



ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE AND RELATED SERVICES

Request for Proposals

Responses due February 12, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. CT

Hopkinsville Electric System
1820 E. Ninth Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240

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Background Information

Automation approaches enable the building of the utility of the 21st century. It involves “smart” systems to measure consumption at different times of the day, new communications networks to send data to and from utilities, and new database systems to manage and use the valuable new data which advanced systems generate. It may also involve new “smart” systems that can respond to signals automatically to turn themselves on or off, up or down. These initiatives have become reality due to the advancements in communications technologies, coupled with the reduction in the cost of communication components. Adherence to widely adopted industry standards for communication interfaces creates the possibility of an open architecture. Specifically, the inclusion of Ethernet interfaces in devices deployed across the utility network can facilitate diverse, redundant access to infrastructure devices.

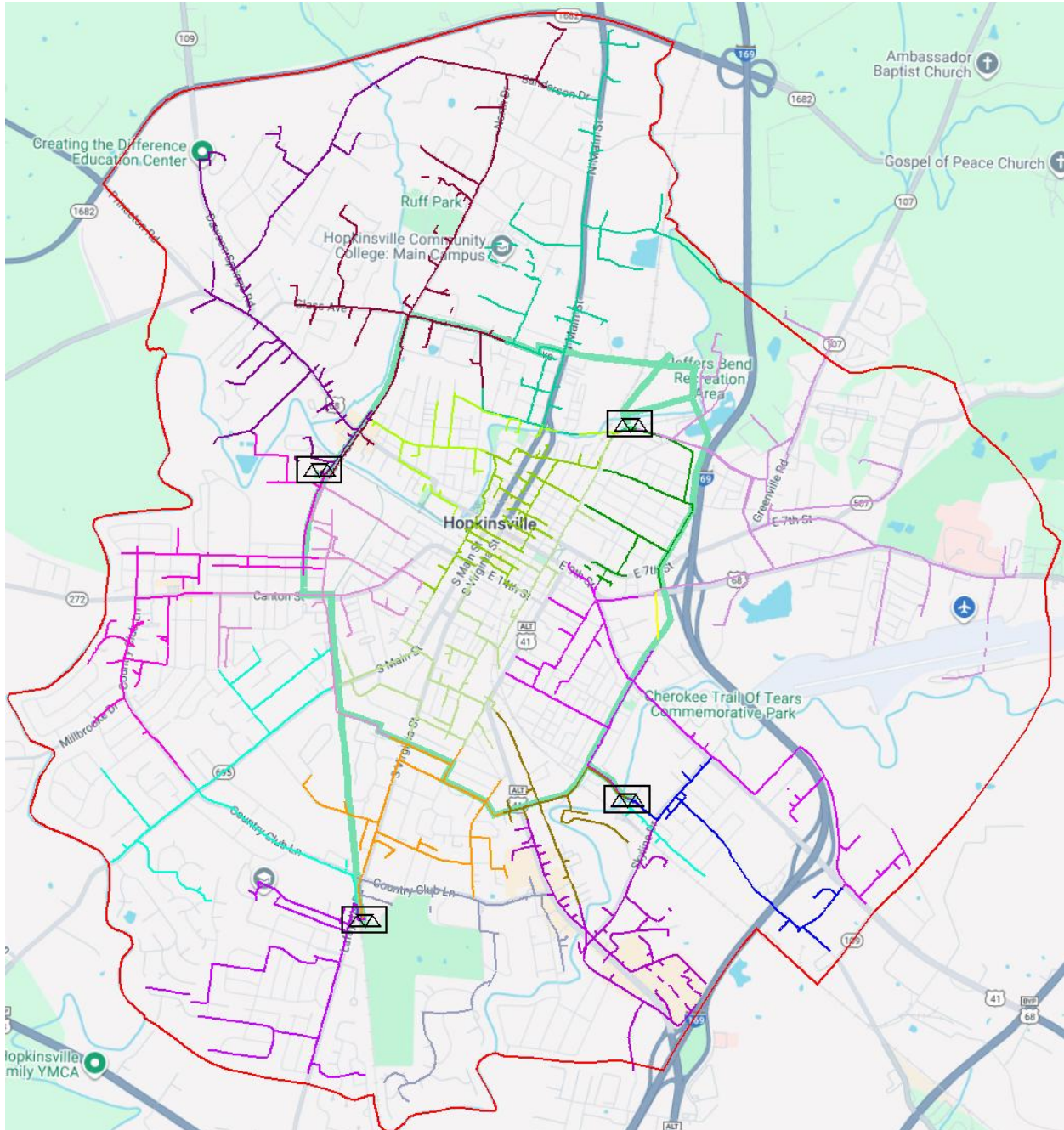
Like many other electric utilities, Hopkinsville Electric System (HES) is seeking to develop an AMI system and related grid modernization applications and will be seeking solutions from vendors who can deliver the capabilities needed for its system. For this request for proposals, there are three specific use cases that HES has interest in:

