

Department of Administration Purchasing Division 2019 Washington Street East Post Office Box 50130 Charleston, WV 25305-0130

State of West Virginia **Centralized Request for Proposals** Service - Prof

Proc Folder: 1542680

Doc Description: DEP OOG - MERP Administration

Reason for Modification:

Addendum #1 issued to publish agency responses to vendor submitted questions and extend the bid open..... See Page 2 for

complete info

Proc Type:

Central Master Agreement

Date Issued Solicitation Closes

Solicitation No.

Version

2024-12-09

2025-01**-07** 🗣 13:30

CRFP 0313 DEP2500000004

2

BID RECEIVING LOCATION

BID CLERK

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

PURCHASING DIVISION

2019 WASHINGTON ST E

CHARLESTON

WV 25305

US

VENDOR

Vendor Customer Code: VS0000047452

Vendor Name: B&B ENERGY SOLUTIONS LLC

Address:

Street: 1704 jasmine court

City: Pittsburgh

State: PA

Country: US/

Principal Contact: Brad Maddox

Vendor Contact Phone: 412-737-7320

Ext

RECEIVED

2025 JAN -8 AH IO: 30

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE BUYER

Joseph E Hager III

(304) 558-2306

joseph.e.hagerii@wv.gov

Vendor Signature X

993136321

DATE

1/3/25

All offers subject to all terms and conditions contained in this solicitation

Reason for Modification:

Addendum #1 issued to publish agency responses to vendor submitted questions and extend the bid opening until 1/7/2025 @ 1:30 PM ET.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The West Virginia Department of Administration, Purchasing Division is issuing this solicitation as a request for proposal ("RFP"), as authorized by W. Va. Code 5A-3-10b, for the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to provide administrative services for the Agency's Methane Emission Reduction Program (MERP) grant for the plugging of certain Marginal Conventional Wells (MCWs) per the attached specifications and terms and conditions.

***Online responses have been prohibited for this solicitation, if you have questions contact the Buyer - Josh Hager - Joseph.E.HagerIll@wv.gov

INVOICE TO	SHIP TO
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REAP OFFICE 601 57TH ST SE CHARLESTON WV 25304 US	STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA VARIOUS LOCATIONS AS INDICATED BY ORDER No City WV 99999 US

Line	Comm Ln Desc	Qty	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Total Price
1	Well Nomination, Prioritization	1000.00000	HOUR		
-					

Comm Code	Manufacturer	Specification	Model #	
71141102				

Extended Description:

Requirements listed in Sections 4.2.1.1 and 4.2.1.3 of the RFP.

Paid hourty.

INVOICETO	SHIPTO
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
REAP OFFICE	VARIOUS LOCATIONS AS INDICATED BY ORDER
601 57TH ST SE	
CHARLESTON WV 25304	No City WV 99999
us	us

Line	Comm Ln Desc	Qty	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Total Price
2	Methane Emissions Quantification (MEQ) Testing	800.0000	EA		

Comm Code	Manufacturer	Specification	Model #	
77121506	-			
1				

Extended Description:

Requirements listed in section 4.2.1.2 of the RFP.

Paid per-well.

INVOICE TO	SHIP TO
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REAP OFFICE 601 57TH ST SE CHARLESTON WV 25304 US	STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA VARIOUS LOCATIONS AS INDICATED BY ORDER No City WV 99999 US

Line	Comm Ln Desc	Qty	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Total Price
3	Permitting	400.00000	EA		

Comm Code	Manufacturer	Specification	Model #	
71141102				

Extended Description:

Requirements listed in section 4.2.1.4 of the RFP.

Paid per-well.

Line Event Date	SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	
MIVILE DOLL	Line Event	Event Date

SOLICITATION NUMBER: CRFP 0313 DEP2500000004 Addendum Number: No.01

The purpose of this addendum is to modify the solicitation identified as ("Solicitation") to reflect the change(s) identified and described below.

Applicable Addendum Category:

	Modify bid opening date and time
	Modify specifications of product or service being sought
[1]	Attachment of vendor questions and responses
[]	Attachment of pre-bid sign-in sheet
	Correction of error
r I	Other

Description of Modification to Solicitation:

Addendum issued to publish and distribute the attached documentation to the vendor community.

- 1. To extend bid close date until 1/07/2025 @ 1:30 PM ET
- 2. To publish agency responses to all vendor submitted questions.

Additional Documentation: Documentation related to this Addendum (if any) has been included herewith as Attachment A and is specifically incorporated herein by reference.

Terms and Conditions:

- 1. All provisions of the Solicitation and other addenda not modified herein shall remain in full force and effect.
- 2. Vendor should acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued for this Solicitation by completing an Addendum Acknowledgment, a copy of which is included herewith. Failure to acknowledge addenda may result in bid disqualification. The addendum acknowledgement should be submitted with the bid to expedite document processing.

ATTACHMENT A

RFI: Questions from vendors for CRFP DEP 25*04 MERP Administration

Q.1. Would the state be able to provide a current list of operating companies with stripper wells and where these wells are located in WV?

A. WV does not have a formal definition of "stripper wells;" If the question is merely asking for a list of MCWs eligible for plugging under this program, the Agency will provide that upon award. If a prospective vendor requires such a list for the purposes of bid development or research, the Agency would advise those Vendors to use the most recent annual production report (2023) posted at the URL below. This information does not include location data, but vendors will be able to easily discern which wells qualify as MCWs and the owners/operators of those wells.

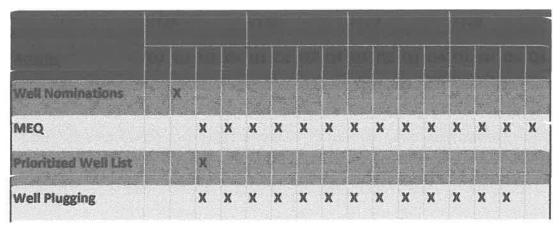
https://dep.wv.gov/oil-and-gas/databaseinfo/Pages/default.aspx

Q.2. Should line item 2, "Methane Emissions Quantification (MEQ) Testing (Per Well)," in Attachment A, the Pricing Sheet, include the vendor's price to return and test the well post-plugging?

A. Line item 2 considers each complete MEQ measurement to be a discrete unit. If 400 wells have both pre- and post-plugging MEQ analyses, then that is 800 MEQ units.

Q.3. Is there an expectation that post-well plugging will take place during the initial contract term of one (1) year?

A. The RFP will be awarded as a 1-year contract that is renewable. The specifications are written to be a comprehensive description of the program, with the anticipation that it be renewed. As part of the Agency's MERP grant award, DEP provided the following anticipated timeline which may be helpful in clarifying expectations. Note that federal fiscal year 25 (FY25), quarter 1 (Q1) began October 1, 2024, and Q2 will begin January 1, 2025, etc.



Q.4. Should the vendor anticipate performing a clearance survey for every selected well?

- A. DEP does not have a formal definition of "clearance survey;" consequently, this response is based on the assumption that the Vendor is asking about performing surveys in order to generate a mylar plat. If this assumption is accurate, the answer is no. The Agency does require such surveys and plats for its orphaned well plugging program, but that is primarily due the absence of those historic records for that class of wells. MCWs will generally have had an original plat when the well was drilled. It is also key to recognize that it is the responsibility of the owner/operator of the well to apply for and obtain all required permits. Current WV plugging rules allow for the submittal of Form WW-7 in place of a plat.
- Q.5. Is the presentation from the MERP public meetings available to bidders?
- A. Yes. Each of the 3 public meetings used the same meeting presentation. A video of the first meeting held at DEP HQ is available at the following URL.

https://dep.wv.gov/oil-and-gas/abandoned-well-plugging/inflation-reduction-act/Pages/default.aspx

- **Q.6.** Is there a description or list of requirements for the 1000 hours of administration for nominating and prioritizing marginal wells?
- A. The Agency acknowledges that the estimation of 1,000 hours of administration for well nomination and prioritization is an estimate. DEP has no further requirements than those detailed in Sections 4.2.1.1 and 4.2.1.3.
- Q.7. Will the administrative or the plugging contractor need to contact the surface owners or will WVDEP Office of Oil and Gas contact the surface owners prior to construction operations?
- A. It is the responsibility of the well owner/operator to apply for and obtain all required permits for plugging under this program. Accordingly, it will be the responsibility of the MCW owner/operator to provide all the required notifications for permittees (e.g., surface owner, coal owner, etc.). Current regulations do not require a specific notification of the surface owner in order to commence construction operations, but DEP would recommend maintaining open lines of communication with those parties.
- Q.8. Is a survey plat required for each well to be included in the WVDEP plugging permit?
- A. No. The Agency does require such surveys and plats for its orphaned well plugging program, but that is primarily due the absence of those historic records for that class of wells. MCWs will generally have had an original plat when the well was drilled. It is also key to recognize that it is the responsibility of the owner/operator of the well to apply for and obtain all required permits. Current WV plugging rules allow for the submittal of Form WW-7 in place of a plat.

Q.9. Will DOH and additional environmental permitting required be determined by the administrative or plugging contractor for each site or is the determination done by WVDEP?

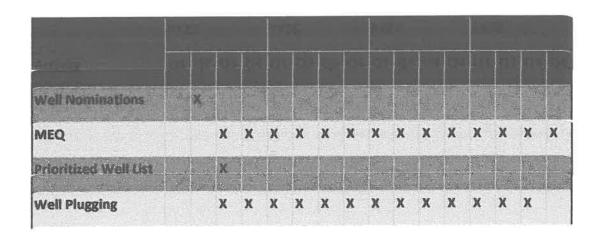
A. It is the responsibility of the well owner/operator to apply for and obtain all required permits for plugging under this program. However, the Agency has created the expectation that the Administrator will assist the owner/operator of qualifying MCWs in the identification of necessary permits. Further, the Administrator is expected, under the terms of this contract, to perform desktop reviews to support ESA (Section 7) and NHPA (Section 106) reviews.

