



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources

**Public Information Session:
Draft Request for Proposals for
Energy Storage Projects
pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. §10313**

April 16, 2026

Maine Department of Energy Resources (DOER)

DOER is Maine's cabinet-level state energy department tasked with activities relating to state energy policies, planning, and development.

maine.gov/energy



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources

Today's Agenda

- Overview of DOER's 2026 Competitive Solicitations
- Draft Request for Proposals for Energy Storage Projects pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. §10313
 - Solicitation timeline
 - Eligibility
 - Requirements
 - Selection Criteria
- Anticipated next steps
- Q&A

To receive updates on DOER's solicitations, including information about upcoming Requests for Proposals, sign up [here](#).



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources

Purpose of today's webinar

- Provide an overview of the draft Request for Proposals for Energy Storage projects (draft RFP)
- Provide an opportunity for questions and answers
 - Please use the Zoom Q&A function to submit questions throughout the webinar
 - Following the presentation, DOER will answer questions submitted through the Q&A function



Disclaimer

The information presented in this webinar is for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the content discussed may be subject to change or interpretation. In the event of any inconsistency or conflict between the information provided during this webinar and any official document or policy, including the Draft Request for Proposals for Energy Storage Projects Pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. §10313 issued by DOER, the applicable document shall control and take precedence. DOER is not bound by any information, explicit or implied, provided during this webinar.



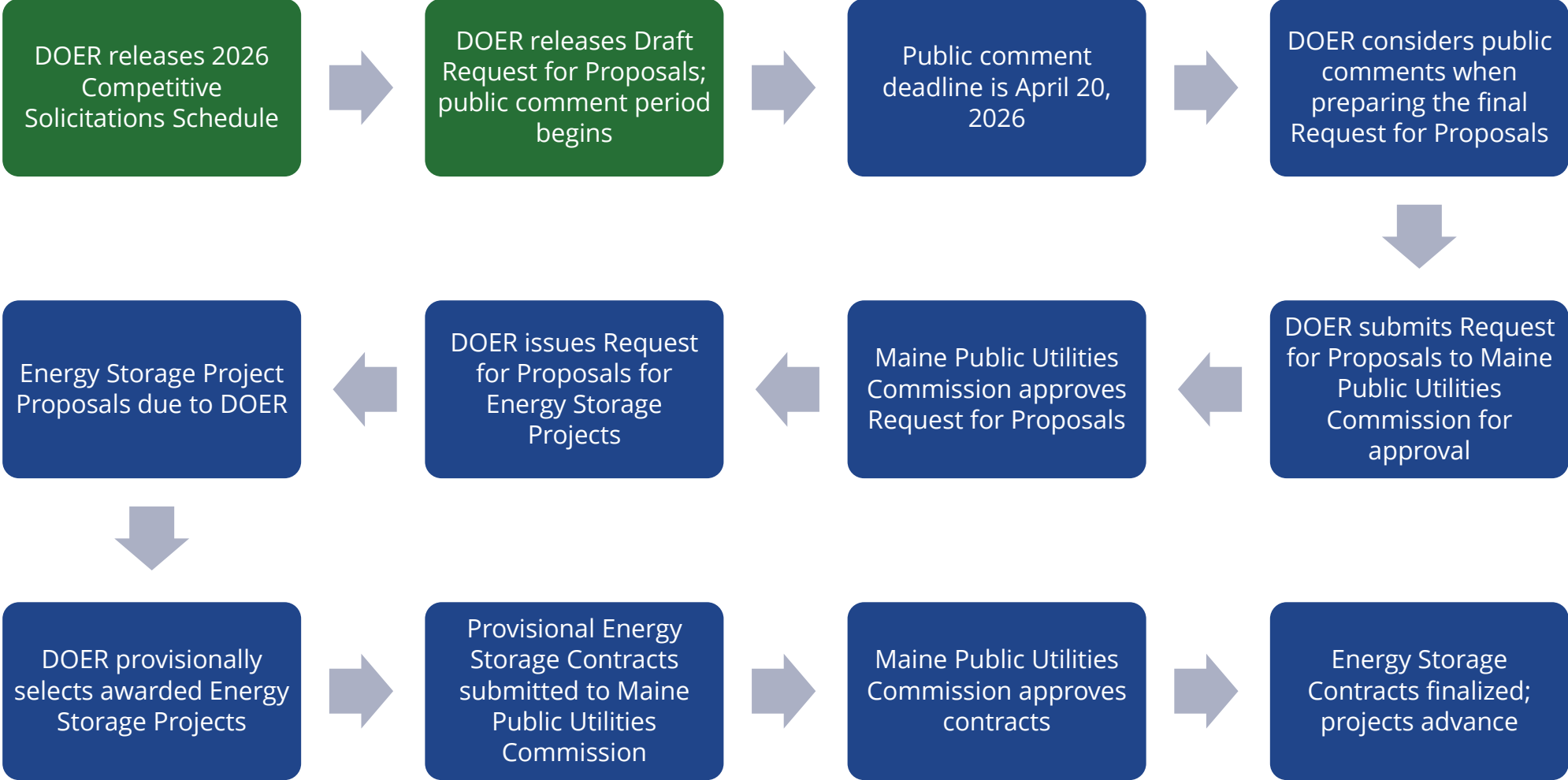
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources

