



Saba Electric Company (SEC)

Pre-Procurement Early Market Engagement – Request for Expression of Interest, and Request for Information

for the

Engineering, Procurement, and Construction

of

**4MW Solar PV plus 0.5MW Wind plus 15MWh Battery
Energy Storage System for the Island of Saba**

Issue Date: January 23, 2024

Submission Deadline: February 5, 2024



Introduction:

This announcement constitutes an Early Market Engagement (EME) notice soliciting Expressions of Interest and Requests for Information for the engineering, procurement, and Construction (EPC) of the Saba Renewable Energy Project Phase III, consisting of a 4MW Solar PV plant plus 0.5MW of wind energy and a 15MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). Also included is a Power Management System capable of solar, wind, diesel generator and battery storage integration and control and 2 years of operation and maintenance (O&M). The solar + wind + battery storage will integrate into the Saba Electric Company (SEC) grid to add to the existing 2.1MWp of solar, 2.3MWp of battery storage, and 4.3MVA of diesel generator capacity.

This EME document provides an overview of the Saba 4MW solar PV plus 0.5MW wind plus 15MWh battery storage project requirements and allows interested parties to register their interest in receiving the Request for Qualification (RFQ) solicitation documents.

The Saba RE Project Phase III is funded by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Change Policy and UE MIP.

The Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) has been engaged by Saba Electric Company (SEC) as Renewable Energy Client Engineering Consultant for the project.

This is not a Request for Proposals (RFP) or a solicitation for formal proposals. The information developed through this EME will be used to evaluate the market interest, gauge market prices, and help develop the final RFP, including specifications for solar PV, wind, and battery storage to connect to the Saba Electric Company (SEC) electricity grid. The project scope includes engineering, procurement, and construction of solar PV plus wind plus battery storage, including commissioning. This EME does not constitute a commitment, implied or otherwise that SEC will act in this matter. SEC will not be responsible for any costs incurred in furnishing responses.

SEC is interested in understanding market participants' (solar, wind & battery storage EPC contractors) current availabilities, flexibilities, and preferences in providing EPC services for the proposed project. SEC's objectives for this EME are to:

1. Communicate the outcomes needed and get feedback from the solar PV, wind, and battery storage EPC market on requirements to assist in developing the final project specifications.
2. Provide the solar PV, wind, and battery storage EPC market the opportunity to



contribute to developing a market-focused requirements package.

3. Solar PV, wind, and battery storage EPC suppliers should share critical equipment and labor price points and challenges such as long lead times.
4. Provide potential bidders the opportunity to register their interest in receiving the Request for Qualifications documents.

SEC will share the information secured with RMI for the future development of procurement (RFQ and RFP) documents.

Background:

Saba Electric Company (SEC) generates, transmits, and distributes electricity on Saba. In collaboration with the Public Entity (OLS), SEC seeks to increase its renewable energy (RE) fraction as part of its overall sustainable energy strategy to reach a 100% renewable energy electricity generation target. SEC's existing operational facilities consist of 4.3MVA diesel generation plant and 2.1MWp of installed solar PV capacity plus 2.3MWp of battery storage from Saba RE Projects Phases 1 & 2. Historically and currently, the primary source of power generation has been reciprocating (diesel) engines. SEC's annual energy production is 9,300MWh, but expected to increase to 10,000MWh in the short to medium term. Their existing renewable energy fraction/penetration is approximately 40% of annual energy.

The proposed Phase 3 solar + BESS plant will be located on a 34,000 square meter site at Gilles Quarters and the wind turbines at two sites along the road to the new harbor at Black Rocks. The solar and wind power plants will be integrated and interconnected to a separate 12kV feeder, 3km from the existing SEC Power Station.

SEC and RMI are currently undertaking the proposed phase 3 solar+wind+BESS project pre-feasibility studies, feasibility studies, and project de-risking with the goal of contracting an EPC contractor via subsequent RFQ & RFP solicitation processes.

SEC RE Project Phase 3 Project Outcomes

SEC and the Public Entity (OLS) are exploring opportunities to reduce diesel fuel consumption and the unit cost of electricity in Saba.

One economic opportunity identified is the continued investment in indigenous energy sources, namely solar, wind, and battery storage, by providing higher levels of renewable energy penetration. The following outcomes have been identified by SEC following the proposed Phase 3 project going operational:

- i. Reduce the Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE) and, therefore, the unit cost of electricity in Saba.



- ii. Reduce diesel fuel consumption and, therefore, fuel cost.
- iii. Reduce SEC's carbon emissions and, therefore, carbon footprint.
- iv. Increase SEC's Renewable Energy (RE) penetration/fraction to approximately 90%.
- v. Deliver the above within the approved budget and by the end of 2025.

The EPC Scope of Works:

The EPC contractor's scope of work on the proposed project shall consist of supplying EPC services for the Saba 4MW solar PV + 0.5MW wind + 15MWh battery storage project, including interconnection to the SEC grid and 2 years of O&M services.

