

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)
Energy Strategy Team

Request for Proposal (RFP)

CTUIR Energy Siting and Mapping Project for Ceded Lands in Washington State

Administrative Contact

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Critical Dates

RFP Issued:	February 18, 2025
Clarification Request Deadline:	February 25, 2025 at 4:00 PM PST
Proposal Submission Deadline:	March 4, 2025 at 4:00 PM PST
Selection Notification:	Within one (1) week of Proposal Submission Deadline
Target Project Start:	Immediately following contract execution
Target Project Deadline:	June 13, 2025

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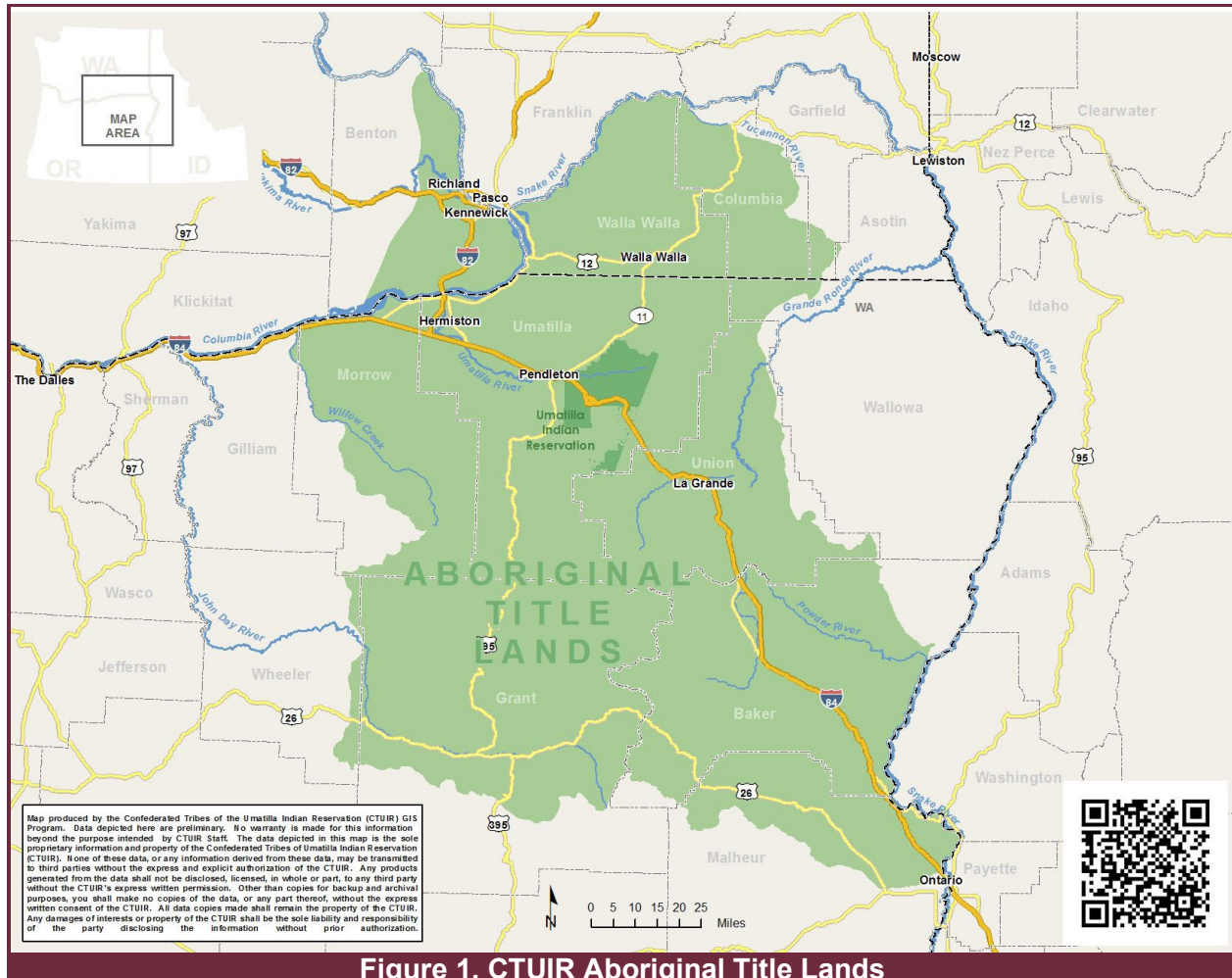
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Background and Project Purpose

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) is located in northeastern Oregon which has over 3,100 tribal members and is home to three tribes- the Umatilla, Cayuse, and Walla Walla tribes (CTUIR, 2020). Figure 1 shows the Aboriginal Title Lands also referred to as 'Ceded Lands' (light green) and current reservation boundaries (dark green). CTUIR provides a broad range of services to its citizens and community, including planning, zoning, management, and protection of natural resources in all usual and accustomed areas.



