

ANSWERS TO CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

File: AP_3/1/13
RFT: 2021/016
Date: 15 March 2021
To: Interested suppliers
Contact: Maraea S. Pogi maraeap@sprep.org
Subject: Request for tenders: **Procurement, Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 80kWp Rooftop Solar System for the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) Building.**

Question 1:

Cabling of the building main switchboard to the sub board where the inverters are to be connected to

Response:

Please refer to the file attached (PCCC single line diagram for electrical system)

Question 2:

Data from the monitoring system pertaining to voltage .. important information to note is voltage details over a week of high PV penetration.

Response:

This data will be provided at the end of this week.

Question 3:

Room for additional inverters to connect in the sub-switchboard

Response:

Existing control room has enough space for this.

Question 4:

Dimension drawing roof pillars - details spacing , size or pillar, height of each relative to the one below it and next along side it. Measurements of these are important for structure detailing of the proposed installation.

Response:

Refer to the attached drawing of the roof area (plan for solar power generation system – terrace).

Question 5:

Capacity of the Electrical switchboard and configuration of circuits

Response:

Electrical Switchboard

Capable to connect three 20kW Inverters

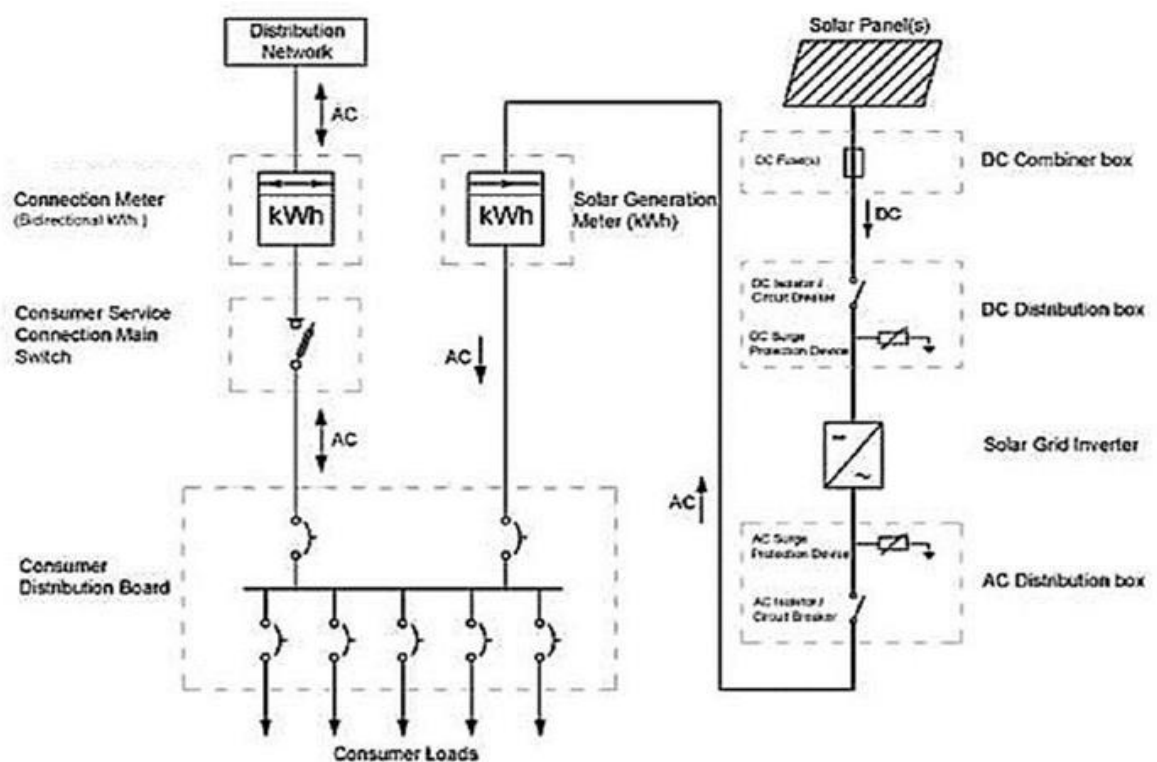
System Voltage : 415V phase-phase

System Mains Rating : 300 -400 Amps

Max Protection Fuse for 20kW Inverter is 50Amps

Ensure cable used for the AC supply from inverters are sized and installed in accordance with AS/NZS3000, AS/NZS3008, AS/NZS 477.1 and EPC Grid Code 2020

