

ARTICLE 4 BIDDER QUALIFICATION

4.1 Overview of Bidder Qualification Process

- 4.1.1 The purpose of the Bidder Qualification process is to determine the applicant's eligibility to bid. An applicant is qualified to bid in a given solicitation if, by the Cure Deficiency Deadline of that solicitation, it satisfactorily completes or updates the following: 1) submits an Expression of Interest Form; 2) executes the Confidentiality Agreement; ~~3) demonstrates that its, or its guarantor's, unsecured senior long-term debt rating (or issuer rating, if the unsecured senior long-term debt rating is unavailable) is currently available from Standard & Poor's, Fitch Ratings, or Moody's Investor Services;~~ 4) submits the Credit Application and associated financial information requested in Article 4.5 (Credit Application and Financial Information); and, 5) submits an executed copy of the Binding Bid Agreement provided as Appendix 7. With the submission of a Bid Proposal, qualified RFP Bidders will be required to post Bid Assurance Collateral. The Bid Assurance Collateral will be returned to the RFP Bidder subsequent to contract execution or the rejection of its bid(s), as described in Article 5.4 (Bid Assurance Collateral).
- 4.1.2 Applicants are urged to provide the materials necessary to establish eligibility as soon as practicable. PPL Electric will endeavor, on a best efforts basis, to notify applicants of any deficiencies in their submittals in accordance with Article 7.2 no later than forty-eight hours before the Cure Deficiency Deadline for the appropriate solicitation as indicated in an RFP Schedule developed subject to Article 2.2. However, PPL Electric does not bear any responsibility for failure to notify applicants of deficiencies prior to the Cure Deficiency Deadline as indicated in an RFP Schedule developed subject to Article 2.2, and PPL Electric assumes no liability or obligation for a defective submission or for notifying any RFP Bidder of a defective submission. Early submittal of materials will provide the greatest flexibility to correct deficiencies prior to the Cure Deficiency Deadline and applicants are encouraged to submit Bidder Qualifications as soon as possible following the issuance of the RFP, or RFP Addendum. PPL Electric will notify applicants whether or not they have qualified by noon of the Qualified Bidders Notified Date.
- 4.1.3 After an RFP Bidder has qualified for a solicitation in the RFP, that RFP Bidder can qualify again for a subsequent solicitation by: a) verifying, in writing, that the previously submitted credit and financial information is up-to-date and accurate; and b) providing two (2) originals of the Binding Bid Agreement for that solicitation. These documents must be provided by the Bidder Qualifications Due Date for that solicitation. Once qualified, the RFP Bidder will be required to submit the appropriate Bid Assurance Collateral for that solicitation and to fulfill all requirements of the Bid Proposal(s) as specified in Article 5. It is the sole responsibility of the RFP Bidder to notify PPL Electric of any changes to the RFP Bidder's previously submitted Bidder Qualification materials.