Statutory Authority

- DOER is required by law to conduct regular clean energy and other energy infrastructure solicitations to advance the energy policies of the state consistent with the state energy plan (35-A M.R.S. §10313).
- DOER is required to initiate and conduct a competitive procurement in 2026 (P.L. 2025 Ch. 476 §A-18).
- On December 19, 2025, DOER issued a [2026 Competitive Solicitations Schedule](#) indicating its intention to conduct a competitive solicitation for energy storage.
 - The 2026 Competitive Solicitations Schedule laid out the following anticipated timeline for the energy storage solicitation.



Process for 2026 Energy Storage Solicitation



Complete Anticipated

Draft Energy Storage RFP: Background and Purpose

- DOER has released a Draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of energy storage systems pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. §10313.
- The RFP seeks between 200 megawatts (MW) and 300 MW of new Energy Storage Projects.
 - The Department may procure more, less, or no resources, whatever is most consistent with the objectives and criteria of the RFP.
 - There is no maximum allowed size for individual resources.
 - The minimum allowed size for individual resources is 3 megawatts.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Process

- Proposals must be submitted to the Department in accordance with the submission instructions.
- The Department will conduct a rigorous analysis of submitted proposals following the process described in this RFP.
 - The Department will assess whether any of the proposed projects are reasonably likely to result in contracts that are cost-effective for electric ratepayers in the state of Maine.
 - In addition, the assessment will take into consideration potential economic, environmental, and other benefits to Maine ratepayers along with furthering the goals of the Act.
- Ultimate project selection will be at the sole discretion and authority of the Department.
- Bidders will be notified by the Department whether they have been selected to enter into contract negotiations with the T&D Utilities.
 - If a project or projects are selected, the Department will direct that either or both T&D Utilities enter into contract negotiations with the selected Energy Storage Project(s).
- Finalized contracts will be submitted to the Public Utilities Commission for approval.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Evaluation Standards and Considerations

- Any selected Project must be reasonably likely to provide benefits to Maine ratepayers that exceed the costs to Maine ratepayers.
 - DOER will not select a proposal for an award unless DOER determines the proposal is reasonably likely to provide benefits to ratepayers in the State in excess of all costs to ratepayers in the State as a result of the contract.
- When evaluating eligible proposals and selecting one or more proposals for contract awards, DOER will give the greatest weight to the benefits to Maine ratepayers.
- As required by law, DOER will evaluate projects based on their ability to:
 - Provide benefits to ratepayers of the state,
 - Provide benefits to meeting GHG goals of the state,
 - Contribute to economic and workforce goals,
 - Minimize environmental impacts,
 - Ensure protection of low-income ratepayers, and
 - Avoid or minimize curtailment of other renewable or clean resources.
- DOER will also evaluate projects based on additional factors as described in the RFP.
- Evaluation will occur in three phases: Threshold; Qualitative and Quantitative; and Final Selection.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Threshold Evaluation (1/3)

- In the initial evaluation, proposals that fail to meet one or more of the following eligibility requirements will be disqualified from further review and evaluation.
- Following an initial review, Bidders will have a one-time opportunity to cure any identified deficiencies.
 - Eligible Bidder
 - An Eligible Bidder is a developer of an Energy Storage Project that has experience in the development, financing, and operations of Energy Storage Projects or similar generation projects.
 - CMP and Versant are not Eligible Bidders in this RFP.
 - Eligible Project
 - To be eligible a Project must be an Energy Storage Project, and must demonstrate that the technology is commercially available and has been used in similar applications successfully.
 - Site Control/Interconnection Route Control
 - Must demonstrate control or an irrevocable option to acquire control over the site for the proposed Energy Storage Project, including interconnection
 - Eligible Project Size
 - An Eligible Project must offer a nameplate capacity of at least 3 MW.
 - A Bidder may offer bids for a portion of the full nameplate rating of its proposed Energy Storage Project.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Threshold Evaluation (2/3)

