

Technical Services Proposal (TSP) Portal

Talking Points

June 2008

Background

On May 29, 2008, the Bonneville Power Administration launched the *enhanced* Technical Services Proposal (TSP) Portal. You can access the on-line Portal easily at www.bpa.gov/tsp.

Some of the new features of the TSP Portal include:

- Added security with Login and Password protection.
- Proposers can select the specific sector when requesting technical services.
- Proposers can start, save and return to a proposal at a later time, if necessary.
- Proposers' contact information can be saved in the system for future proposal submissions.
- Proposers are able to view the status of all *newly added* proposals, as they move through the TSP Portal. Note: this does not apply to proposals transitioned from the old Portal.
- The Agriculture, Commercial and Industrial sectors have individual Web pages complete with Frequently Asked Questions, Marketing Materials (if available), Links & Resources, and a list of the contracted TSP Consultants.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: *Why did BPA upgrade the TSP Portal?*

A1: BPA hired Quantec Consulting to conduct a process evaluation of the TSP Portal in September 2006. The enhancement was the result of implementing a number of recommendations that came out of the evaluation.

Q2: *Has BPA created 'TSP Portal step-by-steps' to assist individuals in using the TSP Portal?*

A2: Yes. The TSP Portal 'Welcome page' has a document link of the *Technical Services Proposal (TSP) Portal Overview*. The TSP Coordinator is able to host a one-on-one training session using your own computer and interactive conferencing software, Microsoft Office Live Meeting (Live Meeting).

Q3: *What utilities qualify to be listed on the TSP Portal as a participant?*

A3: Utilities purchasing electric power from BPA that are willing to provide incentive monies for projects that result from the technical services provided in the proposal. A utility would need to let their Energy Efficiency Representative (EER) or the TSP Coordinator know they would like to participate, and should specify which sector(s), etc. The TSP Portal would then be updated to list that utility's name when a person creates a new proposal.

Q4: *How does a company qualify to provide BPA's participating utility end-users technical services?*

A4: BPA pays for technical services from the private sector under the Bonneville Purchasing Instructions (BPI). Note: BPA published a Request For Offers (RFO) to find the experts to develop a technical services pool. This was a competitive process. A firm must have been a successful participant in that process to receive a BPA contract to provide technical services. Firms that did not compete may qualify under the Single Source Justification criteria within the BPI; within very limited exceptions (see <http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/business/bpi>).

Q5: *What kind of technical services does BPA offer participating utilities through the TSP Portal?*

A5: A technical service proposal generally consists of, but is not limited to, energy audits, feasibility studies, plant assessments, irrigation pump testing, design and modeling reviews, conservation project identification, implementation project proposal development, and measurement and verification tasks within the Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial sectors.

Q6: *Does BPA require cost-sharing of the technical services offered?*

A6: Dependent on the sector¹ of which the proposal has been requested.

- (a) Agriculture Sector requires some cost-sharing for pump testing. BPA pays for the pump test, minus any travel costs incurred by the TSP consultant. The travel costs would be paid by the end-use consumer. Other technical services may merit cost-sharing (on a case-by-case basis) following proposal review by the Agriculture Sector Lead;
- (b) Commercial Sector requires cost-sharing by the end-use consumer when the technical service will cost more than \$10,000.
- (c) Industrial Sector proposals may merit cost-sharing (on a case-by-case basis) dependent upon the cost of the technical service and the number of different TSPs completed for the end-use consumer, following proposal review by the Industrial Sector Lead.

Q7: *How does a participating utility know about the technical services that have been requested in their service territory?*

A7: There are three ways a participating utility can find out about the technical services that have been requested in their service territory:

- (a) If the proposer includes the utility contact information when creating the proposal, an automated e-mail notification will be sent from PBL EEFeedback, otherwise called the TSP Portal, when the proposal has been successfully submitted.
- (b) The assigned EER should contact the utility within two business days following the proposal submission to make sure they:
 - o Support the technical service(s) that have been requested,
 - o Willing to pursue any reasonable projects identified in the proposal, and
 - o Will provide the appropriate market incentives for the project to their end-use consumer (e.g., Conservation Acquisition Agreement, Conservation Rate Credit, or their own utility funding.).
- (c) The utility representative can contact the TSP Coordinator to request a special report of all TSPs submitted, contracted, and/or completed in their service territory.

TSP Coordinator Contact Information

Jennifer Wood, KLJC
 Bonneville Power Administration
 1520 Kelly Place, Suite 100
 Walla Walla, WA 99362-8654
 (509) 527-6230
 (509) 527-6311, fax

¹ The word sector relates to Agriculture, Commercial or Industrial.