

Commercial Technical Service Provider (TSP) Support in FY 2013

Important: the changes described here apply only to Commercial TSP and do not affect Industrial TSP.

Background:

In 2008, BPA energy efficiency introduced financial support for commercial technical services through the TSP portal to assist utilities in scoping commercial custom project opportunities. The technical service providers were available for a range of services, including building audits, energy modeling, design review, and custom project proposal development.

With the transition to the post-2011 framework, BPA made changes to the commercial technical service support to better match services to project needs as well as maximize the value obtained from ratepayer dollars spent on these services.

Based on the process in fiscal year 2012, BPA is making additional changes for fiscal year 2013. Going forward, the technical service provider funding will be even more closely integrated with BPA Customer Service Engineer support for custom projects and the TSP Portal will not be used to request services. Additionally, BPA will not maintain a master list of available TSP firms. Instead, projects will be contracted out on a project-by-project basis.

Please note: BPA customers always have the option of contracting with a firm to complete technical services independent of BPA.

New Technical Support Request Process:

After October 1, 2012, customers eligible for BPA technical support looking to obtain support for commercial custom projects will follow this path:

- Contact your Customer Service Engineer to discuss support needs for an individual project.
 - Support needs may include: energy modeling, calculations, measurement and verification, and in-depth audits.

- Work with your Customer Service Engineer as s/he determines the best approach. The engineer may employ one of two avenues of support:
 - BPA Engineer: a BPA engineer or contract engineer will assist with or provide guidance on the development of a custom project proposal.
 - Technical Service Provider (TSP): the BPA engineer will obtain the services needed through a procurement contract.

When the choice is made to obtain technical support through a procurement contract, the designated BPA engineer will work with BPA's Supply Chain to acquire the services consistent with BPA's purchasing policies, including competition requirements.

To summarize, the key changes to the TSP offering are:

- BPA will incorporate the TSP function into the BPA Customer Service Engineer function and, as appropriate, TSP firms will be used to augment the services provided to customers by BPA's Customer Service Engineers and contractor engineers.
- The TSP portal will no longer be used to request engineering support.
- If TSP firms are utilized, they will be selected on a case by case basis for individual projects.

Contact

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