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## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

ON-SITE PV SOLAR DEVELOPMENT VIA POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT  
APRIL 23, 2026

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REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
11231 MARCUM BRANCH ROAD  
BENTON, ILLINOIS 62812  
(618) 439-4321



The Rend Lake Conservancy District (“District”) is accepting proposals for Solar PV (Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) providers (“Provider”) for four (4) recreation sites at the Rend Lake Golf Resort in Whittington, Illinois.

Each Proposal must be submitted electronically to [gm@rendlake.org](mailto:gm@rendlake.org). Proposals will be received until 5:00pm CST on Friday, May 24, 2026. Late proposals will not be considered.

The Rend Lake Conservancy District (RLCD) reserves the right to waive all technicalities, to accept or reject any or all proposals, to accept only portions of a proposal and reject the remainder without disclosure for any reason. Failure to make such a disclosure will not result in accrual of any right, claim or cause of action against the District by any Provider submitting a proposal. Proposals shall not include federal excise tax or state sales tax for materials and equipment to be incorporated in, or fully consumed in the performance of, the work. An Exemption Certificate will be furnished by the District on request of the Provider selected for the Solar PV PPA.

The Provider selected will also be required to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and executive orders including but not limited to those pertaining to equal employment opportunity. All work performed under the PPA contract shall comply with the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act.

Gary Williams  
General Manager  
Rend Lake Conservancy District

## I. Introduction

The Rend Lake Conservancy District (the District) is soliciting proposals for a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) from qualified solar PPA providers for four (4) recreation properties located at the Rend Lake Golf Resort in Whittington, Illinois, 62897. The aim of this solicitation is to procure a PPA with suitable terms and conditions between the District and the Provider. The PPA will be for turn-key installation of ground-mount solar PV arrays at the site addresses listed in “Section II” , whereby the winning Provider installs, owns, and operates the solar PV system and the District purchases the system’s electric output from the Provider for a predetermined contract period with terms and conditions defined and agreed to by both parties under the PPA. Providers shall have demonstrated experience in designing, planning, scheduling, permitting, and constructing complete solar PV systems, have knowledge of local utilities, provide project financial analysis and incentive management, and provide system monitoring and maintenance.

## II. Project Information

- The District completed a solar feasibility study in March, 2026 that fully evaluated current energy usage, Ameren compatibility, estimated size and cost of the system, and recommendations for site placement. The completed study should be used for reference only and it is the responsibility of the Provider to validate any of the information that may be used to create your RFP submission. All construction and financial estimates have been redacted. The completed study can be found at <https://rendlake.org/bid-specifications/>. Basic project details include:

NAME	SITE ADDRESS	ESTIMATED PV SIZE	
		kW (DC)	kW (AC)
Event Center	14967 Gun Creek Trail	112.2	100
Seasons Lodge	12575 Golf Course Drive	140.8	120
Seasons Condos	12596 Golf Course Drive	184.8	150
Clubhouse	12476 Golf Course Drive	99	86

The total project cost should include a full turn-key solution, inclusive of the following scope:  
Design and Engineering:

- Electrical and Structural design, alongside any other requisite engineering efforts.
- Permit Acquisition (if applicable)
- Coordination and procurement of all necessary permits with all Authorities Having Jurisdiction.

- Utility Transformer and Interconnection Upgrades
- Providing all ancillary items needed to provide a complete and working solar PV system.
- Ensuring enhanced utility interfacing and successful interconnection through upgrades.

#### Interconnection Documentation:

- Management and submission of interconnection documentation, ensuring approval from pertinent entities.
- The status of interconnection agreements with Ameren includes:
  - Lodge and Clubhouse are fully approved, ready to be constructed
  - Event Center and Condos are in the Ameren queue – at the # 32 position for each.

#### SREC Paperwork and Management:

- Comprehensive handling of SREC paperwork, inclusive of application fee and collateral deposit submissions.
- Management of SRECs throughout the span of the contract.

#### Metering and Monitoring Systems:

- Installation and management of metering and monitoring systems to ensure optimal function and reporting of the solar installation.

#### AC/DC Electrical Installation:

- Installation of all AC/DC electrical systems pertinent to the solar setup.

#### Commissioning:

- Payment and completion of a third-party commissioning process to ensure the solar system is fully operational and adherent to all specifications and regulations. The District shall approve the third-party commissioning provider and receive all reporting from the third-party commissioning company.
- District to receive all as-built construction documents.

