



ADDENDUM NUMBER 1: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

FOR

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CLOUD
INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER**

March 28, 2025

Question #1: Is SVCE open to using another CSP like AWS or is GCP the only option for this project?

Answer #1: There is a strong preference for GCP but we will consider proposals with alternative approaches if the solution is compelling.

Question #2: The RFP does not explicitly call out change management. While we will embed co-development, documentation, and training in our approach, we have found it can be helpful to have a dedicated change management resource. Does SVCE have this resource internally, or should we provide this service as part of the proposal?

Answer #2: Please provide the scope of any proposed services for change management and offer the cost of providing a resource as optional.

Question #3: We believe a hybrid team structure that includes SVCE's data engineers is the most effective way to assure knowledge transfer. Should we consider SVCE resources in scoping the development team? In other words, will SVCE data engineers (listed under Stakeholders / Personnel) be part of the development teams beyond code reviews and pull request approvals?

Answer #3: 3 SVCE staff, up to 1 FTE, will be a part of the development process. They will be the predominant points of contact, including managing and interacting, with the vendor. They will be responsible for ongoing maintenance once RADaR goes live.

Question #4: Does SVCE prefer certain interfaces (API, secure data share, backend database integration, etc.) for the ingestion of data from Adapt2, PowerSIMM, Itron, and the Internal Analytics Engine (IAE)? We can provide guidance on reliable and secure data pipelines as part of a discovery phase but would welcome any additional information on SVCE's preferences (if available) to help with scoping.

Answer #4: SVCE does not have a preference other than to maintain as much consistency across platforms as possible, second to ease of implementation.

Question #5: Do you have a period on how far back historical data in RADaR should go? Are there any archival requirements?

Answer #5: Ideal is 2021 forward but no less than 2024 forward.

Question #6: The RFP cites Compute Engine to support pipeline orchestration. It is a powerful tool, though we have not seen it used for this purpose previously. Are there security concerns using other GCP-native managed services such as Cloud Composer (Airflow-based), which provides built-in separation of instances via IAM and project-level isolation?

Answer #6: SVCE is open to anything that is "best-in-class" solution. If there is an alternative to the solution laid out in the RFP, please indicate your proposed solution and why it may be "superior" (e.g. ability to implement the solution quicker, simpler maintenance, more robust trouble shooting).

Question #7: Could SVCE clarify the identity provider used for single sign-on (SSO)?
Answer #7: SVCE will provide this information to the selected vendor.

Question #8: Are there additional security standards or data governance frameworks (beyond SOC2) that the implementation partner should adhere to?

Answer #8: See pages 15-16 of the RFP and Attachment A. Section 5 of the RFP covers what type of data security and cybersecurity posture information is requested of the vendor.

Question #9: We expect DAISY will contain PII as customer data. Are there other sources of PII we should be aware of?

Answer #9: DAISY (svce-demand) will be the primary repository for PII/customer data in RADaR.

Question #10: We are happy to provide guidance for best practices and compliance around PII data management. But we would welcome specific requirements for masking, pseudonymization, or anonymization if those are available.

Answer #10: SVCE will share best practices for PII data management with the selected vendor. SVCE does not anticipate significant work with PII during Task 1.

Question #11: Are you expecting to have PII in RADaR? If so, does SVCE have existing data retention policies for PII, such as periodic anonymization, archiving, or deletion of PII?

Answer #11: See Questions 9 and 10.

Question #12: Does SVCE have a defined incident response framework or plan for security breaches involving PII? (This is not something we need for scoping, but it is something we are happy to provide if desired as part of the project.)

Answer #12: SVCE will not share this information at this time.

Question #13: Are offshore resources allowed?

Answer #13: SVCE has a preference for onshore resources and will consider proposals that include nearshore/offshore resources. If both onshore and nearshore/offshore options are available, please include both options (i.e. onshore only vs. onshore and offshore) in your proposal along with the associated cost and timeline differences. Please also indicate: 1) which countries the nearshore/offshore resources are located, 2) number of nearshore/offshore staff, rates, and roles, and 3) which parts of the scope of work will be completed by the nearshore/offshore resources.

Question #14: Can you also have a contractor? Answer #14: Subcontractors are allowed; please include all relevant information requested in the RFP.

Question #15: As far as GCP, is there a developed instance or existing project that we would be using within GCP? Or will the vendor be standing it up?

Answer #15: There is an existing SVCE organization within GCP. The svce-demand project already exists but the svce-supply and svce-core projects do not exist yet. SVCE will work with the vendor to set up the svce-supply and svce-core projects.

Question #16: Should the only BI tool only be PowerBI?

Answer #16: SVCE has made an internal decision to use PowerBI as its primary dashboarding/reporting tool. This RFP is more focused on building out data infrastructure, not reporting.

Question #17: Is there a timeline for the solution?

Answer #17: The timeline for the solicitation is listed in the RFP document. For Task 1, there is a target launch date of November 2025. If proposing a phased work plan for Task 1, bidders should indicate what portions of the scope of work can be completed by November and when the remaining scope of work can be completed post-November.

Question #18: Does SVCE require native GCP components only, or is SVCE open to other tools run outside of GCP for orchestration?

Answer #18: See Question 6.

Question #19: Do you need to provide cybersecurity posture in the RFP?

Answer #19: Cybersecurity posture is not required in the RFP submittal, but will be required further along in the vendor selection process.

Question #20: Are there any standards for documentation with the vendor?

Answer #20: SVCE has internal templates for documentation (as an example, a product requirements document of how to translate data into GCP); however, we are interesting in working with the vendor to develop any other standards for documentation.

Question #21: Specific requirements for data quality? How important is this? Answer

#21: At a high-level, yes data quality is important especially for the load for the demand side. On the supply-side being able to combine disparate spreadsheets into a central repository, and getting a lineage of the raw data and transformations prior to ingestion will improve data quality.

Question #22: Will we need to recommend any automation of data quality?

Answer #22: An error message is sufficient, not automated routines required.

Question #23: Regarding version controlling, we will need to use GitHub. Will the repo owned by SVCE or by the vendor?

Answer #23: The GitHub repo will be owned by SVCE. SVCE internally uses GitHub Enterprise and the vendor will be invited to join and build within the repo.

Question #24: Who is the incumbent vendor currently supporting DAISY and other data systems?

Answer #24: Camus Energy is the incumbent vendor supporting DAISY and will not be participating in this solicitation. SVCE has a third-party data architecture advisor who is precluded from participating in this solicitation. There is no incumbent vendor for RADaR as a whole.

Question #25: Is the incumbent vendor allowed to participate in this RFP?

Answer #25: See Question 24.

Question #26: What are the biggest challenges and pain points that SVCE is currently facing with data management, reporting, or analytics?

Answer #26: Disjointed and disconnected data sources, poor data lineage (uncertain source of truth), manual effort combining data from systems, complexity of data system maintenance.

Question #27: What manual processes exist today that you would like to automate in the new RADaR platform?

Answer #27: All combinations and calculations in the data workflows with a process medium of Excel.

Question #28: Are there any existing data security risks or compliance gaps that need immediate attention?

Answer #28: No, the primary motivation is improvement and streamlining.

Question #29: What current reporting capabilities are insufficient, and what improvements do you seek?

Answer #29: There is little to no reporting capabilities for the Supply side. Initiating Reporting level tables for the Supply side data workflows and having tables ready for combination with Demand side data are the goal.

Question #30: Are there any ongoing issues with scalability in your current infrastructure?

Answer #30: The Demand side DAISY has no foreseeable scaling issues. Supply side is at the limit and requires cloud migration, the major proponent of this RFP.

Question #31: Have you conducted any internal audits or assessments of your data infrastructure that you can share?

Answer #31: SVCE routinely conducts internal audits and security assessments. These will not be shared.

Question #32: Do the current tools (PowerSIMM, Adapt2, Itron) have existing APIs, or will custom connectors be required?

Answer #32: Adapt2 may require custom connection. PowerSIMM and Itron have API interfaces.

Question #33: Are there any data transformation challenges that the current systems cannot handle?

Answer #33: Supply side is not integrated into the cloud yet.

Question #34: How frequently does SVCE receive new datasets, and how often do source formats change?

Answer #34: Demand dataset sources are integrated already (these datasets are updated anywhere from daily to annually, depending on the data source). Supply side data sets should remain consistent, with less than 10% of sources changing format on a yearly basis.

Question #35: What are the biggest ETL bottlenecks currently affecting data workflows?

Answer #35: Supply side has no ETL yet. For demand side, see Question 221.

Question #36: Do you have a standardized API framework, or should we propose one?

Answer #36: One should be proposed.

Question #37: How does SVCE handle data reconciliation between different sources today?

Answer #37: Manual comparison.

Question #38: How will PowerBI reports be accessed—through embedded dashboards, public links, or restricted views? Answer #38: All of the above. Dashboards will primarily be made by SVCE; vendor support will be requested for the proof of concept report in Task 1 and on an as-needed basis for Task 2. Apart from this, the vendor's priority will be to create reporting-ready tables that SVCE will then configure within PowerBI.

Question #39: What are the top three dashboards that SVCE staff rely on today?

Answer #39: Draft: Budget, Customer Load, Risk Report

Question #40: Are there specific reporting SLAs that the new system must meet?

Answer #40: We will rely on Exhibit B (Schedule of Performance). If applicable, please include the proposed SLAs based on your expertise and understanding of the RFP.

Question #41: How many SVCE staff members will require technical training on GCP and BigQuery?

Answer #41: In your proposal, please account for training of 5-10 technical staff. Staff have varied experience with GCP related tools, Python, R, and SQL.

Question #42: Would you prefer in-person training, virtual sessions, or self-paced learning materials?

Answer #42: SVCE prefers a combination of recorded virtual training sessions and self-paced learning materials.

Question #43: Should the ongoing services contract include 24/7 support, or will this be on an as-needed basis?

Answer #43: Ongoing services will be on an as-needed basis.

Question #44: The RFP mentions SOC2 compliance for vendors—do you also require SOC2 compliance for the implemented system?

Answer #44: SOC2 Type II compliance is required for selected vendor and cloud infrastructure (i.e. Google Cloud Platform).

Question #45: What is the total budget range allocated for this project (for Task 1 and Task 2 separately)?