Q.10. For permitting, will the administrative contractor need to conduct courthouse research for surface, oil and gas royalty and coal owner information, or will this be done by WVDEP?

A. It is the responsibility of the well owner/operator to apply for and obtain all required permits for plugging under this program. Accordingly, it will be the responsibility of the MCW owner/operator to provide all the required notifications to surface owners.

Q.11. Will this project be released in sections or in its entirety?

A. This Administrator RFP is not being released in sections. Work will proceed in a linear fashion starting with well site nominations process development and conclude with post-plugging MEQ, as illustrated in the Gantt chart below. However, if the Vendor is referring to the plugging contracts themselves, those decisions have not yet been made. The Agency will likely develop plugging contracts from the prioritized well list that are geographically close in order to increase efficiencies.



Q.12. If in sections are these sections grouped geographically?

A. This Administrator RFP is not being released in sections, and only one contract will be awarded. Work will proceed in a linear fashion starting with well site nominations and conclude with post-plugging MEQ. The Administrator will have statewide responsibility. If the Vendor is referring to the plugging contracts themselves, those decisions have not yet been made. The Agency will likely

develop plugging contracts from the prioritized well list that are geographically close in order to increase efficiencies.

- Q.13. What is the period for the 400 wells to be measured prior to plugging?
- A. Pre-plugging MEQ evaluation will follow the well nomination process and should be initiated immediately following the closure of the MCW well nomination process.
- Q.14. What is the period for the 400 wells to be measured post plugging?

A.Post-plugging MEQ evaluation should follow plugging in a timely fashion. In all cases, post-plugging MEQ must be completed prior to the administrative release of the plugging permit.

- Q.15. What is the period for the 400 wells to be permitted?
- A. It is the responsibility of the well owner/operator to apply for and obtain all required permits for plugging under this program. The owners/operators of selected MCWs should initiate the permitting process immediately following selection to ensure efficiency of well plugging contracting. This RFP also asks the Vendor to perform reviews of each well site that will satisfy reviews required under the Endangered Species Act (Section 7) and the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). These reviews should commence immediately after MCWs have been selected for well plugging.
- Q.16. What is the documentation requirement for the pre- and post-P&A measurement evaluations?
- A. Pre- and post-plugging MEQ measurements should be presented as a simple report indicating the quantified methane emission rate in units of g/hr. Any additional information required by the DOE's MEQ guidelines must also be included. A copy of these guidelines may be found at the following URL.

https://netl.doe.gov/sites/default/files/2024-06/DOE-

NETL% 20 Methane% 20 Measurement% 20 Guidelines% 20 for% 20 Marginal% 20 Conventional% 20 Wells% 20 April% 20 20 24 .pdf

- Q.17. Page 6 Section 4.2.1.2 states "Follow up post plugging emissions data will also be required for all wells plugged under this program". Are there anticipated to be 400 wells that will be both pre and post quantified, thus making up the 800 units (400 units each for pre and post quantification)?
- A. DEP has estimated that approximately 400 wells may be plugged under this program. Each well plugged will need to have a pre-plugging MEQ analysis to assist in the well prioritization process. The number of wells for which pre-plugging MEQ analysis will depend on the number of wells nominated under the program. Each of these wells (at least those of which have measured pre-plugging emissions) will require post-plugging MEQ.

- Q.18. Cost item #1 has 1000 units. Will the number of units be adjusted if the actual hours are over or under 1,000 hours?
- A. Yes. The numbers on the pricing sheet are merely estimates.
- Q.19. Will WVDEP require site access agreements to be generated by the Administrator team and executed by owner operator to allow contractor, administrator team or WVDEP officials access to well sites for site evaluations/methane quantification/well closures/etc.?
- A. It is not anticipated that special site access agreements will be necessary. In the event that a situation arises wherein site access is challenged, WVDEP will make every attempt to resolve those issues.
- Q.20. Will the unit rates be set for the duration of the contract or will there be a chance to modify unit rates due to annual labor cost increase and if so, would it be on an annual basis?
- A. The rates set for the contract are fixed and cannot be modified. If the Vendor elects to not renew the contract after the first performance year, the Agency will bid the remainder of the contract as an RFP.
- Q.21. Approximately how many in-person meetings will the vendor be required to attend?
- A. There are no planned in-person meetings at this time. Kickoff and regular status-check meetings may be held virtually; however, in-person meetings may become necessary at the discretion of the DEP.
- Q.22. Certain physical / protected features such as the presence of wetlands may also trigger the need for permits and/or_drive prioritization. Can the Department confirm the scope of this effort excludes field-based investigations?
- A. It is the responsibility of the well owner/operator to apply for and receive all necessary permits. We envisioned that the Administrator could assist in this process through desktop reviews only. If the Administrator recognizes certain factors that could trigger jurisdictional matters in any other state or federal agency, then the administrator should inform the well owner/operator. There is no expectation that the Administrator is performing field-level reviews in order to ensure the MCW owner/operator is compliant with all jurisdictional requirements. DEP acknowledges that it asks the Vendor to take a lead role in the completion of reviews compliant with ESA §7 and NHPA §106. The Agency anticipates these being desktop reviews only.

- Q.23. Has a list of potential owner operators been identified along with contact information for outreach coordination by Administrator?
- A. The Administrator will be provided with a full list of owner/operators of MCWs in West Virginia with the current contact information. The Administrator should develop an outreach campaign that extends beyond merely sending mailings to the last known address of operators.
- Q.24. Should the permitting evaluation also include local, county or municipal authorities having jurisdiction?
- A. Yes. The owner/operator of selected MCWs will be responsible for acquiring all necessary permits including local, county, state, and federal jurisdictions.
- Q.25. Are electronic signatures acceptable?
- A. Yes, Electronic signatures are acceptable.
- Q.26. Are we to assume the M&M line item for 800 wells includes 400 pre-plugging and 400 post plugging events, or does the 800 wells include both pre and post plugging measurements? Please clarify what is envisioned relative to this well count.
- A. DEP has estimated that approximately 400 wells may be plugged under this program. Each well plugged will need to have a pre-plugging MEQ analysis to assist in the well prioritization process. The number of wells for which pre-plugging MEQ analysis will depend on the number of wells nominated under the program.
- Q.27. Is there a conflict between the SQAO contract and this contract if awarded both?
- A. The Agency does not foresee a conflict of interest should the Vendor who is awarded the SQAQ contract also be awarded the Administrator contract. The purpose of the Supplemental Quality Assurance Officer (SQAO) contract is to provide arms-length oversight over field activities performed by the well plugging contractor. DEP does anticipate how these two disparate functions could result in conflict; however, should such a conflict arise, it is incumbent upon the Vendor to develop a plan to alleviate any such concerns for conflict.
- Q.28. Would the agency be interested in a cost benefit analysis for award of the Measurement and Monitoring, SQAO and MERP programs to a single proponent?
- A. No, not at this time. The respective RFPs for MEQ, SQAO, and MERP administrator contracts are separate and distinct. Further, the MERP administrator RFP is funded by a different source than that associated with the MEQ and SQAO contracts.

- Q.29. Would the agency consider the use of a proponent's proprietary software platform for well prioritization?
- A. The Agency anticipates using the PRIMO software developed by NETL for well documentation and prioritization. DEP is not required to use this software but intends to make the prioritized well list (within PRIMO) publicly available. This is the Agency's preferred solution. Proprietary software may introduce complexity with this intent and other related issues—including data ownership and access. That said, if a Vendor had a software solution that satisfies all Agency goals and does not introduce new complications or problems, the Agency may consider it.
- Q.30. For the descriptions in section 4.2.2.2 of the RFP, please clarify what is intended relative to the statement "but such costs will not be paid by the Agency separately" in the sentence below.
- "Any anticipated mileage or travel costs may be included in the flat fee or hourly rate listed on Vendor's bid, but such costs will not be paid by the Agency separately."
- A. The Vendor will be responsible for covering all travel expenses for their employees. There is no mechanism to bill the agency separately for those expenses.
- Q.31. The RFP states that MEQ will be required on each nominated well in the program. Based on the WV 2023 production table, there are approximately 60,000 MCWs. While significant participation in the program would be beneficial, a nomination rate of only 1% would mean 600 wells require MEQ. Does the WVDEP foresee a potential limit to well nominations?
- A. A rough screening can be devised through the nomination process. The Agency envisions that MCW owner/operators will self-report wells as not leaking, leaking, or leaking and may be high. If the number of nominations vastly exceeds the capacity to plug, MEQ may be prioritized accordingly.
- Q.32. Is the MEQ intended to be part of the ranking/prioritization system, or depending on MCW nomination volumes, would/could the MEQ be required only for the highest-ranking wells (those most likely to get plugged) without confirmation of methane leaks?
- A. Yes, MEQ is intended to be part of the ranking system. If the number of nominations vastly exceeds the capacity to plug, MEQ may be prioritized accordingly.
- Q.33. Is there a limit for well nominations from a single owner/operator? Based on the publicly available well database, one operator has approximately 20,000 MCWs. There is a potential for a handful of operators to monopolize the available funding.
- A. The finalized prioritization model will be provided upon award. The selection of the criteria which will comprise the model is the responsibility of the Community Benefits Committee.

