



Request for Proposal (RFP) LR 2105

LCFS Fuel Pathway Application and Verification Services

ADDENDUM 1: Responses to Questions

January 11, 2022

Scope of Work

Question 1: Can you provide examples and more details on the types of pathway applications that NCPA and its Members will be submitting for validation/verification?

- **Answer:** NCPA is interested in entering into enabling agreements that would support NCPA and Member's potential pursuit of various fuel pathway types. Fuel pathways currently under consideration include, but are not limited to:
 - Renewable Natural Gas
 - Compressed, Liquified and/or Liquified Compressed Natural Gas
 - Renewable Diesel
 - Hydrogen electrolysis
 - Renewable Electricity, including Large Hydroelectric

Question 2: Where will the projects be located? Will they be concentrated in California, concentrated in another region, spread out across the US?

- **Answer:** Projects will primarily be located in California, but are not limited to California.

Question 3: Is there a list of current NCPA/Member pathways?

- **Answer:** Current NCPA Member fuel pathways registered with the California Air Resources Board consist of various combinations of zero-CI resources, and one CNG fuel pathway. We are not aware of any NCPA Members with current Tier 2 fuel pathways or applications.

Question 4: Are there significant changes or new challenges you expect will develop during this 5-year time? How will NCPA's priorities evolve regarding the LCFS Verification and/or consulting services throughout this time?

- **Answer:** There are no specific changes or challenges expected. Interest in developing fuel pathways may grow with the anticipated increase of electric vehicle charging and alternative fuels in the state, and as NCPA Members pursue additional low-CI fuel resources. One Member is currently interested in verification services for an existing fuel pathway, and additional verification will be needed as further fuel pathways are developed.

Budget

Question 5: Are you expecting fixed costs or hourly rates with estimated level of effort? There could be a wide range of costs depending on the type of pathway and engagement.

- **Answer:** NCPA is requesting bidders provide an hourly rate. Bidders may also provide estimated project costs or estimated number of hours by task type, or any additional information that assists with the evaluation of the proposal

Question 6: Section 5.8 of the RFP requests "proposed costs to provide the specific services offered". Project costs can vary based on project specifics that are not provided in the RFP – can you provide any clarification on what you expect to see here, or provide additional information on project details that will be considered for evaluation?

- **Answer:** NCPA is requesting bidders provide an hourly rate. Bidders may also provide estimated project costs or estimated number of hours by task type, or any additional information that assists with the evaluation of the proposal

Question 7: Is there currently an estimated project budget for the consulting services? Could you provide any additional information about your estimated project budget for the pathway verification services?

- **Answer:** There are no estimated project budgets at this time. NCPA's RFP is intended to result in one or more enabling agreements so that NCPA Members can rely on the joint procurement process and contract for services as needed via NCPA's enabling agreements. The budget for the enabling agreement (s) will be determined after the selection process, and will be structured so that one or more NCPA Members are able to rely on the joint enabling agreement(s).

Timeline

Question 8: Is the proposed timeline with work commencing in March 2022 for both services?

- **Answer:** The expectation for “work commencing” in March 2022 indicates the earliest date that the contract would be executed and work could begin. The exact scope and timeline for a specific project, whether Task I or Task II, will be determined after execution of the enabling agreement(s) as needed by NCPA and/or NCPA Member.

Question 9: What is the expectation for the number of needed pathway application validations and annual verifications needed in 2022? Expectations for the remainder of the 5 year contract? How many pathways does NCPA anticipate registering and verifying per year under this award?

- **Answer:** NCPA expects that a small number of pathways applications would be initiated in 2022 – between zero to three projects. There is one existing CNG fuel pathway that may require verification services beginning in 2022. The total number of pathway applications that may be submitted or pathways requiring verification within the 5-year contract is estimated to be between one and ten projects.

Question 10: How many of your 16 Member organizations do you anticipate working on LCFS Pathways in total? Are any of them planning to submit as joint applicants with other entities? Will they be submitting Tier 1, Tier 2, and/or Lookup Table Pathway applications?

- **Answer:** A small number of NCPA Members are currently considering developing fuel pathways. Additional NCPA Members may become interested during the term of the Agreement. There are no specific plans for joint applications, but there may be interest in joint applications during the term of the contract. Additional assistance is mostly anticipated for Tier 2 pathways.

Question 11: CA’s LCFS program has a required firm rotation every 6 years. Could the 5-year requested timeframe be extended to 6 years?

- **Answer:** The term for NCPA’s standard consulting services agreement is up to 5 years, but as the regulatory program for verification has a 6-year cycle, the review committee will evaluate whether to recommend an exception to allow for a 6-year contract.