



Michigan Saves[®]

The Nation's First Nonprofit Green Bank

Request for Qualifications: Technical Assistance for Michigan Saves Climate Fund Pre- Development Activities

Purpose

Michigan Saves is issuing this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to identify engineering and other technical experts with background in clean energy projects to provide technical assistance to current or prospective applicants for financing under the Michigan Saves Climate Fund. This technical assistance support is for “pre-development activities” that improve the likelihood of qualified projects being financed by Michigan Saves and may include activities such as site and building assessments, financial and technological feasibility studies, design and engineering support, financial model development and refinement, community benefit and engagement planning, impact modeling, and permitting support. Funding for this activity is provided through a subaward agreement to Michigan Saves from the Coalition for Green Capital under the US Environment Protection Agency’s (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) National Clean Investment Fund (NCIF).

Michigan Saves invites proposals from consultants, nonprofit organizations, or individuals with technical expertise in one or more of the following three priority areas for investment under the Michigan Saves Climate Fund: 1) distributed generation and energy storage, 2) energy efficiency retrofits and net-zero new construction; and 3) zero-emission transportation including electric vehicle charging equipment and fleets. The Climate Fund does not directly finance residential projects, therefore, the scope of this RFQ is for commercial and institutional projects. Through this RFQ process, Michigan Saves expects to select multiple organizations to become approved technical assistance providers capable of providing advice and analytical support in specific potential transactions, either after receiving an application for financing or beforehand. Michigan Saves will assign work to the approved technical assistance providers on an as-needed basis and based on the expertise and availability of the technical service provider.

A description of our organization, technical assistance needs for pre-development activities, and other pertinent information follows.

RFQ Contact

All correspondence for this RFQ, including submissions, should be directed to Kelsey Smith at ksmith@michigansaves.org. Email correspondence only, no phone calls.

Submission Instructions and Timeline

Please submit responses via email to Kelsey Smith at ksmith@michigansaves.org by 5:00 PM EST, **February 21, 2025**. If applicants have any questions in advance of the proposal deadline, please email Kelsey no later than 5:00 PM EST on February 2, 2025. Responses to questions will then be circulated to all interested parties in one email. If you would like to be on that distribution list, please email Kelsey.

Exhibit 1. RFQ Schedule

RFQ release	January 21, 2025
Deadline for submitting questions	February 2, 2025, 5:00 pm ET
Deadline for Michigan Saves response to questions	February 10, 2025, 5:00 pm ET
Deadline for submitting RFQ response	February 21, 2025, 5:00 pm ET
Interviews, if necessary	Weeks of March 3 and 10, 2025
Successful applicants are contacted	Week of March 17, 2025
Execution of technical assistance agreement with Michigan Saves	Week of April 7, 2025
Anticipated start date	TBD – based on assigned task(s)

Overview of Michigan Saves

Michigan Saves, the nation's first nonprofit green bank, is dedicated to accessible, equitable, and just investments in energy efficiency and clean energy to support healthy and thriving communities. Michigan Saves believes in an equitable transition to a carbon-free Michigan where everyone has access to the benefits of clean energy and climate-resilient solutions. Michigan Saves is part of this transformation by offering the financing solutions and contractor network that make energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements easy and affordable and by advancing a more energy-conscious culture in Michigan.

To date, Michigan Saves has facilitated over \$670 million in clean energy investments by offering a loan loss reserve to mitigate risk for local lenders that finance these projects. Michigan Saves also manages a statewide network of more than 1,000 authorized contractors with expertise in energy efficiency and onsite renewable energy systems. Michigan Saves makes innovative, affordable financing for energy improvements through a network of authorized residential lenders (credit unions) and commercial lenders (banks, credit unions, and equipment-leasing companies). Additionally, with GGRF funding as discussed below, Michigan Saves also lends directly to borrowers and coordinates with third-party lenders for origination and servicing of Michigan Saves' loan capital.

Michigan Saves is governed by a 13-member board of directors. The board includes a nonvoting board member appointed by the chair of the Michigan Public Service Commission. See [MichiganSaves.org](https://michigansaves.org) for more information.