- Q.34. If a landowner has an abandoned well on their property (not orphaned) are they allowed to nominate the well for plugging through the MERP?
- A. The Agency anticipates that a landowner (or other stakeholder who is not the owner/operator) may nominate a well, but this program is strictly voluntary. If the owner/operator does not want to plug the well, it will not be considered.
- Q.35. Will the ranking/prioritization model be fully developed by the CBC and Agency, or will the Administrator be responsible for some input for weighting the ranking criteria?
- A. The MERP program well prioritization model will be fully developed by the CBC through public feedback.
- Q.36. Would the Purchasing Division consider granting an extension to the deadline for the proposal submission? This additional time will help us provide a comprehensive, high-quality proposal that meets all the requirements outlined in the RFP.
- A. The bid due date has been extended to 1/7/2025.

ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM SOLICITATION NO.: CRFP DEP25*04

Instructions: Please acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued with this solicitation by completing this addendum acknowledgment form. Check the box next to each addendum received and sign below. Failure to acknowledge addenda may result in bid disqualification.

Acknowledgment: I hereby acknowledge receipt of the following addenda and have made the necessary revisions to my proposal, plans and/or specification, etc.

			umbers Received: x next to each addendum re	eceive	i)	
	[}	(]	Addendum No. 1	[]	Addendum No. 6
	[]	Addendum No. 2	[]	Addendum No. 7
]]	Addendum No. 3	1]	Addendum No. 8
	[]	Addendum No. 4	[]	Addendum No. 9
	[]	Addendum No. 5	[]	Addendum No. 10
further discussi	und on	lerst held	tand that any verbal represed between Vendor's represe	ntation entativ	n ma	Idenda may be cause for rejection of this bid. I ade or assumed to be made during any oral and any state personnel is not binding. Only the ifications by an official addendum is binding. B: B Energy Solutions LLC Company
						Bun Maddee
						Authorized Signature
				-		12/30/24
						Date

NOTE: This addendum acknowledgement should be submitted with the bid to expedite document processing. Revised 6/8/2012

DESIGNATED CONTACT: Vendor appoints the individual identified in this Section as the Contract Administrator and the initial point of contact for matters relating to this Contract.

(Printed Name and Title) Brad Maddox
(Address) 1704 Jasmine Court, Pittsburgh PA 15237
(Phone Number) / (Fax Number) 412-737-7320
(email address) brad@bbenergysolutions.com
CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE: By signing below, or submitting documentation through wvOASIS, I certify that: I have reviewed this Solicitation/Contract in its entirety; that I understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that this bid, offer or proposal constitutes an offer to the State that cannot be unilaterally withdrawn; that the product or service proposed meets the mandatory requirements contained in the Solicitation/Contract for that product or service, unless otherwise stated herein; that the Vendor accepts the terms and conditions contained in the Solicitation, unless otherwise stated herein; that I am submitting this bid, offer or proposal for review and consideration; that this bid or offer was made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any entity submitting a bid or offer for the same material, supplies, equipment or services; that this bid or offer is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud; that this Contract is accepted or entered into without any prior understanding, agreement, or connection to any other entity that could be considered a violation of law; that I am authorized by the Vendor to execute and submit this bid, offer, or proposal, or any documents related thereto on Vendor's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the vendor in a contractual relationship; and that to the best of my knowledge, the vendor has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.
By signing below, I further certify that I understand this Contract is subject to the provisions of West Virginia Code \S 5A-3-62, which automatically voids certain contract
clauses that violate State law; and that pursuant to W. Va. Code 5A-3-63, the entity
entering into this contract is prohibited from engaging in a boycott against Israel.
B&B ENERGY SOLUTIONS LLC
(Company) Bull Maddy
(Signature of Authorized Representative) Brad Maddox - President 1/3/25
(Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative) (Date) 412-737-7320
(Phone Number) (Fax Number)
brad@bbenergysolutions.com
(Email Address)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

(Agency Name and RFP#)

Proposal 1: Step 1 - 1,000,000 / 1,000,000 = Cost Score Percentage of 1 (100%)

Step $2 - 1 \times 30 = \text{Total Cost Score of } 30$

Proposal 2: Step 1-\$1,000,000 / \$1,100,000 = Cost Score Percentage of 0.909091 (90.9091%)

Step $2 - 0.909091 \times 30 = \text{Total Cost Score of } 27.27273$

6.8. Availability of Information: Proposal submissions become public and are available for review immediately after opening pursuant to West Virginia Code §5A-3-11(h). All other information associated with the RFP, including but not limited to, technical scores and reasons for disqualification, will not be available until after the contract has been awarded pursuant to West Virginia Code of State Rules §148-1-6.3.d.

By signing below, I certify that I have reviewed this Request for Proposal in its entirety; understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that I am submitting this proposal for review and consideration; that I am authorized by the bidder to execute this bid or any documents related thereto on bidder's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the bidder in a contractual relationship; and that, to the best of my knowledge, the bidder has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

Bt	B Eheron S	Solutions LLC	
(Company)	0 /		
Brad	MAddax	President	
(Representat	ive Name, Title))	
4/2-	737 - 732 one/Fax Number	0	
		r)	
(Date)	124		





RFP: DEP OOG-MERP Administration
CRFP-0313-DEP2500000004-2

State of West Virginia

RFP Subject: DEP OOG-MERP Administration

RFP Number: CRFP-0313-DEP2500000004-2

Bid Opening Date: 01/07/2025

Bid Opening Time: 01:30 PM EST

Buyer: Josh Hager **Fax:** 304-558-3970

Receiving Locations

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
PURCHASING DIVISION
2019 WASHINGTON ST E
CHARLESTON WV 25305

Vendor Name: B&B Energy Solutions, LLC

Business Address:

611 Marsh Hill Rd McHenry MD, 21541

Telephone Number: 412-737-7320

Contact Person: Brad Maddox

Email Address: bmaddox@bbenergysolutions.com

Date: 12/30/24





RFP: DEP OOG-MERP Administration # CRFP-0313-DEP2500000004-2

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RFP: DEP OOG-MERP Administration
CRFP-0313-DEP2500000004-2

Part 1: Technical Submissions

Overview:

B&B aims to use our unique skill set and background to provide the state with an efficient and professional program management solutions for the MERP program to inform, nominate, select wells, and support permitting plugging operations. Our detailed proposal below offers many advantages to ensure a fair and equitable implementation which both exceeds the EPA and WV standards. An overview of our process includes:

- Detailed community outreach to both inform and supplement ranking system
 - In person and online
 - o Full stakeholder engagement
 - Incorporate feedback into the process
 - Ability to repeat for each additional interaction over the project life cycle
- Process to efficiently measure methane leaks while:
 - Capturing required data so can ensure make impact on methane reduction
 - Verify information supplied through nomination process
 - Collect other valuable details and pictures
 - o Digital data collection
- Robust Nomination process
 - Stakeholders get a say in final ranking system
 - o Limits on what operators can submit
 - Feedback loop / communication process
 - Public displayed information / website
- Permitting Support and Insight
 - Identify affected areas and required permits
 - o Support finding partners for operators or vendors who need it
 - Communication

4.2 Goals and Objectives:

The vendor must be able to provide a comprehensive solution for administering certain aspects of the Agency's MERP grant. The vendor should describe its approach and methodology for providing the services that will achieve the goals/objectives identified below. Vendor's response should include any information about how the proposed approach is superior or inferior to other possible approaches. Areas where project goals and mandatory requirements are exceeded will be included in technical scores where appropriate.

4.2.1. Goals and Objectives:

4.2.1.1 MCW nomination process:

The vendor should describe how it intends to develop an effective MCW nomination process through which to receive MCW nominations from owners/operators of MCWs (or other stakeholders) for well plugging under this program. The vendors proposal should consider the following items, at a minimum:

- Meaningful engagement with owners/operators of MCWs to educate them on the goals of the project and all relevant factors informing MCW
 plugging prioritization.
- Process development whereby sufficient information is obtained from the owners/operators of nominated wells to fully utilize the MCW plugging prioritization plan/model.
- The vendor should open and close a nomination window during which time owners/operators of MCWs (or other stakeholders) may propose wells for plugging under this program.
- A strategy to give consideration to potential well plugging nominations from stakeholders other than the owner/operators of MCWs with the understanding that participation in the MERP program is entirely voluntary.
- A timeline referring to the above activities, with milestones if appropriate





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Nomination Process Outline:

This proposal outlines our plan to develop a comprehensive Marginal Conventional Well (MCW) nomination process under the Methane Emissions and Waste Reduction Incentive Program (MERP). The goal of the MCW nomination process is to facilitate the identification, prioritization, and plugging of marginal conventional wells (MCWs) to reduce methane emissions, in alignment with the overall goals of the MERP.

Meaningful Engagement with MCW Owners/Operators

• Our objective is to establish a transparent and inclusive process to educate and engage owners/operators of MCWs about the goals, criteria, and benefits of the MERP program. This engagement will foster understanding, participation, and informed decision-making regarding the well plugging prioritization process.

