, number of site visits, etc.
8	Measurement & Verification	Indicate your firm's ability to provide a proof of concept and measurement and verification (M&V) of the installed demonstration project. Please note a detailed M&V methodology (as per IPMVP and/or ASHRAE Guideline 14) will be required for demonstration projects.
9	Timeline	Describe a typical completion schedule for the proposed renewable technology demonstration project, including steps such as permitting, implementation, construction, commissioning and product training.
10	Other Sites and References	Provide a list of locales and entities where the proposed renewable technology has been successfully implemented. If references are available please include a list of contacts.

## QUESTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Respondents will have the ability to email questions regarding any aspect of this RFI to the RFI contact identified below. Questions and general inquiries regarding the RFI can be submitted to [energy@dcas.nyc.gov](mailto:energy@dcas.nyc.gov) by 5:00pm EST on September 30, 2016. Responses to questions and inquiries will be posted to the DCAS Energy Management website located at [nyc.gov/energy-conservation](http://nyc.gov/energy-conservation) by 5:00pm EST on October 5, 2016.

## SUBMISSION PROCESS AND DEADLINE

Proposals are due electronically to the RFI email address below by 2:00 pm EST on **October 26, 2016**. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.

### RFI Contact:

**Department of Citywide Administrative Services**  
**Attention: Ellen Zielinski**  
**Director of Clean Energy & Innovative Technologies**  
**E-Mail: [energy@dcas.nyc.gov](mailto:energy@dcas.nyc.gov)**

## SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

The City will review all responses based on factors such as cost-effectiveness and renewable energy generation potential, replicability across the City's portfolio of buildings, innovation, overall feasibility and quality of the submission. A short list will be created and the vendors of those technologies will be formally invited to participate in the IDEA demonstration program.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## **Costs and Expenses**

The City shall not have any responsibility for any costs or expenses incurred by any respondent related to its preparation of a response to this RFI. Each respondent is solely responsible for its own costs and expenses in preparing and submitting a response to this RFI and participating in the RFI process, including the provision of any additional information or attendance at meetings or interviews.

## **No Binding Obligation Is Created**

This document is not intended as a solicitation for the award of a contract or a prerequisite for participation in any future solicitation. The City is under no legal, monetary, or contractual obligation to respondents to this RFI. This RFI, and any documents submitted in response thereto, do not constitute and will not give rise to any legally binding obligation on the part of the City. The City does not intend to, and shall not be, bound by the terms of this RFI. The City reserves the right to proceed in any matter that it, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate. The City also reserves the right to accept and consider any non-compliant response. All responses to this RFI shall become the property of the City.

## **Reservation of Rights**

The City reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to alter and/or withdraw the RFI at any time; to choose to discuss various approaches with one or more respondents (including those not responding to the RFI); to use the ideas or approaches submitted in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the City, including but not limited to soliciting competitive submissions relating to such ideas or approaches; and/or undertake the prescribed work in a manner other than that which is set forth herein.

## **Confidentiality**

The names of the respondents to this RFI shall not be confidential. However, subject to the provisions of applicable law, at the request of any respondent, the contents of the response, or any portion thereof, may be treated as confidential. Any request to treat a response or portion thereof as confidential should be accompanied by an explanation justifying the applicability of the protection sought.