- Advanced Metering – migrating the existing metering system to an AMI network to automate the billing process as well as serve as the baseline for other utility applications
- Analytics – leverage the AMI data to provide operational analytics related to grid and transformer operations
- CVR – managing voltage levels on feeders with digital sensors and switches with advanced control and communication technologies to regulate the voltage profile and automate feeder switching while reducing wholesale demand costs

HES welcomes responses from vendors who can provide solutions to one or more of the use cases listed.

System Level Architecture

The electric distribution system features 4 substations, 21 mainline feeders, and a total of 12,872 meters. Annual sales are in excess of 378 million kWh and system peak is 83.5 MW. Below are a map and data related to the overall system:



HES Substation Data

| Substations | Circuit | Miles of line | Transformers | Capacitor Banks | Meter Sites |
|---------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Holland | 214 | 4.89 | 64 | - | 472 |
| | 224 | 15.57 | 240 | 2 | 1,072 |
| | 234 | 8.79 | 165 | - | 963 |
| | 244 | 5.50 | 116 | - | 601 |
| | 254 | SPARE | SPARE | SPARE | SPARE |
| | 264 | 5.30 | 83 | - | 447 |
| | 274 | Direct Customer | Direct Customer | Direct Customer | TVA METERED |
| 284 | 19.84 | 284 | 1 | 1,027 | |
| Skyline | 214 | 6.50 | 11 | - | 51 |
| | 224 | 8.42 | 136 | 1 | 312 |
| | 234 | 5.10 | 73 | - | 351 |
| | 244 | 2.95 | 46 | - | 176 |
| | 254 | 13.30 | 182 | - | 863 |
| Country Club | 214 | 11.75 | 199 | 1 | 1,066 |
| | 224 | 7.84 | 130 | 1 | 456 |
| | 234 | 14.78 | 323 | 1 | 1,043 |
| | 244 | 8.00 | 136 | | 779 |
| North Dr | 214 | 14.20 | 213 | - | 1,160 |
| | 224 | 9.20 | 155 | - | 1,004 |
| | 234 | 12.15 | 205 | 1 | 838 |
| | 244 | 11.62 | 169 | - | 768 |

Scope of Work

As mentioned above, there are three specific use cases that HES has an interest in exploring through this procurement effort. Below we provide details on each:

Advanced Meter Infrastructure

HES is seeking to upgrade its existing metering system, which features a Honeywell Elster NetSense system. The components of a successful AMI deployment should include a robust bi-directional communications channel, interface with MDM software, and provide interval capable meters (and collectors, if applicable). In addition, the advanced meters deployed across the distribution network also function as network health monitors by reporting back distribution conditions. As a result, the AMI meters should serve as the platform devices for the entire grid modernization effort.

The breakdown by meter type is as follows:

| Consolidated Group | Total Meters | Share of Population |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 2S | 12,291 | 93.6% |
| 16S family (14S/15S/16S) | 406 | 3.1% |
| 8S/9S family | 233 | 1.8% |
| 12S | 84 | 0.6% |
| 3S | 41 | 0.3% |
| 5S/35S family | 23 | 0.2% |
| 4S | 21 | 0.2% |
| 6S/36S family | 21 | 0.2% |
| 1S | 13 | 0.1% |
| Grand Total | 13,133 | 100% |

HES is seeking proposals on automated connect and disconnect capabilities for all residential meters.

