



SHUSWAP BAND

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PROJECT: CALL FOR POWER PARTNERSHIP

ISSUE DATE: December 8, 2023

CLOSING DATE: January 8, 2024 5:00 (PST)



3A – 492 Arrow Road
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 www.shuswapband.net

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1. Shuswap Band Background

Shuswap Band (Kenpesq't) is a member of the Secwépemc (pronounced Sec-wep-mec) Nation, an Interior Salish-speaking people who traditionally occupied a vast area in the south-central part of what is now British Columbia, Canada, since time immemorial. Secwépemc Traditional Territory covers approximately 180,000 km² over BC and Alberta, with the Secwépemc Nation holding one of the largest territories and Caretaker Areas in the province. Shuswap Band is also known as the Columbia Campfire and acts as a self-governing community when engaging with municipal, provincial, and federal governments on matters within the Columbia Basin.

Today, Shuswap Band's primary community is located on its reserve near Invermere, BC, on the east bank of the Columbia River, though many of our members live throughout Secwépemcúl'ecw (Secwépemc Traditional Territory) and beyond. The lands within Secwépemcúl'ecw are an extension of the vast history of our people who travelled the territory in annual seasonal rounds, gathering resources and interacting with neighbours through trade and cross-cultural gatherings. Traditional knowledge regarding living and surviving on the land, as well as traditional Secwépemc culture and practices, are an essential part of our heritage, with many of our Elders holding this valuable information.

This vast Secwépemcúl'ecw demonstrates the movement and strong neighbouring relationships of Secwépemc. Trading and marital relationships identify Secwépemc people into Alberta in connection to the Stoney Nakoda and Piikani and south with the Flathead and Colville Tribes. The movement of Secwépemc people required community bands to be positioned throughout the vast territory as political units used to care for the lands and maintain relationships in all corners of Secwépemcúl'ecw. This land use is evidenced through family ties and trail networks. The Elk Valley that borders the Rocky Mountains was used for habitation, subsistence, and travel; in more recent years it continues to be used for subsistence, travel, habitation, and peaceful enjoyment.

Following reserve creation and enforcement of the *Indian Act*, use of the Elk Valley lessened but continued with select families. In recent decades, Shuswap Band has worked tirelessly towards increasing its knowledge and use of the region as we work to rebuild its Indigenous Knowledge ("IK") and use from our Elders who managed to retain knowledge and access to the area.



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2. Purpose of EOI

The Shuswap Band invites expressions of interest from dynamic and experienced power providers interested in collaborative partnerships for potential renewable energy projects within our Secwépemcúl'ecw. We are actively seeking partners aligned with our commitment to sustainability and clean energy solutions under the BC Hydro Independent Power Producer (IPP) Program.

Our dedication to fostering such partnerships is evident through this Expression of Interest (EOI), where we aim to identify power providers with innovative renewable energy project proposals, expertise, and a shared vision for a sustainable future.

Furthermore, Shuswap Band is actively searching for a power producer to form a collaborative partnership in response to the upcoming BC Hydro Request for Proposal (RFP) under the Independent Power Producer Program, scheduled for April 2024.

Project: Call for Power

Electrification is a key pathway to achieving the CleanBC emission reduction targets. BC Hydro sees a significant interest from the residential, commercial, transportation and industrial sectors to make the switch from fossil fuels to clean electricity with First Nations and IPPs. BC Hydro forecasts the need for new clean or renewable resources starting as early as 2028.

As a result, BC Hydro is planning to acquire clean or renewable energy from new resources through a competitive acquisition process. Additionally, BC Hydro is operating within Shuswap Band's Secwépemcúlecw, therefore, we must be involved with such call to power projects.

3. Project Scope

We are seeking expressions of interest for renewable energy projects, including but not limited to hydro, wind, solar, or other renewable energy technologies, that can be collaboratively developed.

These projects should align with the objectives of the BC Hydro IPP Program and contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

These may include the following BC Hydro objectives, but not be limited to:

- New (greenfield) projects or expansion of existing projects with the addition of new (greenfield) generators only.
- Projects must use "proven" generation technologies, which are readily available in commercial markets and have been in commercial use for at least three (3) years.
- We will only consider proposals from clean or renewable resources. Nuclear projects will not be accepted.