Configuration of Circuits

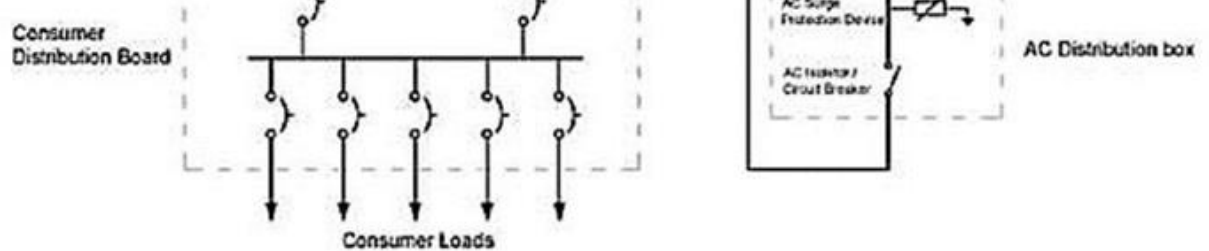


Question 6:

SMA inverters are expensive compared to other readily available units, they have known to fail due to heat and other conditions. The option is a different system, apart from the SMA, which could be installed next to the SMA, could this be an option to consider?

Response:

SMA has a good reputation throughout the Pacific region. Easy to get online assistance from Australia and NZ for technical issues. SPREP prefers to have similar Inverter(s) as the existing system, for easier access to spare parts, etc.



Question 7:

What is the payment progress because I do not have USD200K to order materials for the installation?

Response:

This shall be covered in the payment schedule of the contract.

Question 8:

Requesting: contractor should install and program the monitor system because, when programming the Inverters they need to program all the settings including protection, monitoring system interface, speedwire connection, ext and test and commission at the same time. If contractor program inverters only solar and grid, the next person will come to do monitoring system he comes and turn all inverters off and re-program. But if something happens later on, we don't know how should blame, inverter installer or the monitoring system installer.

Response:

The contractor should install and do all the programming (protection monitoring system interface, speedwire connection, ext & test / commission) to ensure everything is well-connected and ready to feed solar power to the grid. In this case, should any problems arise later, SPREP will contact the contractor to fix them.

Question 9:

What is the project cost? Because we can do it cheaper or with a level of quality but it all depends on the project cost.

Response:

The evaluation is also based on the financial proposal, hence why the budget cannot be revealed. But SPREP values the quality of the equipment to be procured and will make funds available to see this through.

Question 10:

Time frame: suppliers usually take up to 2 months to collect all materials before shipping to Samoa, because some materials are from New Zealand and Australia and it all depends on the shipping schedules.

Response:

The timeframe for all the procurement, installation and commissioning is 5 months from the day of contract-signing.

Question 11:

Can we use the building power for power tools during the installation?

Response:

Yes.

Question 12:

Point 2.1 on time to procure, supply, install and commission 80 kWp solar PV within 5 months.

Wonder if timeline is practical considering we still in covid period where 5 months may be too short. Just checking on flexibility here if suppliers can provide their own timeline to do this work in case this may be beyond 5 months. And the tender board can select bidder with the shortest practical time.

Response:

Bidders are required to provide a workplan and timeline within their bids. If they foresee any delays then they can justify within their bids, but the 5 months on the ToR and RfT shall remain unchanged.

Question 13:

Point 3.1.iii where applicants must attend pre-bid meeting on Thursday 11.03.2021. can they attend virtually as well?

Response:

One of the requirements is that there has to be a local counterpart if it is an overseas company and one of the main reasons for the pre-bid meeting is for the potential bidders to see & feel the site (which cannot really be done by a virtual meeting).