

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

**IN RE: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RELATED TO LEGAL SERVICES PURSUANT
TO MISSISSIPPI CODE ANNOTATED § 77-1-55 AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

At its June 8, 2021 Open Meeting, the Mississippi Public Service Commission (“Commission”) voted to issue this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) related to legal services pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 77-1-55 and other related matters from Mississippi-based law firms interested in providing services described but not limited to the scope of representation detailed below.

Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 77-1-55, the Commission is empowered to enter into professional services contracts with one or more attorneys or consultants to monitor, investigate, and seek relief in any appropriate federal forum from all existing or proposed interstate rates, charges, allocations and classifications, and all rules and practices in relation thereto promulgated and prescribed by or for any public utility as defined in Section 77-3-3(d)(i). Further, the Commission may seek relief from any proposed or final decision, order, regulation, rule or law that has an impact on any existing or proposed interstate rate, charge, allocation or classification.

Scope of Representation

Pursuant to the above-referenced authority, the Commission request proposals from qualified, Mississippi-based law firms to assist the Commission in the duties contemplated in Miss. Code Ann. § 77-1-55. The legal services contemplated in this RFP may assist and supplement the legal services to be performed for the Commission regarding representation on and at the Entergy Regional State Committee (“ERSC”), the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

("MISO"), the Organization of MISO States ("OMS"), as well as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), and cyber security of the power grid.

Proposal Requirements

All proposals submitted to the RFP must include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. The legal name of the firm and the location of the firm's principal place of business.
2. A thorough Executive Summary of the Proposal.
3. Evidence of the firm's experience and abilities in the specified area directly related to the proposed service including, but not limited to, a list and supporting documentation reflecting the specific expertise and experience in performing work in the relevant area.
4. The qualifications and experience of all person who would be assigned to provide the required services.
5. Thorough and detailed pricing information.
6. Identify and discuss any conflicts of interest that exist or that may arise, if your proposal is accepted.
7. Any additional information that will aid in the evaluation of the Proposal.

Evaluation of Proposals

Factors to be considered in the evaluation of proposals include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Responsiveness to all items set forth in this RFP.

2. Applicant's ability to provide the required services as reflected / evidenced by qualifications and expertise.
3. Whether adequate personnel and other resources to perform the services are currently available or demonstrated to be made available at the time of contracting.
4. The overall detailed description of the proposed plan for performing the required services.
5. A record of past performance of similar work.
6. Any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise.

Legal Requirements

By submitting a response, applicants represent and warrant to the Commission that all information provided in the Proposal is true, correct, and complete. Applicants who provide false, misleading, or incomplete information, whether intentional or not, in any documents presented to the Commission for consideration in the selection process may be excluded.

Under no circumstances shall an applicant whose Proposal is not accepted be entitled to any claim for compensation. The Commission shall not be responsible for the costs incurred by anyone in the submittal of a response to this RFP.

Applicants shall not offer any gratuities, favors, or anything of pecuniary value to any Commissioner or any Commission staff member for the purpose of influencing this selection. Any attempt by an applicant to influence the selection process by any means other than disclosure of qualifications and credentials through the proper channels, will be grounds for exclusion from the selection process.

Reservation of Rights

The Commission reserves the right to extend any deadline set forth herein. The Commission reserves the right to cancel the entire RFP process at any time.

Conclusion

Interested applicants must provide a detailed Proposal confirming the requirements of this RFP. Proposals may be submitted electronically, mailed and/or hand-delivered to the Commission. All proposals must be received by the Commission no later than August 2, 2021. Applicants are directed to submit Proposals to the following:

katherine.collier@psc.ms.gov

and/or

Mississippi Public Service Commission
Attn: Katherine Collier, Executive Director and Acting General Counsel
501 N. West St., Ste., 201-A (39201)
P.O. Box 1174
Jackson, MS 39215-1174

All questions or comments should be directed to Katherine Collier, Executive Director, at 601-961-5405 or Ross Hammons, Attorney for the Commission, at 601-961-5821.

ISSUED this, the 9th day of July, 2021



KATHERINE COLLIER
Executive Director

Dane Maxwell, Chairman
Brent Bailey, Commissioner
Brandon Presley, Commissioner