

Joint CCAs – 2020 Request for Information on Long-Duration Storage  
Questions and Answers – June 17, 2020

**Question 1:** The information requests pricing for a 15-year offer. In addition to this, will the CCAs entertain offers for a longer duration? Specifically, pumped-hydro storage is better equated to an infrastructure-type project, where the term is thirty years or longer.

Yes, the Joint CCAs will entertain offers for a longer duration, but for an apples-to-apples comparison across RFI respondents, we are requesting pricing for a 15-year term.

**Question 2:** Would the RFI deadline be flexible for extension due to unforeseen delays from the COVID-19 pandemic?

The Joint CCAs cannot extend the deadline of the RFI, as we are constrained by internal and external deadlines. Nevertheless, if you would like to make a submission after the RFI deadline, we are more than happy to distribute among the Joint CCAs – but it will be considered an unsolicited response and outside the scope of the RFI.

**Question 3:** Is a response to the RFI required to submit a proposal to any future related RFO?

No, but RFI responses will provide useful information in shaping future RFOs, and therefore responses from respondents that intend to participate in future RFOs are strongly encouraged.

**Question 4:** Is a response to all sections of the RFI required to be considered a complete response?

RFI respondents are encouraged to complete all sections of the RFI, but all responses submitted by respondents will be reviewed.

**Question 5:** Can you provide additional background on the individual CCAs, their relationship to each other and their individual and collective relationship to the CAISO?

Each of the listed Joint CCAs is a load-serving entity (and more specifically, a Community Choice Aggregator) within the CAISO balancing authority area, and each is independently governed by its own Board of Directors. CCAs often have common goals, and each of the listed Joint CCAs is a member of CalCCA, which represents the interests of California's community choice electricity providers in the legislature and at state regulatory agencies. Please go to CalCCA's website for more information and links to the individual CCAs: <https://cal-cca.org/about/members/>

**Question 6:** Would any future RFOs issued by an individual CCA be issued concurrently with other RFOs issued by other members of the Joint CCAs?

Several of the CCAs are exploring issuing a joint-RFO to consolidate needs and resources and to share in project benefits and risks. However, it is conceivable that individual CCAs may issue their own RFOs.

**Question 7:** For projects that exceed the required capacity of one CCA would there be line of sight on the needs and the hosting capacities of neighboring CCAs?

The Joint CCAs cannot provide specifics on potential future RFOs that have yet to be issued. But it is quite possible that an RFO will be issued later this year by a group of CCAs with a more substantial capacity need.

**Question 8:** Is there a limit to the number of offers and variation of offers that a company will be allowed to be submit in future RFOs?

We cannot provide specifics on potential future RFOs that have yet to be issued.

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**Question 9:** Are the Joint CCAs looking for projects at various stages of development? If so, can you elaborate on what preference would be given to new build, under construction and existing facilities?

The goal of this RFI is to assess the commercial viability of long-duration storage as well as the interest from developers in providing such resources to CCAs. The information collected from the RFI will help inform future RFOs by one or more entities. At this time, the Joint CCAs have not determined whether offered projects need to be new, under development or existing resources.

**Question 10:** Will a list of preferred substations, feeders and/or neighborhoods for interconnection be provided?

No, not for this RFI. The Joint CCAs are interested to learn if you have identified specific sites that are suitable and feasible. But we appreciate this feedback for potential RFOs.

- **10-A:** Please release the generation hosting capacity and the load hosting capacity for all locations being considered.”

N/A

- **10-B:** Please release the current daily load profile and the forecasted daily load profiles for all locations being considered.

N/A

**Question 11:** Are service area maps that list substation locations and feeder maps for the Joint CCAs available?

No, not for this RFI, but we appreciate this feedback for potential RFOs.

**Question 12:** Is there a preference for transmission or distribution connected projects?

No, not at this point. The Joint CCAs are interested in both types of interconnections.

- **12-A:** Have any feasibility studies been performed for any preferred hosting locations? If yes, will these studies be released as part of this RFI?

No.

- **12-B:** Is there a preferred voltage for interconnection?

No, not at this point.

**Question 13:** Is there a minimum resource size that will be considered?

The Joint CCAs would prefer resources that have between 5 MW and 250 MW of capacity, with the capability to discharge for at least 8 hours at this full capacity. The Joint CCAs will also consider resources outside this capacity range, but such resources must be fully eligible to participate in CAISO markets.

**Question 14:** Section E bullet 4 of the RFI references projects exceeding the demand of one CCA being able to offer services to another CCA. Can you elaborate on the capacity requirement of each CCA and the preference of individual CCAs to have one project servicing multiple CCAs?

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The Joint CCAs cannot at this time elaborate on the capacity needs of individual CCAs. Section E bullet 4 of the RFI is intended to solicit feedback on potential contracting structures.

**Question 15:** In the instance of one project servicing multiple CCAs, will a single point of interconnection be required?

At this time, the Joint CCAs are only requesting information on projects with a single point of interconnection and a single CAISO resource ID. In the future, when actual procurement efforts are underway, the CCAs may propose different commercial structures that enable individual projects to contract with multiple offtakers.

**Question 16:** Will projects receive additional scores if they can discharge at full capacity for significantly longer than 8 hours?

For this RFI, the Joint CCAs are not planning to quantitatively score the results. Instead, the results will be used to inform procurement strategies and provide insight into which technologies/projects might be feasible and economic.

**Question 17:** Will the Joint CCAs require or give favorable consideration to companies that already have projects in the interconnection queue?

This parameter will be defined and prioritized in upcoming RFO(s).

**Question 18:** Are there any state of charge requirements developers should be aware of? If so, please provide these details.

The Joint CCAs generally consider "state of charge" to mean the amount of energy stored in the resource and available for discharge at a given point in time, expressed as a percentage of the maximum amount of discharge energy a resource is capable of storing. The Joint CCAs have not defined State of Charge Requirements at this time, however developers are encouraged to specify what constitutes 0% and 100% state of charge for their individual projects, under normal operations. The Joint CCAs would also appreciate any information related to the speed to charge from 0 to 100% and/or degradation of speed of charge or amount of energy that can be stored at 100% state of charge over the resource's life.

**Question 19:** Are any of the CCAs affected by the forced shutdowns due to wildfire? Will preference be given to projects that can charge independently of the grid under these conditions?

To date, some of the CCAs participating in this RFI have been affected by Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. Going forward, PSPS events have the potential to impact much of the state. As such, any information related to a resource's ability to charge independently of the grid would be valuable.