Colorado Department of Law Office of the Attorney General, Philip J. Weiser RALPH L. CARR, COLORADO JUDICIAL CENTER 1300 Broadway, 10th Floor Denver, Colorado 80203 Phone (720) 508-6000



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The Colorado Department of Law ("DOL") announces that it is seeking the services of a lawyer or legal services firm to represent the Trial Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (the "PUC Trial Staff") and serve as Special Assistant Attorneys General in connection with certain energy related matters for the PUC (the "Services").

Scope: The Services will be supervised by the DOL, by DOL staff who do not provide day-today legal representation and counsel to the PUC Trial Staff and may include representing the PUC Trial Staff in hearings and settlements related to electrical and gas matters, including rate setting.

Submissions: Interested lawyers or law firms should respond to this RFI by submitting a written proposal setting forth the qualifications and proposed workplan by addressing the following:

- (1) Identify persons who would be involved in performing all portions of the Services, including the nature of the work each individual would perform, together with a brief description of the individual's relevant experience in similar matters before the PUC.
- (2) Provide a description of how the firm intends to provide the Services including, the method or approach to client relations and oral/written communication strategy.
- (3) Describe any other special relevant resource or experience the firm will bring to this matter, including relevant experience and history appearing before the PUC.
- (4) Disclose any relationship or involvement with or adverse to the PUC or any other party regularly appearing before the PUC that could create or appear to create an actual or perceived conflict of interest if the firm is selected.
- (5) Provide a fee proposal that includes individual hourly rates and other costs and the extent to which such fees and costs are discounted for government clients. Alternative fee proposals including a fixed fee or not to exceed arrangement are encouraged.
- (6) Provide any engagement terms for the DOL's consideration.
- (7) Statement of whether the firm has in place a diversity, equity and inclusiveness (DEI) program and if so a detailed narrative of the firm's DEI program.

All information submitted to the DOL will be subject to the Colorado Open Records Act ("CORA"), unless the DOL determines in its sole discretion that an exception under CORA applies.

Proposals may be submitted no later than <u>12 p.m. MT on January 31, 2022</u>. Proposals should be submitted in pdf format to the DOL's Procurement Team via email at <u>procurement@coag.gov</u>, and any questions also should be sent to that email address.

Selection Process: Once the deadline for submission of proposals has passed, the DOL will review the proposals and deliberate to determine the award of a contract for the Services. The DOL may follow up with firms for additional information needed to make its determination. Any contract award by the DOL will be made based upon the best interest of the State, as determined by the DOL in its sole discretion. Firms will have no right to appeal any determination by the DOL. An award by the DOL under this RFI does not constitute a contract and is conditioned up the mutual execution of a written engagement agreement by the parties.

Contract Terms: As a State of Colorado agency, the DOL is required by law to ensure certain terms and conditions are included, or not included, in any contract into which it enters. The DOL is willing to consider engagement terms the awarded firm proposes to include in the contract for the Services, provided the terms are allowable by law. Once the DOL has determined a firm is reasonably susceptible to be awarded a contract, the DOL will provide a copy of the DOL's standard contract terms to the firm and initiate contract negotiations. Failure by the DOL and the awarded firm to successfully execute a contact will result in the revocation of the award by the DOL in its sole discretion.