National Clean Investment Fund and Key Terms Relevant to Pre-Development Activities

Under the \$14 billion National Clean Investment Fund (NCIF), the EPA selected three applicants to deliver accessible, affordable financing for clean technology projects nationwide, partnering with private-sector investors, developers, community organizations, and others to deploy projects, mobilize private capital at scale, and enable millions of Americans to benefit from the program through energy bill savings, cleaner air, job creation, and more. The Coalition for Green Capital (CGC) received a \$5 billion award. Michigan Saves is a sub-awardee on CGC's application and executed its subaward agreement with CGC in January 2025. These grant funds are being deployed as loan capital and credit enhancements to support new and expanded financing programs. Approximately \$2,850,000 in funding will be available for project "pre-development activities" supporting "qualified projects" as defined below. This subaward agreement, along with EPA terms and conditions, guides Michigan Saves' lending and programmatic approaches and dictates the scope of eligible pre-development activities.

Definition of Pre-Development Activities: According to the EPA's December 2024 NCIF terms and conditions, "Predevelopment Activities means activities that meet all three of the following criteria: (1) improve the likelihood of the Recipient [Michigan Saves] financing Qualified Projects [see below], (2) are tied directly to Qualified Projects the Recipient intends to finance, and (3) are necessary and reasonable for the Recipient to deploy Financial Assistance [loans, loan guarantees, and other forms of financing] to Qualified Projects."

Definition of Qualified Projects: Section 134(c)(3) of the Clean Air Act [authorizing the GGFR] provides that a Qualified Project is any project, activity, or technology that (A) reduces or avoids greenhouse gas emissions and other forms of air pollution in partnership with, and by leveraging investment from, the private sector; or (B) assists communities in the efforts of those communities to reduce or avoid greenhouse gas emissions and other forms of air pollution. For purposes of the NCIF, EPA has six requirements which pertain to greenhouse gas emission and other local air pollutant reductions, delivery of additional benefits to communities, the mobilization of private capital, and use of commercially available technologies. See [Appendix A to the Michigan Saves Climate Fund request for applications](#) for the full definition of these six requirements.

Definition of Priority Projects: For purposes of the NCIF, EPA has identified the following three priority project categories: 1) Distributed Energy Generation and Storage, 2) Net-Zero Emissions Buildings, and 3) Zero-Emissions Transportation.¹ Michigan Saves will only finance projects that fall under one

¹ These are defined by EPA as follows:

Distributed Energy Generation and Storage: Projects, activities, and technologies that deploy small-scale power generation and/or storage technologies (typically from 1 kW to 10,000 kW), plus enabling infrastructure necessary for deployment of such generation and/or storage technologies. Projects, activities, and technologies within this category must support *carbon pollution-free electricity*, which is electrical energy produced from resources that generate no carbon emissions, consistent with the definition specified in [Executive Order 14057](#) (Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability).

or more of these three categories unless Michigan Saves seeks and obtains written approval from CGC. Thus, pre-development activities will be focused on these priority project areas, but it is possible that a technical assistance provider would support a “qualified project” that is not also a “priority project.”

Scope of Work

Michigan Saves expects to deploy the large majority of its NCIF award on or before December 31, 2025, as low-cost loan/financing capital for individual transactions aligned with the NCIF criteria referenced above through the Michigan Saves Climate Fund. Climate Fund applications for financing are accepted on a rolling basis through a request for applications process. Individual transaction sizes are expected to be in the \$1-10M range (total project sizes may be larger and involve other financing partners). This would be for custom financing deals that may take the form of construction, term, or bridge loans, bonds, Act 99 agreements, or other financing structures that do not fall under existing Michigan Saves financing programs. This financing is available to for-profit, governmental, and nonprofit entities. Michigan Saves provides loan capital on its own or in conjunction with other lenders or capital providers. Michigan Saves may also participate in other lenders’ loans through subordinate positions and/or lower-cost capital to make financing more accessible.

Michigan Saves **seeks multiple technical assistance providers** to support current or prospective Climate Fund applicants (also referred herein as borrowers or customers) and/or Michigan Saves with engineering, financial, and other technical needs **on a project-specific basis**. Specifically, Michigan Saves seeks technical experts experienced in a broad variety of renewable energy technologies and other sectors of sustainable infrastructure to work one-on-one with a borrower or with small cohorts of similarly situated borrowers to refine their project and business model. Michigan Saves expects to assign individual technical assistance providers to specific prospective borrowers in need of assistance, either before or after the borrower has applied for financing with Michigan Saves. The technical assistance need(s) of the borrower may be refined through discussions with the borrower, Michigan Saves, and the assigned technical assistance provider as part of a task scoping process discussed further below. In some cases, Michigan Saves may assign the technical assistance providers to work directly with the Michigan Saves’ Investment Team to support due diligence.