Educational Outreach:

- 1. Host online webinars (via teams and zoom)
- 2. Host in person workshops for anyone to attend (3)
 - Charleston, Beckley, Morgantown
- 3. Connect with the industry support groups such as the Marcellus Shale Coalition to put informative packages regarding the process and criteria to their members
 - Will do either online or in person sessions for these groups if they desire
 - Supply them with marketing materials via email blast
 - Add informative section on webpage dedicated to inform and educate public / interested parties
 - i. Form for public to submit wells of interest / abandoned wells
- 4. Outreach by contacting all operators whom we have valid details about in the state of WV both to inform them about events and provide them with informative package
 - Email blast / phone calls
- 5. Community Benefits Committee: Online meetings to develop and finalize the ranking system (as needed)
 - Stakeholders to include at least 1 person in each group:
 - i. Community leader
 - ii. O&G Operators
 - iii. E&S
 - iv. Service companies
 - v. Citizen
 - vi. Public feedback
 - Final meeting to review the groups ranking system to anyone interested in attending (online)

Informational Sessions Goals:

- Explain the following program details:
 - Operator / well requirements to be considered
 - MERP guidelines for viable wells
 - Nomination process
 - Support services offered
 - Project timeline
- Review proposed ranking process for nominated wells:
 - Solicit feedback / suggested changes
 - Solicit leaders to join team to help finalize ranking criteria and formula/process
- Q&A sessions
- Address operators concern about retaliatory actions for leaking wells

Informative Materials





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- Digital and paper copies of simple brochures that overview the program.
 - These materials will be provided as part of our outreach program too.
 - Webpage details on them
- Online dedicated webpage:
 - Program overview / well requirements
 - Guidelines outlining how owners/operators can participate
 - Factors influencing the prioritization of well plugging
 - Ability to setup one on one meeting
 - List of nominated wells (whitewashed) with scores and status
 - FAQ

One-on-One Consultation:

- As stated above, we will offer direct consultations with owners/operators to clarify any questions about the
 program and the nomination process, ensuring that all stakeholders have the information they need to make
 informed decisions about well nominations.
- Via digital meeting platforms (Teams) or via phone calls

Feedback Mechanism:

- Implement a robust feedback loop for multiple purposes:
 - Enabling owners/operators and citizens to provide input on the process
 - Provide direct access to white-washed well list and reason for being selected (Scoring)
 - Provide feedback to operators on status of their wells which have been submitted.
 - Refine the process and ensure that it is responsive to stakeholder needs.
 - One on one consultations via phone or digital meeting to aid in process efficiency

Outcome:

Our goal is for well owners / operators / stakeholders to fully understand the MERP program and their role in the
nomination process, resulting in a higher number of qualified and motivated participants. We also aim to capture
and address their concerns about the project to ensure that we are getting nominations from across the state. On
top of that, we aim to continuously improve the process and ensure wells are selected using preset formula which
does not allow for unfair preferencing.

Process Development for Well Nominations and Prioritization

- Our process will first ensure that wells meet the basic requirements set forth by the MERP grant. From there, we
 want to solicit feedback from industry experts, operators, citizens, and other stakeholders on what they believe
 the most important factors for distributing this money will be through a committe. As stated above, the group will
 meet to decide on weighting and criteria included in the ranking system. Using this information, we will develop a
 formula to score and calculate each well, which will then place it on the prioritization list. Some of the factors
 which will be included in this are:
 - Volume of leak
 - Proximity to environmentally sensitive areas
 - Proximity to people
 - Potential of the well and surroundings to cause harm
 - Operator status
 - Access condition
 - Site condition
 - # of wells operator has submitted
 - Well age, production decline, and abandonment history





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- Compliance with regulatory requirements (e.g., permit status, reporting history)
- Community Needs / Impact
- Impediment (is well status limiting or stopping local development)
- In order to capture this information during the well nomination process, we will have an online form that minimizes keystrokes and collects additional essential well information:
 - Well location
 - Well owner contact information
 - Yearly production history (3 years)
 - Type of production (oil, gas)
 - Site condition
 - Access condition
 - Access issues / highlights
- User friendly
- Committee will also be used as a resource to review wells which may fall outside the standard guidelines.
 - **The prioritization model will be aligned with EPA and state guidelines to ensure that the most impactful wells are addressed first.

Information Verification:

- First submitted data will be reviewed manually to ensure all details are present and accurate:
 - Form will not be able to be submitted unless minimum information is provided
 - Available well records from state database will be compared to submitted information
 - Nominator will be called if any clarifications are needed
- Once reviewed; if the well meets the guidelines and achieves a minimum score and falls into the top portion of the list, we will schedule MEQ visit:
 - During this visit, we will also do a site evaluation and document the details using a data entry form (example shown below)
 - This information will be stored along with the information provided during the nomination process
 - If during the site any of the information provided is found to be inaccurate, a new score will be calculated, and issues will be taken into account for final ranking.
 - These differences will be relayed to the nominating party, so that any issues can be addressed prior to the final report being submitted to the state.

Prioritization Model Integration:

- Develop a well plugging prioritization plan/model that uses the collected information to determine which wells should be plugged first. Prioritization factors are shown above.
 - Weighted based on stakeholders agreed upon outcome
 - Take into account areas listed above as well as others that may come up during stakeholder engagement
 - Each well to be run through scoring and ranking will be solely based on output of the score compared to other nominated wells during the window we are working in.
 - Multiple windows can be opened over 3 year period.

Outcome:

 A streamlined, standardized nomination process that gathers the necessary information to effectively prioritize well plugging under the MERP program.

Nomination Window and Submission Process

• We aim to establish clear and manageable timelines for the nomination process, with defined opening and closing windows for MCW nominations.





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- We reserve right to extend or modify this window based on the feedback we receive during the educations outreach process.
 - As part of the information outreach, we will collect peoples' contact details and any modifications will be communicated prior to the window opening.
 - Any modifications to the window would be posted online and anyone who had been in contact during the
 educational phase would be notified of the change.
- This window will also be posted on our webpage.
- Any wells submitted outside the window will be moved to the next nomination window, unless not enough wells are submitted during this window.

Nomination Platform:

- We will provide an online form as well as email form that can be submitted when requested or on our dedicated website:
 - Accuracy
 - Ease of submission of nominations
 - Printable
- In addition to the online platform, one on one meeting can be setup to take well information via phone or online platform:
 - Talk about the process if and when required.
 - Walk a person or company through filling out the form.

Nomination Review and Acknowledgment:

- When a well is submitted, we will conduct a review of all submitted nominations to ensure completeness and accuracy.
- A formal acknowledgment will be sent to all participants confirming the receipt of their nominations and providing an estimated timeline for the next steps in the process, as well as any required follow-up information needed
- Wells will be posted to the site once they are submitted, but scores will not be assigned until the end of the window as to not give anyone unfair advantage
- Identifiable well information will be whitewashed for wells on our website.
 - Once the selection process is complete, we will put the full well details online with score received.

Outcome:

• A clear and structured process for well nomination submission, ensuring all stakeholders have an equal opportunity to participate in the program.

Consideration of Nominations from Other Stakeholders

- Nominations for wells by stakeholders beyond MCW owners/operators will be allowed and encouraged, ensuring
 that the MERP program remains inclusive and responsive to the needs of all parties concerned, while recognizing
 that participation is voluntary.
- Also well operators will be able to submit as many wells as they like, but we will work with the committee to establish criteria on how many wells a single operator can receive credit for.
- Engage with additional stakeholders, such as local communities, environmental organizations, tribal groups, and public interest groups, who may have valuable insights into abandoned or marginal conventional wells that are high-priority for plugging.
- For well owners who are not capable of filling out information, and when well meet specific criteria such as having
 gas smell or leaking sound, we will provide service of helping the person gather and fill out the required
 information. This may include travelling to the site prior to the well being on the nomination list.

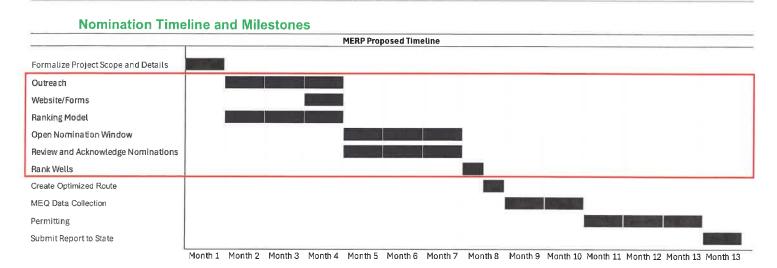




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- Ensure that all stakeholders are fully informed that participation in the program is voluntary and that nominations from non-owners/operators will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Develop a transparent process for evaluating and prioritizing these external nominations based on the same criteria used for owner/operator nominations.



4.2.1.2 MEQ Data:

The vendor should describe its plan to collect (or subcontract to a qualified 3rd party) quantified methane pre-plugging emission data from each nominated well. Follow-up post-plugging emissions data will also be required for all wells plugged under this program. All MEQ analyses performed in association with this grant program must be in full compliance with the guidelines published by the U. S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory. The vendors proposal should consider the following items, at a minimum:

- Qualifications of measurement specialists (QMSs).
- Documented measurement instrumentation and methodological approaches.
- Data reporting elements to be captured, recorded, and reported.
- A timeline referring to the above activities, with milestones if appropriate

MEQ Data Collection, Tracking, Tools, and Process:

Qualified Measurement Specialist (QMS): We will work with a local company we have used on previous jobs to use the process outlined below to measure and quantify methane gas leaks. We also aim to identify the location of the leak as well. For any 3rd party completing this work, they will have to supply their certifications as part of the measurement process, and this data will be stored along with the data files they collect for each well. They will also be required to follow our agreed upon process to complete the work to ensure consistency across all wells.

We reserve the right to bring on a full-time staff member who has the qualifications to meet the federal quantification requirements. If we choose this path, we will also provide additional training and screening to the field specialist by the manufacturer and to ensure they meet all their requirements as well. On top of that we will have the manufacture present during the first well testing to ensure compliance. On top of this our staff will have direct access to the manufactures experts to address any issues in real time.

Field Inspection Form:

As part of our solution, we believe it is important to also capture a view of the well access and location from an independent party. Our staff will have extensive training and have written / implemented guidelines on field inspections. For the first phase we plan on using contractors to complete the measurements, and one of our staff will accompany this





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specialist to the location. Part of their role will be to ensure they complete the work per the procedures required as well as completing the well location and site access review. This includes looking for and documenting hazards, complex access points, proximity to people, as well as wellhead sizes and condition and capturing it using a detail digital form as well as images. Anyone who falls into this role will have previously spent time in other oil and gas positions such as working on workover/plugging rigs or as production hands. This experience is vital in completing an accurate field inspection. This form is filled out using either a smartphone or iPad.

