PART A REQUEST FOR AN REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)	
Description of the works/goods/services	**1. INTRODUCTION** Eskom's Cape Coastal Cluster is exploring the development of photovoltaic (PV) facilities within its geographical footprint, encompassing the Eastern Cape and Western Cape provinces. This initiative supports Eskom's Just Energy Transition (JET) strategy, the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2025, and aims to enhance security of supply, reduce the carbon footprint, and support economic development within the region. This Request for Information (RFI) seeks insights from experienced and qualified companies in the solar PV sector. We are interested in a comprehensive range of solutions, from microgrid applications to utility-scale solar PV plants of up to 100MW. The information gathered will inform our strategy, procurement processes, and potential future Request for Proposal (RFP) documents. **2. OBJECTIVES** The primary objectives of this RFI are to: • Identify and pre-qualify companies with proven experience in developing solar PV plant projects in South Africa, specifically within the Eastern and Western Cape. • Gain a comprehensive understanding of the technical, legal, financial, and logistical requirements for developing solar PV plants at various scales. • Develop a robust benchmark for costing, scheduling, and risk management. • Design a framework for a skills development and training programme for Eskom staff. **3. SCOPE OF SERVICES** Respondents are requested to provide detailed information on their capabilities and experience related to the following aspects: 3.1. Research & Technical Investigations in Eastern and Western Cape • Describe your methodology for conducting a site-specific solar resource assessment (GHI, DNI, DIF) and energy yield prediction. • Outline your process for conducting Environmental and Social Impact Assessments, public participation, and securing an Environmental Authorisation. 3.2. Design of Solar PV Plants (Microgrid to 100MW)

- Provide a conceptual design for a typical 100MW solar PV including technology selection (e.g. monofacial/bifacial modules, string vs. central inverters), array layout, spacing, and electrical infrastructure.
- Provide a conceptual design for a solar PV microgrid, including integration with other generation sources (e.g. wind) and battery energy storage systems (BESS).
- Explain your design philosophy for optimizing energy yield, managing shading, and mitigating losses. while minimising environmental and social impact.

3.3. Suppliers of PV Panels

- List the solar panel, inverter, mounting structure, and BESS manufacturers you typically partner with for projects ranging from small-scale microgrids to large-scale utility projects.
- Provide technical specifications and justification for recommended technologies suitable for the climatic conditions of the Eastern and Western Cape.

3.4. Project Costing

- Provide a high-level Capex (e.g. panels, inverters, BOS, BESS, civil works) and Opex cost breakdown for an estimated 100MW solar PV plant and a separate 1MW solar PV microgrid project in the Eastern and Western Cape.
- Detail the key cost drivers and potential risks that could impact the budget.

3.5. Construction & Commissioning

- Outline a typical project timeline from financial close to commercial operation for a 100MW solar PV plant and a separate 1MW solar PV Microgrid.
- Describe your construction methodology, key milestones, and risk management plan during the construction phase.
- Detail your commissioning and testing procedures to ensure compliance with grid codes and technical requirements.

3.6. Registration and Legal Requirements

- Provide a comprehensive list of all permits, licenses, and approvals required from entities such as NERSA, the DEE, and local municipalities.
- Detail your experience in securing NERSA Generation Licenses and wheeling agreements.
- Explain your approach to negotiating land lease agreements, particularly with communities and multiple landowners, which are common in the Eastern Cape and Western Cape Provinces.

3.7. Training Programmes

	Respondents must propose detailed training programmes for Eskom staff covering: • Planning: Project development, site identification, and feasibility studies. • Designs: Solar PV plant engineering, component selection, microgrid design, and system layout optimization . • Costing: Financial modelling, cost estimation, LCOE calculation, and project financing for renewable energy. • Construction: Solar PV plant construction management, health and safety standards, and quality assurance. • Operation and Maintenance: Operations, maintenance, performance optimisation, health, safety and environmental **4. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS** Interested parties are required to submit the following: Technical Requirements • Company Profile: Including company history, and company structure. • Relevant Experience: A detailed list of similar projects (both microgrid and utility-scale) delivered, including project name, capacity, location, client, and a brief description. At least three (3) contactable references must be provided. • Technical & Managerial Capacity: CVs of key personnel who would be assigned to such a project. Relevant professional certifications. • Response to Scope: A comprehensive response to each of the seven (7) aspects outlined in Section 3. Commercial documents as follows: • Enquiry Cover Page • Authorisation Form (Annexure A) • Tenderer's particulars (Annexure C) • Integrity Declaration Form (Annexure D) • Non-Disclosure Agreement • SARS issued pin • Letter of Good Standing (COID) • Share Holders, copy of their ID's and their shareholding percentage. • Company Registration Documents • Proof of CSD Registration number		
Deadline for submission	**13 February 2026**	**At (South African Standard Time)**	**10:00am SAST**
Clarification Meeting details	**Date: 22 January 2026** **Time: 10:00am** **MS Teams Link**		

	Join the meeting now **Meeting ID: 395 180 481 668 54** **Passcode: pF9fy9a**
Tender Office address	Tenders are uploaded via Eskom Tender bulletin site on the Eskom E- tendering page.
RFI are to be submitted electronically via Eskom E- tendering site by the stipulated closing date and time.	Tenders are to be submitted electronically via Eskom E- tendering site by the stipulated closing date and time.
Electronic Submission of RFI	The tenderer must upload the tender via Eskom Tender bulletin site on the Eskom E- tendering page. All documents need to be submitted in a PDF and Excel format (The upload size per document is 500 megabytes and total submission is restricted to 4 gigabyte). No Zip/condense files can be uploaded No hard copy will be accepted If for some reason you resubmit your RFI, then the latest version of the RFI submitted will only be accepted and all previous submission/s will be null and void. Please ensure that the submission status is indicated as complete. Supplier Help Manual guide and video can be found on Eskom E-Tendering page
E-tendering Help Manual for supplier	It is attached

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (“Eskom”) invites you to submit an:

Request for information (RFI) to submit information for the works/goods/services as stated in the table. This RFI is a stand-alone information-gathering and market-testing exercise, intended only to inform and assist Eskom’s further deliberation and development of a strategy for the Microgrid to utility scale photovoltaic (PV) Facilities. Eskom may request indicative prices if so, stated in this RFI.