Analytics

Analytics involves analyzing energy consumption data to improve grid stability, predict asset failures, and enhance customer service. Key areas of focus include:

- Grid stability: Using the data to forecast loads, detect energy theft, and monitor meter performance to improve overall grid stability and reduce operational costs
- Asset management: Analyzing data helps predict equipment failures, allowing for proactive maintenance and extending the life of infrastructure
- Customer service: Insights from AMI data can be used to offer personalized energy plans, engage customers in conservation programs, and improve customer experience
- Operational efficiency: Analytics can help with outage management, as systems can detect outages more quickly and accurately, and can help with load balancing and asset swapping

Conservation Voltage Reduction

Voltage management offers the potential for electric utilities to utilize controls over the voltage levels of the distribution network to enable real operational gains. While utilities typically operate in the upper

range of the ANSI voltage band under normal circumstances, voltage can be compressed during key periods in a way that benefits utilities and consumers. Numerous studies have shown that for each 1% drop in voltage levels, mean energy consumption for residential and commercial loads can be reduced by .8%, although this value can vary depending on load mix and distribution system configuration.

There are a number of deployment options that HES could consider in the ultimate design of its conservation voltage program. Below are three options it is willing to consider:

| Approach | Concept | Pros | Cons |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Standalone | Voltage control managed by individual Volt/VAR regulating devices | Low cost, limited communications requirements, scalable | Not self-monitoring, poor coordination, suboptimal operation |
| Rule-Based DA Control | Controlled by SCADA with preset rules | Improved efficiency, self-monitoring, override capabilities | Not scalable, not very adaptable to changing rules, limited efficiency gains |
| Distribution Model Optimization | Coordinated optimal switching for all voltage control devices | Fully coordinated and optimized, flexible, can support feeder reconfiguration | Higher cost, larger deployment required, learning curve required |

With distribution model optimization, digital sensors and switches with advanced control and communication technologies are used to regulate the voltage profile and automate feeder switching. This architecture further allows for voltage and equipment health monitoring as well as reactive power management. Further integration with capacitor banks and other regulatory devices will enhance all functions.

System Information

Shapefile of the HES distribution system can be received by request. Please send a request to David Shpigler (shpigler@shpigler.com) to receive the system data.

All of the systems supporting the new use cases will need to be implemented with existing systems. A list of the existing systems follows:

- Metering – Honeywell Elster NetSense (to be replaced)
- CIS/Billing – CSA
- GIS – CSA Utilitrak
- SCADA – Survalent
- Customer portal/prepay – Exceleton

Proposal Requirements

Vendors are requested to submit responses regarding how they propose to address the proposed deployment for each use case. Proposals may be submitted for one or more of the use cases included in this RFP.

HES requests that the vendor's proposal be submitted in the format outlined in this section. HES reserves the right to require additional information or materials after the proposals are submitted. Please keep responses simple and economical, providing a straightforward and concise description of the proposed solution to satisfy the requirements of this request. Describe all products and services unambiguously and with precision. Costs incurred preparing and submitting a response to this request are entirely the vendor's responsibility and not chargeable to HES.

All responses, documents, terms, and information related to the proposer's response to this RFP shall be submitted with the response package prior to the submission deadline. No separate schedules, agreements, terms, conditions, etc. shall be recognized or accepted if not submitted with the response to this RFP.

Proposals should include a table of contents listing all sections, figures, and tables. Major sections and appendices should be separated and labeled; pages should be numbered. Submitted proposals should address the requirements completely and accurately.

A. Executive Summary

Provide the following information in the executive summary:

- A summary of your proposal clearly indicating which components you are proposing on (AMI, Analytics, CVR).
- Why your firm is qualified to handle this project – differentiators and strengths of your company and project team.
- Which subcontractors, if any, are part of the proposed project team.
- An affirmation of no conflict of interest.
- An original authorized signature.

B. Company Overview

Provide the following information in your response:

- Name of firm and mailing address, phone and fax number of the proposer's principal place of business.
- A brief company history, including ownership, size, and number of national offices. Recent acquisitions or changes in ownership should be clearly disclosed.
- Overall company experience in utility automation, network operations, systems integration and/or system installation.
- Confirmation that your company and personnel are legally allowed to work in the state of Kentucky.
- The company's capital position and financial health. Provide annual reports and/or financial statements for the division of the company directly responsible for the product or services proposed in this RFP for each of the last three fiscal years as an appendix.

