



## **Technical Support for Solar Power and Wildlife/Natural Resources Symposium Request for Qualifications & Rates**

### **Background**

AWWI, in partnership with a group of stakeholders working at the nexus of solar power and wildlife and natural resources, including solar developers and operators, state and federal agencies, and the conservation science community, is organizing a symposium to explore the state of the science on the balance between conservation and a rapidly growing solar-energy market. We expect up to 300 participants to gather to learn about current research and to discuss what we know, what we don't know, and what we need to know about the interactions between solar energy and:

- Wildlife/habitat conservation/integration with landscapes,
- Land management/use,
- Water resource management, and
- Other environmental issues, such as end-of-life management and decommissioning.

AWWI is seeking a scientist with expertise in one or more of the above themes to provide technical support during the planning and execution of the meeting and to lead the drafting of a white paper that summarizes the key findings of the Symposium. While the specific details about the Symposium will be coordinated with the planning group, we expect the Symposium to be virtual, in December 2021, and to take place over 2-3 days. The technical contractor will be managed by the AWWI Associate Research Director, and AWWI's science and operations team will be available to support the work of the contractor.

### **Scope of Work**

AWWI seeks a contractor that can work remotely to provide the following services:

- Support a planning committee, consisting of approximately 16-20 members, representing public agencies, industry, conservation organizations, and solar/wildlife experts, to ensure that:
  - key topics will be incorporated into the agenda,
  - speaker and presentation selection reflect not only the most relevant current science and practice, but that the full diversity of the community of scientists and practitioners is represented.
- Provide desk-based research services (e.g., collecting and summarizing relevant research papers or identifying key actors working in the thematic areas covered by the Symposium) to the planning committee and up to four topic-specific subcommittees (e.g., wildlife/habitat

conservation, dual land management/use, water resource management, other environmental issues.).

- Support conceptualization and drafting of the Symposium structure and agenda, in consultation with AWWI staff, other contractors, and the planning committee.
- Serve as lead author on a “state of the science” white paper that summarizes and reviews important background information and synthesizes key findings from the Symposium, identifying and engaging other technical experts as co—authors as needed.

## Selection Criteria

AWWI will review all letters of interest, and a committee of representative stakeholders will provide input during the selection process. The following criteria will be used in the selection process:

- Education:
  - A master’s or Ph.D. in a relevant field (e.g., wildlife biology, environmental studies, renewable or sustainable energy, land-use planning) is required for consideration.
- Experience:
  - Academic and professional experience that provides evidence of a deep understanding of current issues related to solar-energy development and environmental conservation.
  - Demonstrated success in carrying out research, ideally as a lead investigator, in an area related to one or more Symposium themes.
  - Evidence of interest and ability in authoring and publishing high-quality science on topics related to one or more Symposium themes.
  - Outstanding written and verbal communication skills.
  - Track record of working successfully with diverse stakeholder groups, including industry and regulatory agencies.
- References:
  - Input from professional references about your skills and experience.
- Rates:
  - Note: AWWI will work with the selected provider to develop a detailed scope of work and budget as part of the contract negotiation process.

## Responding To This Request

Please submit a brief cover letter describing your qualifications, interest in this opportunity, and hourly rate; a CV; and at least two letters of reference or contact information for at least 2 professional references. Attach a copy of any unpublished writing – or any publications not readily available (e.g., theses or dissertations) - that you wish to be considered by the selection committee. Submit all materials by email to Dr. John Lloyd, Associate Director of Research ([jlloyd@awwi.org](mailto:jlloyd@awwi.org)). Applications will be considered as they are received. The application period will close at 17:00 Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, April 23.

This solicitation document does not commit AWWI to pay any costs incurred in the submission of a quotation or in making necessary studies or designs for the preparation thereof.

AWWI reserves the right to make the final decision on the provider selected at its sole discretion. AWWI reserves the right to award only parts of the scope of work, to not award any contract, and/or to re-solicit proposals.

## **Questions**

Questions about the RFQ should be directed to Dr. John Lloyd at [jlloyd@awwi.org](mailto:jlloyd@awwi.org).