Measurement instrumentation:

B&B Energy plans to deploy the BIL ground-based techniques to complete this work. Ground-based techniques, such as hand-held natural gas detectors, high-flow samplers, and flux chambers, are direct-emission measurement techniques that require an individual to be present at the well site. These techniques are capable of detecting methane emissions at leak rates of 1 gram per hour or lower, making them suitable for orphaned well sites.

ICI TDL 220 Diode Laser

Tool Purpose: Primary Identify gas concentration and leaks

Key advantages: It has a wide range of detection (0-100,000 ppm), uses tunable diode laser technology which is proven, robust tool, light weight, allows for quick and safe detection (IP68) of gas leaks, specifically designed for inspections of pipelines, wellheads, and complex piping systems in efficient manner, offers both class 1 detection and class 3R spotter capabilities.

TDL 220:

Target Gas: Methane (CH4)

Sensitivity: 5 ppm

Laser:

Detection: Class 1Spotter: Class 3R

Unit Type: ppm.m, LEL.m, and VOL.m

Measurement Range: 0 ppm.m to 100,000 ppm.m
 Operation Range: -20 °C to 50 °C (-4 °F to 122 °F)

Explosion-Proof Grade: EX ib IIB T4 Gb

IP Rating: IP68

Alarming Method: visual and audible

TDL 220 – Diode Laser

RMLD

Tool Purpose: Secondary gas concentration and leaks

Key advantages: Robust, easy to use, accurate, proven TDLAS technology, with long battery life, intrinsically safe and light weight.

Project Overviews: This device was used by a previous team to scan 100 wells during the initial phase of the WV Orphan well plugging program in 2023. During these measurements, it successfully identified background gas concentrations as well as concentrations at and around the wellhead. The results of these two tools will both be tracked to ensure we are giving the state the most accurate results and we detect all potential leak sources at each site.

RMLD:





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- Detection Method Tunable Diode Laser Absorption Spectroscopy (TDLAS)
- Detection Distance 100 ft (30m) nominal
- Measurement Range 0 to 50K PPM-M
- Sensitivity 5 PPM-M at distances from 0 to 100 ft (30m)
- Beam Size Conical in shape with a 22" diameter at 100 ft (55cm at 30n
- R Laser Class I
- Operating Temperature 0° to +122° F (-17° to 50° C)
- Humidity 5 to 95% RH, non-condensing
- Altitude Up to 2000M
- Alarming Method: visual and audible



Tool Purpose: Visual gas leak and determine if flow exists

Key advantages: Provides accurate visualization of gas movement down to 1 g/hr

Project Overviews: Used across the oil and gas industry for wells, pipelines, and gas processing facilities. This tools job is to provide visual which it has shown to do very well during the tests we have been part of. Many facilities currently deploy this to look for methane leaks and fix them and we have seen it in action at these facilities and based on results it will be good fit for what we looking for which is a visual representation of the leak. Even if we don't see any leaks at the start of project, we will still be bagging and checking leaks identified using the TDLAS tools to confirm all tools are all working harmoniously together.

G-CAM 76:

- Accuracy: ± 2%
- Operation Range: -10°C to 50°C (14°F to 122°F)
- Detector Array: FPA (VOx)
- FOV: 48° x 38°
 IFOV: 1.31 mrad
 IP Rating: IP54
- Laser: Class II 650 nm, < 1 mW
- Emissivity Correction: 0.01 to 1.0



G-Cam 76

Semtech Hi-Flow 2:

Tool Purpose: Accurately quantify gas flow per the BIL / ACR requirements

Key advantages: SEMTECH HI-FLOW 2 is a robust, portable, battery powered, high volume sampler for the most accurate quantification of fugitive methane emissions. The combination of an Analyzer and the Sampler allows the entire fugitive methane emission to be captured, diluted, and quantified accurately. HI-FLOW 2 utilizes state-of-the-art Tunable Diode Laser Absorption Spectroscopy (TDLAS) and a high-output fan which together facilitates 3-5x lower detection limit (0.0005 CFM) and a 3x increase in maximum leak rate (25 CFM) when compared to the historical Bacharach device. SEMTECH's TDLAS tuned specifically to methane (unlike non-dispersive spectroscopy techniques) eliminates the known problems of interferences from other gases present in up, down and mid-stream applications. Moreover, the HI-FLOW 2 addresses potential poisoning and saturation of found in other solutions that use non-optical-based low-cost sensors.





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- Methane specific advanced gas sensor technology (10 ppm to 100% with integrated diluter) (and 0 to 8% with no dilution)
- Direct quantification of lakes over very larger dynamic range 0.0005 to 25 CFM
- Compliance with OOOOb
- Battery LiFEPO4 (spare battery included) rated to 12.8V with 96 Wh capacity and a run time of 4 to 6 hours per battery at 50% duty cycle (Charge time: ca 4 hours)
- Built-in Wi-Fi communication utilizing an SBC Linux framework with web-based GUI for interactive full control on user preferred display (tablet, mobile, laptop, etc...)
- GPS for location data recording during testing
- Built-in scripts for regulatory compliance, sampling protocols, and periodic pre and post checks and audits
- SQL data management architecture with advanced pre-loaded queries for automated report generation (supports measurement campaigns, geofencing, and compliance management)
- API ready (for IoT applications)
- Integrated flow and sampling system, configurable up to ~30CFM
- Ergonomic handheld with balanced weight distribution
- Flexibility with industry accepted sampling adapters / nozzles / hoses
- Umbilical from sampler to analyzer (conveys sample, power, fan control, and serial interface)
- 2 controls on the sampler handle for sampling and fan speed control
- 4 tri-colored LED lights for handsfree feedback of system operation with configurable fan speed
- PWM controlled fan with manual lock with on/off control

Specifications and Certificates:

The HI-FLOW 2 flowmeter is calibrated initally and annually, as shown in Sensors' calibration certificates.

Statistic	Result	Criteria	Pass/Fail
Intercept	-0.013%	+/- 1% max	Pass
Slope	0.996	0.975-1.025	Pass
SEE	0.233%	+/- 1% max	Pass
R ²	1.000	≥ 0.998	Pass

Methane sensors are calibrated initally and annually for linearity and accuracy to 2.5% and then checked six months later to 5% criteria.

Description	Test date	Due date	Pass/Fail
Methane sensor Linearity and accuracy (2.5% criteria)	14-1-1ar-24	initial installation or every 12 months	Pass
Methane Sensor span and dilution calibration	14-Mar-24	initial installation*	Pass
Methane sensor noise	14-Mar-24	initial installation or every 12 months	Pass
Methane sensor interferences	14-Mar-24	initial installation*	Pass



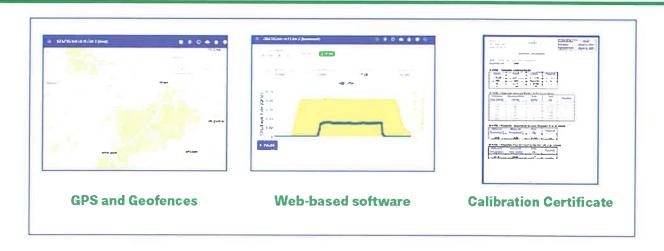


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The HI-FLOW 2 meets NIST traceable certification to <2.5%.

Gas	Bottle value (ppm)	Measured CH4 (ppm)	Interference (%)	Pass/Fail
Ethane	405	-4	-1.1%	Pass
Propane	2653	0	0.0%	Pass

Total Flow Rate*	5-30 CFM (upper limit dependent on accessories)
Measurable Leak Rate*	0.0005 to 25 CFM (0.015 to 700 lpm)
Leak Rate Accuracy	<5% of full scale or 15% of point, whichever is lower
Dimensions (W x D x H) Electronics and Gas Module	12 x 12 x 5.7 in. (30 x 30 x 14.5 cm)
Dimensions (W x D x H) Handheld Unit w/o extension	26.3 x 7.5 x 10.5 in. (66.8 x 19 x 12.7 cm)
Weight (Electronic and Gas Module)^	17,5 lbs. (7.9 Kg)
Weight (Handheld Unit)	10.8 lbs (4.9 Kg)
Data transmission	Wi-Fi



Device will have valid calibration certificate.





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SPECIFICATIONS		
Total Flow Rate*	5-30 CFM (upper limit dependent on accessories)	
Measurable Leak Rate*	0.0005 to 25 CFM (0.015 to 700 lpm) (LDL 0.6 g/hr)	
Leak Rate Accuracy	<5% of full scale or 15% of point, whichever is lower (for volume or mass r	ate)
Flow Rate Accuracy	< ±2.5% (with density correction)	
TDL Accuracy	< ±2.5% p.t.	SENTECH" HIFLOW 2
Background Correction	Recommended pre- and post- correction with a precision of 2 ppm	Fugitive Memories Commission Commission Commission
Hazardous Classification	Class 1, Division 2, Group D, T4	
Complies With	EPA 40 CFR Part 60, NSPS OOOOb	
	ACR - carbon registry methodology	SM TECH
		Semtech Hi Flow 2

Methane Emissions Quantification and Site Inspection:

- 1. Compile list of wells to be measured
- 2. Map the well locations
- 3. Develop an optimized drive route and daily plan to efficiently complete the work
- 4. Drive to well access location
- 5. Check for safety concerns and commence filling out the Well Inspection Form and Job Checklist:
 - Picture and notation:
 - Date and time
 - Access point (GPS & time stamp)
 - Access road (GPS & time stamp)
 - Wellsite
 - Wellhead (sizes, condition, hazards) (GPS & time stamp)
 - API #
 - Surrounding Equipment
 - Overhead powerlines
 - Pipeline crossings
 - Nearby homes / buildings
 - · Detectable senses detect leak: smell of gas, sound gas, sight of gas, gas bubbling at waters
 - Wind speed / Weather
 - Other Hazards
 - Well Type (1-4)
 - · Type of equipment used for each test
 - Type of Measurement Made
 - Concentration and location of each leak found
 - *Notations include details about point, reason for concern, potential requirements to address, other
 - ** Each of our staff in field wears gas and h2S monitors to improve safe operations
- 6. Determine methane gas concentration using a Diode Laser TDL 220 or similar TDLAS device
 - Take background reading
 - Scan site ground using the TDL 220 Diode Laser or similar TDLAS device :

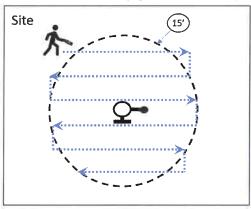




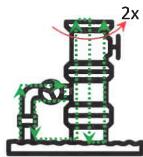
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Walk in crossing pattern to determine if any ground leaks. Upwind is preferred location to start.