- State whether there are pending or prior legal disputes or lawsuits with any existing or previous clients. If so, state all such disputes, including dates, as well as any facts and outcomes regarding these disputes.
- State the standard method or methods of resolving disputes, should they arise.
- Identify specific subcontractors and the specific requirements of this RFP for which each proposed subcontractor will perform services.
- Describe the relationships amongst the different entities proposing jointly, how long you have worked together, what projects were successfully implemented jointly, projects that were not successful, and whether any of the companies submitting jointly have vested interest in one another.
- Explain the extent to which your offering is compliant with the Build America Buy America Act (BABA).

C. References

Vendors shall provide a minimum of five (5) references from similar projects performed for utility clients within the last seven (7) years. Provide references of a similar nature for any/all sub-contractors you anticipate using during this project. These references shall be provided with the following information:

- Utility name
- Address
- Telephone
- E-mail address
- Project name
- Project start and end dates
- Project scope
- Option for site visit?

D. Advanced Metering Infrastructure

- The formal name and software version being proposed for implementation.
- A narrative description of the proposed AMI, system components, and capabilities. Clearly state what is included in the base offering. Include:
 - Electric meters
 - Network collectors
 - Repeaters or other network devices
 - Backhaul communication system
 - Meter head end
- Indicate whether the system delivers register reads, commercial demand, and interval consumption data using two-way communications.
- Describe how the system accommodates different meter reading schedules and whether it automatically initiates read functions to collect all readings required to meet the billing schedule and system performance levels.
- Describe how the head end software schedules, requests, and collects the reads, monitors the general characteristics of all devices in the network. Is the system capable of providing system reports of network performance, outages, tamper conditions, low voltage, system load and other characteristics of network operation?

- Indicate whether the AMI system is able to collect electric billing reads for all customer accounts. Is the system capable of supporting standard and time-of-use rate schedules?
- Indicate whether the system is capable of resetting customer demand for demand accounts upon obtaining the monthly billing read. Indicate whether the system supports power factor calculations and retrieves the monthly power factor.
- Indicate whether the AMI system is capable of extracting all available electric consumption, including demand and alert information from the meters.
- Describe how the AMI system is capable of retrieving historical data from the meters in the event of a communications interruption.
- Indicate whether the AMI system is capable of delivering power outage, low battery and tamper alarms as applicable from the meter to the head end. Indicate whether the AMI system has low voltage alarm detection capability at the meter.
- Describe the method of installing firmware upgrades for individual meters, changing meter schedules and settings, updating firmware or communications protocols, and operating in broadcast mode to update all meter firmware at one time.
- Describe the frequency of meter reading for electric meters.
- Indicate the guaranteed maximum error rate and how that error rate is calculated.
- Describe how the system delivers on-demand reads and/or meter pings.
- Describe the capability of the AMI system to deliver outage notifications. Provide expected outage notifications received during small, medium and large outages.
- How long does it take for a power restoration message to come in to the headend software following an outage restoration?
- Explain how the AMI network re-builds itself after power is restored following a long outage.
- Detail the proposed number of communication devices, including any towers, data collectors, concentrators, routers and any other wireless network devices.
- Provide the appropriate specifications for backhaul communication devices to include size and weight of equipment, service or access requirements, power supply requirements, and other relevant specifications.
- Provide details on all power requirements for all devices and battery backups, where applicable.
- Describe ability to support remote activation of service connects and disconnects to selected electric meters.
- Indicate use of remotely programmable demand-limiting option.
- Describe whether disconnect switch is provisioned under the meter cover.
- Indicate whether the system detects voltage on the load side of the electric meter and is capable of advising the host operator if this condition exists.
- How is continued AMI network support ensured for endpoints deployed in the field over a 15-year system life span?
- Describe AMI network/meter support encryption support.
- Describe how your AMI solution supports DA, Smart Lighting, and Demand Response applications.
- Describe the recommended AMI infrastructure optimization needs on a 1–3-year basis.
- For software as a service (SaaS) AMI head end implementation, describe how the AMI head end software is implemented and operated for utility customers.
- The hosted AMI head-end system must be capable of hosting 18 months of data. Is there additional cost to host this data? If data is archived after 18 months, does customer still have access to the data?
- Describe all available interfaces and API support.