Protection of First Foods is of paramount importance to CTUIR. Improper energy development siting has the potential to impact First Foods.

In 2022, the CTUIR adopted both a Strategic Energy Plan (SEP) and a Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP) to guide these respective efforts. CTUIR now seeks to develop a siting process that aligns with Tribal values and may be used as a guide by local, regional, and Tribal energy developers and regulators. The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit proposals from various candidate organizations with the relevant experience, qualifications, and capacity to provide services in support of this objective and complete the scope of work outlined herein.

Proposal Guidelines

This RFP represents the requirements for an open and competitive process. Proposals will be accepted until the Proposal Submission Deadline shown on the cover page of this RFP. Any proposals received after this date and time will not be reviewed; the sender will be notified as such. Submission of a proposal constitutes the contractor's affirmation that all terms and conditions contained in the proposal constitute a binding offer that shall remain firm during the procurement process. All proposals must be signed by an official agent or authorized representative of the contractor submitting the proposal.

RFP respondents must adhere to the deadlines indicated on the cover of this RFP. Requests submitted after the specified date and time will not be considered. Questions regarding this RFP and/or requests for clarification shall be sent to the technical contact identified on the cover page. CTUIR may request clarification from RFP respondents on any portion of their proposal during the evaluation period.

The CTUIR shall not be held liable for any expenses incurred by RFP respondents prior to and during the selection process. This includes, but is not limited to, preparing and submitting proposals and participating in negotiations.

Proposals must contain all information requested in this RFP. The CTUIR will not consider additional information submitted after the Proposal Submission Deadline and may reject incomplete proposals. Contract terms and conditions will be negotiated upon selecting the winning respondent to this RFP. All contractual terms and conditions will be included in a Professional Services Agreement (template attached to this RFP) and are subject to review by the CTUIR Office of Legal Counsel.

Project Scope

The selected contractor will lead the development of energy siting and mapping within Washington state in CTUIR's ceded lands (Figure 1) to determine CTUIR's preferred location for energy development that protects cultural and natural resources consistent with the SEP, CAP, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) Energy Vision for the Columbia Basin, and Project Manager input. The effort should result in GIS mapping layers that identify areas specifically for avoidance and areas ideal for the development of energy resources.

Project Tasks

The selected contractor will perform Tasks 1 and 2 indicated below. The contract may be extended with an additional Task 3 and supplemental budget if funding is available – such a determination will be made in July 2025.

Task 1 – Energy Siting Criteria Compilation

In Task 1, the selected contractor will compile all the siting criteria requirements from CRITFC Energy Vision, CTUIR Energy Strategy, and existing CTUIR Policies, Codes, and Plans. Task 1 should result in an Energy Siting Criteria Report detailing the criteria and methodology used to create the GIS mapping layers for CTUIR's ceded territories in Washington state. The criteria should account for the specific siting needs of different energy technologies, as various technologies may have unique siting requirements. Project Manager approval of the report is required before commencement of task 2.

Task 2 – Energy Siting Map Development

In Task 2, the selected contractor will develop Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping layers that can be used in ArcGIS Pro to identify areas in CTUIR ceded lands in Washington

consistent with the siting criteria report from Task 1. This map and the process to generate it must be provided to CTUIR Project Manager and CTUIR GIS Program upon completion so that CTUIR can revise the map layers with additional input from leadership and stakeholders. The primary area of focus for mapping will include the Hanford site and areas near the Lower Four Snake River dams (L4SRDs).

Task 3 – Community Review and Feedback Incorporation (pending funding availability)

In Task 3, the selected contractor will incorporate feedback received from CTUIR leadership, committees, and commissions and update mapping layers as needed. This task will require time beyond the target date of completion stated on the cover of this RFP and is pending funding availability, which will be determined in July 2025. As such, Task 3 should not be included in the initial budget or scope of work for proposals submitted in response to this RFP. The professional services agreement will be amended should CTUIR decide to proceed with Task 3.