Answer #45: The budget for both tasks will be a function of the value offered in the proposal. Bidders are encouraged to detail all costs, rates, and estimated hours as requested in the RFP. SVCE expects that this project can be completed with the support of a vendor in lieu of hiring additional staff.

Question #46: Do you expect this to be a fixed or time & material-based contract?

Answer #46: Time and materials. As requested in the RFP, please detail all relevant costs, rates, and estimated hours.

Question #47: We are a U.S.-based company with offices worldwide, Can we propose a hybrid resource model (Onshore/Onsite + Offshore) for this project?

Answer #47: See Question 13.

Question #48: Roughly how many GCP groups do you anticipate will be needed based on experience with DAISY and the size of your organization? (Source: p. 15)

Answer #48: Up to 10 tiered user groups across the 3 GCP projects. SVCE is in the process of scoping out these user groups.

Question #49: Does the scope around "Excel Processes" include replacing calculations and other processes performed by those workbooks with SQL/Python scripts, or would it be characterized as scraping/inserting data into/between those workbooks?

(Source: "All Excel processes will need to be conducted in GCP with version-controlled scripts" (p. 46))

Answer #49: Both in a process dependent mix. Some can be fully automated. Some processes may need to accommodate manual input which could be in the form of editing unlocked locations on a spreadsheet or uploading those manual entry information based on a dashboard.

Question #50: Is the outputs column inclusive of the views to be generated for PowerBI and other reports? (Source: p. 46)

Answer #50: Yes.

Question #51: Is there a Service Management (SM) platform in use you expect to leverage for permissions management including user onboarding, access review, and offboarding? (Source: p. 52)

Answer #51: Yes, we will provide this to the chosen vendor.

Question #52: What components/accelerators from the development of DAISY do you think could be reused for RADaR to improve consistency and reduce development time?

Answer #52: SVCE is internally creating a set of requirements that can be standardized across RADaR based on DAISY - timezone, naming conventions, user defined functions, SQL architecture, product requirements documents, etc. This will be shared with the chosen vendor.

Question #53: How is infrastructure managed (i.e. using an Infrastructure as Code tool such as Terraform or manually via the console)? Do you expect templates in use for DAISY are also applicable for RADaR?

Answer #53: Infrastructure within DAISY is being transitioned into a SQL based architecture that will be orchestrated within GCP tools and versioned in GitHub, see Attachment D. See Question 52.

Question #54: Does the scope include any upstream automation to source the inputs into the upload folders? (Source: "Inputs will come in the form of software extracts and files placed in upload folders." (p. 46))

Answer #54: We will require software connections with Adapt2, Powersimm, Itron. They may or may not be routed through the input folders at the vendors discretion.

Question #55: Could SVCE please kindly grant an extension for the due date submission?

Answer #55: At this time, the RFP deadline will remain the same.

Question #56: If firms are submitting confidential information in their response, can we provide a redacted version or clearly mark it as confidential?

Answer #56: See Section 10 of the RFP.

Question #57: "Please provide an overview of your organization, including the overall organizational structure, number of employees, legal structure, and ownership. If available, include your current audited financial statements, credit rating reports from S&P Global Ratings, Fitch, and/or Moody's, and a current client list." Could SVCE please clarify whether it is mandatory to submit the credit rating reports from S&P Global Ratings, Fitch, and/or Moody's? Additionally, if vendors do not have this information, would they be disqualified?

Answer #57: Please provide this information if it is available. Vendors will not be disqualified if this information is not available.

Question #58: "4. Proposed Solution (9 pages maximum for each task, as per the task definition below); accompanying PowerPoint presentation, with a maximum of 20 slides per task)." Could SVCE kindly clarify whether a PowerPoint presentation addressing all tasks is required?

Answer #58: Yes, a PowerPoint presentation is required. Task 2 is optional; please only address Task 2 in the PowerPoint if your proposal will also address Task 2.

Question #59: "During the selection process, SVCE may request the Bidder to provide information about your cybersecurity posture. Additionally, completion of a security questionnaire will be required later in the process." Could SVCE please clarify if this is a post-award requirement?

Answer #59: SVCE may request this information during the vendor selection process, before the RFP is awarded.

Question #60: "Please provide a list of any third parties that you will use as part of your offering to SVCE, along with proof of vendor due diligence conducted by you on their third-party vendors." Could SVCE please clarify what specific type of proof should be provided to meet this requirement? Answer #60: This information is not required in the proposal; however, SVCE may request this information during the vendor selection process, before the RFP is awarded. SVCE will provide additional clarification if the request is made.

Question #61: "SVCE requires that vendors possess cybersecurity insurance throughout the contract term." Could SVCE please clarify if this is a post-award requirement?

Answer #61: This is a post-award requirement for the selected vendor.

Question #62: "A certificate of existing insurance coverage should be submitted with the proposal as proof of insurability." Could SVCE please confirm if the COI is required to be included in the proposal response? If so, could you please clarify where it should be addressed along with the proposal?

Answer #62: This is a post-award requirement for the selected vendor.

Question #63: Could SVCE please clarify whether it is required to complete and submit Attachment A – Standard Consultant Agreement with the proposal response?

Answer #63: Bidders do not need to complete Attachment A as part of their proposals, but should indicate confirmation of acceptance of contract terms or explanation of proposed contract modifications. See Section 5, #7 of the RFP.

Question #64: Could SVCE please clarify whether it is required to complete and submit "Exhibit B Schedule of Performance and Exhibit C Compensation" with the proposal response?

Answer #64: Bidders do not need to submit Exhibits B and C with their proposal, but should include relevant information in their proposed work plan, schedule, and cost proposal, as outlined in Section 5 of the RFP.

Question #65: Could the SVCE please clarify if is it allowed to use digital signatures?

Answer #65: Yes.

Question #66: Could the SVCE please clarify if there is a mandatory set-aside goal? If yes, can this be met through a subcontractor?

Answer #66: See Section 7 of the RFP.

Question #67: Is it required to provide the Good Standing Certificate alongside the proposal response? Answer #67: See Section 12 of the RFP; these requirements are post-award requirements for the selected vendor.

Question #68: Is there any incumbent associated with this project? If so, please disclose the name.

Answer #68: See Question 24.

Question #69: If the resources we provide at the time of proposal submission are not available at the time of a potential contract award, could firms replace them with equally qualified resources?

Answer #69: SVCE expects bidders to be able to utilize the resources indicated in their bid. If the resources must change, SVCE would require the new resources to fulfill the same roles at the same rates. And SVCE reserves the right to terminate the services if the resources provided are not satisfactory to SVCE.

Question #70: Could the SVCE please confirm that we can fill out proposal forms electronically?

Answer #70: Yes.

Question #71: Does the SVCE accept remote resources to work on the project?

Answer #71: See Question 14.

Question #72: Is there a page limit for the entire proposal response?

Answer #72: No, but please follow the page limits for each section as listed in Section 5 of the RFP.

Question #73: Is it allowed to use subcontractor references and experience?

Answer #73: Yes.

Question #74: Could the SVCE please clarify, if firms can provide commercial references?

Answer #74: Yes.

Question #75: Could SVCE please clarify, if firms can provide references for ongoing contracts?

Answer #75: Yes.

Question #76: Could the SVCE please provide the estimated date of the project execution?

Answer #76: See Section 4 of the RFP.

Question #77: Could the SVCE please clarify if firms can utilize subcontractors to meet the requirements of this opportunity? Answer #77: Yes.

Question #78: Could SVCE please clarify whether providing a License to do business in the state of California is required with the proposal response?

Answer #78: This is not required in the proposal but is a post-award requirement. See Question 169 for more information.

Question #79: "3. Organization description and qualifications (4 pg. max)- Attach full resumes of key staff." Could SVCE please clarify if the resumes are included in the page limit for this section?

Answer #79: Resumes are not included in the page limit for this section and can be attached as an appendix.

Question #80: What are the primary business challenges SVCE is aiming to solve with this centralized data infrastructure?

Answer #80: See Section 17 of the RFP.

Question #81: What are the key performance metrics or success criteria for this project?

Answer #81: Broadly, a successful project will involve the implementation of svce-supply and svce-core projects with the minimum functionality requirements laid out in Section 17, with full handover of code and systems to SVCE staff at the end of Task 1. Due to the collaborative nature of this project, SVCE is looking for a vendor that is communicative, transparent, and flexible throughout the development process. Co-development, training, and documentation should be sufficient such that key SVCE staff are able to maintain and develop RADaR after project launch. ETL pipelines should be automated and robust enough to allow staff to detect and adapt the pipelines to upstream changes. Tables should be designed with specific analytics and reporting use cases in mind.

Question #82: What is the expected timeline for implementation, including major milestones?

Answer #82: See Section 18 of the RFP for implementation timeline and work plan options. Bidders are requested to include milestones in their proposed work plans, as outlined in Section 5 of the RFP.

Question #83: Are there any compliance or regulatory requirements that the data infrastructure must adhere to?

Answer #83: AMI data needs to follow California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Decision No. 12-08-045, California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA)

Question #84: What is the expected volume and growth rate of data that will be stored in BigQuery? Answer #84: See pages 48-49 of the RFP.

Question #85: Can SVCE provide details on the existing data systems that need to be integrated (e.g., source systems, formats, databases)? Answer #85: See Attachments B, C, and D.

Question #86: What is the size of existing data sources and how many years of data it contains? Answer #86: See pages 48-49 of the RFP.

Question #87: Are there any third-party APIs or external data sources that need to be included in the integration? Answer #87: See Attachments B and C.

Question #88: How many different data sources need to be connected, and what is their current structure? Answer #88: See Attachments B and C.

Question #89: What are the key data quality issues or challenges in the current environment? Answer #89: See Question 26.

Question #90: Is there an existing ETL process that needs to be migrated, or will new ETL pipelines be built from scratch? Answer #90: For Task 1, new ETL pipelines will be developed. In Task 2, SVCE may request vendor support to update existing pipelines and develop new pipelines.

Question #91: Does SVCE have an existing GCP infrastructure, or will this be a net-new setup? Answer #91: See Question 15.

Question #92: Are there any specific GCP services that SVCE prefers to use aside from BigQuery (e.g., Dataflow, Pub/Sub, Looker)? Answer #92: See Question 6. SVCE will use PowerBI for reporting and dashboarding.