Eskom has delegated the responsibility for this **RFI** to the signatory of this document, whose details can be found below.

We look forward to receipt of your response.
Yours faithfully

Name	Designation	Signature	Date
Lonwabo Mavukwana	Senior Advisor Procurement		10 December 2025
Telephone number	043 703 2023	**Fax and/or e-mail address**	mavukwlm@eskom.co.za

PART B **RESPONSE SHEET IN TERMS OF A REQUEST FOR AN REQUEST FOR INFORMATION** **To be completed by the supplier**			
To	Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	**Date**	
Attention	Lonwabo Mavukwana		
Tel no		**E-mail address**	
From		**Address**	
Address			
Sender			
Description of the works/goods/services			

Please find below our response to Eskom's questions:

No.	Question	Please indicate your response in this column
1.	**Company Profile**	
1.1	Company name, history, and years in business.	
1.2	Description of core competencies and experience relevant to this project.	
1.3	Company structure and details of local South African presence/partnerships.	
1.4	Company registration number	
1.5	Contact name and contact details	
2.	**Relevant Project Experience** List at least three (3) similar projects completed in the last 5 years involving hybrid renewable microgrids and utility scale (PV Solar & BESS experience is highly desirable). For each, please include:	
2.1	**Project 1**	
	Project location and name	
	Client	
	Key technologies deployed (PV size, WTG size, BESS size & chemistry)	
	Project value and timeline	
	Reference contact information	
2.2	**Project 2**	
	Project location and name	
	Client	
	Key technologies deployed (PV size, WTG size, BESS size & chemistry)	
	Project value and timeline	
	Reference contact information	
2.3	**Project 3**	
	Project location and name	
	Client	
	Key technologies deployed (PV size, WTG size, BESS size & chemistry)	
	Project value and timeline	
	Reference contact information	
3.	Describe specific experience with grid-tied and islandable systems	
4.	**SCOPE OF SERVICES**	
4.1	Research & Technical Investigations in Eastern and Western Cape • Describe your methodology for conducting a site-specific solar resource assessment (GHI, DNI, DIF) and energy yield prediction.	

No.	Question	Please indicate your response in this column
	• Outline your process for conducting Environmental and Social Impact Assessments, public participation, and securing an Environmental Authorisation.	
4.2	Design of Solar PV Plants (Microgrid to 100MW) • Provide a conceptual design for a typical 100MW solar PV including technology selection (e.g. monofacial/bifacial modules, string vs. central inverters), array layout, spacing, and electrical infrastructure. • Provide a conceptual design for a solar PV microgrid, including integration with other generation sources (e.g. wind) and battery energy storage systems (BESS). • Explain your design philosophy for optimizing energy yield, managing shading, and mitigating losses. while minimising environmental and social impact.	
4.3	Suppliers of PV Panels • List the solar panel, inverter, mounting structure, and BESS manufacturers you typically partner with for projects ranging from small-scale microgrids to large-scale utility projects. • Provide technical specifications and justification for recommended technologies suitable for the climatic conditions of the Eastern and Western Cape.	
4.4	Project Costing • Provide a high-level Capex (e.g. panels, inverters, BOS, BESS, civil works) and Opex cost breakdown for an estimated 100MW solar PV plant and a separate 1MW solar PV microgrid project in the Eastern and Western Cape. • Detail the key cost drivers and potential risks that could impact the budget.	
4.5	Construction & Commissioning • Outline a typical project timeline from financial close to commercial operation for a 100MW solar PV plant and a separate 1MW solar PV Microgrid. • Describe your construction methodology, key milestones, and risk management plan during the construction phase. • Detail your commissioning and testing procedures to ensure compliance with grid codes and technical requirements.	
4.6	Registration and Legal Requirements • Provide a comprehensive list of all permits, licenses, and approvals required from entities such as NERSA, the DEE, and local municipalities.	

No.	Question	Please indicate your response in this column
	• Detail your experience in securing NERSA Generation Licenses and wheeling agreements. • Explain your approach to negotiating land lease agreements, particularly with communities and multiple landowners, which are common in the Eastern Cape and Western Cape Provinces.	
4.7	Training Programmes Respondents must propose detailed training programmes for Eskom staff covering: • Planning: Project development, site identification, and feasibility studies. • Designs: Solar PV plant engineering, component selection, microgrid design, and system layout optimization . • Costing: Financial modelling, cost estimation, LCOE calculation, and project financing for renewable energy. • Construction: Solar PV plant construction management, health and safety standards, and quality assurance. • Operation and Maintenance: Operations, maintenance, performance optimisation, health, safety and environmental.	

Yours faithfully

Name	Designation	Signature	Date
Telephone number		**E-mail address**	