- Does the AMI solution support GPS data to identify and display locations of accounts?
- Is your datacenter located in the United States? Describe failover process when primary datacenter encounters issues. Describe your disaster recovery processes and expected recovery in one business day.
- The vendor shall be capable of supporting the needed integration from the AMI system to our billing system and other systems. Describe your capabilities and experience for performing integrations of these types.
- Provide detail on ability of meter to detect high temperature of connecting electrical socket and send alarm notice
- Provide detail on ability of single-phase meter to detect the particular phase it is connected to
- Provide detail on ability of residential meters to monitor the voltage difference between each leg as well as the voltage difference between in-phase and the neutral wire
- Provide information on hosting options for AMI meter data (hosted vs. on premise) and the price difference

E. Analytics

If proposing an analytics solution, provide the following information regarding the application and the application vendor:

- The formal name and software version being proposed for implementation.
- A narrative description of the proposed analytics system, system components, and capabilities. Clearly state what is included in the base offering. Include:
 - Data capabilities
 - Notifications/alerts
 - System integrations and data sources
- Capacity to correlate with detailed circuit and electric system mapping to provide system intelligence and predict potential system issues
- Capabilities to analyze power quality, detect anomalies, and predict equipment failures to enhance proactive decision-making
- System visibility capabilities
- Capability to automatically, dynamically and graphically reflect real-time system updates
- Capabilities to modeling load shedding scenarios
- Methodology to identify bad sockets, blinks, voltage issues, vegetation, and other system issues
- Potential to support phase detection
- Asset management capabilities
- Online database to support analysis of feeders or the system as a whole for computation of performance indices
- Incident analysis, including the capability to simultaneously monitor outages on the HES electric system in tandem with an Outage Management System
- Graphic display capabilities
- Training

F. CVR

If proposing a CVR solution, provide the following information regarding the application and the application vendor:

- The formal name and software version being proposed for implementation.
- A narrative description of the proposed conservation voltage system, system components, and capabilities. Clearly state what is included in the base offering.
- Discuss integration with existing systems, including SCADA.
- Discuss ability to support distributed intelligence with flexible path routing and configurable message prioritization.
- Provide information related to data storage and management.
- Provide overview of system scalability and redundancy at all levels. Please describe minimum hardware requirements and disaster recovery.
- Describe end-to-end security, including role-based access for end devices, data collectors, and other related applications of the management system; authentication of devices and personnel; NIST-approved encryption modes and algorithms; security audit logging and reporting.
- Provide an overview of the network management. Does the system feature a graphical user interface (GUI) portal that enables system operators to easily manage and monitor the network? What is the capacity to deliver reports and displays to assist in viewing system and schedule performance, events and alarms, operation and maintenance?
- Describe the functionality of communication infrastructure and data collection.
- Does the system retrieve scheduled reads and voltage alarms from sensors? Are alerts triggered if the voltage deviates from configurable thresholds?
- Does the system feature installed backup controls to supervise main control output and to protect against main control failure, runaway, or the potential to exceed safe voltage limits?
- Describe how the system ensures switching at the proper VAR load level to maintain the benefits of lower losses, lower VAR loading, and increased capacity of existing equipment.
- Describe how controls enable automatic response to communications; recognition of the loss of communication; regular response to communications in a manner which allows the network to recognize the loss of communications; and independent operation to maintain control during the communication loss period.
- Indicate whether the system features programmable time controls, temperature controls, voltage controls, current controls, power factor controls, and VAR controls. Indicate whether the system provides support for (a) changing VAR needs with normal distribution system loading, (b) constantly changing loads, (c) the potential of capacitor addition or removal at the appropriate times, and (d) the possibility of relating system VAR needs to system quantities.

G. Supporting Materials

Provide the following information in your response:

- Draft work plan
- Pricing for full-scale implementation
- Brochures or other collateral

H. Submission Information

All questions and submissions should be directed to David Shpigler, President of The Shpigler Group, at shpigler@shpigler.com. Submissions by the deadline will be accepted electronically; no paper submissions will be required.

Evaluation Criteria

HES will review the proposals and identify the top respondents in each area and invite those bidders to visit with the HES team for an in-person interview. Criteria to be included in the evaluation process include:

- Vendor's background and capability to provide services requested
- Evaluation of references
- Experience working with systems near and/or similar to HES
- Pricing
- Proposal responsiveness
- Ability to provide product in timely manner

Schedule

The anticipated schedule for this project is shown below:

- Release of RFP December 12, 2025
- Bidder's conference January 8, 2026 at 10 a.m. CT
- Deadline for questions related to RFP January 15, 2026
- Answers to questions provided January 22, 2026
- Deadline for proposal responses February 12, 2026 by 2 p.m. CT
- HES evaluation of proposals February 13-18, 2026
- Invitations issued to finalists to interview February 19, 2026
- Interviews of finalists March 16-20, 2026

