



Puget Sound Energy
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Jeff Killip
Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, Washington 98503

**Re: Puget Sound Energy Informational Filing
Voluntary 2025 Distributed Solar & Storage Request for Proposals
Docket UE-25_____**

Dear Director Killip,

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) hereby submits to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) the enclosed 2025 Distributed Solar and Storage Request for Proposals (2025 DSS RFP). The 2025 DSS RFP is a “targeted” and “voluntary” RFP under the Commission’s Purchases of Resources rules set forth in Chapter 480-107 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). Accordingly, PSE submits the 2025 DSS RFP for informational purposes only pursuant to WAC 480-107-021(1).

I. Summary

The goal of the 2025 DSS RFP is to acquire cost-effective distributed solar and storage, to help meet PSE’s ongoing need for capacity and Clean Energy Transformation Act compliant resources at the lowest reasonable cost.¹ As part of this service-territory-wide solicitation, PSE is also launching a targeted substation capacity initiative for the substations of Longmire and Bonney Lake. Eligible resources for the targeted substation capacity initiative include front-of-the-meter battery energy storage system (BESS) resources or BESS resources paired with solar interconnected to PSE’s distribution system. PSE will consider both power purchase agreements and ownership proposals for the service-territory-wide RFP, but requires PSE ownership for the targeted substation capacity initiative. Similar to PSE’s 2023 and 2024 DSS RFPs,² PSE will follow a structured evaluation process designed to screen and rank individual proposals based on an evaluation of costs, risks, and benefits. PSE will evaluate each proposal based on its

¹ PSE’s most recent published integrated planning analysis pertaining to electric resources, the 2023 Electric Progress Report, identified 63 megawatts (MWs) and 61 MWs of incremental distributed solar and storage, respectively, in 2027 and 2028, as part of its preferred portfolio to meet PSE’s resource needs.

² For more information about PSE’s 2024 and 2023 DSS RFPs, see: <https://www.pse.com/en/pages/energy-supply/acquiring-energy>.

compliance with the criteria describe in Section 4 of the 2025 DSS RFP and in Exhibit A: Evaluation Criteria and Scoring.

II. Timing

PSE is issuing the 2025 DSS RFP concurrent with this informational filing, on September 29, 2025. Consistent with WAC 480-107-021(1), PSE will begin accepting proposals on October 29, 2025, with offers due to PSE by January 30, 2026. By March 1, 2026, PSE will post a proposal summary report on the 2025 DSS RFP website³ consistent with WAC 480-107-035(5). At this time, PSE expects the evaluation and negotiation processes will last through the end of 2026. Additional schedule updates and any supplemental informational updates associated with the 2025 DSS RFP will be posted to PSE's RFP website.

III. Outreach and Engagement

To broaden awareness of the 2025 DSS RFP, PSE has provided notice of its filing to power marketing companies, aggregators, utilities, energy efficiency companies, and other entities involved in development or provision of DERs, including representatives of interested persons who participated in prior PSE resource acquisition processes. PSE will also be providing notice of the 2025 DSS RFP to a variety of trade publications, with an emphasis on encouraging participation from diverse types of respondents. In addition, PSE met with Commission Staff (Staff) and Public Counsel in June and August of 2025 to discuss the scope and timing of the 2025 DSS RFP and to discuss the role and approval process for the independent evaluator, as discussed further below.

IV. Role of the Independent Evaluator

On March 22, 2024, following outreach and discussion with interested parties, PSE filed a petition in Docket UE-240191 requesting that the Commission approve Bates White as the independent evaluator for all voluntary RFPs issued by PSE prior to January 1, 2027. On April 25, 2024, the Commission approved PSE's petition, subject to the condition that PSE consult with interested parties, including Staff and Public Counsel, to determine if there are concerns with the use of Bates & White.

In compliance with this condition, PSE met with Staff and Public Counsel in June 2025 to consult on using Bates White. PSE again met with Staff and Public Counsel in August of 2025 to reaffirm PSE's plans to issue the 2025 DSS RFP in fall 2025 and use Bates White as the IE. Bates White has participated in the design and review of the 2025 DSS RFP and Exhibits A-J. Please see Section 3 of the 2025 DSS RFP for more information regarding the role and scope of Bates White as the independent evaluator.

V. Conclusion

PSE is issuing the 2025 DSS RFP concurrent with this informational filing. If you have regulatory questions about this matter, please contact Stephen Collins, Regulatory Affairs

³ <https://www.pse.com/en/pages/energy-supply/acquiring-energy/2025-Distributed-Solar-and-Storage-RFP>.

Jeff Killip, Executive Director and Secretary

September 29, 2025

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Initiatives Manager, at Stephen.Collins@pse.com. As instructed in the RFP, bid-related questions should be directed to SolarStorageRFPmailbox@pse.com. If you have any other questions, please contact me at Wendy.Gerlitz@pse.com.

Sincerely,

/s/ Wendy Gerlitz

Wendy Gerlitz
Director, Regulatory Policy
Puget Sound Energy
PO Box 97034, BEL10W
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734
425-462-3051

cc: Tad O'Neill, Public Counsel
Sheree Carson, Perkins Coie

Attachments:

2025 Distributed Solar & Storage Request for Proposals

Exhibit A – Evaluation Criteria and Scoring

Exhibit B – Proposal Requirement Forms

Exhibit C – BESS Requirements (Non-PSE Ownership)

Exhibit D – Mutual Confidentiality Agreement

Exhibit E – Schedule of Estimated Avoided Cost

Exhibit F – Prototype Ownership Agreement

Exhibit G – Prototype Capacity and/or Energy Agreement

Exhibit H – Prototype Clean Energy Power Purchase Agreement

Exhibit I – Resources

Exhibit J – PSE Customer Consent Letter