#### Solar Layout:

- The District prefers ground-mounted solar panels at the four recreation sites. These should include low-profile ballasted systems selected to balance cost, aesthetics, and owner preferences. Fixed-tilt high-profile racks and single-axis trackers will not be considered due to their height and potential to obstruct views around the recreation properties.

#### Labor:

This contract calls for the construction of a “public work,” within the meaning of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act, 820 ILCS 130/.01 *et seq.* (“the Act”). The Act requires contractors and subcontractors to pay laborers, workers and mechanics performing services on public works projects no less than the current “prevailing rate of wages” (hourly cash wages plus amount for fringe benefits) in the county where the work is performed. The Department of Labor publishes the prevailing wage rates on its website at <http://labor.illinois.gov/>. The Department revises the prevailing wage rates and the contractor/subcontractor has an obligation to check the Department’s web site for revisions to the prevailing wage rates. For information regarding current prevailing wage rates, please refer to the Illinois Department of Labor’s website. All contractors and subcontractors rendering services under this contract must comply with all requirements of the Act, *including but not limited to*, all wage requirements and notice and record keeping duties.

### **III. PPA Requirements**

The District is seeking a Power Purchase Agreement that is up to 20 years in total term. Providers should submit proposals with associated terms and pricing, specifying:

- PPA rate (\$/kWh) for each term length offered by your company
- Annual escalator (if any) with a strong customer preference for a fixed rate with 0% escalation
- Draft Agreement Terms and Conditions between the District and your company
- Maintenance/operation details, monitoring and reporting capabilities
- The District requires that the solar PV system be owned by the Provider
- The selected Provider shall apply for and receive incentives and rebate funding.

### **IV. Buyout Option**

- The Proposal should include a buyout option at the end of the contract term where the District will have the ability to purchase and own the system at its then fair market value. The District would also prefer earlier buyout options as well. The fair market value will be determined by an independent third-party appraiser.
- In the event a buyout doesn’t occur, the Provider should include the cost to remove all solar arrays from RLCD properties and restore the landscape appropriately.

### **V. Proposal Submission Guidelines**

Proposals should include:

- A PPA quote subject to the successful negotiation of contract terms and conditions. Provide a list and explanation of any additional costs that could be billed to customer that are not covered in the PPA rate.
- A brief company overview, including experience in Ameren territory, team qualifications, and financial stability.

- A minimum of three similar reference projects, showcasing your track record in successfully deploying similar projects.
- Warranty, insurance, and performance guarantee details.
- Provide details regarding maintenance and monitoring of the solar installation.
- Provide details of how or whether Provider can accommodate the sunsetting of Commercial (48E) Credits that are set to expire July 4, 2026.

## **VI. Evaluation Criteria**

The District will evaluate proposals according to the evaluation criteria below. Points will be awarded based on the relative merit of the information provided in the response to the solicitation. The District reserves the right to issue no award because of this solicitation.

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| • Proposal Cost Effectiveness                | 30 points |
| • Technical Approach/ Implementation         | 30 points |
| • Proposer Qualifications/Project Experience | 20 points |
| • Proposer’s Project Team members experience | 20 points |

## **VII. PUBLIC RECORDS AND REQUESTS FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

Proposals become the property of the RLCD and not returned, including late submissions. All submittals of qualifications will be open to the public under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) (5 ILCS 140) and other applicable laws and rules, unless Offeror requests in its Submittal of Qualifications that the RLCD treat certain information as confidential. A request for confidential treatment will not supersede the RLCD’s legal obligations under FOIA. The RLCD will not honor requests to keep entire submissions confidential. Offerors must show the specific grounds in FOIA or other law or rule that support confidential treatment. Regardless, the RLCD will disclose the successful Offeror’s name, the substance of the Offer, and the price upon final contract award, if requested. If Offeror requests confidential treatment, Offeror must submit one additional copy of the Submittal of Qualifications with proposed confidential information redacted. In a separate attachment, Offeror shall supply a listing of the provisions identified by section number for which it seeks confidential treatment, identify the statutory basis under Illinois law for exemption from public disclosure, and include a detailed justification for exempting the information from public disclosure. Offeror will hold harmless and indemnify the RLCD for all costs or damages associated with the RLCD defending Offeror’s request for confidential treatment. Offeror agrees the RLCD may copy the Submittal of Qualifications to facilitate evaluation, or to respond to requests for public records. Offeror warrants that such copying will not violate the rights of any third party.