



# Request for Proposals

Procurement Company/Consultants for Clean Energy Companies

## **ABOUT THE CENTER BY LENDISTRY**

The Center by Lendistry (TCBL) is a nonprofit organization that supports diverse small businesses through education, technical assistance, and access to competitive financing. Our mission is to close the racial wealth gap by anchoring small businesses and the communities where they do business. TCbL is the non-profit educational and technical assistance strategic partner to Lendistry, a minority-led, technology enabled Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that provides loans and other financial products to underserved small business owners.

Women- and diverse-owned businesses have disproportionately faced obstacles to success. TCbL is committed to removing those barriers and transforming communities most impacted by historical disinvestment by putting small businesses first. Our initiatives aim to advance equitable economic development strategies to drive small business growth, job creation, and generational wealth-building in underserved communities across the country.

Over its history, TCbL has assisted over 11,000 small businesses including 6,300 women-owned, 8,200 diverse-owned, and 350 veteran-owned businesses nation-wide.

## **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Program Name: Clean Energy Inclusive Procurement Program (CEIPP)

The CEIPP is designed to help Middle Market Businesses (MMBs) in the clean energy industry develop local procurement strategies to support supply chain efficiencies and maximize positive impact on the local economy. These strategies aim to create local jobs and support small businesses ensuring MMBs can effectively implement clean energy projects with federal funding. The program consists of two phases:

- **Research & Planning Phase:** Needs assessment, procurement analysis, and supplier diversity evaluation.
- **Implementation Strategy Development Phase:** Creation and execution of inclusive procurement strategies, training, and evaluation.

Through this program, The Center by Lendistry will provide training, facilitate supplier connections, and support MMBs in streamlining their procurement processes.

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## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

The selected procurement company/consultant will support The Center by Lendistry and participating MMBs by supporting the development of supply chain solutions for each MMB,



providing technical assistance to MMBs, and offering expert recommendations to ensure successful program execution. Key objectives include:

- Review procurement needs assessments for MMB partners.
- Develop streamlined procurement policies and practices with measurable goals for each MMB partner.
- Provide training and technical assistance to support MMB's implementation of policies and practices.
- Create measurement and evaluation tools to track procurement impact.

### **SCOPE OF WORK**

The selected procurement company/consultant will be responsible for:

#### **Assessment & Strategy Development**

- Reviewing a procurement needs analysis for each participating company.
- Evaluating current procurement policies and supplier diversity efforts.
- Recommending best practices for inclusive procurement strategies that align with federal guidelines.
- Developing a customized inclusive procurement strategy for each company.
- Developing measurement and evaluation tools for each company.

#### **Implementation & Training**

- Provide 1:1 advising to companies to support plan implementation

### **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

Interested companies/consultants should submit a proposal including:

1. **Company/Consultant Profile:** Description of background, expertise, and experience in procurement consulting and supplier diversity.
2. **Project Approach:** A detailed methodology for addressing the scope of work.
3. **Relevant Experience:** Case studies or examples of previous work in procurement strategy, supplier diversity, or supply chain management.
4. **Team Experience:** Resumes or bios of key personnel involved.
5. **Timeline:** Proposed timeline for engagement and completion of key deliverables.
6. **Budget:** Breakdown of costs for assessments, training, supplier outreach, and other services.



7. **References:** Contact information for at least two previous clients.

### **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- **Expertise and Experience:** Proven track record in procurement consulting and supplier diversity.
- **Project Approach:** Clarity, effectiveness, and feasibility of the proposed methodology.
- **Past Performance:** Quality of previous work and relevance to this project.
- **Team Qualifications:** Experience and expertise of key personnel.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** Competitive pricing and overall value for services.
- **Client References:** Positive feedback from previous clients, particularly those working in the clean energy sector.

Please submit your proposal electronically in PDF format to shafeeq.shamsid-deen@thecenterbylendistry.org by **04/01/25**.

We look forward to receiving your proposal and working together to create a valuable resource that empowers local governments, non-profits, and small businesses to embrace sustainable practices.

*This RFP can be found on The Center by Lendistry's website at:*

[Resources | The Center by Lendistry](#)