Question #93: What are the scalability and availability expectations for the data warehouse? Answer #93: See pages 48-49 of the RFP for growth and access expectations.

Question #94: Will this solution need to support real-time or near-real-time data processing, or is batch processing sufficient? Answer #94: Batch processing on hourly and daily schedules will be sufficient.

Question #95: What security and access control measures should be implemented for data storage and processing?

Answer #95: See pages 15-16 and Attachment A of the RFP.

Question #96: What are the key transformation rules or business logic that need to be applied during ETL?

Answer #96: This will be co-developed between the vendor and SVCE based on the requirements outlined in Attachments B and C.

Question #97: Should ETL processes be designed for incremental loads, full refreshes, or a combination of both?

Answer #97: A combination.

Question #98: Are there any legacy ETL tools currently in use that need to be replaced or integrated with GCP?

Answer #98: There are no legacy tools for the Supply data warehouse

Question #99: How frequently should the ETL pipelines run, and what are the latency requirements?

Answer #99: ETL processes should follow a difference cadence based on the data workflow. Some should be triggered when a file is placed in an upload folder and some should run daily or monthly on a scheduled basis.

Question #100: Will SVCE require automated monitoring and alerting for ETL failures or performance issues?

Answer #100: Yes, there should be robust error tracking in place to accommodate fast trouble shooting. The error tracking could be scripts to filter the google cloud error reporting or the error tracking can be a table in big query or alternative options with similar functionality. There should be alerts for API, ETL, Query errors. Some email alerts should be put in place. The alerts should be as granular as facilitates trouble shooting.

Question #101: Are there any specific reporting or analytics use cases that the BigQuery tables must support?

Answer #101: SVCE will share greater detail on the data workflows with the selected vendor.

Question #102: What level of query performance optimization is expected for end-user reporting?

Answer #102: For most tables we would like a max of a 5 second load time.

Question #103: How involved will SVCE staff be in the development process, and what level of co-development is expected? Answer #103: See Question 3.

Question #104: What level of documentation is required, and should it include technical, user, and operational guides?

Answer #104: Yes, documentation should include technical, user, and operational guides. Documentation is expected to be sufficient for full handoff to SVCE staff at the end of the implementation phase (Task 1).

Question #105: How many users need training, and what is their technical expertise level?

Answer #105: See Question 41.

Question #106: Will training be focused on development, analytics, administration, or all aspects of the new system?

Answer #106: Training will be focused on handoff off all system components to SVCE staff to allow staff to maintain and develop within the system after Task 1.

Question #107: What tools will be used for version control and change management (e.g., Git, Terraform, CI/CD pipelines)?

Answer #107: SVCE expects to use GitHub, and is open to vendor recommendations for other tools as needed.

Question #108: What are the user access control and permission requirements for different roles?

Answer #108: See page 15 and Attachment D of the RFP.

Question #109: Are there specific data governance policies that must be followed?

Answer #109: See Question 262. Additional information will be provided to the selected vendor.

Question #110: What are the backup and disaster recovery requirements for the data warehouse?

Answer #110: See pages 15-16 of the RFP.

Question #111: Should the solution include data lineage tracking and auditing capabilities?

Answer #111: Yes.

Question #112: Will data encryption be required for data at rest and in transit? Answer #112: Yes.

Question #113: How many reports/dashboards are expected in Power BI? Can SVCE provide key KPIs that need to be visualized?

Answer #113: See Question 38.

Question #114: How many end users are expected to access reports/dashboards in Power BI?

Answer #114: It will vary dependent on the report in question; however, ideally for a certain core reports, all staff should have access so 65+ staff members.

Question #115: Is it allowed to use offshore resources?

Answer #115: See Question 13.

Question #116: Is it allowed to use subcontractors?

Answer #116: See Question 14.

Question #117: Is it allowed to use nearshore resources?

Answer #117: See Question 13.

Question #118: Can firms cite their experience from ongoing contracts/projects to meet the experience requirements listed under this solicitation?

Answer #118: See Question 75.

Question #119: Can firms cite their experience from private sector engagements to meet the experience requirements listed under this solicitation?

Answer #119: Yes.

Question #120: Can firms provide commercial references?

Answer #120: See Question 74.

Question #121: Can firms provide references from former clients, or are firms required to only provide references from current clients? Answer #121: Yes, bidders can provide references from former clients.

Question #122: Is there a current vendor providing similar services to those required under this solicitation? If yes, could SVCE please provide their incumbent's details? Answer #122: See Question 24.

Question #123: What is the total not-to-exceed budget for this contract? Answer #123: See Question 45.

Question #124: Under section 5 PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL, point 3. Organization description and qualifications, state: "Include overall organizational structure, number of employees, legal structure and ownership." Could SVCE please clarify what they mean by these terms: organizational structure and legal structure? Answer #124: An organizational chart is sufficient.

Question #125: Under section 5 PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL, point 3. Organization description and qualifications, state: "Include overall organizational structure, number of employees, legal structure and ownership." Could SVCE please clarify if firms must include their total number of employees (globally and/or in the USA) or if firms must include only the assigned number of employees who will be dedicated to this engagement? Answer #125: Please include both numbers.

Question #126: Under section 5 PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL, point 3. Organization description and qualifications, the following is asked: "credit rating reports from S&P Global Ratings and/or Fitch and/or Moody's." Is it mandatory for firms to include these credit rating reports along with their response? Answer #126: See Question 57.

Question #127: Can firms replace the proposed staff with equally qualified consultants if they are no longer available after the award notice? Answer #127: See Question 69.

Question #128: Will SVCE favor those firms with prior experience with community choice energy agencies? Answer #128: See Section 6 of the RFP for evaluation criteria.

Question #129: Is it mandatory for firms to hold a SOC 2 – Type 1 certification to be able to bid on this solicitation? Can firms meet this requirement only through their SOC 2-Type 2 certification? Answer #129: Audit shall be a SOC Type II (or successor standard) compliant audit.

Question #130: Could SVCE please elaborate further on what they mean by "Pertinent references"?

Answer #130: Relevant references, as requested in Section 5 #3 of the RFP.

Question #131: Could SVCE please clarify where firms must include Exhibits B and C within the proposal?

Answer #131: See Question 64.

Question #132: Can firms add additional rows to the tables included in Exhibits B and C if deemed necessary?

Answer #132: Yes.

Question #133: On Page 7, under "5. Proposal Submittal", point number 4. states "Proposed solution (9 pg. max for each Task (see Task definition below); accompanying power point 20 slides max for each Task)" - Does bidder need to submit either a PowerPoint slide deck or a 9-page solution (in Microsoft Word), or provide both (9-page solution and PowerPoint slide deck)?

Answer #133: Both.

Question #134: Beyond the core use of Google Cloud Storage and BigQuery, are there any preferences or constraints on the specific GCP services or frameworks used for ETL and data processing? For example, would SVCE favor managed tools like Cloud Composer (Airflow) for workflow orchestration or Dataflow for data transformation, or is the choice of implementation approach left to the bidder's discretion? We want to align with any existing cloud practices SVCE may have.

Answer #134: See Question 6.

Question #135: On Page 46, under sub-heading "Orchestration", the table has a column titled "Priority" - What does this priority signify? For example, "Budget Formation" workflow has a priority of '1', whereas 'Climate Registry Information System' has priority of '4'. What should we infer from this?

Answer #135: This field indicates the priority level of integrating each workflow into RADaR, where Priority = 1 indicates highest priority. Bidders are encouraged to reference this when developing their work plan, especially if a phased work plan is proposed.

Question #136: On Page 46, under sub-heading " IN DEV. STATE (now through September 2025): " It is mentioned "DAISY is currently managed and developed by vendor Camus Energy up until September 2025..." Is Camus Energy also eligible to bid for this opportunity? Answer #136: See Question 24.

Question #137: What is the anticipated project start date?
Answer #137: See Section 4 of the RFP.

Question #138: Given that response to bidder's questions will be posted on 28th March, and the bid response is due on 7th April, it leaves very limited time for bidders to incorporate the information provided in their response in a meaningful way. In light of this, we request you to consider providing an extension of at least a week for submission of bid response.

Answer #138: See Question 55.

Question #139: Can we provide services remotely from a location outside of USA, say India?

Answer #139: See Question 13.

Question #140: Could you please share the budget allocated for this project?

Answer #140: See Question 45.

Question #141: On Page 8, under Sub-heading 'Cost Proposal' It is mentioned "Include all costs such set up fees, license fees, etc." - Is the bidder required to provide software license fee for GCP components? We are asking this question as we believe that SVCE would already have procured licenses for most of the components as part of its demand-side data system implementation?

Answer #141: GCP costs for svce-demand, svce-supply, and svce-core will be incurred by SVCE. SVCE asks that the bidder estimates these costs in their proposal.

Question #142: On Page 13 under Sub-Heading "Current State", within "Supply-side data systems" - Are the data sources like Adapt2 and Itron hosted in the cloud or on-premises at SVCE?

Answer #142: Cloud.

Question #143: Beyond delivering the initial RADaR implementation, does SVCE have a vision for future analytics capabilities (such as self-service BI enhancements) ?

Answer #143: This will be discussed with the selected vendor during Task 1 and in preparation for Task 2.

Question #144: On Page 18, under Sub-Heading "Task 2 (Optional): Ongoing Services", Point four, which states "Develop new integrated tools (e.g. manual data entry UI)"- For the potential development of a manual "data entry UI" under ongoing services, does SVCE have a preferred technology stack or platform in mind? Answer #144: No preferred technology in-mind. The organization is very comfortable in excel, but no restrictions here.

Question #145: On Page 18 under Sub-Heading "Innovative Components" - Are there specific areas in which SVCE is particularly interested in exploring innovation? For example, would SVCE value ideas such as incorporating advanced analytics or AI for predictive insights, integrating external datasets (e.g. public data like weather, or demographic data to enrich analyses). Any guidance on SVCE's strategic interest areas will help us propose relevant value-added options that align with your goals. Answer #145: Examples of innovative components include: integrating external datasets, streamlining computationally intensive workflows within GCP, query optimization, data anonymization best practices.

Question #146: On Page 13, under Sub-Heading "Current State"- For the new GCP projects (svce-supply and svce-core), will SVCE establish the projects and simply grant us privileges, or should we plan to create/configure these projects within your GCP organization?

