

**Dexter Community Schools  
Addendum No. 1**

**Pre-Bid Questions/Request for Information**

**A1.1. What is the primary objective of this RFP – offset 100% (or other percentage) usage, maximum financial benefit, biggest solar PV system for a fixed budget, maximum energy generation for a fixed budget, other?**

The primary objective of the Solar Energy System is to create a section of walkway canopy along the Bus Hub that provides shade and coverage for students and use that structure, plus an additional lower cost ground mount solar array, to offset an optimal amount of electricity usage for our primary electric service unit which serves an interconnected campus of three elementary schools, a middle school, and the community pool. The solar energy system will be highly visible to our school community and will engage students of all grade levels with extended learning opportunities.

**A1.2. Who is the district’s energy provider?**

Owner/DCS is on DTE’s Choice program. The electricity provided to the service unit is Primary Electric Service. Owner/DCS is part of the MISEC (Michigan School Energy Cooperative) and its electricity supply contract is currently with Constellation Energy. DTE provides the distribution and metering. At this time, Constellation Energy has not provided information whether sell-back of excess solar power will be available. Developers should not consider any financial gain from sell-back but the system should be designed so that sell-back can happen should it become financially beneficial at a future date.

**A1.3. Please provide interval data.**

DTE hourly interval data has been added as Attachment N in excel spreadsheet format. The electronic file contains 12 months (March 31, 2021 to February 28, 2022) of the hourly interval data for the meter serving the primary service loop. Owner/DCS has requested updated 2022 calendar year interval data and 15 minute interval data from DTE but all bidders should use the interval data in Attachment N to determine the sizing of the arrays and to develop their proposals. Updated interval data will be provided to the successful bidder.

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**A1.4. Does DCS have a budgetary number bidders should work within?**

A budget has not been established, but funding for this project has been committed. The Developer should optimally size the system using **Attachment D, Attachment E, and Attachment N** to serve the greatest amount of native load of the location while also minimizing the sell-back potential.

**A1.5. How much energy does Owner/DCS want the solar array to produce?**

The anticipated system nameplate capacity for the combined solar walkway canopy plus ground mount solar array should be optimally sized by the Developer using the **Attachment D, Attachment E, and Attachment N** information to serve the greatest amount of native load of the location while also minimizing the sell-back potential. Please refer to Design-Build Guidelines 5. B. *“The canopy system to be a minimum of 290 feet in length..”* As indicated in A1.1, our primary objective is to create a section of walkway canopy for our Bus Hub.

**A1.6. Should the Developer size the array based on the Summary of DTE Electric usage from Attachment D or actual DTE Energy bills provided as Attachment E?**

Please refer to A1.2. for explanation of Owner/DCS’s participation with DTE Choice. Attachment D reflects a concise summary of the total kWh usage (which should match the DTE invoices provided in Attachment E) PLUS the total actual costs of both supplier and distribution.

**A1.7. Design-Build Guidelines 6. indicated:**

*“The ground mount solar array will be installed on the available site low maintenance vegetation...b....incorporate a low maintenance Vegetation Management plan including a Pollination Garden or 4” of pea stone over a weed proof geotextile.”*

**Operation and Maintenance of Solar System 6. indicated:**

*“Low maintenance Vegetation Management plan that may include a Pollination Garden. Proposal to include establishment, monitoring and adaptive management, use of native species, with a MSU Pollinator Habitat Planning Scorecard for Solar Sites of 76 or above, included in cost.”*

**Should Developer provide an alternate price for each in the bid?**

Please use your experience to propose the most cost effective and operationally efficient solution to the ground mount site restoration and ongoing maintenance.

**A1.8. Can the project be done anytime or only when school is out for summer?**

Ideally, summer (June 17-September 3, 2023) would provide the most uninterrupted access to the construction sites. However, Owner/DCS understands the solar components need to be sourced and construction scheduled. Based on the notification of successful proposal date of May 24, 2023, please identify key project milestones in your proposal including proposed project schedule and completion and system operation dates.

During the school year school calendar, the Bus Hub is used to drop off and pick up students between 7:40 - 8:20 am and 2:40 - 3:30 pm. Final switchover connection to primary service loop will also need to be coordinated with Owner/DCS.