

CPA Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for Production Cost Modeling Software & As-Needed Services Questions & Responses

#	Question	Answer
1	Data: What data model regions are of interest to CPA? (i.e. CAISO wide, WECC wide, portfolio only, etc)	CPA is interested in getting market data for the entire WECC, only.
2	End uses: What processes and decisions at CPA would this production cost modeling inform/impact? Which of these would a high performance PCM make the biggest difference (i.e. highest priorities)	See RFP Addendum #1, Attachment A, Section A, and RFP Addendum #1 Section VI. C (Evaluation Criteria) for more information.
3	Reporting: Does CPA have a high level concept of how the results of PCM would be presented in order to affect each process and decision from #2?	CPA does not understand this question and consequently, CPA is unable to respond. CPA does not accept any proposer’s assumptions, conditions, or limitations in this Q&A process. Any assumption, etc. must be specified and explained in the proposer’s response to the RFP. CPA reserves all rights. See RFP Addendum #1, Section VIII, RESERVATION OF RIGHTS.
4	Workflow Integration: At an high level, what is CPA’s vision of the upstream and downstream workflow around the PCM to support processes and decisions from #2?	See RFP Addendum #1, Section I (Objective).
5	Internal implementation: Does CPA envision the PCM to be maintained and run by a dedicated modeling team or would multiple functional teams each develop expertise with the tool to meet their respective needs?	CPA’s dedicated resource team would maintain and run the model. See RFP Addendum #1, Attachment A, Section B.
6	How many software users does CPA anticipate having as part of this RFP?	If pricing is dependent on the number of users, a proposer should provide costs per user or a range for a certain number of users.
7	In regards to Section A, if a vendor can not meet all fifteen capabilities, will the proposal be deemed non-	If proposer’s software does not meet the software criteria identified in CPA’s RFP Addendum #1, Attachment A, Section A, then Proposer should provide an explanation as to why that software cannot meet a particular software

	conforming and eliminated? Will a vendor who can meet twelve of the fifteen qualifications be considered?	solution capability. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the inability to meet all fifteen capabilities in Attachment A, Section A may impact CPA's evaluation of whether that software offers the Best Value. See CPA's Non-Energy Contracting Policy. CPA reserves all rights in its evaluation to disqualify a proposer.
8	In regards to Section A, do you value certain features over others?	See CPA's response to question #2, above.
9	In regards to the Background section, how many PPAs does CPA currently own to serve load? The question is intended to understand the scope of work to model these PPAs.	CPA currently has 10 long-term PPAs executed, including RPS eligible and storage resources. However, CPA plans to execute additional long-term contracts over the next 5 year.
10	In regards to the Pricing section, no mention seems to exist in regards to the number of users. How many user licenses does CPA intend to need?	See CPA's response to question #6, above.
11	In regards to the Pricing section, does CPA plan to provide access to the software to the CPA Member Agencies?	No.
12	In regards to the Background section, is CPA currently the Scheduling Coordinator ?	No.
13	In regards to the Objective section, is CPA looking to replace a current solution? If yes, is that an internal or external solution?	No.
14	Section VI – A page 3: The proposal presents deadlines related to the RFI process. Please elaborate on the expected "go-live" dates?	See RFP Addendum #1, Section VII: "Proposer's Approach to Scope of Services"
15	Attachment A, Section I – A page A-1: Could you describe the simulation horizon expected?	See RFP Addendum #1, Attachment A, Section I.A. #13.