Answer #146: SVCE will establish the projects and grant the vendor appropriate permissions. The vendor may be asked to support setup of certain GCP components (e.g. GCS buckets) at the direction of SVCE staff.

Question #147: On Page 16, under "High Level Scope of Work" - If we propose a phased work plan with a "soft launch" by Nov 2025 and full launch later, what would SVCE consider the minimum viable functionality for that soft launch? Any guidance on priorities for a soft launch vs full launch would help in planning phased delivery.

Answer #147: See Question 135 to inform prioritization of the scope of work in a phased work plan approach. In addition, Section 17 of the RFP outlines minimum functionality requirements for RADaR; these should be in place for the soft launch in November 2025.

Question #148: On Page 18, under Sub-Heading "Task 2 (Optional): Ongoing Services", It states "Ongoing services (up to a 3-year contract term)"- Will this be a separate contract or amendment after Task 1 completion, or part of the same agreement with option years?

Answer #148: This will depend on staff decision upon reviewing bids.

Question #149: Is Task 2 (Optional): Ongoing Services guaranteed to be awarded along with Task 1: RADaR Implementation, or will SVCE decide on engaging Task 2 at a later date (making it truly optional)? If optional, under what conditions will SVCE exercise this option, and how should bidders structure pricing for Task 2 in the proposal (as a separate optional line item or included contingent on performance)?
Answer #149: If Task 2 is awarded to a bidder, it may be awarded on an option basis. Staff will make this determination after reviewing all bids.

Question #150: On Page 8, under Heading "Proposal Submittal" under which section "Cost Proposal" says "Indicate any pricing adjustment if another CCA implements a similar solution." - Could you please elaborate as to what type of pricing adjustments are you expecting?

Answer #150: Please indicate if your proposal includes cost sharing elements if another CCA implements a similar solution with your organization.

Question #151: On Page 43 under the Sub-Heading "Supply Background", There is a mention of 'in-house models' as the data source. Is 'Internal Analytics Engine (IAE)' this in-house model? How many in-house models are there? Please provide high level information about in-house models.

Answer #151: The IAE is the primary in-house model at the moment. The model is built in python and takes output data from Ascend (a power portfolio modeling software) and performs auxiliary analysis.

Question #152: What are the primary business drivers for issuing this RFP?

Answer #152: See Section 17 and Attachment B of the RFP.

Question #153: Can we please have details regarding the IT/System landscape at SVCE?

Answer #153: See Section 17 and Attachments B, C, and D of the RFP.

Question #154: Can you please share the current support team structure for IT support at SVCE?

Answer #154: SVCE will not share this information at this time.

Question #155: Are all the resources required to work onsite? Or remote work is an option?

Answer #155: The vendor is expected to work remotely for the duration of this project. See Question 13 for guidance on offshore resources.

Question #156: Is SVCE good with offshore resources providing support for this RFP?

Answer #156: See Question 13.

Question #157: Will SVCE pay for expenses separately for onsite travel? If yes, please share the reimbursement guidelines
Answer #157: See Question 155.

Question #158: Can you please share the Current and To-be landscape details?
Answer #158: See Section 17 of the RFP and Attachments B, C, and D.

Question #159: Can you please share details regarding customizations and interfaces.
Answer #159: SVCE will provide this to the selected vendor.

Question #160: Are systems currently hosted on-premise or on Cloud?
Answer #160: Cloud.

Question #161: Does SVCE plan to select a single vendor or multiple vendors for this RFP?
Answer #161: Single vendor, unless there is a compelling reason to select multiple.

Question #162: Is this a new RFP or there are any incumbents? If there are incumbents can we have the names and if possible a copy of their past contract with SVCE?
Answer #162: See Question 24.

Question #163: Can we submit separate cost options for onsite vs. offsite project implementations?
Answer #163: See Question 13.

Question #164: What factors are driving SVCE to evaluate another provider instead of the incumbent provider for these services?
Answer #164: See Question 24.

Question #165: Our company is certified as an MBE NSMDC. Are we good to suffice requirements for DBE?
Answer #165: See Section 7 of the RFP.

Question #166: Will SVCE give preference to local vendors or any certified vendors like SBE/MBE/DVBE?
Answer #166: See Section 7 of the RFP.

Question #167: Is there deliverable or milestone billing for this project or any other type of billing?
Answer #167: See Question 46.

Question #168: Do we need to submit key personnel resumes of people going to work on this project or sample resumes are fine?
Answer #168: Please include key personnel resumes.

Question #169: What kind of business license is SVCE looking for within the state of California? It would be great if you can please provide the details.
Answer #169: Generally businesses must register with the state and receive a license from the local jurisdiction where they operate. Bidders should seek the advice of an attorney with respect to their licensing and other requirements to do business in California.

Question #170: Any major projects planned in coming years which vendors should be aware of?
Answer #170: All relevant information has been included in the RFP.

Question #171: Can SVCE also provide Attachments B and D?
Answer #171: Attachments are included in the RFP document.

Question #172: Will SVCE accept RFP responses that refer to additional PDF appendices? In other words, may we submit our financial statements as a separate PDF? How about CVs? SOC 2 reports? Etc.
Answer #172: Yes.

Question #173: Please confirm that SVCE-demand (under RADaR) is not in scope for this RFP as it is already existing & in process. It will only serve as a source for SVCE-Core, correct?
Answer #173: svce-demand is not in scope for Task 1 (implementation), but the vendor may be asked to support svce-demand as part of Task 2 (ongoing services).

Question #174: Please explain data versioning need with an example.
Answer #174: We submit compliance reports several times a year. A compliance entity may come back several months later with a question about the data submitted. We ideally would like to go back to the version of the data warehouse at the time the report was filled. We would only need versioning on some percentage of the data warehouse.

Question #175: Are there any specific retention policies for data versioning? Is automated rollback required? Answer #175: For svce-supply and svce-core, 2 years would be the longest anticipated retention. Any roll back or querying of a previous version would be manual and ad-hoc. For svce-demand, this is still being scoped and will be shared with the selected vendor.

Question #176: What are SVCE backup policies and restore procedures? Answer #176: SVCE will not share this information at this time.

Question #177: As this is expected to be delivered in a co-development model, what roles with count will be provided by SVCE? Answer #177: See Question 3.

Question #178: Please confirm if the project scope includes generating the source data extracts. Answer #178: Yes, the scope would include generating source data extracts for most sources.

Question #179: Please confirm if the transformation logic for SVCE-Supply will be the same as written in the current excel files? If yes, how complex is the excel logic? Simple, Medium, Complex. Answer #179: Will be similar, Medium to Complex.

Question #180: Please share if the unstructured data (pdf files etc.) will be required for SVCE-core tables or just loaded in the GCS hierarchical folders. Answer #180: GCS hierarchical files with their file name identified in some GCS tables would be sufficient. This way we can connect a non-relational file to associated tabular data if necessary.

Question #181: Regarding logs and tracking (observability), what types of alerts does SVCE need? ETL failures, API errors, performance issues? What level of granularity is required (process-level, query-level, API-level)? Are real-time alerts/notifications required? Answer #181: See Question 101.

Question #182: Regarding access control and permissions, what identity provider is in use? Is role-based access control already designed, or do you expect the implementation partner to provide that structure? Answer #182: See pg 15 of the RFP and Attachment B, D.

Question #183: Do you expect both row-level and column-level security in BigQuery? Answer #183: Yes, as necessary. See pg 15 of the RFP

Question #184: Will the implementation partner provide documentation from scratch, or extend an existing documentation repository? Do you have a specific format in mind, or are you open to suggestions?

Answer #184: The demand side has existing documentation in place that we will translate to supply and core. See pg 16 - 18 in the RFP.

Question #185: In the description of workflows, there is a column labeled "dependent processes". Does this mean that one workflow can depend on another workflow?

Answer #185: Yes, some workflows require the output of another workflow.

Question #186: Will you provide documentation of the business logic of every workflow that is to be recreated in the new solution?

Answer #186: SVCE will provide this to the selected vendor.

Question #187: Are there any SLAs for query performance in BigQuery?

Answer #187: See Question 40.

Question #188: Regarding Task 1, point no. 4 "Launch proof of concept report in Power BI" does this include migrating Looker dashboards to PBI in the first stage of the project?

Answer #188: Task 1 does not require the vendor to migrate existing Looker Studio dashboards to PowerBI. The vendor may be asked to do this as part of Task 2 (ongoing services).

Question #189: Are you using Azure AD, on-prem AD/LDAP, or another IdP that we need to federate with GCP (e.g., via Cloud Identity)?

Answer #189: SVCE will provide this information to the selected vendor.

Question #190: Does your existing RBAC (role-based access control) strategy simply need replicating in GCP, or would you like us to propose a new, more granular design (e.g., with custom roles, group-based policies)?

Answer #190: SVCE is open to a new strategy proposed by the vendor, based on the vendor's expertise and understanding of the project requirements.

Question #191: Do you already have a shared VPC or multiple projects with a hub-and-spoke design in GCP? Should we align with that existing setup, or create a new design?
Answer #191: The vendor should create a new design that aligns with the existing data architecture.

Question #192: Do you have an existing VPN or Dedicated Interconnect between on-prem/other clouds (AWS, Azure) and GCP, or do we need to set one up?
Answer #192: SVCE has an existing VPN that can be used if necessary.

Question #193: Are advanced routing or hybrid load-balancing techniques required beyond a standard VPN?
Answer #193: Not as of today, but SVCE will discuss with the selected vendor.

Question #194: For external APIs (Ascend), MS SQL (Adapt2), and SFTP/Box integrations, are the necessary endpoints and ports already available, or do we manage these connections end-to-end?

Answer #194: Based on our understanding of the endpoints are available, we may need to set up an access key, but the APIs are ready to retrieve and send all the information we want. We have not built out access to these APIs so in some cases the documentation for the API may need to be researched by the vendor before they can interface with it.

Question #195: Do you require a dedicated Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) segment within GCP (e.g., using VPC Service Controls, private subnets), or is a simpler firewall-based approach sufficient?

Answer #195: Not as of today, but SVCE will discuss with the selected vendor.

Question #196: Are there managed/next-gen firewalls (MGFW) or other network security tools you want replicated or extended into the GCP environment?

Answer #196: Not as of today, but SVCE will discuss with the selected vendor.

