



# FARMERS CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS: IN-CONDUIT HYDROPOWER SERVICES – Questions and Responses

1. **Project Engagement Scope:** Will FCA serve as the direct client for selected engagements, or will services be contracted directly with irrigation districts under FCA's coordination?

FCA will serve as the direct client and contracting entity for selected engagements. Firms selected through this RFQ process will generally enter into a contract directly with FCA. FCA will manage project coordination, contracting, and oversight, while working closely with the participating irrigation districts and other stakeholders throughout the engagement.

2. **Data Availability:** Will water flow and pressure data be provided in uniform formats, or should we anticipate a need for additional on-site instrumentation or data normalization?

In most cases, flow data will need to be collected on-site. However, some projects may already have flow and pressure data available. Several upcoming projects will originate from FCA's modernization efforts, requiring coordination with the FCA team to facilitate data transfer. In these cases, alignment on district priorities will also be necessary, particularly where there is potential overlap with other planning efforts.

3. **Interconnection Evaluation:** Are the studies expected to include utility outreach and preliminary interconnection application preparation, or simply feasibility-level evaluations?

Yes, studies should include a pre-application report and initial utility outreach.

4. **Equipment Procurement Role:** Should respondents include support for vendor quote solicitation and preliminary procurement analysis as part of the standard feasibility deliverable?

Yes, as a part of the feasibility studies, FCA expects preliminary equipment quotes.

5. **Proposal Format:** For firms applying across multiple regions, may we include consolidated qualifications with region-specific team assignments depending on specific State/member/site requirements?

Yes, that approach is acceptable. Please feel free to submit consolidated qualifications, with region-specific team assignments outlined based on the requirements of each state, member, or site.

6. **Contracting:** Could you please provide some feedback on what we can expect from a commercial perspective if our firm was selected to perform the work? Will we be able to apply our standard terms? Will there be US government “flowdown terms” that we will need to comply with?

The terms and conditions will be mutually agreed upon during contracting. There may be a variety of funding sources; if any portion is federally funded, required federal flow-down provisions will apply.

7. **Other:** Under what conditions would FCA or its members envision that participation by an engineering firm in this scope of work, might end up conflicting that firm out of being involved with final design, permitting and other implementation efforts of the project?

Participation in the current RFQ process for hydro feasibility assessments does not disqualify your firm from future work, including final design, permitting, or implementation. FCA is committed to ensuring a fair and competitive environment for all phases of project delivery. To avoid conflicts and support continued eligibility, FCA will support the following:

- Ensure a well-defined scope for assessment services;
- Making final reports and assessments available to all prospective bidders in future phases;
- Conducting open, competitive solicitations for design and implementation work.

We encourage firms to focus assessment activities on providing objective, high-level evaluations that inform, but do not prescribe, final implementation paths.

8. **Other:** What’s the purpose of this and do you really need our company background/info? How many projects and in what timeline are lined up for the winner of this RFQ?

The purpose of this RFQ is part of FCA’s broader effort to establish a qualified pool of contractors that we can engage for both current and future hydropower assessment needs. While we have projects identified, we anticipate additional projects moving forward, and having pre-qualified firms in place will help us move efficiently as those scopes are confirmed.

Submitting your qualifications now positions your firm to be eligible for upcoming task orders without needing to requalify for each individual project. Yes, we are requesting company background and qualifications as part of your response. While we may be familiar with your work, the formal RFQ process helps ensure that we have consistent and comprehensive documentation on each firm’s capabilities, team, and relevant project experience. This also supports internal reviews and future contracting efforts.