- Interconnection and Deliverability
 - The Energy Storage Project must be able to charge and discharge throughout the term of the contract.
 - The Delivery Point of an Eligible Project must be on a PTF located within ISO New England (ISO-NE).
 - The Delivery Point must be located so that T&D Utilities are not responsible for wheeling charges to move energy to and from the Pool Transmission Facility (PTF).
 - For an Eligible Project connecting to a local distribution system, the Delivery Point shall be the ISO-NE pricing node (P-node) that electrically represents the Eligible Project's injection point onto the PTF system.
 - All bidders must have either: (a) signed an interconnection agreement for capacity network service prior to the initiation of the Transitional Cluster Study; (b) be actively participating in the Transitional Cluster Study; and/or (c) have detailed plans for submitting an interconnection request for Capacity Network Resource service with ISO-NE in the 2026 Cluster Request Entry Window.
- The Energy Storage Project shall comply with all ISO-NE, Northern Maine Independent System Administrator (NMISA), and FERC interconnection requirements, as applicable.
- An Eligible Project connecting to a local distribution system must also comply with all applicable interconnection requirements of the interconnecting distribution utility.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Threshold Evaluation (3/3)

- Energy, Capacity, and Other ISO-NE Markets
 - Bidders must identify their intentions to participate in each ISO-NE market and provide forecast revenues from each market.
 - Under the required pricing detailed in Section 4.2.2 (a) and Appendix C, the Seller's contract revenues will be reduced by expected energy market revenues.
 - Bidders are not required to participate in the capacity market but must identify their intentions regarding market participation.
- Other Contracting Requirements
 - An Eligible Project may not have started construction at the time of proposal, and will adhere to the effective date of the Energy Storage Contract.
- Bids may not require, or allow for, payment until service has commenced from the Energy Storage Project pursuant to the terms of the Energy Storage Contract.
- Efficiency Maine Trust Energy Storage System Program
 - Projects that are eligible for participation in the Efficiency Maine Trust Energy Storage System Program are not Eligible Projects in this RFP.
- Safety and Security Plan
 - Bidders must address all aspects of project risk mitigation related to safety including training, emergency response, fire protection, and cyber security.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Qualitative Evaluation (1/3)

- Proposals that meet the requirements of threshold evaluation will be subject to a quantitative and qualitative evaluation, assessing the costs, benefits, and risks of each proposal.
- Scoring will be based on a 100-point scale.
- Proposals will be scored with up to 70 points for quantitative factors and up to 30 points for qualitative factors.
- Qualitative evaluation of proposals will be based on factors listed under the Act, and other qualitative factors meant to assess the likelihood of success and viability of the projects.
- Qualitative Factors Under the Act
 - Provides Benefits of Clean Energy to the State
 - The Project contributes to achievement of the statutory goal of at least 400 megawatts of installed energy storage capacity located within the State by December 31, 2030.
 - Provides Benefits to Meeting GHG goals of the State
 - The Project supports the objectives associated with energy storage set forth in the Maine Energy Plan.
 - The Project contributes to achievement of the statutory requirement to reduce GHG emissions to at least 45% and 80% below the 1990 gross GHG emissions level by 2030 and 2050, respectively, and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.
 - The Project supports the strategies described in *Maine Won't Wait*, the state climate action plan.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Qualitative Evaluation (2/3)

- **Contributes to Economic and Workforce Goals**
 - The Project contributes benefits to Maine's economy and workforce.
 - The Project demonstrates compliance with applicable workforce standards, including wage, safety, and apprenticeship standards.
 - The Project maximizes federal tax credits by including agreements described in 29 United States Code, Section 158(f) and by committing to entering into an employer and employee harmony agreement with a labor organization seeking to represent the project's operations and maintenance workers.
- **Minimizes Environmental Impacts**
 - Proposals will be favorably evaluated to the extent to which the project will avoid, minimize, and mitigate detrimental environmental impacts.
- **Ensures Protection of Low-income Ratepayers**
 - Proposals will be favorably evaluated to the extent to which the Project is anticipated to create additional benefits to low-income ratepayers.
 - For example, additional benefits could include funding of rate relief through grant programs, support of existing community programs, or other funding opportunities centered on energy affordability made available by the Project.
- **Avoids and Minimizes Curtailment of Other Renewable or Clean Resources**
 - The project provides enhanced electric reliability within the State.
 - The project supports grid resilience within the State.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Qualitative Evaluation (3/3)

