

Article 17-B (SDVOB) Provisions for Solicitation Documents (non-construction)

Attachment G

New York State Law

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 17-B, NYSERDA recognizes its obligation under the law to promote opportunities for maximum feasible participation of certified service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprises (SDVOB) in the performance of NYSERDA contracts. Executive Law Article 17-B and its associated regulations require, among other things, that NYSERDA establish goals for maximum feasible participation of New York State Certified SDVOBs in the performance of New York State contracts.

Contract Participation Goals by SDVOBs on NYSERDA procurements

In accordance with Article 17-B of the N.Y. Executive Law (“Article 17-B”) and its associated regulations, NYSERDA has established certain contract participation goals for certified SDVOBs. NYSERDA's participation goals for contracts awarded pursuant to this solicitation are 6% for SDVOBs. This is in addition to required MWBE participation goals which are discussed in Attachments 1-6. The SDVOB participation goal is subject to the requirements of Article 17-B, and its implementing regulations as set forth in Title 9, Subtitle G Part 252 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (the “Regulations”).

By submitting a proposal, the Proposer represents that it has reviewed and familiarized itself with the Regulations (see <http://ogs.ny.gov/About/Regs/docs/part252.pdf>) which are incorporated herein by this reference. Any conflicts between the solicitation and the Regulations shall be resolved in favor of the Regulations. Each proposer shall, in accordance with the Regulations, make good faith efforts and, in a manner that can be established in documentary form, solicit active participation by certified SDVOBs, as identified in the applicable state directory maintained by OGS.

(see http://ogs.ny.gov/core/docs/CertifiedNYS_SDVOB.pdf)

Additionally, proposers are encouraged to contact the Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development at 844-579-7570 or VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov to discuss additional methods of maximizing SDVOBs on the contract.

Utilization Plan

NYSERDA requires every proposer to undertake good faith efforts to actively solicit SDVOB participation in connection with the potential award of a NYSERDA contract. An SDVOB Utilization Plan (see Attachment 2) must be submitted with every proposal.

Compliance Reporting

Contract compliance reports are required to be submitted for all contracts that require a Utilization Plan. See Attachment 3.

Waiver Requests

A proposer may request a total or partial waiver of the requirements of the SDVOB participation goal (see Attachment 4). Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA will evaluate the proposer's good faith efforts and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant a waiver, the proposer may file a complaint with NYSERDA in accordance with the Regulations.

Contractor Disqualification

If NYSERDA determines, after having given notice of deficiency, that a contractor has failed to submit an acceptable Utilization Plan or satisfactorily document its good faith efforts, NYSERDA may proceed with the next ranked bidder if NYSERDA has not received a request for a review of such finding from the contractor. NYSERDA shall conduct such review providing the contractor with an opportunity to be heard

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and make a determination that confirms the contractor is disqualified or reaffirms that the contractor is qualified. Such determination shall constitute a final agency determination.

Contractor and NYSERDA Complaints

Subsequent to the award of a contract to a contractor that becomes deficient with regard to its Utilization Plan, the contractor may file a complaint with NYSERDA. The complaint should state the reasons for the complaint, together with a demand for relief and include the following information: (1) the contractor's receipt of a written determination by NYSERDA that the contractor is not entitled to a partial or full waiver of the SDVOB goals; or (2) the contractor's receipt of a written determination by NYSERDA that the contractor has not acted in good faith, has failed, is failing, or is refusing to comply with goals. NYSERDA shall provide the contractor with an opportunity to be heard and shall conduct a review and shall render a determination regarding the merits of the complaint. Within 20 days of NYSERDA's determination that the contractor has not acted in good faith, has failed, is failing, or is refusing to comply with the SDVOB goals, NYSERDA may after giving the contractor an opportunity to be heard, make a determination that the contractor has failed to meet the contract goals and assess such other damages as were identified in the contract.