Question #197: Are there any third-party platforms (e.g., Splunk, Datadog, Chronicle) that you need integrated with GCP for monitoring, billing, or log analysis?

Answer #197: Not as currently scoped. If the vendor recommends such a platform, please include in your proposal along with relevant costs.

Question #198: Do you want us to forward GCP logs (via Cloud Logging export, Pub/Sub, etc.) to an existing SIEM or maintain logs entirely in GCP?

Answer #198: We prefer a solution that maintains logs within GCP or within BigQuery.

Question #199: Do you already use any threat detection, WAF, or firewall products (e.g., Palo Alto, Cisco) that must be integrated into the new environment? Answer #199: SVCE does use these products and will discuss integration requirements with the selected vendor.

Question #200: You mentioned GitHub for version control. Are there existing CI/CD pipelines (GitHub Actions, Jenkins, etc.) that we should connect to Terraform or other deployments, or do you want us to establish these from scratch? Answer #200: The vendor should establish these.

Question #201: Are there strict data retention periods or CCPA/NERC CIP compliance rules that require automatic deletion or expiration of data in BigQuery/Cloud Storage? Answer #201: SVCE has data retention policies not tied to external compliance rules.

Question #202: Should we segregate certain data sets (e.g., CIP vs. non-CIP, or opt-out vs. main data) or is one consolidated dataset acceptable? Answer #202: Data should be segregated with the use of project permissions and granular user permissions.

Question #203: Do you already know which columns/tables are sensitive, or do you want us to run Cloud DLP scans to discover them? Answer #203: SVCE will flag sensitive data for the vendor.

Question #204: If sensitive data is found, do you need tokenization, column-level encryption, or other data masking strategies beyond standard at-rest encryption? Answer #204: Not as currently scoped.

Question #205: Are there internal policies requiring separate NERC CIP-compliant environments, or extended logging for CCPA data? Or is general best-practice security sufficient? Answer #205: The vendor should apply best practices according to SVCE's internal policies, which will be shared with the selected vendor.

Question #206: Do you prefer default Google-managed keys, or do you require Customer-Managed Encryption Keys (CMEK) with hardware security modules (HSM) or external key managers? Answer #206: See Question 6.

Question #207: Since you anticipate downstream APIs or web apps, do you need a Web Application Firewall (Cloud Armor or third-party) integrated into your architecture? Answer #207: See Question 6.

Question #208: As part of the CI/CD setup for IaC, would you like us to include an automated compliance checkpoint—such as IaC security scanning or gated deployment approvals—to catch misconfigurations before anything is applied to GCP? Answer #208: SVCE is open to vendor recommendation based on their expertise, understanding of the RFP, and SVCE's current technology stack.

Question #209: Which deployment tool(s) do you prefer—GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Cloud Build, or another? Answer #209: See Question 208.

Question #210: Your RTO is listed as 'hours' and RPO as '<1 day.' Do you prefer a zonal or regional HA/DR setup in GCP—e.g., managed instance groups with cross-zone replication, or multi-region data recovery setups (for BQ/GCS)? Answer #210: See Question 208.

Question #211: Would you prefer disaster recovery to be fully automated (via Terraform/Deployment Manager-based orchestration) or is manual intervention acceptable for failover and recovery? Answer #211: See Question 208.

Question #212: Are you expecting near real-time replication of critical datasets (e.g., for svce-demand), or are periodic backups (e.g., daily snapshots) sufficient to meet your RPO needs? Answer #212: Periodic backups are sufficient.

Question #213: What's the expected backup frequency and retention period for both demand and supply side data? You've mentioned monthly snapshots for supply—what about the requirements for the demand-side?

Answer #213: As noted in Attachment D, the demand side project currently releases data as quarterly releases. This will change to just accommodate snapshot differences in data, changes in schema, and snapshots for compliance purposes

Question #214: Do backups need to be stored in a different region than production? Any regulatory requirements around immutable backups (e.g., via Object Versioning or Archive storage)?

Answer #214: Yes, backups should be stored in a different region than production. No regulatory requirements.

Question #215: Should DR planning cover only data backups, or should it also include service-level restoration (e.g., Looker dashboards, orchestration pipelines)?
Answer #215: Yes, it should also include service-level restoration.

Question #216: Would you prefer to use native GCP tools (e.g., Backup for GKE/VMs, BQ snapshots, GCS lifecycle policies) or third-party DR tools?
Answer #216: See Question 6.

Question #217: How are DAISY's core datasets structured within BigQuery, and how does the schema design support demand-side analytics and reporting needs?
Answer #217: See Attachment D of the RFP. Note, these dataset schema may change once it is brought in-house

Question #218: Given that DAISY currently contains 15 core tables/datasets, can you provide a data dictionary or schema describing each table, its purpose, and update frequency?
Answer #218: Yes, this will be provided to the chosen vendor.

Question #219: What ETL processes are currently in place to ingest and transform data in DAISY? Are there any pain points?
Answer #219: See Attachment D of the RFP.

Question #220: How are data quality and validation handled within DAISY today?
Answer #220: Data quality and validation is managed within the ETL processes and ensured by data vendors

Question #221: What are the biggest challenges SVCE staff face when querying or developing in DAISY?
Answer #221: Biggest challenges for developing DAISY is understanding raw data and the best way to translate the data such that it can be merged with other datasets. Data exists across spatial and temporal elements so it can be difficult to merge and join datasets correctly to answer business related questions

Question #222: How frequently are the existing ETL systems in DAISY executed, and what is their typical runtime?
Answer #222: Existing ETL systems run from daily to ad hoc, the time allotment for these processes will change once a pipeline is moved to the pure SQL architecture. This will be provided to the chosen vendor.

Question #223: Post-September 2025, how does SVCE plan to manage DAISY's GCP project and expand its pipelines, including integration with Salesforce and Power BI? Answer #223: DAISY management and development will be handled in-house. Task 2 of this RFP may involve vendor support for DAISY development.

Question #224: Are there any interim milestones or phased deliverables in DAISY that we should account for?

Answer #224: The first phase of Task 1 will involve a review of SVCE's data systems, including DAISY. When the vendor builds out svce-core, this will involve supporting the development of pipelines from DAISY (svce-demand) to svce-core. Task 2 may involve vendor support for DAISY development.

Question #225: Will we have access to a staging/test environment for DAISY before its full deployment?

Answer #225: DAISY is already deployed. See Question 224 for the vendor's expected involvement in DAISY.

Question #226: Will historical data from DAISY be available before its go-live, or should we plan for data backfilling?

Answer #226: DAISY is already deployed. See Question 224 for the vendor's expected involvement in DAISY.

Question #227: Are there any third-party dependencies in DAISY that could impact integration timelines?

Answer #227: We do not anticipate this happening. We are working with all data vendors and Camus Energy to ensure a smooth transition.

Question #228: Is there any planned expansion of DAISY's capabilities before the transition in September 2025?

Answer #228: No, not at the moment.

Question #229: What is the average size of each quarterly release (fresh and stable datasets) in DAISY?

Answer #229: ~6 TiB. See Question 213 regarding transitioning away from quarterly releases

Question #230: Regarding the archiving of BigQuery data, are there specific compliance requirements or data retention policies that will dictate how older versions of the data tables are retained?

Answer #230: See Question 213.

Question #231: What are the key metrics or reports that are currently generated from the reporting dataset within the DAISY BigQuery project using Looker Studio?

Answer #231: Some examples of aggregated data include: Load and customer counts divided by member agency, customer class, load profile, provider, etc.; vehicle registration data; parcel information

Question #232: How frequently is data updated across Adapt2, PowerSIMM, Itron, and in-house models, and what challenges exist in maintaining synchronization across these systems? Answer #232: Data is currently updated manually.

Question #233: What APIs, data exports, or batch processes currently facilitate data movement between Adapt2, PowerSIMM, Itron, and in-house models, and are there any gaps due to manual processes?

Answer #233: None. See Question 232.

Question #234: What is the estimated volume of data currently stored across all disparate Excel scripts, and how many of these scripts are actively maintained?

Answer #234: Less than 5 Terabytes. Many scripts are updated or new versions created weekly.

Question #235: How are data validation, reconciliation, and error handling currently managed across Adapt2, PowerSIMM, Itron, and Excel-based models, given the absence of a consolidated data store?

Answer #235: Manual checking.

Question #236: How many API calls or ETL jobs would have to be created for extraction, transformation and loading the data from different supply side systems?

Answer #236: We would like to work this out during the review of existing systems.

Question #237: How are Box, Excel/Python/R, and ArcGIS Pro currently integrated with demand and supply-side systems?

Answer #237: For DAISY (demand side), Python and R can easily authenticate to all GCP resources. For supply there are some python models being run on personal machines, Box holds all of our files and shared excels.

Question #238: For Excel/Python/R workflows, are there any standardized scripts or models that need to be integrated into RADaR's ETL processes?

Answer #238: For demand side, our weather normalization R package that pulls in data from NCDC will need to be integrated. For supply the IAE model (python) will need to be integrated as well as some modified version of many of the excell files.

Question #239: Are there governance policies in place for data stored in Box and version control in Github?

Answer #239: For box, this information will be provided to the selected vendor. For GitHub, this will be co-developed between SVCE and the selected vendor.

Question #240: What is the current status of SVCE's transition to Power BI? What challenges have been encountered so far? Answer #240: SVCE is in the beginning stages of transitioning to PowerBI.

Question #241: How will the three GCP projects (svce-demand, svce-supply, svce-core) interact? Will there be direct cross-project querying, or will svce-core be the primary consolidation point?

Answer #241: The svce-core project will be the primary consolidation point between the two different projects.

Question #242: Are there any specific performance or latency expectations for data ingestion and querying across these projects?

Answer #242: For ingestion refer to Question 99. For querying please refer to Question 102.

Question #243: What considerations have been made regarding schema design across svce-demand, svce-supply, and svce-core?

Answer #243: This will be collaborated on with the selected vendor.

Question #244: Will existing in-house models and external forecasting tools continue to operate outside of RADaR, or is there an intent to integrate them?

Answer #244: In-house and third-party tools will continue to operate outside of RADaR.

Question #245: What is the envisioned frequency and method for ingesting supply-side data into svce-supply? Batch, streaming, or a hybrid approach?

Answer #245: Batch processing on hourly and daily schedules will be sufficient.