- If any leaks are found, classify as "detected" and mark the location and concentration.
 - Classify as "not detected" if do not exceed background
- Once walk around is complete, use the G-Cam 76 to visualize the leak and confirm flow.
- 7. Scan Wellhead
 - a. Using a TDL 220 or similar TDLAS device sweep the laser up and down the wellhead and other equipment, working way completely around the wellhead.



- If any gas is found, classify as "detected", mark location and concentration. Complete first scan
 - Leaks will be further investigated if gas concentrations are above background.
- Once first scan is complete, use the G-Cam 76 to visualize each leak location and determine if flow is visible and greater than 1 gr/h.
 - Details about the leak should be annotated.
 - · Pictures / videos captured
- Repeat the scan a second time to ensure no additional leaks are found.
- 8. If a flowing leak is detected, staff will prepare Semtech Hi-Flow tool and make a measurement of this leak.
 - Test 1: a cone or bag will be put over the leak
 - The leak will be tested for min of 2 mins and data recorded. Highest concentration recorded.
 - Test 2: A second test will be completed following the same procedure.
 - Test 3: A third test will be completed following the same procedure.
 - · If tests align, staff will ensure everything is saved and address additional leak sources
 - If tests don't align, a 4th test will be completed, or technical services engaged to address the issue
 - 5% of wells will be retested at a later date to verify effectiveness of the selected methodology.

 ***if multiple leaks are found and they cannot be flow tested at the same time, this process will be completed for each leak





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- 9. Once all leaking areas are tested, the field specialist will confirm full task checklist has been completed and head to the next wellsite to complete the same process.
- 10. In cases where complex wells exist, the "Options for Challenging Wells" recommended by the EPA will be employed to get as accurate measurements as possible.

Post Plugging Methane Emissions Testing and Site Inspection:

- 1. Review of the initial test will be conducted
 - Identify any beneficial information
- 2. Check for safety concerns and commence filling out the <u>Post Plugging Well Inspection Form and Job</u> Checklist:
 - Picture and notation:
 - Date and time
 - Access point (GPS & time stamp)
 - Access road (GPS & time stamp)
 - Wellsite
 - Wellhead (sizes, condition, hazards) (GPS & time stamp)
 - API #
 - Surrounding Equipment left
 - · Remaining land damage or areas which need addressed
 - Regrowth
 - Detectable senses detect leak: smell of gas, sound gas, sight of gas, gas bubbling at waters
 - Wind speed / Weather
 - Type of equipment used for each test
 - Type of measurement made
 - Concentration and location of each leak found
 - Well marker / plate details
- 3. Same leak scanning and testing procedure which follows federal guidelines will be used.





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Example of Field Reports:

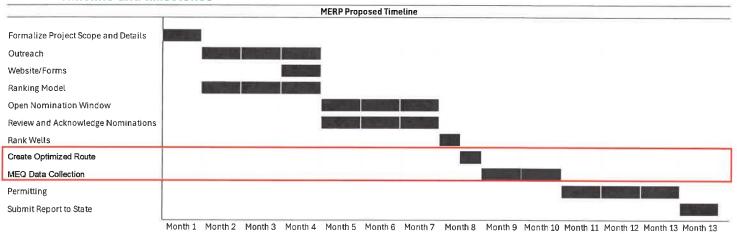
Date 8/19/24	Time 39.629524
Access Point Lat 3	9.629524 Long -79.955890
Access Road Condition:	
Wellsite	
Wellhead:	
Lat 3	9.629524 Long 79.955894
Surrounding Eq	uipment: Tank
Detectable Sen	ses:
Site	Yes
Notes	Could see vapors coming from wooden Lank
Sound	No
5meil	No
Nearby Homes	No
Hazards	
Pipeline Xing	No
Powerlines	Yes
Other Hazards	No
	140
Details	
Leak Detection & Scann	ing:
Type of Equipm	
	Concentration TDL 200
	ary Concentration RMLD
	ualization G-CAM 76
Leak Flo	w Sentech Hi-Flow
Backgro	und Level (50') 10 ppm 7 ppm
	Area 1 10 ppm 7 ppm
	Area 2 10 ppm 7 ppm
	Area 3 10 ppm 7 ppm
	Classification Not Detected
Les	k Visualization Not Detected
	Leak Flow N/A





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Timeline and Milestones



4.2.1.3 MCW Prioritization/Prioritized well list:

The vendor should describe its plan to develop a prioritized list of nominated wells using its approved MCW plugging prioritization plan/model and relevant information collected during the MCW nomination process. The vendor will be expected to submit the prioritized well plugging list to the Agency. The vendors proposal should consider the following items, at a minimum:

- Data entry of all scored prioritization factors for each well into the Agency-selected software system.
- A timeline referring to the above activities, with milestones if appropriate

MCW Prioritization/Prioritized well list timeline and data entry:

This proposal outlines our approach to developing a prioritized list of nominated wells under the Methane Emissions and Waste Reduction Incentive Program (MERP). The objective is to use the approved MCW plugging prioritization plan/model in combination with relevant data collected during the MCW nomination process to create a ranked list of wells for plugging. We will be responsible for submitting this prioritized list to the Agency for further action. This proposal ensures that the most impactful and high-priority wells are addressed first to meet the program's goals of reducing methane emissions and waste.

Data Entry and Scoring of Prioritization Factors Prioritization Factors:

- Each well will be initially evaluated and scored based on key factors that influence prioritization, including but not limited to:
 - Methane emissions levels:
 - Initial estimates provided by person submitting, will be updated once along with score once have
 MEQ data
 - Well age and production decline:
 - Older wells with declining production rates may be prioritized.
 - Environmental risk:
 - Proximity to sensitive environmental areas such as water sources, wildlife habitats, and populated areas.
 - Potential of the well and surroundings to cause harm
 - Community Needs / Impact
 - Operational status:





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- Whether the well is currently inactive or abandoned and its history of non-compliance or regulatory violations.
- Access condition
- Site condition
- Compliance with regulatory requirements (e.g., permit status, reporting history)

Other:

- # of wells operator has submitted
- Community Needs / Impact
- Impediment (is well status limiting or stopping local development)

Scoring System:

- Each well will be assigned a score based on the evaluation of the prioritization factors.
- · The score will help determine the relative urgency, value, and importance of plugging each well based.
- A weighted scoring system will be used, with each factor assigned a relative importance based on its impact on methane reduction, environmental protection, regulatory compliance and other community impact desires as specified above and determined by the initial outreach program.
- The formula will be input into Excel and the score is automatically calculated based on the inputs from the data entry phase / nomination process.

Prioritized Well List Development

- We will use the criteria and weights above to calculate a score based on the data which is provided as part of the nomination process.
 - During community outreach we will create a ranking weighting system and formula
 - This formula will be used to do initial scoring of the wells
 - The score will be recalculated after that field MEQ / review is completed
 - Highest scoring wells will be prioritized
 - Well ranking will be sent to the state prior to MEQ and after its complete with any variances highlighted
 - Any changes to scores will be relayed to nominator with reason for changes
- The field visit will be used to cross verify the information provided as well

Data Entry into Agency-Selected Software System:

- The vendor will create a well folder for each well submitted.
- The well folder will be available for the state to access / copy at anytime
- On top of this, we will ensure that:
 - Both the individual prioritization scores and any other supporting data—are accurately entered into the Agency's <u>selected</u> software system.
 - Software Interface: The vendor will coordinate with the Agency to understand the software system's format and requirements. We will develop a process for seamless data entry and output generation.
 - Verification Process: A process will be implemented to verify the accuracy of the entered data, ensuring
 that there are no discrepancies between the collected data and what has been input into the system. This
 verification process will involve cross-checking data entries against source documents, field
 measurements, and regulatory records.

Notification:

- Prior to completing MEQ we will notify well owner / nominator of status and plan to complete measurement work
 - They will have right to withdraw them well at this time (1 week)





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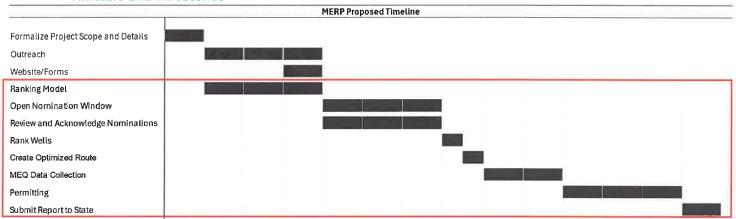
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- We will then notify the state of all wells that will be included in the MEQ process, we will review well selection list with the state to address any issues or concerns
 - Submit a document with wells including scores
 - Teams meeting to review details
- We will then complete the MEQ process
 - The owner will be notified of any changes and told ranking/status
- Once they verify decision to move forward, we will start the permitting process with them

Report and Submission to Agency:

- A report with the final selected wells will be sent to the state along with posted on the website.
 - Well information used to score
 - Site review and MEQ measurements (pictures and documents)
 - Owners' decision to proceed along with signed letter of intent
- · We will develop format and supply to the DEP for review and approval prior to sending the final report
- This template will be utilized to submit the format of the final list of wells and all associated data which is collected during the project.
- This template and process will allow for both review, comments and approvals.
- Any additional recommendations for the next steps, including the timelines for well plugging and any regulatory requirements will also be included.
- The data can also be entered into the state's system as desired

Timeline and Milestones



Month 1 Month 2 Month 3 Month 4 Month 5 Month 6 Month 7 Month 8 Month 9 Month 10 Month 11 Month 12 Month 13 Month 13 Month 13





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4.2.1.4 Ancillary permit activity.