Net-Zero Emissions Buildings: Projects, activities, and technologies that either (1) retrofit an existing building, making a substantial contribution to that building being a net-zero emissions building and as part of a plan for that building achieving net-zero emissions over time, or (2) construct a new net-zero emissions building in a Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community. A *net-zero emissions building* is a building that meets the requirements of Version 1 of the [National Definition for a Zero Emissions Building](#) (June 2024).

Zero-Emissions Transportation: Projects, activities, and technologies that deploy zero-emissions transportation modes, plus enabling infrastructure necessary for zero-emissions transportation modes—especially in communities that are overburdened by existing diesel pollution, particulate matter concentration, and degraded air quality. Projects, activities, and technologies within this category must be consistent with the zero-emissions transportation decarbonization strategies in [The U.S. National Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization](#).

A single respondent is not required to provide all types of services or have expertise and training in all technology types (e.g., solar, battery, district energy, energy efficiency, electric vehicles and fleet management) to be eligible for consideration under this RFQ. Respondents should explicitly address their qualifications and interest in one or more of the areas and subareas outlined below. **Multiple organizations are expected to be selected to become approved technical assistance providers capable of providing advice and analytical support in specific, potential financing transactions. Tasks will be assigned to the selected and qualified organizations on an as-needed basis.**

Area 1: Technical and Engineering Advisory Services

With direction from Michigan Saves, and in consultation with the prospective borrower, the technical assistance provider may provide the following support for the borrower's project, depending on the borrower's needs and input from Michigan Saves on the priority of the project and identified gaps from a financing perspective. In lieu of directly supporting the borrower, these services may be provided to Michigan Saves' Investment Team to support due diligence of prospective investments.

- a) Review and comment on the engineering design and other third-party technical and engineering materials, and propose refinements to project design or technology selection (may include site visits and/or meetings with the borrower and third parties working for the borrower)
- b) Review of clean energy technologies for impact and performance capabilities (capacity and availability factors, estimated output, emission reductions, energy savings, maintenance schedules, etc.)
- c) Analyze cost, impact and performance capabilities of equipment and construction specifications for building retrofits or new construction to develop standardized packages for specific building types for borrowers using Michigan Saves financing for a portfolio of projects of a similar nature (e.g., multi-family housing)
- d) Review or assist in preparation of request for proposals (RFP) for engineering procurement and construction (EPC), equipment vendors, or other major vendors and/or review of RFP responses
- e) Review and comment on draft EPC contract, project schedule, and budgets
- f) Support the development or refinement of financial models including construction and operating cost projections as well as funding sources and uses table
- g) Analysis of projected market-based revenue sources (e.g., energy, capacity and ancillary services in wholesale electricity markets, renewable energy credit markets, and carbon offsets) and underlying methodologies; provide input on how to refine the forecasting approach(es) and data sources as applicable
- h) Evaluate options and strategies for securing third-party off-taker(s) and related agreement structures
- i) Provide input on real estate property transactions
- j) Advise on permitting requirements and application submittals

- k) Advise on interconnection agreement negotiations with transmission and/or distribution utility
- l) Provide input on borrower's plans for construction monitoring, testing and commissioning

Area 2: Regulatory, Grant, Tax and Community Engagement Support

- a) Provide research and strategic counsel on available clean energy tax credits and related requirements and processes
- b) Assist with compliance planning, including sourcing of US produced materials, for regulatory requirements such as the Davis-Bacon Act and Related Acts (DBRA) and the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) as applicable
- c) Identify supporting information for preparation of BABA waiver request if needed for a single project or group of similarly situated projects
- d) Review and advise on community benefits impacts and strategies for the project
- e) Research available local, state or federal grant opportunities and assist with grant application preparation

Task Work Orders

All pre-development technical assistance activities will be defined by a project-specific, written task work order. The technical assistance provider will be responsible for completing various tasks, which will depend on the level and type of services requested by Michigan Saves. For each project, Michigan Saves will confirm the technical assistance provider's interest and availability to provide support and then work with the technical assistance provider to prepare a task order statement of work that outlines the required technical assistance (including any limits on services provided), deliverables, timeframe, and budget. For expediency and given the technical nature of certain tasks, Michigan Saves may request the technical assistance provider provide the initial proposal for the task work order. Any changes to the task work order that may arise in discussions with the borrower will need to be approved by Michigan Saves as an amendment. While the technical assistance providers will assist prospective borrowers, they will have a contractual relationship with, and will be compensated by, Michigan Saves.