- Other Qualitative Factors
 - Developer Experience
 - Proposals will be evaluated based on the Bidder's relevant experience with similar projects.
 - Project Development, Operations, and Logistics Plan
 - Proposals will be evaluated based on a thorough and complete Project Development, Operations and Logistics Plan, as well as the Project Description.
 - Ability to Finance Project
 - Financial and managerial capabilities to fund the development and construction costs, the required development period security, interconnection costs, and required decommissioning of the Project.
 - Ability to Ensure Safety and Security
 - Thoroughness of the Safety and Security Plan, and the likelihood that the safety and security standards and protocols set forth in the Plan will be followed.
- Site Control
 - Proposals with more firm agreements for site control will be favorably evaluated.
- Interconnection and Deliverability
 - Demonstrated progress in the interconnection process and credibility of the proposed interconnection schedule.
 - Detailed interconnection studies and robust cost estimates will be favorably evaluated.
- Critical Path Schedule
 - Credible and reasonable timeline for development of the Project.
- Ability to Permit Project
 - Thoroughness of the permitting plan, and status toward obtaining all required federal, regional, state, and local permits.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Quantitative Evaluation

Quantitative Factors Included in Ratepayer Benefit Determination

- Direct Contract Costs & Benefits (included in ratepayer benefit determination)
 - Direct Costs are revenues that flow from T&D Utilities to the Seller
 - Direct Benefits are revenues that flow from the Seller to the T&D Utilities
- Indirect Costs & Benefits (included in ratepayer benefit determination)
 - Changes in Energy Market Prices
 - Reduction in Capacity Market Prices
 - Deferred or Avoided Transmission & Distribution Costs

Quantitative Factors Not Included in Ratepayer Benefit Determination

- May be used only to distinguish projects that are determined to provide net benefits to Maine ratepayers
- Auxiliary Benefits
 - Socioeconomic benefits
 - Environmental value



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Final Selection

- Once proposals have undergone the threshold, qualitative and quantitative evaluation, DOER will review the proposals in order to select the project or portfolio that provides the greatest value consistent with the stated objectives and requirements set forth in the RFP.
- The Department will consider and weigh at its discretion the following factors, including but not limited to:
 - Ranking in the quantitative and qualitative evaluation stage
 - The effects to quantitative benefit metrics of modeling multiple projects, which may have interactive effects in a portfolio
 - The extent to which the project advances the Energy Storage supply chain and workforce readiness of the state
- The efficient utilization of transmission points of interconnection and transmission corridors and rights of way, if applicable
- The efficient utilization of and enhancement to distribution grid infrastructure, if applicable
- Overall consistency with the Plan and other related reports or policies issued by the Department or Commission
- The extent to which there may be benefits to sharing the project with another state or other entity



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Proposal Requirements (1/3)

- Proposals must be for the development, construction, operation, and maintenance of qualifying Energy Storage resources.
- Pricing
 - One required form of pricing and one optional alternative form of pricing
 - Required – Fixed Price Proposal with Energy Market Adjustment
 - Fixed \$/kW-month adjusted by both Capacity Value (Section 4.2.1) and Energy Market Adjustment (Appendix C)
 - Optional – Fixed Price Proposal without Energy Market Adjustment
 - Fixed \$/kW-month adjusted by only Capacity Value (Section 4.2.1)
 - Both pricing options will be adjusted by the forecast Capacity Value defined by the formula in Section 4.2.1
 - Bidders may offer multiple, mutually exclusive, pricing alternatives for the same project



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Proposal Requirements (2/3)

Energy Market Adjustment Calculation

The Energy Market Adjustment (EMA) is a factor used to adjust Seller's payments based on expected wholesale energy revenues.

