

Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty

DE 22-014
Vegetation Management Program
Calendar Year 2021 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment

State of New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission – Record Requests

Date Request Received: 4/19/22
Request No. RR 1-1

Date of Response: 4/21/22
Respondent: Heather Green

REQUEST:

(Exhibit 2): Please provide (a) the 2020 RFP for the 2021–2024 the Cycle Trim and Vegetation Management services, (b) the responses to the RFP, and (c) the subsequent contracts with ClearWay, Asplundh, and Davey.

RESPONSE:

Attached to this response are full copies of Liberty’s RFP for the Cycle Trim and Vegetation Management services and full copies of the requested contracts. However, the responses Liberty received consist of many documents from each bidder, many of which are repetitive. For example, the RFP and its attachments to be incorporated into the bidders’ responses and the contract. Another example is that the bidders include copies of their safety policies, which does not appear relevant to the Commission’s inquiry in this docket. Thus, in the interests of time and providing meaningful documents to the Commission, the Company has not included every document contained in each bidders’ response, but we have listed the documents in case the Commission wishes to see some of those that are not attached here.

Also, many of the requested documents contain confidential information. The Commission has always treated the identity of unsuccessful bidders to be confidential, and the bidders assert confidentiality of many of the details of their bids, such as hourly rates for labor and equipment, the specific methods to be used, etc. The Company did not have sufficient time to go through the hundreds of pages in the attached to make the usual redactions. Therefore, the Company has marked some of the documents as confidential in their entirety.

- a. The RFP for the 2021–2024 Cycle Trim and Vegetation Management services that was sent to potential bidders in July 2020 is provided in Attachment RR 1-1.1.docx. Note that there are many associated documents embedded into the RFP itself.
- b. The bidders’ responses to the RFP are attached as follows:

Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.2.a, Confidential Attachment 1-1.2.b.xlsx, and Confidential Attachment 1-1.2.c.xlsx for the response of [REDACTED];

Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.3 for the response of [REDACTED];

Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.4.a, Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.4.b.xlsx, and Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.4.c.xlsx for the response of [REDACTED];

Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.5 for the response of The Davey Tree Expert Company;

Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.6.a and Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.6.b.xlsx for the response of ClearWay Industries, LLC;

Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.7.a, Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.7.b.xlsx, and Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.7.c.xlsx for the response of Asplundh Tree Expert Co.

- c. The Company signed a Master Services Agreement (“MSA”) to govern ClearWay’s work for the Company prior to beginning the cycle trim work in 2021. After being selected as the winner of the RFP in November 2020, ClearWay signed a Purchase Order with the Company, incorporating the previously signed MSA. Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.8 for the ClearWay contract documents signed in 2020.

Please Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.9 for the Asplundh contract documents signed in March 2021.

Please see Confidential Attachment RR 1-1.10 for the Davey contract documents signed in July 2021.

The redacted/shaded information above, and the confidential information in the above referenced confidential attachments consists of the identities of unsuccessful bidders, certain pricing information provided by all bidders, and other proprietary and competitively information and spreadsheets from which one could identify or obtain the confidential information and thus warrants confidential treatment pursuant to RSA 91-A:5, IV, Puc 201.06, and Puc 201.07. The Company has thus filed this information marked as confidential.

Note that the Company did not have sufficient time to prepare redacted versions of the confidential documents that are provided with this response and that the Excel files are not amendable to being redacted as the confidential information is embedded in the spreadsheets, thus the documents have been broadly marked as confidential.