16	Attachment A Section I A.2 page A-1: Could you elaborate more on the size of the system? Number of Nodes, Number of Branches, Number and type of generators, Number of loads, etc.?	See CPA response to Question #1, above.
17	Attachment A Section I A.2 page A-1: Could you specify the execution time requirements?	CPA is seeking a software that is able to model large amounts of data in a minimum run time. However, CPA does not have any specific execution time requirements. See RFP Addendum #1, Attachment A.
18	Section VI. E: Can CPA provide the weightage of each of the three evaluation criteria	All 3 evaluation criteria in RFP Addendum #1 Section VI.E. will be considered to determine the Best Value.
19	In regard to the Production Cost Modeling RFP, would you please elaborate on: The specific capability you need for question #4 of the scope of services - 4) User-defined, detailed representation of individual units or group of units, including combined cycle?	The PCM software should allow the user to create one or more units for a generation plant. The software should also allow the user to specify multiple stages of a combined cycle unit.
20	In regard to the Production Cost Modeling RFP, would you please elaborate on: The specific capability you need for question #7 of the scope of services – 7) Capability to introduce user-defined constraints?	User should be able to create thermal, transmission, or fuel constraints in the model. Ex., Fuels with blend ratio values.
21	The scope of work states that CPA wishes for the model to include, “Detailed representation of the transmission network, DC power flow and n-1 contingency analysis in unit commitment and security constrained economic dispatch. Ability to easily switch between zonal and nodal analysis.” As a retailer within CAISO, CPA is not responsible for reliability planning with respect to DC power flows and n-1 contingencies. Please explain the use cases for which CPA foresees using a detailed transmission network model.	We need a PCM software that is able to model all resources in WECC and utilizes advanced security constraint unit commitment and economic dispatch algorithms to provide zonal and nodal price forecasts See CPA RFP Addendum #1, Attachment A, Section A (#14), for more information.
22	The scope of work states a desire for, “Unit-specific generation ramp rates, start up, minimum run times, minimum down times, and maximum number of starts, etc.” and “User-defined, detailed representation of individual units or group of units, including combined	See CPA response to question #21, above.

	cycle,” as well as, “Ability to model multiple configurations of Combined Cycles hourly. For instance, 2x1 that can move from 1x1 to 2x1.” Since CPA, like most other CCAs, has no thermal resources and is seeking to provide customers with renewable and GHG free energy, why does CPA wish to model thermal resources?	
23	Section I (Page 1): How many software licenses of production cost modeling software is CPA looking to acquire?	See CPA’s response to question #6, above.
24	Section I (Page 1): Attachment A, Section I.A.2 (Page 9): How many contingencies is CPA looking to model?	CPA doesn’t have any specific number of contingencies that it is looking to model. CPA is looking for a PCM software with a full transmission network modeling capability.
25	Section I (Page 1): Is CPA looking to model advanced contingencies such as generator or load contingencies and any Remedial Action schemes?	No.
26	Section I (Page 1): Is CPA interested in modeling advanced contingencies modeled by CAISO?	See CPA response to question #25, above.
27	Attachment A, Section I.A.7 (Page 9): Can you describe any examples of type of user defined constraints which you are interested in modeling?	See CPA’s response to question #20, above.
28	Attachment A, Section I.A.12 (Page 10): Is CPA looking for a cloud-based option to store results of production cost simulation or is CPA looking to run production cost software on the cloud and store the output on the cloud too.	CPA is looking to run a PCM software solution on the cloud and store the output on the cloud.
29	Attachment A, Section I.B.7 (Page 11): Is the Proof of concept project part of the 90-day trial period?	The Proof of Concept project is part of the vendor evaluation process and separate from the 90-day trial period.
30	Attachment A, Section I.B.7 (Page 11): Will selected vendor or vendors be compensated for their time supporting the proof of concept project?	The selected vendor(s) will not be compensated for their time supporting the Proof of Concept project.
31	Attachment A, Section II.2 (Page 11): Is CPA interested in getting market data for CAISO market or/and for entire WECC?	See CPA’s Response to question #1, above.
32	Attachment A, Section II.2 (Page 11): What is CPA’s desired study time horizon (short term, long term) of interest? In other words, is CPA interested in performing	See CPA’s Response to question #15, above.

	production cost modeling studies for short term (next 6 months – 1 Year) or long term (1 year – 10 years out) or even longer?	
33	Attachment A, Section II.2 (Page 11): Is CPA interested in linking/mapping the licensed market data to CAISO Full network model?	CPA does not require linking/mapping the licensed market data to CAISO Full network model.
34	RFP Section III (Qualifications and Experience) includes this as the second bullet: “The Proposer must have applicable qualifications and experience in supporting the development of resource plans for customers who are LSEs operating within the CAISO.” Will Proposers without this exact experience be automatically disqualified from consideration?	See RFP Addendum #1, Section III.
35	RFP Section VII (Proposal Requirements), the following two components are included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any required changes to CPA’s Pro Forma Contract. See Attachment D. • Attach a pro forma agreement. In addition, in its right to negotiate a final contract, CPA reserves the right to reject or revise any or all of proposer’s pro forma, or to add CPA’s standard terms. See also, Section VI.D. Is it CPA’s intention to use CPA’s Pro Forma Contract only for services, and the Proposer’s pro forma agreement for the software license?	RFP Addendum #1, Section VII at p.6: Any proposed changes to CPA’s pro forma contract, such as a software license, must be submitted to CPA as a change to Attachment D.