The vendor should describe its plan to assist owners/operators of selected MCWs in the identification of any required permits from state and/or federal agencies having jurisdiction over project activities. The vendor should provide its plan to identify locations of concern. The vendors proposal should consider the following items, at a minimum:

- A description of how each project area will be defined and evaluated for possible jurisdiction from additional state and/or federal agencies. The
 proposal should include a communication strategy for both the Agency and the owner/operators of selected MCWs to ensure that project goals are
 met.
- A description of how Action Areas (AA) will be defined relative to the location of the selected MCW and the tools to be used to identify and review
 listed endangered species within each AA, and how project activities will be evaluated to determine to what extent, if any, these activities may
 impact those species. The vendor should submit project plans on behalf of the Agency to FWS and ultimately acquire a concurrence letter from the
 FWS for each project and provide that to the Agency.
- A description of how Areas of Potential Effects (APEs) will be defined relative to the location of the selected MCW and the tools to be used to
 identify and review areas of historic or cultural significance within the APE. Each project APE should be submitted to the WV State Historic
 Preservation Office (SHPO) on behalf of the Agency for consideration and ultimately acquire a project approval and provide that to the Agency.
- A description of the tools to be used to identify APEs having cultural significance as ancestral land to Indian tribes. Each project should be submitted to the respective Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) for their review and consideration. Any subsequent requests by the Indian tribes for government-to-government consultations should be reported to the Agency.
- A timeline referring to the above activities, with milestones if appropriate

Permit Activity:

- We will work with a professional permitting company to identify all permits needed for each well. As part of this
 agreement, they will do the initial well analysis to give us a detailed outline of the permits required. Our site
 review will also attempt to identify specific areas which will need additional work done such as stream crossings,
 pipeline crossings, or overhead wires to name a few.
- As an additional benefit to this setup, we will also provide access to our contactors if MCW owners/Operators
 don't have their own internal permitting services and have not previously conducted this work. These service
 providers will be able to put together a full package of required documents and research which meets the
 requirements we set forth in our permit requirements and can manage this process with our support all the way
 through approval.
- As part of the process, we will provide the MCW/Operator with checklist for their well and timelines to complete
 the work. We will work to ensure the wells have been fully permitted per the timeline as best possible. After we
 let the company know their well have been selected, we will provide them with this document which will include
 the following details:
 - Required permits
 - Plat or WW-7 support
 - Project Area Definition:
 - Basic geologic layout of well access road and well location, with hazards, and environmentally sensitively areas will be created
 - This will include review of WV State Historic Map and notations found in proximity of activity
 - Impact on impact zone or action areas
 - Access to roads which can handle equipment requirements
 - Damage to property / public roads
 - Traffic planning
 - Jurisdictional Evaluation:
 - Will outline which permits need to be submitted to which agencies based on the location of their well. This will include DEP, DOH, and any other agencies.
 - It will also provide a link to these documents.
 - Agency Communication:
 - We will develop a communication strategy to ensure regular engagement with relevant agencies.
 - The main focus will be on providing the agency with communication regarding which permits should be submitted and timing





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- It will also entail getting any problems / questions sorted out.
- Our team will act as a liaison to ensure that all stakeholders are informed throughout the project
- Owner/Operator Communication:
 - Clear and continuous communication with MCW owners and operators
 - Ensure permitting is staying on task and all documents have been submitted
 - Checklist supplied as part of permit package supplied to them
 - Assist with any roadblocks or issues
- Tribal Consultation:
 - We will identify any cultural or ancestral significance in areas where MCWs are located.
 - Special care will be taken to consult with Native American tribes and their Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) regarding the impact of well abandonment on culturally significant lands.
 - Mutually agreeable terms for well stakeholder and tribe will be established prior to finalizing well packages
- The Action Areas:
 - For each well will be defined as the geographic zones where believe reduced methane will impact
 - zones will be evaluated to assess potential environmental impacts, particularly regarding methane emissions and air quality.
- We will use the tools listed above to measure methane leaking and methane in the air surrounding the well.
- Each well site will be reviewed for proximity to historically significant lands and cultural sites. Tools such as GIS and
 historical records from the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will be used to identify and
 review sites of interest. Special attention will be paid to areas that may have historical significance or Native
 American heritage.
- Landowners and well owners will also be asked if they are aware of any historical significance regarding the area or site to aid in research.
- Perform desktop reviews to support ESA (Section 7) and NHPA (Section 106) reviews
- The APEs identified for each project will be submitted to WVSHPO for review and approval. This will ensure that well abandonment and plugging activities comply with historic preservation laws and regulations.
- Approval Process: The approval process will allow for feedback on any required mitigation measures for cultural and historical resources.

Evaluation of Impacts on Methane Emissions:

• The project will prioritize the mitigation of methane emissions from Marginal Conventional Wells (MCWs). Using methane emission models, we will evaluate the estimated emissions reduction benefits resulting from the permanent plugging of each well. The team will work closely with EPA and DOE guidelines for methane reduction and apply best practices for emission control during well abandonment.

Coordination with EPA:

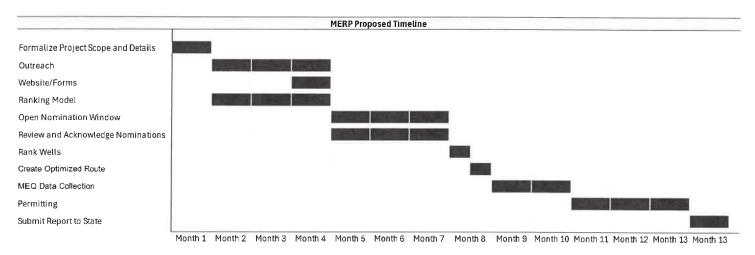
- We will complete a review with the EPA/NETL to ensure they don't see any issues with our implementations of the grant:
 - Prioritization model
 - MEQ standard/plan
 - Data tracking





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Project Timeline and Milestones



4.2.2. Mandatory Project Requirements

4.2.2.1 Technical progress and financial reports

Technical progress and financial reports will be submitted to the Agency on a monthly basis. Attendance and progress updates at quarterly meetings may be required. Travel costs to attend these meetings are acceptable expenses to include in the proposed budget. Monthly reports should include a summary of all project activities undertaken in the previous month and will include detail of all billable hours. Reporting requirements also apply to measurable field activities including, but not limited to number of wells plugged, mitigated methane emissions, acres of land restored or remediated, etc. Monthly reports should be provided to the Agency no later than five working days after the last day of the reporting period.

- Our plan is to provide as many reports as the state sees fit and helps them with management of this program. The
 specifics of these reports will be developed once we start the project and determine what the State's stakeholders
 would like to see, as we do not want to overwhelm them with data for the sake of data. We have detailed many of
 the reports we see as being beneficial and meeting programs requirements, but an overview of these reports are
 listed below:
 - Report of activities and meeting attendance
 - Detailed report outlining all wells submitted to the program
 - Summary report ranking wells with scores included (pre MEQ and post)
 - Final report detailing selected wells and status of wells permitting program on monthly basis

4.2.2.2 Attendance at CBC meetings

Attendance at CBC meetings (mostly virtual) is required. Vendor shall be responsible for all mileage and travel costs, including travel time, associated with performance of this Contract. Any anticipated mileage or travel costs may be included in the flat fee or hourly rate listed on Vendors bid, but such costs will not be paid by the Agency separately.

A summary of hours, attendees, and other information will be provided on monthly basis like below:





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In Person Meeting			
Charleston Meeting	6	Total Hours	
Drive from Pittsburgh Pa (15222) to Morgantown (26501)	2		
Meeting	2		
Drive from Morgantown (26501) to Pittsburgh Pa (15222)	2		

Attenda	ince		
Company	Name	Phone	Email
B&B	Brian Morel	412-508-4111	bbenergysolutions.com
Private	John Smith	304-303-3333	john@gmail.com
Operator 1	Jack Smith	304-450-4545	jack@operator1.com
Operator 2	Jason Lund	304-555-5555	jason@operator2.com
Total	4		

Online - Individual Meeting					
Name	Date	Time	Time	Attendees	Reason
Dave Smith	12/2/2024	@ 1 0am	0.5	Brian Morel, Dave Smith, Brad Maddox	Nomination Process
Operator 1	12/2/2024	@ 10:30am	0.5	Brian Morel, Jask Smith	Nomination Process
Operator 2	12/2/2024	@12pm	1	Brian Morel, Jason Lund	Concerns

2

- Monthly Billing will be modified to meet states requirements. The billing will mimic project cost sheet provided by the state and will include detailed time and work breakdown for anything completed.
 - For example: Time log above for in person meeting or list of wells which MEQ were complete, with date, and person completing the work.

