# Clean Energy Alliance 2025 Request for Proposals ("RFP") for Energy Portfolio Management and Valuation Services Platform

## **Responses to Questions**

#### Introduction

Clean Energy Alliance ("CEA") is seeking proposals for qualified organizations and business entities to provide Professional Services for an Energy Portfolio Management and Valuation Platform (the "Platform") for CEA. CEA is planning to deploy this Platform to help CEA procure power supply and manage its power portfolio, as well as support for financial and budget processes. Under this solicitation, CEA received the following questions from potential respondents and is providing responses herein.

#### **Questions and Answers**

1. Will CEA request preferred firms conduct a solution demonstration or proof of concept? If yes, what are the estimated dates and duration for this activity?

A: CEA expects to have sufficient information through references, proposal submissions, and video interviews (if needed) in order to select a preferred bidder without the need for a period for demonstration or proof of concept.

2. Please clarify when CEA desires to kick off the project. We see the expected completion or 'go-live' for the project is July 1, 2025.

A: Following Board approval on March 27, 2025, CEA intends to finalize the Professional Services Agreement by mid-April and begin implementation shortly thereafter.

3. Please provide the profile of users for this platform.

A: Proposers should assume up to 4 interactive users – these users may each be using the full scope of the scope of services of the Platform, though will have focus areas. For instance, one would be primarily focused on portfolio and risk analytics, another might be using the Platform primarily for forward-looking project or deal valuation, a third might be utilizing the Platform for financial reporting. Approximately 6 additional read-only users would be preferred; however, if read-only users would only be possible at additional cost to CEA, please flag this as a separate add-on cost item.

#### 4. Integration

a. Please define the systems you desire to be integrated into the platform.

A: Outside of the potential to incorporate energy market data (for instance, forward price curves from third-party providers – see response to next question), CEA does not have immediate integration needs. Proposals that offer other potential integrations that may be useful to CEA now or in the future – for instance, integrations that have been utilized by other customers of the respondent – are encouraged if they may add value for CEA.

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- b. Can you please clarify further on this statement: "energy market data should be priced as a separate add-on scope item"?
  - A: Certain proposers may desire to offer their own in-house power price forecasting (e.g., forward curves) or offer integrations that include forward curves from third party power market forecasting companies. CEA prefers the option to use the power price curves offered by the preferred bidder, or to choose its preferred price curve provider(s), purchase those third-party forecasts directly, and input them into the Platform. As such, CEA is asking for this power price forecasting scope item to be offered and costed separately from the rest of the core scope of services. This price forecast scope could include long-term (e.g., 30-year) price forecasts and shorter-term 3-year forward pricing (e.g., ICE Futures).
- c. A Platform may be capable of being integrated with the market data sources that are required to run your business. What are the market data sources today that are required for the initial implementation e.g. Platts, ZEMA, etc.?
  - A: See responses 4(a) and 4(b) directly above. No immediate market data sources are required, however CEA encourages respondents to offer potential integrations that may add value for CEA.
- d. Do you desire to integrate your accounting system for AR/AP purposes? If so, which ERP are you using?
  - A: CEA does not have an existing internal ERP but may explore accounting system integration in the future. Proposers should identify if their Platform has the potential to integrate with accounting functions, but this is not a requirement in order to respond to this RFP.

### 5. **Functional Scope**

- a. Is CEA exploring systems for load forecasting and battery asset optimization and dispatch?
   A: CEA has no current or past solicitation for load forecasting or battery optimization systems or services, but may explore one or both of these systems in the future.
- b. Do you transact directly with CAISO? Do you expect ETRM system to handle market communications (bid-to-bill) and ISO settlement?
  - A: CEA transacts with CAISO primarily through its Scheduling Coordinator and does not expect the scope of services under this RFP to include direct CAISO interaction on behalf of CEA.
- **c.** Are you planning to run market level simulations when you reference nodal level project valuation?
  - A: CEA asks bidders to propose their recommended approach or approaches to project valuation that balance cost effectiveness and efficiency with accuracy a full market simulation for each nodal project valuation may not be feasible or necessary. CEA's desired

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project valuation activities may include analysis of many (10+) different projects and their respective value, for comparison with or against each other.

- d. Are you planning to use the system advanced risk analysis including Monte Carlo VaR, GMaR. CFaR, etc.?
  - A: Yes, advanced risk analysis capabilities to perform probabilistic modeling and calculate Value at Risk (as well as other risk metrics) are desired. Hourly granularity for load, generation, and price analytics is also desired.
- e. Can you provide information on the number of transactions and number of counterparties? What types of transactions need to be captured, and what commodities are traded?
  - A: Much of the requested information (number of transactions, counterparties) is confidential. If required in order to effectively price the proposed scope, providers can indicate an anticipated range of transactions or counterparties within which their pricing applies. CEA primarily trades conventional energy (e.g., wholesale energy hedge transactions), RECs (PCC1, PCC2, PCC3), carbon-free energy (large hydropower and nuclear), and resource adequacy capacity. CEA does not trade other commodities like gas.
- f. What are the key reports you are expecting to extract from the system?

  A: CEA anticipates preparing reports and analyses of Value at Risk and position tracking (as well as other financial and risk metrics, such as those outlined in our <a href="Energy Risk Management Policy">Energy Risk Management Policy</a>), energy portfolio planning scenarios (for strategic planning purposes), and deal valuation for both existing transactions and new Power Purchase Agreements or Energy Storage Services Agreements which may be proposed to CEA by developers. The capability to create other reports or to develop custom reports reflecting the scope items outlined in the RFP is preferred.
- 6. Do you have a preferred cloud provider?
  - A: No, CEA does not. Proposers should outline the benefits of their technical and cybersecurity approach in response to the questions in Attachment A.