

### EOI 06/2023

## **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

# DEVELOPMENT OF GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PV PROJECT

**ENERGY FIJI LIMITED** 

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#### 1 BACKGROUND

Energy Fiji Limited ("EFL") is a public company limited by shares that was established under the Companies Act (2015), Laws of Fiji. It is supervised by a Board of Directors comprising a Chairman and representatives from its shareholders. Energy Fiji Limited is the successor entity to Fiji Electricity Authority.

The Executive Management team of EFL consists of the Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, General Manager Human Resources, General Manager Generation, General Manager Network, General Manager Customer Services, General Manager System Planning and Control, General Manager Special Projects and Chief Information Officer.

EFL is primarily responsible for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in Viti Levu, Vanua Levu, Ovalau and Tavueni in Fiji. It owns over twenty (20) power stations and twenty (20) substations and switching stations on the islands of Viti Levu, Vanua Levu, Taveuni and Ovalau. EFL owns, operates and maintains a network of 147km of 132kV transmission lines, 534.86km of 33kV lines and over 10,500km of 11kV and 415V distribution lines.

#### 2 INFORMATION ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY

EFL aims to develop and procure power from ground mounted solar projects in the main island of Viti Levu and potentially, Vanua Levu in the Republic of Fiji through private sector participation (the **'Project'**). The Project will involve contracting with a private entity to develop, finance, operate and maintain the solar projects and to purchase the power generated from the solar projects for a specified duration for onwards distribution by EFL to its end consumers.

The private entity's scope includes construction of solar projects of a minimum capacity of 21 MW $_{AC}$  in Viti Levu and an additional capacity of 10 MW $_{AC}$  with a storage component of 7 MW/14 MWh in Vanua Levu across the sites identified by EFL along with operation and maintenance of the solar projects for a specified duration.

EFL has retained the services of International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group, as the lead transaction advisor for the Project.

#### 3 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

EFL invites interested parties to submit an Expression of Interest (**'EOI'**) based on the criteria set out below to engage in a consultative process with EFL to structure the Project.

Please note that this request for EOIs is to commence a consultative process and not an invitation for submission of tenders. The project description and scope set out above (including the number and size of the solar projects proposed to be constructed) are indicative and the detailed eligibility criteria, terms and conditions for qualification of the bidders, bid submission and selection of the bidder, as well as the draft power purchase agreement to be entered into between EFL and the selected bidder for procurement of power from the Project will be specified in the bid documents, to be issued by EFL at a later date.

Interested parties may form a consortium with other eligible entities (whether local or overseas), if necessary. At this stage, an applicant may submit an EOI in its individual capacity and subsequently form a consortium with other eligible entities at the time of submission of a bid. Other interested stakeholders are also invited to participate in consultations with EFL.

All costs associated with preparation and submission of an EOI shall be borne by the submitting Party.

**Application Criteria**: Entities with demonstrable experience in developing and operating and maintaining solar projects are invited to submit EOIs, with details and supporting documents including:

- (a) cover letter;
- (b) brief description of the applicant and in case of a consortium, of all consortium members (name, registered address, contact details and key personnel);
- (c) Information about the experience/credentials of the applicant/consortium members in undertaking similarly sized ground mounted solar projects, including details regarding size (in MW) and quantum of storage (if any), scope, location, design, mode of implementation (i.e., PPP or EPC), status i.e., under-construction (along with expected date of completion of project) or operational (along with year of commissioning of project);
- (d) any additional information, including brochures, accreditation certificate(s) and corporate literature;
- (e) comments or perceived issues or key considerations in implementing solar projects similar to the Project, particularly in the small island developing states; and
- (f) copy of the last three years' financial statements (audited, if available).

All documents, information, and supporting materials provided by an applicant as a part of its EOI must be in English.

Submissions must be made by 31/01/2024 and no later than 4:00 pm Fiji Standard Time (FJT) in soft copies (not exceeding I0 MB) with subject line "EOI — Solar Project" and uploaded on [https://www.tenderlink.com/itcs/].

EOIs shall be clearly marked for it to:

a) be addressed to EFL at the following address:

Tender Secretary

Attention: Jitendra Reddy

Manager Procurement, Inventories & Supply Chain

2 Marlow Street, Suva, FIJI.

Phone: 679 3224 360 Facsimile: 679 331 6773 Email: tenders@efl.com.fj

And

- b) bear the following identification:
  - Proposal for: EOI 06/2023 DEVELOPMENT OF GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PV PROJECT. DO NOT OPEN BEFORE: 1600hrs on 31/01/2024

Questions and enquiries regarding this invitation may be submitted no later than 22/01/2024 and should be addressed to:

Jitendra Reddy
Manager Procurement, Inventories & Supply Chain
2 Marlow Street, Suva,
FIJI.

Phone: 679 3224 360 Facsimile: 679 331 6773 Email: tenders@efl.com.fj

#### And copied to:

Ritesh Vij International Finance Corporation

Email: rvij@ifc.org

EFL reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to supplement or change the terms of this EOI process, cancel this EOI process at any time, accept or reject any EOI without assigning any reason thereof, and to change the structure or scope of the Project. EFL does not guarantee that this request for EOI will lead to a formal bid process for the Project.

If EFL initiates a formal bid process for the Project and there is any conflict or difference between the terms of this request for EOI and the bid documents, then the bid documents shall prevail for all purposes. Failure to respond to the EOI will not preclude interested applicants from participating in any bid process launched at a later date for the Project.