$$Total\ Contract\ Payments_{Monthly} = Fixed\ Price_{Monthly} - EMA_{Monthly}$$

$$Fixed\ Price_{Monthly} = BP * BC$$

$$EMA_{Monthly} = \sum_{D=1}^k EMA_{Daily}$$

$$EMA_{Daily} = \sum_{n=1}^x \max\left(\left[T_n - \left(\frac{B_n}{RTE}\right)\right] * BC, 0\right)$$

$$CV = CCP \times rMRI_{proxy}$$

Where:

CV is the Capacity Value

CCP is the applicable annual or seasonal capacity clearing price in \$/kw-month, and

rMRI_{Proxy} is the seasonal accreditation factor calculated by ISO-NE for the applicable storage duration, or lesser value if duration does not match published values.¹⁴

Bid Price (BP)	The bid price in \$/kw-mo
Bid Capacity (BC)	Project capacity in kW
k	Number of days in settlement period
D	Day
n	hour
T_n	n th highest price hour of Day-Ahead Energy in relevant ISO-NE Load Zone
B_n	n th lowest price hour of Day-Ahead Energy in relevant ISO-NE Load Zone
Round Trip Efficiency (RTE)	Percentage of energy discharged from energy charged
x	Bid storage duration in hours. For projects with a duration of less than 8 hours, x = project storage duration. For projects with a duration of 8 hours or longer, x = 8



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Proposal Requirements (3/3)

Economic Benefits Reporting and Contract Payment Adjustment

- The Department reserves the right to include an ongoing reporting requirement to verify that any claimed economic benefits to the Maine economy are provided by the resource and impose remedies for non-performance which may include price adjustments or return of previously paid contract payments.

Security & Standard Form Contract

- Seller security
 - Sellers will be required to provide performance security in an amount equal to \$40/kW of Net Contract Capacity specified in the Energy Storage Contract.
- Standard Form Contract will be posted as Appendix A
 - Bidders encouraged to limit form contract modifications to those necessary to conform the contract to the specific facility and the specific transaction terms approved by the Department.

Contract Term

- Bidders must offer contract terms for up to 20 years. Bidders may offer a proposal for a project that is less than 20 years, but must offer at least one proposal for a 20-year term.



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Proposal Requirements (1/2)

- Section 5, Proposal Content Requirements outlines all submission that a Bidder must provide and adhere to in its proposal, which include but is not limited to:
 - Executive Summary (Section 5.1.1)
 - Bidder Qualifications & Experience (Section 5.1.2) and Disclosures (Section 5.1.3)
 - Description of the Proposed Project (Section 5.1.4)
 - Site Control (Section 5.1.5) and System Diagrams (5.1.6)
 - Project Development, Operations, and Logistics Plan (Section 5.1.7)
 - Charge/Discharge Estimate (Section 5.1.8)
 - Plans related to: Financing (Section 5.1.9), Environmental Assessment (Section 5.1.10), Safety & Security (Section 5.1.11), Permitting (5.1.14), Economic Benefits & Investment (5.1.15), and Stakeholder Engagement (Section 5.1.16)
 - Interconnection & Deliverability (Section 5.1.12), Project Schedule (5.1.13), and Project & Pricing Data (Section 5.1.17)
 - Exceptions to the Energy Storage Contract (Section 5.1.18)



Draft Energy Storage RFP: Proposal Requirements (2/2)

- Each proposal must be accompanied by a non-refundable bid fee
 - The minimum bid fee is \$750/MW of Net Contract Capacity. This bid fee includes one pricing offer and one project size. If there are changes to any physical aspect of a project, including but not limited to project size, in-service date, or delivery location, an additional \$750/MW of Net Contract Capacity bid fee per requested change will be required.
- Each additional pricing offer for the same project, including those with contingent bids, will cost an additional fixed fee of \$100/MW of Net Contract Capacity.

Base Proposal Fee	Additional fees for pricing variations on Base Proposal projects with identical configurations	Additional fees for all project variations other than price
\$750/MW of Net Contract Capacity	\$100/MW of Net Contract Capacity	\$750/MW of Net Contract Capacity



Next Steps

- Comments on the draft RFP are due no later than **April 20, 2026 at 5 p.m. ET**
- Submit comments by email to doer@maine.gov
- Comments are welcome on any aspect of the draft RFP. In addition, DOER has posed certain topics of interest, available with the draft RFP online at maine.gov/energy

To receive updates on DOER's solicitations, including information about upcoming Requests for Proposals, sign up [here](#).



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources

Thank You

www.maine.gov/energy

To receive updates on DOER's solicitations, including information about upcoming Requests for Proposals, sign up [here](#).