Terms

- All communications should be communicated through David Shpigler, President of The Shpigler Group.
- HES will issue responses to inquiries and any other corrections or amendments it deems necessary in written addenda issued prior to the due date. All questions must be submitted by the deadline for questions listed on the schedule.
- By submitting a response, the vendor represents and warrants that such bid is genuine and not a sham or collusive or made in the interest or on behalf of any person not therein named and that the vendor has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other vendor to put in a sham bid, or any other person, firm or corporation to refrain from submitting and that the vendor has not in any manner sought by collusion to secure to that vendor any advantage over any other vendor. By submitting a bid, the vendor represents and warrants that no official or employee of HES has, in any manner, an interest, directly or indirectly in the bid or in the contract which may be made under it, or in any expected profits to arise there from.
- All expenses involved with the preparation and submission of this bid package to HES, or any work performed in connection there with is the responsibility of the vendor(s).
- All materials submitted in connection with this Request for Proposals will be public documents and subject to the laws of the State of Kentucky, the United States of America and the open records policies of HES. All such materials shall remain the property of HES and will not be returned to the respondent.
- All respondents to this Request for Proposals shall hold harmless HES and any of their officers and employees from all suits and claims alleged to be a result of this Request for Proposals. HES reserves the right to determine, at its sole discretion, whether any aspect of a respondent's submittal meets the criteria in this Request for Proposals. HES also reserves the right to seek clarifications, to negotiate with any vendor submitting a response, to reject any or all responses with or without cause, and to modify the procurement process. In the event that this Request for Proposals is withdrawn or there is a need to cancel the contract services for any reason, HES shall have no liability to any respondent for any costs or expenses incurred in connection with this request or otherwise.
- In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, HES, after due oral or written notice, may procure substitute goods or services from other sources and hold the vendor responsible for any resulting addition purchasing and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies which HES may have.
- Any contract resulting from this Request for Proposals shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the State of Kentucky. The contractor shall comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.
- It is understood and agreed between the parties herein that HES shall be bound hereunder only to the extent of the funds available, or which may hereafter become available for the purpose of this agreement.
- This project is funded with funds made available from the Federal Government. The successful bidder shall comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations for construction projects receiving Federal aid, including, but not limited to: Section 601 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Public Law 88-352 (42 U.S.C. 2000d); and all applicable Federal labor standards requirements including 40 U.S.C. 3141-3148 and 40 U.S.C. 3701- 3708 revising, codifying and enacting without substantive change the provisions of the Davis- Bacon Act (formerly 40 U.S.C.

276a et seq.), the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (formerly 40 U.S.C. 327 et seq.), the Copeland Anti-Kickback Act (formerly 40 U.S.C. 276c), and Build America, Buy America U.S.C. 8301. The successful bidder shall also comply with Presidential Executive Orders 11246 and 11375.

- HES has submitted a non-availability BABA waiver for this project to DOE. This contract is contingent upon the waiver approval.

Buy America Domestic Procurement Preference

As required by Section 70914 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act), P.L. 117-58, on or after May 14, 2022, none of the funds under a federal award that are part of Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States, unless subject to an approved waiver. The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards, including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this program.

Recipients of an award of Federal financial assistance are hereby notified that none of the funds provided under this award may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

1. all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States—this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;
2. all manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard that meets or exceeds this standard has been established under applicable law or regulation for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product; and
3. all construction materials are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States.

The Buy America preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project, but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

For further information on the Buy America preference, please visit the specific Federal funding agencies BABA website. Additional information can also be found at the White House Made in America Office website: www.whitehouse.gov/omb/management/made-in-america/.

HES has submitted a non-availability BABA waiver for this project to DOE. This contract is contingent upon the waiver approval.

Waivers

When necessary, recipients may apply for, and the Federal funding agency may grant, a waiver from these requirements, subject to review by the Made in America Office. The Federal funding agency may waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference in any case in which it is determined that one of the below circumstances applies:

1. Non-availability Waiver: the types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality;
2. Unreasonable Cost Waiver: the inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent; or
3. Public Interest Waiver: applying the domestic content procurement preference would be inconsistent with the public interest.

