

Cape Light Compact Management, Tracking, and Reporting System

Request for Proposals - Questions and Answers

Set #3 posted on www.capelightcompact.org on 1/8/2015

Questions that have been received are listed and numbered here with italics. Answers are listed and numbered below each question.

Question 3.1: In Sec 3.6, under Interaction with power supply, can you clarify the near-term element requirement? In particular, can you clarify the requirement dealing with "supporting EDI transactions"?

-In the same section, can you give an example of the type of report and its contents given in the longer-term element of this task?

Answer 3.1: In regard to the supporting EDI transactions, this references the adding, dropping, and tracking on the customer record with specific protocols for the purposes of the power supply program. Currently this is not done by the Cape Light Compact as our competitive power supply does this now. The reporting in the longer-term element references the ability for internal staff to query the database and mine the data.

Question 3.2: In section 3.9, the text references a table, but it is missing. Is it actually referring to the table under section 3.7?

Answer 3.2: Yes. That is correct. The text should reference the table under section 3.7.

Question 3.3: Can you please define what is meant in terms of time for required, near term, and long term?

Answer 3.3: Yes. Page 9 of the RFP references December 1, 2015 for the required elements, December 1, 2016 for the near-term elements, and December 1, 2018 for the longer-term elements.

Question 3.4: To confirm, do you want us to include all of the longer-term elements in the proposals?

Answer 3.4: The Cape Light Compact recognizes that many of the longer-term elements have not been fully defined, and it is anticipated that the amounts in the bid for those longer-term elements will be a ballpark. For those elements that cannot be included, please note these in the bid.

Question 3.5: In Section 3.3, Customer Master Loading, can you please tell us a bit more about the process? Is Northeast Utilities the source source of data?

Answer 3.5: The Cape Light Compact receives information regarding customers like account numbers, addresses, and rate codes among other customer information. Vendors provide information on the activities by customer, and this information is also collected. Currently, Northeast Utilities is the sole source for the master data, but as the Compact continues to evolve, it may elect to purchase information for marketing or projects like the SIC code information.

Question 3.6: The vendors and the Cape Light Compact seem to have a bilateral exchange of information. It sounds like this is done by secure FTP and there is a collection of workorder data and processing and getting the data back to you. Is this current?

Answer 3.6: Yes. The exchange of data is done by secure FTP. Currently, this is done through a secure FTP site owned by Cape Light Compact. CORRECTION: THIS WAS INCORRECTLY NOTED THAT IT WAS OWNED BY THE IT VENDOR ON THE PRE-BID CONFERENCE CALL. Bidders should note whether they would host the FTP site, or if the Cape Light Compact is assumed to own the site. The vendors vary in that some are more sophisticated than others. Some require only the information to get started, complete the work, and then upload the data whereas others simply put the data electronically on the secure FTP and the Cape Light Compact manually inputs the data.

Question 3.7: To clarify, do the vendors use a secure FTP site to transfer the data?

Answer 3.7: Yes. The exchange of data is done by secure FTP.

Question 3.8: So, the vendors currently use a pipe delimited file to upload data, correct? Is the Compact open to other formats?

Answer 3.8: Yes. The files are all currently in pipe delimited files. The Compact is open to other formats, but it should be noted that this would change their current processes, and it is desired that this transition is as seamless as possible.