Submission Requirements

Interested nonprofit organizations, companies, and individuals are invited to submit proposals addressing the following:

1. Company Overview: Provide a brief overview of your company, including its history, areas of specialization, and relevant experience in the energy industry.
2. Team Expertise: Highlight the education, expertise, and qualifications of professionals who will be assigned to work with Michigan Saves. Bios and resumes are acceptable here. Preferred educational backgrounds: Individuals or teams with educational background in engineering, economics, finance, construction management, finance and business administration. Individuals with certifications in renewable energy or energy building science and performance preferred but

not required (e.g., Certified Energy Manager (CEM) or Certified Energy Auditor (CEA), Building Energy Assessment Professional (BEAP), Certified Decarbonization Professional (CDP), Building Energy Modeling Professional (BEMP), and North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners PV designer or installer certification).

3. Experience: Describe your company's experience in one or more of the following areas:
 - a. Energy project design, construction, finance, commissioning and operations
 - b. Lending/financial services compliance with focus on commercial lending compliance
 - c. Analysis and due diligence for energy and sustainability projects, with focus on technical feasibility and performance
 - d. Experience working for or with community development finance institutions, banks, credit unions, public housing authorities, and capital providers

Note, experience with clean energy projects in Michigan and proximity to Michigan are preferred, but not required. Please identify the areas and subareas on which you are seeking to provide technical assistance support and complete the checklist in Appendix E.

4. Approach and Methodology: Outline your approach to providing predevelopment technical assistance support to potential Michigan Saves borrowers for the areas (one or more) on which you are responding to this RFQ.
5. Pricing: Detail your proposed fee structure, billing rates, and any additional costs associated with the services to be provided. Because the type and number of potential projects that need pre-development support and the nature of support needed are not known at this time, Michigan Saves expects to enter into a standardized contract with the technical assistance provider with billable rates specified. Individual task orders with a scope of work and not-to-exceed amounts would be issued for assigned projects.
6. References: Provide references from current or past clients in the financial services industry who can attest to the quality of your firm's services.
7. Disclosures and Certifications:
 - a. Diverse Vendor and Partner Form: Complete and return the Michigan Saves form in Attachment A.
 - b. Required Terms and Conditions for Contracts Supported by Federal Funds: Review Attachment B. Any executed contracts utilizing federal funds must incorporate the applicable contract provisions required by 2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200. Michigan Saves will incorporate these provisions in the agreement presented to the successful technical assistance provider(s).
 - c. Certification regarding Debarment: Review, sign, and return Attachment C.
 - d. Certification regarding Lobbying: Review, sign, and return Attachment D.
 - e. Conflict of interest statement: Include a statement to confirm that providing services to Michigan Saves under this RFQ does not constitute a conflict of interest for your company or Michigan Saves. Respondent shall disclose any actual or apparent conflict of interest that may exist between the respondent, any employee or owner, or any party that the respondent

contemplates may provide services or materials to Michigan Saves if the respondent is selected and any party having an interest in Michigan Saves.

- f. GGRF engagement statement: Indicate whether you are presently engaged or plan to be engaged with any other recipient of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund dollars

Respondents may include any other information that Michigan Saves should consider. All responses will be treated as confidential. Michigan Saves is not liable for any costs incurred by applicants in responding to this RFQ.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the responsiveness to the RFQ requirements, the company's expertise and experience in the technical areas above, and the proposed pricing structure.

All responsive submissions will be evaluated and awarded based in consideration of the following criteria:

1. **Qualifications:** The company's qualifications, technical competence, and experience relative to the core areas of service described in Scope of Work section above. A respondent that seeks to provide services for a subset of the core areas of service (e.g., only Area 2) will not be penalized in the scoring of this criterion. Respondents are encouraged to respond to all or a subset of the core areas based on their interest, availability, and expertise.