There may be instances where an award qualifies, in whole or in part, for an existing general applicability waiver. If the specific financial assistance agreement, infrastructure project, or non-domestic materials meets the criteria of an existing general applicability waiver within the limitations defined within the waiver, the recipient is not required to request a separate waiver for non-domestic materials.

If a general applicability waiver does not already apply, and a recipient believes that one of the above circumstances applies to an award, a request to waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference may be submitted to the financial assistance awarding officer in writing. Waiver requests shall include the below information. The waiver shall not include any Privacy Act information, sensitive data, or proprietary information within their waiver request. Waiver requests will be posted to the specific Federal funding agencies website and are subject to public comment periods of no less than 15 days. Waiver requests will also be reviewed by the Made in America Office.

1. Waiver type (public interest, non-availability, or unreasonable cost).
2. Recipient or subrecipient name and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).
3. Federal agency who issued the award.
4. Federal financial assistance listing name and number.
5. Federal financial assistance title of project.
6. Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN).
7. Federal financial assistance funding amount.
8. Total estimated infrastructure expenditures, including all Federal and non-federal funds (to the extent known).
9. Infrastructure project description(s) and location(s) (to the extent known).
10. List of iron or steel item(s), manufactured goods, and construction material(s) the recipient seeks to waive from Buy America preference requirements. Include the name, cost, countries of origin (if known), and relevant PSC or NAICS code for each.
11. A certification that the recipient made a good faith effort to solicit bids for domestic products supported by terms included in requests for proposals, contracts, and nonproprietary communications with the prime contractor.
12. A statement of waiver justification, including a description of efforts made (e.g., market research, industry outreach) by the recipient, in an attempt to avoid the need for a waiver. Such a justification may cite, if applicable, the absence of any Buy America-compliant bids received in response to a solicitation.
13. Anticipated impact if no waiver is issued.

Approved waivers will be posted on the Federal funding agencies waivers website; recipients requesting a waiver will be notified of their waiver request determination by an awarding officer.

Questions pertaining to waivers should be directed to the financial assistance awarding officer.

Definitions

“Construction materials” includes an article, material, or supply that consists of only one of these items:

- Non-ferrous metals;
- Plastic and polymer-based products (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables);
- Glass (including optic glass);
- Fiber optic cable (including drop cable);
- Optical fiber;
- Lumber;
- Engineered wood; and
- Drywall.

“Construction Materials” does not include cement and cementitious materials, aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel, or aggregate binding agents or additives.

“Domestic content procurement preference” means all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States; the manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States; or the construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States.

“Infrastructure” includes, at a minimum, the structures, facilities, and equipment for, in the United States, roads, highways, and bridges; public transportation; dams, ports, harbors, and other maritime facilities; intercity passenger and freight railroads; freight and intermodal facilities; airports; water systems, including drinking water and wastewater systems; electrical transmission facilities and systems; utilities; broadband infrastructure; and buildings and real property. Infrastructure includes facilities that generate, transport, and distribute energy.

“Project” means the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States.

Contractors and subcontractors must submit the “EEC-003 – Contractor Certificate of Compliance with Build America, Buy America Provisions for Federally Assisted Contracts” form, to the awarding entity. Contractors and subcontractors certify that no federal financial assistance funding for infrastructure projects will be provided unless all the iron, steel, manufactured projects, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States. Contractors and subcontractors shall also disclose any use of federal financial assistance for infrastructure projects that do not ensure compliance with BABA domestic preference requirement. Such disclosures shall be forwarded to the awarding entity who in turn will forward the disclosures to the Federal funding agency.”

Bidder's Conference

The bidder's conference will be held on January 8, 2026 at 10 a.m. CT. For bidders that would like to attend in person, the location of the meeting will be at the office of Hopkinsville Electric System, located at 1820 E. Ninth Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240.

For those who are unable to attend in person, there will be virtual access to the meeting. Access to the meeting can be found at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87394404671?pwd=MXIVxKk2rWawVDV6oL4IWjrozAcbA6.1>

Meeting ID: 873 9440 4671

Passcode: 689765

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,87394404671#,,,,*689765# US

+13092053325,,87394404671#,,,,*689765# US

Join instructions

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/87394404671/invitations?signature=8HR1COKt_KyjI6NM-GzWhCgYDbBO_InRHUnK4Xt6ucQ

The bidder's conference is not required, but attendance is encouraged.