Question #246: Are there any existing ETL tools in use, or is there a preference for a particular Google Cloud-native solution (e.g., Dataflow, Dataproc, Composer)?

Answer #246: The demand side project is currently transitioning away from ETL tools, see Attachment D in the RFP and Question 6.

Question #247: What are the dependencies between ingestion workflows (e.g., are some datasets required before others can be processed)?

Answer #247: This eluded to in the data workflows attachment, we will share details with the selected vendor.

Question #248: How will historical data be handled in the migration to RADaR? Will there be a need for backfilling from legacy systems? Please share the number of tables

Answer #248: There will be backfill of historical tables, this will be planned with the selected vendor.

Question #249: Should data deduplication and validation be done at the ingestion stage or as part of the transformation pipeline?

Answer #249: Within the demand side project, these processes are done within the transformation pipeline. For all new development, SVCE is open to the bidder's recommendation based on their expertise and understanding of the proposed data architecture.

Question #250: Please can you share some details in terms of the types of transformations performed in categories of Simple, Medium and Complex and share % distribution of each

(Eg: 50% queries have Simple aggregations)

Answer #250: Estimated 20% Simple 60% medium 20% complex.

Question #251: Will transformations include aggregations for dashboard-ready tables, or will they be raw exports requiring further processing in BigQuery?

Answer #251: Transformations will predominately be raw exports requiring further processing and aggregation for dashboard-ready tables

Question #252: Are there existing data quality thresholds and SLAs that need to be maintained? Please elaborate

Answer #252: See Question 40.

Question #253: "Launch proof of concept report in PowerBI" - please elaborate on the goals and success criteria for the envisioned Proof of Concept?

- ie. Number of reports to be built or repointed

- Number of KPIs per report

Answer #253: See Question 38 and 188.

Question #254: Could you please confirm if the scope of RADaR includes defining both "svce-supply" and "svce-core"?

Answer #254: Yes.

Question #255: What is the current Governance strategy that is being followed in terms of Data Quality, Data Cataloging, Data lineage and Monitoring? Answer #255: None for Supply. For Demand, these processes are currently documented in product requirement documents (PRDs) for every pipeline. The conversion to SQL based infrastructure will handle data quality, monitoring, and error tracking

Question #256: Is there a plan to implement dataplex or other services in the future, or is dataplex already being used in the current GCP architecture?

Answer #256: No, not at the moment.

Question #257: Will SVCE's existing tiered Google Groups permission structure be replicated across RADaR?

Answer #257: Yes. We will update the permission structures when RADaR goes "online"

Question #258: How will Personally Identifiable Information (PII) be handled and segregated across RADaR?

Answer #258: See Question 9 and 10.

Question #259: Are there any anticipated challenges in meeting compliance requirements (CCPA, NERC, CPUC 15x15)?

Answer #259: Not as currently scoped.

Question #260: What level of granularity is required for version control? Do you need lineage tracking at the dataset level, query level, or transformation logic level?

Answer #260: These requirements will be co-developed between SVCE and the selected vendor. See page 15 of the RFP for minimum functionality requirements.

Question #261: Will data versioning need to support rollback capabilities for key datasets?

Answer #261: See Question 175.

Question #262: What governance policies and approval workflows are required for production-level changes?

Answer #262: SVCE is currently in the process of developing internal governance policies. At a high level, another staff member will be required to conduct code review before any production level changes are made.

Question #263: What are the key logging requirements? Are there preferred logging formats or existing logging frameworks in use?
Answer #263: See Question 198 and 326, also refer to page 15 of the RFP.

Question #264: What kind of real-time monitoring or alerting is needed for RADaR's data pipelines?
Answer #264: See Question 100.

Question #265: How many SVCE staff members will require training on GCP tools, RADaR functionalities, and ETL processes?
Answer #265: See Question 41.

Question #266: What SLAs (Service Level Agreements) does SVCE expect for ongoing support services?
Answer #266: See Question 40.

Question #267: What are the main challenges SVCE currently faces with its data infrastructure?
Answer #267: See Attachment B of the RFP.

Question #268: What success criteria will SVCE use to evaluate the implementation partner's performance?
Answer #268: See Question 81.

Question #269: Are there any specific scalability and future growth requirements we should consider in our proposed architecture?
Answer #269: See pages 48-49 of the RFP.

Question #270: Are there any parallel initiatives or ongoing projects that could impact this implementation?
Answer #270: None that would have significant impact.

Question #271: How is the pure SQL architecture executed? Is there any UDF?
Answer #271: Yes, there are user-defined functions (UDF) within BigQuery that execute the ETL commands within SQL.

Question #272: Can you elaborate on the decision to use Compute Engine to transfer, transform, and retrieve data from GCS and BigQuery? Answer #272: See Question 6.

Question #273: Can you elaborate on the decision to use BigQuery Data Transfer Service to share data between Demand/Supply and Core projects?

Answer #273: This is the service currently in use for DAISY, but SVCE is open to alternative solutions based on the bidder's recommendation.

Question #274: What kind of transformations are expected for the Non-relational sources? (PDFs/Word files/Emails)

Answer #274: See Question 180.

Question #275: What's the complexity of the transformations that need to be developed?

Answer #275: Estimated 20% Simple 60% medium 20% complex.

Question #276: Is the development of PowerBI Dashboards part of the project? If so, must they be ready before November 25th?

Answer #276: See Question 188.

Question #277: How should the legacy data migration process be structured? Is there any data that must be archived or have a different treatment?

Answer #277: There will ideally be some historical backfill.

Question #278: Are there specific latency requirements for queries and reporting in BigQuery?

Answer #278: For ingestion refer to Question 99. For querying please refer to Question 102.

Question #279: Should PowerBI dashboards be optimized for self-service analytics, or is a predefined reporting structure preferred?

Answer #279: See Question 38.

Question #280: How are access control and permissions currently managed in SVCE's environment? Given that the future state involves tiered Google Groups with Power Users having direct query and development access, are there any additional requirements or clarifications regarding Identity and Access Management (IAM) that we should consider? Additionally, are there any applications or services other than PowerBI that require access to the data? If so, please specify the integration details and access points.
Answer #280: See page 15 of the RFP and Attachments B, D.

Question #281: What specific data retention policies need to be implemented?
Answer #281: See Questions 175, 201, and 213.

Question #282: Are there compliance requirements for audit trails and logging?
Answer #282: No compliance requirements, but they should be implemented as best practices.

Question #283: What are the expectations for disaster recovery and business continuity, beyond the stated RPO and RTO?
Answer #283: This will be decided upon between SVCE and the selected vendor.

Question #284: How will Personally Identifiable Information (PII) be managed and protected within RADaR?
Answer #284: See Questions 9 and 10.

Question #285: What level of encryption and anonymization is required for different types of data?
Answer #285: See Question 10. See page 16 for encryption requirements.

Question #286: Are there any additional compliance requirements beyond SOC2, CCPA, and NERC?
Answer #286: No.

Question #287: Could you elaborate on the primary challenges or limitations you are currently experiencing with your existing data systems that the RADaR project intends to resolve?
Answer #287: See pg 12 - 16 of RFP and Attachment B.

Question #288: To better understand your vision for enhanced analytics and reporting, could you provide specific examples of the actionable insights you expect RADaR to deliver?
Answer #288: SVCE will provide this to the selected vendor.

Question #289: Beyond SOC 2 compliance, what specific security requirements, certifications, frameworks, audits, or penetration testing are mandated for this project?
Answer #289: Please refer to the RFP for this information.

Question #290: Could you describe SVCE's current Security Operations (SecOps) practices and the tools you utilize? How should the proposed security solutions integrate with this existing environment?

Answer #290: SVCE will not share this information at this time.

Question #291: Beyond the non-exclusive list provided, are there specific weighting or priority criteria that will be used to evaluate the proposals?

Answer #291: See Section 6 of the RFP.

Question #292: Regarding the "disparate Excel scripts" and "limited automation," could you clarify the extent to which these scripts are used for critical data processes? What specific manual processes and data transfer methods are key targets for automation within RADaR?

Answer #292: Most data workflows are manual and will require translation into an automated process. Work currently done in Excel like combining several files, filtering and joining are some examples.

Question #293: What are the primary data integrity or schema change concerns associated with the current Excel scripts that the RADaR implementation should address?

Answer #293: Because of the manual effort, files can be out of sync with each other, sources of truth are hard to identify, the general data lineage and integrity flowing through a business process is low because of the uncertainty rooted in manual Maintenance of files.

Question #294: What is the rationale behind the decision to transition away from the current vendor developing DAISY, particularly within the September 2025 timeframe?

Answer #294: End of contract with the current vendor.

Question #295: What is the current status of the DAISY project? What dependencies or potential risks exist between the DAISY project and the proposed RADaR implementation, especially concerning the September 2025 transition timeline?

Answer #295: See Attachment D of the RFP.

Question #296: Could you describe the current security posture of the existing GCP (DAISY) environment? Are there any known security vulnerabilities or concerns that the implementation partner should be aware of and address? Answer #296: Security is currently managed through SOC II compliance with Camus Energy

Question #297: While the RFP mentions Compute Engine for ETL, you also indicate openness to alternatives. What specific requirements or constraints should guide our decision-making process for selecting ETL technologies?

Answer #297: See Question 6.

Question #298: Are there any potential impacts or considerations related to changes in regulations or policies concerning green energy that could influence the data systems or reporting requirements for RADaR?

Answer #298: Not as currently scoped.

Question #299: Attachment C refers to an Excel spreadsheet detailing supply data workflows, and Section 17 mentions "66 data inputs over 22 methods to transform into files." Would it be possible to provide the Excel spreadsheet to help us understand the level of detail and complexity involved in automating these workflows within RADaR?

Answer #299: Attachment C can be found on <https://svcleanenergy.org/solicitations/>

Question #300: What are the key dependencies within these data transformations? Are there any potential complexities within the Excel macros or VBA code that could affect the implementation effort?

Answer #300: SVCE will provide this to the selected vendor.

Question #301: You mention transitioning existing dashboards from Looker Studio to PowerBI. Will the implementation partner be expected to assist with this transition as part of Task 1, or is this planned as a post-September 2025 internal effort?

Answer #301: See Question 38 and 188.