It is proposed that the EPC contractor's knowledge of the beneficial utilization of their product, its supply, methods of erection and maintenance will be transferred from the EPC contractor to the SEC on-site during the construction and maintenance periods, (documentation/instruction manuals, including as-built documents, formal training classes, one-on-one training/knowledge transfer, etc.). This is an important consideration, as the transfer of knowledge will provide local capacity to continue the maintenance of the investment beyond the EPC contract.

Qualifications and Assumptions:

- A. For purposes of this EME, **“Saba 4MW Solar + 0.5MW Wind + 15MWh BESS Project to connect to the SEC electricity grid, Saba”** means design, engineering, fabrication, packaging, testing, delivery, installation, commissioning and 2 years of O&M services.
- B. For purposes of this EME, **“solar energy”** means electrical power generated by solar photovoltaic modules (PV), and **“wind energy”** means electrical power generated by wind turbines.
- C. All expressions of interest and requests for information should assume that the information supplied will aid SEC in designing a procurement solution to implement the Saba 4MW Solar + 0.5MW Wind + 15MWh BESS Project.
- D. All expressions of interest should assume a potential EPC contract with 2-year O&M services agreement.
- E. Interested parties should respond to this EME by Monday, February 5, 2024.

Expressions of interest from companies with EPC experience in installing solar PV, Wind and storage systems of similar size to date with at least one (1) current operations and maintenance agreement in place and in good standing.



Specific Information of Interest:

1. Offered solar technology, wind technology, and battery solution options
2. General project timeline for 4MW solar PV + 0.5MW wind + 15MWh BESS engineering, procurement, and construction (indicate EPC timeline and overall timeline).
3. Level of experience of respondents in designing, procurement, and construction of solar PV, wind, and battery storage projects.
4. Respondent's affirmation of interest in entering into an EPC contract with O&M for solar PV, wind, and battery storage on multiple sites.
5. Number of years of experience as a solar PV, wind energy, and battery storage EPC contractor.
6. Experience working within the Caribbean on similar energy projects.

Content of Submissions:

All information shared with SEC about this EME must be in the form of electronic documents sent to the email addresses below.

After reviewing responses, SEC may request additional information or schedule individual meetings with any respondent to gain insight into the information provided.

Submissions should include more than general marketing content; in particular:

- i. A cover letter
- ii. Completed Expression of Interest (EOI) form
- iii. Acknowledgment of each item listed above in **Qualifications and Assumptions**
- iii. **Latest Corporate Statement of Qualifications (SoQ)**
- iv. Respondent's relevant history and capabilities (if not covered in the SoQ)
- v. Overview of respondent's products or services (if not covered in the SoQ)

The submission of requested information and the EOI does not guarantee that an interested party will be selected for the pending RFP. The Request For Qualifications will be by open competitive tender that will determine the shortlisted companies to receive the RFP.



Questions and Points of Contact:

Questions are to be communicated via email addresses given below and addressed to:

Mr. Owen Lewis
Operational Manager – Islands Energy Program
Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)
Tel: 1-664-392-4696
Email: olewis.contractor@rmi.org

and

Mr. David Leonce
President Director/CEO
Saba Electric Company (SEC)
Email: leonce.david@sabaelecnv.com

Submission Date and Address:

Electronic responses to this notice must be emailed to the above contacts no later than Monday, February 5, 2024.

All responses or questions should be emailed to olewis.contractor@rmi.org and leonce.david@sabaelecnv.com with the subject: **Saba 4MW Solar + 0.5MW Wind + 15MWh BESS Project EPC EME.**

Confidentiality

SEC recognizes that certain information contained in the submitted EME responses may be considered confidential and, as permitted by applicable law, will treat any information clearly labelled as such as confidential. If SEC is formally requested and required by any regulatory or judicial authority or is otherwise required by law to disclose information about an EME response, SEC will disclose such information in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.



Expression of Interest Registration Form

I. Expression of Interest Registration Form

If you would like to be considered for inclusion in the Request for Qualification process for the engineering, procurement, and construction of the Saba Renewable Energy Project Phase 3 please provide your details below:

Ref.	Subject	Proposal
1	The full legal name of your business entity	
2	Principle place of business (full address)	
3	Full name of contact person(s)	
4	Phone number(s) of contact person(s)	
5	Official email address of contact person(s)	
6	Full name of authorized company signatory	
7	Have you worked as a solar and/or BESS EPC contractor in the Caribbean before?	
8	What is the highest capacity (MWp) solar project delivered as an EPC contractor in any location?	
9	What is the highest capacity (MWh) BESS project delivered as an EPC contractor in any location?	
10	What is the highest capacity (MWp) solar + (MWh) BESS project delivered as an EPC contractor in any location?	



11	Have you worked as a wind energy EPC contractor in the Caribbean before?	
12	What is the highest capacity (MW) wind energy project delivered as an EPC contractor in any location?	
13	List any experience with CARILEC / Caribbean electric utilities, including any work in generation, transmission or distribution projects.	
14	<p>Is there any other information you would like to provide?</p> <p>Please only provide information that you think is critical for our understanding of your business and our assessment as to whether you should participate in the Request for Proposal process.</p>	
15	YES, register my company to receive the intended RFQ. (Please indicate by signing here)	