Deliverables

Table 1 summarizes deliverables to be produced through the completion of tasks 1 and 2 identified in the Project Scope. **The timeline for this project is limited, and as such, we expect the deliverables to be complete and reviewed before the Target Project Deadline.**

Table 1: Overview of project deliverables

Task	Associated Deliverable(s)
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Energy Siting Criteria Report
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GIS Layers for Energy Siting Preference

Required Proposal Components

Potential contractors shall provide the following components in their proposals submitted in response to this RFP.

1. **Statement of Qualifications (SOQ):** RFP respondents shall provide an SOQ relevant to the Project Scope, including but not limited to:
 - a. a description of relevant firm experience including area(s) of expertise, experience working with Alaska Native and/or Native American Tribes on similar projects along with evidence of their successful and timely completion, and the number of years providing services similar to those requested in this RFP,
 - b. bio sketches for key staff that are likely to support the project pending contractor selection and
 - c. firm size, e.g., the approximate number of organizational staff and office locations.
2. **Approach:** RFP respondents shall describe their approach to completing Tasks 1 and 2 identified in this RFP.
3. **Schedule:** RFP respondents must provide evidence that they can meet the project deadline through a Gantt chart or timeline.
4. **Budget:** RFP respondents shall estimate the cost of completing each task by the project deadline.

RFP and Project Timeline

RFP Timeline

The RFP issue date, clarification request deadline, proposal submission deadline, selection notification, target project start, and target project deadline are indicated on the cover of this RFP. If additional information or discussions are needed with any bidders during the proposal evaluation period, those bidder(s) will be notified. RFP respondents not selected will be notified within three (3) weeks of the Award Selection Notification date. Upon notification, contract negotiations with the winning contractor will begin immediately and conclude as soon as practically possible with the intent to initiate project work no later than the Target Project Start Date indicated on the cover of this RFP. The CTUIR may terminate negotiations with the highest-ranked contractor if a mutually agreeable contract is not completed within a reasonable timeframe. The CTUIR will then negotiate with other RFP respondents in order of the next highest-ranking proposal. However, if negotiations fail, the CTUIR may formally terminate the solicitation.

Project Timeline

Project work is anticipated to begin on the Target Project Start date on the cover page, and all final deliverables must be complete and accepted by the Project Manager by the Target Project Deadline. CTUIR acknowledges the relatively short amount of time required to complete the scope of work and requests expedited services to ensure project delivery is on schedule.

Project Budget

RFP respondents are to propose their budget for completing Task 1 and Task 2 indicated in this RFP. CTUIR acknowledges the relatively short amount of time required to complete the scope of work and understands cost proposals may be elevated beyond typical levels in response to this.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria and Submission Instructions

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria (100 total points available). Key factors influencing proposal scores include quality and comprehension, feasibility, identification of and solutions to potential challenges and risks, and overall value. The proposal scoring rubric is provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Proposal Scoring Rubric

Proposal Component	Points
Statement of Qualifications	40
Approach	25
Schedule	25
Budget	10
Total Points Available	100

Proposals must be submitted no later than the Proposal Submission Deadline (date and time) Pacific Standard Time (PST) shown on the cover of this RFP to be accepted. Submit proposals in PDF format electronically via email to the CTUIR contact(s) shown on the cover of this RFP with the subject containing the name of the candidate followed by "CTUIR Energy Siting and Mapping Project for Ceded Lands in Washington State". Proposals delivered by conventional mail (hardcopy) or facsimile will not be accepted.

References

- Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. (2022). Energy Vision for the Columbia River Basin. CTUIR. <https://critfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/EnergyVision-full-report.pdf>
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation CTUIR. (2020). About Us. Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation. <https://ctuir.org/about/>
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation CTUIR. (2022). CTUIR Strategic Energy Plan. CTUIR. <https://ctuir.org/departments/natural-resources/energy-and-environmental-sciences/energy-projects/ctuir-strategic-energy-plan/>
- CTUIR Climate Adaptation Plan. 2022. First Foods Policy Program: Sanders, C; Quaempts, E.; Huesties-Wolf, A.; Merkle, C; Butler, E.; and Marks, C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR). <https://ctuir.org/media/oagh3v2a/ctuir-cap-final-2022-standard.pdf>