2. **Experience:** Professional and educational experience of key personnel to be assigned to the project. Resumes of everyone who would be or could potentially be assigned work under a contract award resulting from this RFQ.

3. **Diverse vendor and partner form.** Michigan Saves is committed to partnering with small businesses and businesses owned by members of underrepresented populations to break down barriers to growth that exist for minority business owners. Michigan Saves encourages the participation of businesses owned by minorities, females, and persons with disabilities in the implementation and execution of all projects, either on a direct basis or through sub-contracting efforts. Michigan Saves also encourages responses from nonprofit organizations with missions aligned or complementary to Michigan Saves' mission.

4. **Cost:** The proposed pricing structure, including billable rates and any discounts to nonprofit clients.

5. **References:** The company's experience with organizations conducting activities similar to those of Michigan Saves (e.g., Investment Funds, CDFIs, other Green Banks, Commercial Lenders).

After reviewing the responses, Michigan Saves may interview one or more respondents and engage in negotiations regarding the scope of work and other details. Michigan Saves expects to award a contract to one or more organizations based on the best combination of experience with similar work and reasonableness of costs.

The issuance of this RFQ and/or receipt of information from you or other respondents in response to it does not commit Michigan Saves to any course of action. Furthermore, this RFQ does not imply that Michigan Saves is making an offer to conduct, expand, or terminate business with any respondent. Michigan Saves reserves the right to accept a complete response, or portion thereof, to accept multiple responses, or to accept none of the responses. All costs associated with preparing respondent's proposal in response to this RFQ and for providing any additional information requested by Michigan Saves to facilitate the evaluation process, including but not limited to interviews, are the sole responsibility of respondent and will not be reimbursed by Michigan Saves.

Attachment A: Vendor and Partner Diversity Form

Michigan Saves is committed to engaging with partners and vendors that reflect the diversity of the many communities we serve. Our Diverse Partner and Vendor Program is an intentional opportunity for Michigan Saves to support our mission and break down barriers to growth that exist for minority business owners and ensure that everyone—without exception—has access to the benefits of energy efficiency.

Partner/Vendor Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Please check all that apply to your organization:

- Disability-owned Business Enterprise
 - People with disabilities own and control at least 51 percent of the company.
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Business Enterprise
 - LGBTQ+ individuals own and control at least 51 percent of the company.
- Minority-owned Business
 - Minority group members own and control at least 51 percent of the company.
- Service-disabled Veteran-owned Business
 - Service-disabled veterans own and control at least 51 percent of the company.
- Social Enterprise Business
 - A for-profit or nonprofit organization or venture that achieves its primary social or environmental mission using business methods.
 - Surplus is principally reinvested in social activities, not driven by need to maximize profit for shareholders and owners.
- Supported Business
 - Over 50 percent of the business's workforce are disabled individuals.
- Veteran-owned Business
 - Veterans own and control at least 51 percent of the company.
- Women's Business Enterprise
 - Women own and control at least 51 percent of the company.
- Women-owned Small Business
 - The company must be a small business.
 - Women own and control 51 percent of the company.
- None of these

Michigan Saves understands that the complex, and at times high-cost, diverse business certification process can present inequitable barriers for small businesses and thus does not require diverse

business certification from a national, state, or locally recognized third-party certification agency. Please self-certify if any of the above apply to your business.

While Michigan Saves does not guarantee business to any vendor, we are committed to providing diverse companies an opportunity to compete on a fair and equal basis for our business.

Additional Partner Questions

1. Is your organization located in or provide targeted services/programming to a specific community that could be defined as disadvantaged, such as those with a majority of low-income or minority households?²
2. Does your organization offer programs or training to internal staff related to diversity, equity, and inclusion? If so, please describe your program.
3. Our lending partners are sometimes certified by or affiliated with groups or programs that help them establish their services in communities with the greatest need. Please check all the following designations or certifications that apply to your organization:
 - Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Certification
 - Minority Depository Institution (MDI) Designation
 - Low-income Designation (LID)
 - Other: _____

² To be considered a disadvantaged community, a community must have at least 30 percent of households classified as low income. If you would like more information on additional qualifiers, see examples at <https://www.energy.gov/diversity/justice40-initiative>



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Attachment B: Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards

Any executed contracts utilizing federal funds must also incorporate the applicable contract provisions required by [2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200](#). Legal shall review such agreements to ensure compliance. These provisions include:

Equal Employment Opportunity

Contracts must include an Equal Employment Opportunity clause as specified in 41 CFR § 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and the regulations of the Secretary of Labor at 41 CFR chapter 60.