Question #302: Regarding the Minimum Functionality Requirements (Data Versioning, Logs and Tracking, Access Control and Permissions, and Data Protection), are there specific requirements, preferences, tools, methodologies, Google Groups, user roles, or details on the "market information" requiring NERC guideline adherence that SVCE would like bidders to consider in their proposed solution?

Answer #302: In your proposal, please address at a high level how your organization will implement the minimum functionality requirements based on your expertise and understanding of the RFP.

Question #303: Are you interested in exploring the potential of utilizing tools like the Healthcare API to scrub PII data during the ingestion pipeline into BigQuery? Answer #303: See Question 11.

Question #304: Is the presence of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) absolutely necessary for the intended analytics and reporting needs within RADaR? Answer #304: Yes. See Question 9 and 10.

Question #305: Would SVCE be willing to share sample data extracts or schemas from key supply-side data sources such as Ascend2, Itron, or your in-house R models under NDA to provide better context for our proposed solution?

Answer #305: This will be provided to the selected vendor. If needed, vendors can provide a range of estimated costs and timelines to account for high/medium/low complexity transformations.

Question #306: While you have provided existing/expected data volumes for the current state, do you have any current projections for the anticipated growth rate of your data footprint over the next 3 to 5 years?

Answer #306: This information will be provided to the selected vendor; it is not expected to impact the scope of Task 1.

Question #307: Does SVCE have a specific rationale or justification for the initial consideration of utilizing Google Compute Engine (GCE) as the primary ETL solution for RADaR?

Answer #307: See Question 6.

Question #308: Can you please confirm that PowerBI report development is not within the scope of responsibility for the implementation partner under Task 1?

Answer #308: See Question 38 and 188.

Question #309: For the review of existing systems (Task 1, 1.a), what level of access and documentation will be provided for each listed system (DAISY, GitHub, PowerSIMM, Adapt2, IAE)?

Answer #309: Detailed documentation will be provided for DAISY, PowerSIMM, Adapt2, and IAE. SVCE will set up vendor access to GitHub.

Question #310: For the implementation of the svce-supply and svce-core data architecture (Task 1, 2 & 3), could you provide a comprehensive list of the specific data systems (e.g., Box, Adapt2, PowerSIMM) that will require data pipelines? Answer #310: See Question 194.

Question #311: Regarding the co-development aspect (Task 1), what is the anticipated level of involvement and availability of SVCE staff for tasks such as code review and acceptance?

Answer #311: See Question 3.

Question #312: For the PowerBI proof of concept report (Task 1, 4.a), are there any specific requirements or data points you would like to see included?

Answer #312: See Question 38 and 188.

Question #313: What are the key priorities and anticipated budget for the ongoing services outlined in Task 2 (Optional)?

Answer #313: For budget, see Question 36. The key priority for Task 2 is 1) maintenance of RADaR as implemented in Task 1 and 2) ongoing development of RADaR to enhance cross-organization analytics and reporting.

Question #314: Sections 18 and Attachment B emphasize the importance of a well-defined file structure. Could you elaborate on the specific requirements, priorities, and dependencies for this file structure? What level of input will be required from SVCE stakeholders to ensure it meets your needs for reporting and downstream processes?

Answer #314: Specific requirements will be provided to the selected vendor. In terms of input, SVCE expects to iterate with the vendor during the co-development process.

Question #315: Could you provide examples of innovative ideas or areas SVCE might be particularly interested in exploring beyond the core scope of work?

Answer #315: See Question 145.

Question #316: What specific criteria or list of data sources and functionalities should be prioritized for the initial soft launch of RADaR under the "phased work plan" proposal option with the November 2025 deadline?

Answer #316: See Question 17 and 147.

Question #317: What is the current level of expertise on Google Cloud Platform (GCP) within the SVCE team? Answer #317: Currently, 3 staff members (to varying degrees based on their roles) have more experience interfacing with the GCP including GCS, permissions, BigQuery, service accounts, etc. Additionally ~10 staff have experience interfacing with the BigQuery UI.

Question #318: What is the anticipated team structure within SVCE for the ongoing support and maintenance of the RADaR solution once it is launched?

Answer #318: See Question 3.

Question #319: Does SVCE have any specific examples of key reports or analyses that you are particularly looking forward to generating using the new RADaR platform?

Answer #319: The data workflows outlined in Attachment C will inform the key reports.

Question #320: Are there any specific contract terms in Attachment A that SVCE has limited flexibility on regarding modifications?

Answer #320: All contract modifications will be reviewed by general counsel.

Question #321: What is the role of the NewGen Model in pg13 current architecture diagram?

Answer #321: SVCE will provide this to the selected vendor.

Question #322: Please could you provide information on datasets, size, is it normalized do we have to do database designing for supply related GCP? What kind of data is in Azure structured or unstructured data? Archiving mechanism followed in this module. (refer Pg 13) (Supply-side data systems (refer pg13) to design supply related GCP)

Answer #322: There will need to be database design for Supply. The Azure data from Adapt2 is structured. For the archiving mechanism please see Question 174.

Question #323: Will there be any expansion or enhancement to Demand related DAISY/GCP as it is already available?

Answer #323: We will continue to expand and enhance the svce-demand project post the end of contract with Camus

Question #324: Will there be 2 environments dev AND PROD while setting up GCPs ?

Answer #324: There will be 3 GCP projects (svce-demand, svce-supply, svce-core), each with their own dev/prod datasets.

Question #325: Will the data related to BIGqueries, data pipelines, scripts go in existing github?

Answer #325: Data will not go into GitHub, Queries, pipelines and scripts will go into GitHub.

Question #326: Is there any existing backup and logging mechanism? How is logging and tracking handled currently in all 3 areas - demand, supply and reporting?

Answer #326: Current logging on the demand side is managed through Camus Energy and within GCP.

Question #327: How is PII data handled in current architecture (refer pg 15) is it encrypted within GCP what are the algorithms or logic applied to differentiate PII data from rest.

Answer #327: See Questions 9 and 10.

Question #328: What is the row and column level security applied here - "Access control policies in BQ that support dataset, and even row and column level access policies as necessary" (refer pg15)

Answer #328: For the existing demand side project, there is no row and column level security in place at the given moment.

Question #329: How is data protection , encryption and Disaster Recovery handled currently? Is this in-scope for the current assignment?

Answer #329: Please see the RFP for the relevant requirements.

Question #330: As we have information for Demand GCP such as 15 tables/datasets. Do we have similar tables already designed or we need to design tables and apply normalization and database design for Supply and Core GCPs?

Answer #330: Tables will need to be created and normalization applied both for Supply and Core.

Question #331: Do we need to apply the Automated Geo-coding module which will be completed by Sep 2025(refer pg 52) to supply and core GCPs after implementation?

Answer #331: No.

Question #332: How is data archiving handled in the current architecture? Can we propose a few algorithms based on the current architecture during the project implementation phase?

Answer #332: See Attachment D about the demand project.

Question #333: Refer pg 53 "Existing dashboards will be translated from Looker Studio into PowerBI and all tables used for reporting will be moved into the core RADaR project." Does the current assignment include just a prototype of power bi reports or complete migration and development of reporting modules from current Looker Studio to Power bi workspace? Answer #333: See Question 38 and 188.

Question #334: Regarding overall goals and priorities: Please elaborate on the specific business questions (metrics as a measurable) and reporting needs that RADaR aims to address across both the demand and supply sides of the business? Understanding these will help prioritize development efforts.

Answer #334: Information beyond the general reports listed in the data workflows will be provided to the selected vendor.

Question #335: Beyond the minimum functionality requirements outlined in Section 17, what are the most critical data and reporting capabilities your need to achieve first with RADaR? This helps define the scope of a phased work plan if considered.

Answer #335: The workflows in the table on pg. 45 of the RFP address the critical tasks. More information can be found in the attached data workflows Excel.

Question #336: What are your key performance indicators (KPIs) for both the demand and supply sides of the business, and how will RADaR help in tracking and reporting on these?

Answer #336: This will be provided to the selected vendor. Additional KPIs may be developed once Task 1 is complete.

Question #337: You've mentioned the goal of a lean maintenance effort. Can they provide more details on the internal team's current capabilities and the desired level of self-sufficiency post-implementation?

Answer #337: SVCE would ideally like a solution that can be easily maintained and updated by our internal team.

Question #338: Regarding Current Data Systems and State: For the supply-side data systems (Adapt2, Ascend: PowerSIMM, Itron, in-house models, Excel scripts), can you provide detailed data dictionaries or schemas for these systems, including data types, relationships, and update frequencies?

Answer #338: SVCE will share this with the selected vendor.

Question #339: What are the specific limitations and challenges they currently face with your existing data systems and manual data transfer processes? Understanding these pain points will inform the RADaR design.

Answer #339: For the existing demand side project, it is the ease of querying and joining between datasets geospatially and temporally.

Question #340: It is mentioned "in-house models" on the supply side. Can you please provide more information about these models, including their purpose, data inputs, outputs, and the technologies used? Answer #340: See Question 151.

Question #341: Regarding the transition of DAISY (svce-demand) to a pure SQL architecture, can they provide details on the automation plans for the SQL scripts and the target GCP resource for this automation?

Answer #341: Yes, will provide this to the chosen vendor.

Question #342: Can you clarify the specific data currently stored in Box that needs to be integrated into RADaR?

Answer #342: All excel files are currently stored in box.

Question #343: What is the current process for version control of in-house models and Excel scripts on the supply side?

Answer #343: No current version control process.

Question #344: For the three proposed GCP projects (svce-demand, svce-supply, svce-core), can they provide more specific examples of the data sets, data models, and entity mappings that will reside in each project, particularly the summarized data in svce-core?

Answer #344: We are currently scoping data sets for svce-core, and it will be shared with the chosen data vendor

Question #345: Regarding data versioning, what are your specific requirements for tracking versions of datasets and outputs, including the retention period for historical data?

Answer #345: See Questions 175, 201, and 213.

Question #346: They mentioned the need for specific access control and permissions, including row and column-level access in BigQuery. Can they provide a detailed breakdown of user roles and the specific data they should have access to in each GCP project?

Answer #346: Yes, will provide this to the chosen vendor.

Question #347: Can they elaborate on the specific types of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) that are currently stored and will be stored in RADaR, and what are their specific requirements for its protection?

Answer #347: See Questions 9 and 10.