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- BC Hydro plans to set a minimum project size between 30 MW to 50 MW. Smaller projects won't meet their objectives of maximizing economies of scale. The maximum project size is set at 200 MW to mitigate attrition risk to BC Hydro.
- Proponents are required to propose a guaranteed Commercial Operation Date (COD) between Fall 2028 and Fall 2031. This three-year window balances anticipated energy needs with project development timelines.

4. Proposal Requirements

The proposal must provide the following details:

Project Overview:

Provide a brief overview of your proposed renewable energy project, including technology type, anticipated location within the Shuswap Band's Traditional Territory (Schedule A), estimated capacity, and cost.

Project Benefits:

Outline the expected benefits and outcomes of your proposed project for the Shuswap Band, its economic development arm (Kenpesq't IDL) and surrounding community, such as economic, environmental, community-related impacts, including employment and training.

Experience and Qualifications:

Highlight your organization's experience, qualifications, and credentials in renewable energy project development, operations, and maintenance.

Partnership Approach:

Describe your approach to collaboration, including how you envision the partnership, sharing of responsibilities, governance framework, communication, and benefits for both parties.

Previous Success Stories:

Share any relevant success stories or experiences from similar projects that demonstrate your organization's capability and track record.

Commitment to Sustainability:

Showcase your commitment to sustainability, environmental responsibility, and engagement with Indigenous communities.

Engagement:

The objectives and values held by Shuswap Band must be reflected in all economic development activities. As such, it is imperative that the Partner moves beyond conventional business



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practices to incorporate Shuswap Band’s rights, title, and traditional knowledge in co-management activities of the IPP. As a potential Partner, share what you know about Shuswap Band and/or previous experience engaging Indigenous communities on clean energy projects.

Schedule and Time:

Provide an estimated timeline for the development and approval starting January 8, 2024.

5. Terms and Conditions

The following terms and conditions will apply to this EOI:

- a. Those companies submitting a proposal for this EOI “the Bidder(s)” shall bear all incurred costs and expenses relating to participating in the EOI procedure.
- b. Shuswap Band reserves the right to reject any proposal. Shuswap Band also reserves the right to waive formalities and select a Partner that best meets the needs of the Nation and its membership.
- c. No content within the EOI is intended to create a binding agreement between Shuswap Band and any proponent. This EOI process and any further steps are expressly subject to the approval and direction of Shuswap Band. A working agreement shall be based upon the information contained in this EOI, the Bidder’s submission, and any modifications thereafter.
- d. A memorandum of understanding, or other similar document, may be established after a Partner has been selected based on the content of the successful Bidder’s submission.
- e. Shuswap Band will inform all Bidders whether they were successful no later than 60 days after the submission date.
- f. Shuswap Band reserves the right to share the proposals with its membership, consultants, and those on a need-to-know basis, as determined by the Band.

6. Evaluation and Next Steps:

The Shuswap Indian Band will review all received expressions of interest and assess alignment with our goals. Following the evaluation, selected respondents may be invited for further discussions and potential partnership development.

We appreciate your interest in collaborating with the Shuswap Band to explore renewable energy opportunities in our Secwépemcúl’ecw.



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7. Submission Deadline

One hard copy must be received in a sealed package by January 8, 2024 by 5:00 PM (PST) at the following address:

Attention: Jeannette Allan
Landmark Resource Management
201- 45 Bastion Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1J1

One digital copy must be received by January 8, 2024 by 5:00 PM (PST) at the following address:

Jeannette.allan@landmarkrm.com

Proposals received after the closing date and time will not be reviewed or considered by Shuswap Band.

Additional questions and clarification regarding this EOI may be directed to:

Jeannette Allan, Project Manager on behalf of Shuswap Band

250-888-2687

Jeannette.allan@landmarkrm.com



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APPENDIX A - Shuswap Band's Secwépemcú'ecw (Traditional Territory)