Davis-Bacon Act

All construction contracts over \$2,000 financed with federal funds must include a clause requiring compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3148) and the Department of Labor regulations at 29 CFR Part 5.

Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act

Contracts and subcontracts for construction or repair must include a provision for compliance with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. 3145) and Department of Labor regulations at 29 CFR Part 3.

Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act

All contracts awarded by Michigan Saves in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a clause for compliance with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708).

Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement

If the federal award meets the definition of a "funding agreement" under 37 CFR § 401.2(a), Michigan Saves must include a provision regarding rights to inventions made under a contract or agreement.

Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act

Contracts and subcontracts in excess of \$150,000 must include a provision requiring compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387).

Debarment and Suspension

A contract award must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM).

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment

Contractors who apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification under the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352).

Attachment C. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this contract or proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in 22 CFR 513.105. The term "principals" includes, but is not limited to, officers, directors, owners, partners, and principal investigators. You may contact the person to which this proposal or contract is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by signing and submitting this contract or proposal that should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion- Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.
8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge

and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion Lower Tier Covered Transactions

1. The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by signing and/or submission of this proposal or contract, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
2. Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Name of Vendor, Contractor, or Subgrantee: _____

Signature: _____

Name of Authorized Signatory: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Attachment D. Certification Regarding Lobbying

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Name of Vendor, Contractor, or Subgrantee: _____

Signature: _____

Name of Authorized Signatory: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Attachment E. Summary of Areas and Subareas of Interest

Respondents should identify their interest in one or more of the areas and subareas outlined below, and provide detail on their related experience and qualifications as part of their proposal. A single respondent is not required to provide all types of services or have expertise and training in all fields (e.g., financial analysis, renewable energy development) or technology types (e.g., solar, battery, district energy, energy efficiency, electric vehicles and fleet management) to be eligible for consideration under this RFQ.

Area I: Technical and Engineering Advisory Services

Service	Interested? (indicate Y/N with clarifying notes as needed)
Review and comment on the engineering design and other third-party technical and engineering materials, and propose refinements to project design or technology selection (may include site visits and/or meetings with the borrower and third parties working for the borrower)	
Review of clean energy technologies for impact and performance capabilities (capacity and availability factors, estimated output, emission reductions, energy savings, maintenance schedules, etc.)	
Analyze cost, impact and performance capabilities of equipment and construction specifications for building retrofits or new construction to develop standardized packages for specific building types for borrowers using Michigan Saves financing for a portfolio of projects of a similar nature (e.g., multi-family housing)	
Review or assist in preparation of request for proposals (RFP) for engineering procurement and construction (EPC), equipment vendors, or other major vendors and/or review of RFP responses	
Review and comment on draft EPC contract, project schedule, and budgets	
Support the development or refinement of financial models including construction and operating cost projections as well as funding sources and uses table	
Analysis of projected market-based revenue sources (e.g., energy, capacity and ancillary services in wholesale electricity markets, renewable energy credit markets, and carbon offsets) and underlying methodologies; provide input on how to refine the forecasting approach(es) and data sources as applicable	
Evaluate options and strategies for securing third-party off-taker(s) and related agreement structures Provide input on real estate property transactions Provide input on real estate property transactions	

Advise on permitting requirements and application submittals	
Advise on interconnection agreement negotiations with transmission and/or distribution utility	
Provide input on borrower’s plans for construction monitoring, testing and commissioning	

Area 2: Regulatory, Grant, Tax and Community Engagement Support

Service	Interested? (indicate Y/N with clarifying notes as needed)
Provide research and strategic counsel on available clean energy tax credits and related requirements and processes	
Assist with compliance planning, including sourcing of US produced materials, for regulatory requirements such as the Davis-Bacon Act and Related Acts (DBRA) and the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) as applicable	
Identify supporting information for preparation of BABA waiver request if needed for a single project or group of similarly situated projects	
Review and advise on community benefits impacts and strategies for the project	
Research available local, state or federal grant opportunities and assist with grant application preparation	