Question #348: Regarding disaster recovery, what are your absolute tolerance levels for data loss (Recovery Point Objective - RPO) and system downtime (Recovery Time Objective - RTO) for different parts of the RADaR system? Answer #348: See page 16 of the RFP.

Question #349: You have emphasized the importance of documentation. Can they describe the preferred format and level of detail for the various types of documentation, including architecture diagrams, table structures, code documentation, and user guides?

Answer #349: SVCE will provide this to the chosen vendor and work with them to create a standard across the whole project

Question #350: For the implementation of automated connections to software like Ascend, Adapt2, and Itron, do they have any existing API keys, database credentials, or preferred methods for establishing these connections?

Answer #350: See Question 194.

Question #351: They mentioned transitioning to PowerBI for reports and dashboards. Are there any specific reporting requirements or existing Looker Studio dashboards that need to be prioritized for migration?

Answer #351: See Question 38 and 188.

Question #352: Regarding the data structure in Google Cloud Storage (GCS), are there any existing naming conventions, tagging formats, or organizational preferences that should be considered?

Answer #352: SVCE will propose a desired naming convention and organizational preference.

Question #353: For the non-relational data sources like PDFs, Word files, and emails, what are the key information elements you need to extract and analyze from these sources within RADaR?

Answer #353: See Question 180.

Question #354: You require monthly snapshots of the supply side data for several years. Can you specify the exact duration for which these historical snapshots need to be retained and accessible?

Answer #354: See Question 174.

Question #355: Regarding Technical Preferences: While Compute Engines are a consideration for orchestration, are there any other GCP services or orchestration tools they are particularly interested in exploring or have experience with?

Answer #355: See Question 6.

Question #356: Are there any specific coding languages or development methodologies that are preferred by your internal team for ETL development?

Answer #356: SVCE prefers SQL based ETL flows, See Attachment B.

Question #357: Regarding Collaboration and Handover: Can you describe the availability and roles of SVCE staff who will be involved in the co-development process, including code reviews, testing, and training?

Answer #357: See Question 3.

Question #358: What are your expectations for knowledge transfer and training to enable your team to independently manage and develop RADaR post-implementation?

Answer #358: See Question 42, 106.

Question #359: What is the main reason for work completion by November 2025? Will there be any impact if the work gets delayed due to any internal/ external constraints?

Answer #359: See Question 147 and 17.

Question #360: Given that the contract may start in Mid April/ Early May, is there any possibility to extend the completion date to beyond November 2025?

Answer #360: See Question 147 and 17.

Question #361: Resourcing: Are we allowed to use offshore or nearshore (Canada / Mexico) resources for this project?

Answer #361: See Question 13.

Question #362: Data: What types of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is in the data?

Answer #362: See Question 9.

Question #363: Certification: Is a SOC 2 cert required with the submission materials?

Answer #363: This is a post-award requirement.

Question #364: Presentation: Is a Power Point slide deck required with the submission materials?

Answer #364: See Question 58 and 133.

Question #365: Co-Development: Will the 3 data engineering resources outlined in Attachment B be committed to this initiative full-time or will they have other responsibilities during the time allotted for Task 1? If they aren't full time, what will be their availability in terms of hours during that time? Answer #365: See Question 357.

Question #366: Configuration: What are the specifications for the Google Cloud components to be configured?

Answer #366: SVCE will provide this to the chosen vendor.

Question #367: POC Report: Will the 'proof of concept report in PowerBI' be developed by SCVE or is the Bidder responsible for data model and dashboard development?

Answer #367: See Question 38 and 188.

Question #368: Data Quality: What percentage of the data is 'not clean' and will require additional work to be applied to before it can be joined with the rest of the data? Which sources/data sets are particularly bad at the current moment?

Answer #368: Most data for supply is relatively clean. Data orchestration will be the bulk of the work.

Question #369: Data Governance: What is the Data Governance structure at SVCE? Are there formal 'data owners/stewards' that are responsible for maintenance and quality of their data sets?

Answer #369: There will be one point person each for svce-demand, svce-supply, and svce-core.

Question #370: Could you please provide a detailed inventory of all supply-side data sources that need to be integrated into RADAR, including the system names, data formats (e.g., CSV, API, database), update frequencies, and estimated data volumes (both current and historical)?

Answer #370: See Attachments B and C.

Question #371: Can you provide examples or specifications for the key reports and dashboards that will be required in PowerBI, including the target audience and any specific performance expectations? What is the estimated number of users who will consume these reports?

Answer #371: See Questions 102 and 335.

Question #372: What are the specific data retention policies for the various datasets that will be stored in RADAR, considering compliance with NERC and CPUC regulations?

Answer #372: See Questions 175, 201, and 213.

Question #373: What are the required Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for the RADAR platform in terms of uptime, performance, and data freshness? Answer #373: See Question 40.

Question #374: Can you elaborate on any specific security policies or requirements beyond the mentioned compliance standards (CCPA, NERC, CPUC 15x15)?

Answer #374: See Question 8.

Question #375: Could you provide more details regarding the desired Recovery Time Objective (RTO) and Recovery Point Objective (RPO) for the RADAR platform? Are there any specific disaster recovery procedures or tools that need to be considered?

Answer #375: This solution will be collaborated on with the selected vendor.

Question #376: What is the existing network infrastructure and how will the RADAR platform connect to other internal systems and external data sources in GCP?

Answer #376: The plan has been to utilize a system of compute engines with varying degrees of access internally, externally and within GCP to make sure the build is safe and a single compromised compute engine could not hurt the whole system.

Question #377: Are there any specific budgetary constraints for the implementation and ongoing operation of the RADAR platform?

Answer #377: See Question 45.

Question #378: Can you provide more details on the required training for SVCE staff, including specific topics, roles to be trained, and desired level of expertise?

Answer #378: See Question 357.

Question #379: Are there any existing data governance policies or procedures within SVCE that we should be aware of during the design and implementation process?

Answer #379: See Question 109.

Question #380: Could you provide the build requirements document (Attachment B), supply data workflows (Attachment C), and DAISY overview (Attachment D) mentioned in the RFP?

Answer #380: Attachment B and D are included at the end of the RFP. Attachment C can be found online at: <https://svcleanenergy.org/solicitations/>

Question #381: What type of Single Sign-On (SSO) will be integrated with the solution? (e.g., Google Workspace, Cloud Identity, Azure AD)

Answer #381: See Question 7.

Question #382: What disaster recovery approach is expected—Active-Active or Active-Passive?

Answer #382: Active Passive would be sufficient.

Question #383: Will the current DAISY GCP environment need to be migrated into RADaR as part of the future state? (Ref: Page 14)

Answer #383: While DAISY will be considered part of RADaR in the future state, since DAISY is already in GCP, SVCE does not expect any migration needed for DAISY.

Question #384: We assume GCP resources and Power BI licenses will be procured and provisioned by SVCE. Please confirm.

Answer #384: Yes.

Question #385: We assume there will be 100 Power BI users. Please confirm this assumption. (Ref: Page 49)

Answer #385: This assumption is fine.

Question #386: What are the formats of external data sources (e.g., load data, weather, rates)? Can SVCE provide a complete list of sources and corresponding file formats?

Answer #386: This will be provided to the selected vendor.

Question #387: What is the expected data ingestion frequency for each of the external data sources? (daily, hourly, etc.)

Answer #387: Batch processing on hourly and daily schedules will be sufficient.

Question #388: Is there a need to connect to the email system for data ingestion? If yes, how many email accounts need to be integrated? (Ref: Page 48)

Answer #388: Not for Task 1. Task 2 may involve integration with e-mail system.

Question #389: For email/PDF/Word files, is the goal to extract metadata and store it in BigQuery? (Ref: Page 48)

Answer #389: Yes.

Question #390: Do the email data include attachments from which metadata must also be extracted and stored in BigQuery? (Ref: Page 48)

Answer #390: No.

Question #391: Will SVCE provide a project management and ticketing system (e.g., Jira, ServiceNow) to track the project lifecycle? Answer #391: SVCE and the vendor will use monday.com for project management.

Question #392: How many existing Looker Studio reports are expected to be transformed into Power BI reports?

Answer #392: Migration of Looker Studio dashboards to PowerBI is not included in this scope of work.

Question #393: Will Power BI dashboards be used only internally or also by external stakeholders?

Answer #393: Primarily internal stakeholders.

Question #394: Is there a requirement to schedule and email Power BI dashboards or reports to stakeholders automatically?

Answer #394: This will be decided by staff once the PowerBI dashboards have been established.

Question #395: If changes are required in source systems (e.g., DAISY, Adapt2, PowerSIMM) during RADaR implementation, will SVCE be accountable for those changes?

Answer #395: SVCE does not expect any change in the source systems to impact RADaR implementation. In the event of an unexpected change, SVCE will notify the vendor and collaborate with the vendor to accommodate those changes in RADaR.

Question #396: During ETL development, will data cleansing be the bidder's responsibility or will it be handled by the SVCE team? Please confirm.

Answer #396: SVCE will provide the rules for data cleansing, and the vendor should implement those rules during ETL development.

Question #397: Are there any sensitive data types (e.g., SSNs, bank details) that must be stored using encryption (e.g., CMEK or TDE)?

Answer #397: No.

Question #398: What types of master data will be stored in BigQuery to support filtering and drill-downs in Power BI dashboards?

Answer #398: This will be co-developed by SVCE and the selected vendor.

Question #399: What is SVCE's data retention policy across data stored in GCS, BigQuery, and backups?

Answer #399: See Questions 175, 201, and 213.

Question #400: We assume the existing DAISY BigQuery schema and pre-defined queries will be shared to support Power BI report development. Please confirm. Answer #400: Yes.

Question #401: How many environments are required (e.g., Dev, Test, UAT, Prod) for this implementation?

Answer #401: At least 2 environments (Dev and Prod) in the form of datasets in each GCP project.

Question #402: Are you okay with the onshore-offshore development model?

Answer #402: See Question 13.

Question #403: What is your preferred project management methodology – Waterfall, Agile, or Hybrid?

Answer #403: Please propose an approach that is most suitable given your organization's expertise and understanding of this project.

Question #404: What is your project deliverable review and signoff process and timeline?

Answer #404: Will depend on the size and complexity of the code being reviewed. This can be collaborated and agreed upon with the selected vendor prioritizing transparency and information sharing. We would like to be part of development so we see things as they evolve rather than checking a fully working prototype.