Monthly Billing Summary

						Ditting 0	, anning						
Month		Month 1		Month 2		Month 3		Month 4		Month 5		Month 5	
Description	Rate (\$)	Units	Total	Units	Total	Units	Total	Units	Total	Units	Total	Units	Total
Permitting	х	0	=x*0	0	=x*0	0	=x*0	0	=x*0	0	=x*0	0	=x*0
MEQ Measurements	у	0	=y*0	0	=y*0	0	=y*0	0	=y*0	0	=y*0	0	=y*0
Nomination Process	z	8	=z*8	0	=z*0	0	=z*0	0	=z*0	0	=z*0	0	=z*0
In Person Meeting		6	=z*6		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Online Meeting		0.5	=z*0.5		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Online Meeting		0.5	=z*0.5		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Online Meeting		1	=z*1		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Total													

4.3. Qualifications and Experience:

Vendor should provide information and documentation regarding its qualifications and experience in providing services or solving problems similar to those requested in this RFP. Information and documentation should include, but is not limited to, copies of any staff certifications or degrees applicable to this project, proposed staffing plans, descriptions of past projects completed (descriptions should include the location of the project, project manager name and contact information, type of project, and what the project goals and objectives where and how they





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4.3.1. Qualification and Experience Information:

4.3.1.1 and 4.3.1.2 Project Management

For development and implementation of an MCW well plugging nomination process, the vendor should provide documentation of previous project management experience related to the oil and gas industry with a preferred focus on oil and gas plugging practices and techniques, sound safety practices and applicable water and mining laws. Further, the vendor should have experience in the planning and execution of public meetings. For ancillary permitting-related activities, the vendor should provide documentation of previous project management experience related to projects involving earth disturbances. For ESA reviews, a degree in biology, natural resources, or similar is required. For NHPA reviews, a degree in history, archaeology, or architecture is required.

- Brian Morel and Brad Maddox have both actively managed people and processes for large scale plugging, drilling
 and completions programs with as many as 20 rigs running simultaneously in the Appalachian region. We also
 have the unique experience of having done permitting and project management from both the operator side as
 well as the service provider, which provides us a unique ability to understand both sides of the equation.
 - Degreed engineers
 - 20 years in Oil and Gas each
 - Field Engineers to executive level leadership roles
 - Managed / ran numerous departments:
 - Optimization (AFE, performance metrics, project management / planning)
 - Solids control
 - Plugging
 - Drilling
 - Completions
 - D&C engineering
 - Project management
 - Field operations
 - Procurement
 - Started Next LvL plugging and sold to Diversified Energy in 2021
 - Grew Next Lvl Plugging from 4 rigs to 17 active rigs in Appalachian between 2021-2023
 - Developed and grew Quanta Services plugging services division

Project Management Experience (4.3.1.1 - Plugging Project Management and 4.3.1.2) - Appalachian Region

- Ran EQT Plugging, Drilling and Completions Program for 10+ Years
 - Over 1000 Wells drilled in PA, OH, WV
 - Part of role was to ensure accurate and timely permitting
 - Directly communicated with inspectors and DEP leadership staffing
- Plugged Independent Operators and Non-Oil/Gas Well Owners Wells
 - Turnkey operations, which included putting together and filling:
 - Full permitting packages in multiple states
 - E&S Plans
 - End of Well Forms submissions
 - Peoples gas, CNX, HG Energy and Enervest
- Managed Ohio Contractor at Risk Program for Plugging:
 - Part of process included planning wells
 - Permits
 - Procedures





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- Cost Estimates
- Engineering overview site construction
- Well ranking and risk assessment
- o Been part of team plugging more than 600 Wells in past 2 years
 - 75% of those wells required internal or external permitting services
 - 100% of wells required project management:
 - Scheduling
 - Data collection, tracking and management
 - Daily reporting
 - Safety
 - Plugging Affidavits
 - Ohio, WV, Pa
- Managed 100s of Internal and External Vendors
 - From cleaning crews to rig contractors and everything in between
- Plugged 100 WV Orphan Wells in one year:
 - Researched and found listed and non-listed abandoned oil/gas wells
 - Permitted all wells
 - Documented well roads, locations, and hazards levels
 - Developed process and oversaw teams
 - Collect data to determine if wells were leaking gas
 - Oversaw 3rd parties' vendors to measure gas leaks.
 - Worked with multiple state agencies to address issues (DEP, DOH, DOI)
 - Managed disgruntled landowners
- Community Outreach
 - Meet with landowners
 - Community meetings
 - Industry groups
 - Presentations/Townhalls meetings to community, investors, as well as regulatory bodies
 - Members of energy focused groups such as IOGA and MSC
- This experience will be used to provide operators with guidance on what is needed, if they are not familiar with the process and ability to offer them support when needed. We have also worked with many 3rd party companies which can provide permitting services, which will allow us to provide connections for operators who do not have this internally or have limited experience. It will also allow us to set realistic timelines to get the work complete along with metrics and milestones to ensure we are working to get the work completed as desired by the state.
- We will also keep track of the progress of permits with communication with the operator to ensure we stay on schedule and don't run into any issues. In cases where issues present themselves, we will work with the operator, state, land owners, and other departments to try to remedy the situation in order to get the well effectively plugged.

4.3.1.3 Qualified Measurement Specialists:

Any person working on behalf of the vendor to acquire pre- and post-methane emission quantification data must meet the minimum requirements as Qualified Measurement Specialists, as defined by the U. S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory.1

• As part of our plan, we plan to initially hire certified 3rd party testers to complete this work. A B&B company representative will accompany them to location, where the B&B staff member will complete the well location check





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list and evaluation as previously described and monitor the testing of each well for methane emissions. We will document the person who completes this work, including a signature as the work is completed as well as including the individuals certification in the well file for each well they test. This allows us to use different individuals to complete the work as long as their qualifications exceed those set forth by EPA / NETL. Prior to any work being completed, we will work with NETL and the DEP to ensure that our understanding of their requirements are met by each person we will have on site as well as ensure we collect additional data they might want to see with our site evaluation process. This site evaluation process offers both the WV DEP and NETL a more detailed investigated each well we will plan to plug, which has the potential to help them further develop their program and give WV the ability to get more funds due to the quality of the project they will be presenting with the money awarded. Depending on the ultimate size of the program, we may decide to bring this skill set in house and complete the work using a fully certified internal staff, but this most likely won't happen until after the first phase of wells are complete.

4.3.2. Mandatory Qualification/Experience Requirements:

The following mandatory qualification/experience requirements must be met by the vendor as a part of its submitted proposal. Vendor should describe how it meets the mandatory requirements and identify any areas where it exceeds the mandatory requirements. Areas where the mandatory requirements are exceeded will be included in technical scores where appropriate. Failure to comply with mandatory requirements will lead to disqualification, The mandatory qualifications/experience requirements are listed below.

B&B Energy Solutions LLC meets or exceeds all mandatory requirements and qualifications set forth in the RFP:

- Management Teams experience exceeds requirements in most areas of the RFP including, but not limited to:
 - Project managed and run operations on large scale programs throughout the Northeast.
 - Managed teams/committees of diverse individuals with different background
 - Developed and implemented detailed process management procedures including:
 - Well/site inspections
 - Leak testing
 - Engineering specifications
 - Safety
 - Well finding, ranking, and selection
 - Community Outreach
 - Meet with landowners
 - Community meetings
 - Industry groups
 - Presentations/Townhalls meetings to community, investors, as well as regulatory bodies
 - Successfully managed and permitted 1000s of wells both in plugging space and drilling/completions
 - Previous experience managing and executing every aspect of this RFQ for plugging services:
 - Projects in multiple northeast states including WV
 - Private sector
 - Single wells and large scale operations of over 100 plus wells

4.3.2.1. Operator Status

The administrator may be a registered oil and gas well operator or owner (or parent/subsidiary thereof), as defined in W. Va. Code § 22-6-1(I) and (z); however, the administrator may not also be a participant in the MCW well plugging program. If the administrator does meet the definition of an oil and gas well operator or owner (or parent/subsidiary thereof), that operator or owner (or parent/subsidiary thereof) may not nominate MCWs for plugging (or have MCWs nominated on its behalf). The vendor must disclose any such business relationships or other partnerships which may introduce conflicts of interest related to well ownership or operatorship.

B&B Energy Solutions LLC is not an Operator and has not partnerships with operators that would preclude them





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4.3.2.2. Administrator

The administrator (or parent/subsidiary or partner thereof) is not precluded from being a potential well plugging vendor participating in the competitive bid process for wells ultimately plugged under this program.

- Currently, B&B Energy Solutions LLC is project management company
- o In future, their may be potential for competitive plugging bids

Conclusion

- o In conclusion, this proposal showcases a comprehensive and innovative strategy for managing the MERP program, built on B&B Energy Solutions' extensive industry experience and proven methodologies. It emphasizes stakeholder engagement, rigorous data collection, and a transparent prioritization process that is collaboratively reviewed and approved by a diverse group of stakeholders to achieve meaningful methane emissions reductions. The proposal thoroughly addresses all major topics requested:
 - o **MCW Nomination Process**: Establishes a structured and transparent process to educate stakeholders, outline program details, and facilitate well nominations.
 - **Well Prioritization**: Outlines a thorough and inclusive ranking system based on a data-driven scoring model, reviewed and approved by a diverse stakeholder group to fairly rank wells.
 - Methane Emissions Quantification (MEQ): Deploy a robust plan to measure methane emissions, enhanced by extensive site data capture and photo documentation, providing valuable insights for EPA staff, state agencies, plugging companies, and operators, while verifying submitted well information.
 - Permit Activity: Support operators in identifying and securing necessary permits while addressing environmental and cultural concerns, including consultations with tribal and historic site stakeholders.
 - o **Technical Progress and Financial Reporting**: Detailed monthly reports to ensure transparency, covering education efforts, outreach, nominations, rankings, MEQ, and permitting progress.
 - Qualifications and Experience: Team's expertise in well plugging and project management, with the ability to address complex challenges and leverage strategic partnerships to enhance service delivery.
- o B&B Energy Solutions draws on its extensive experience from both the operator and service sides of the oil and gas industry, including the successful management of plugging operations for hundreds of wells in the Appalachian region. This proposal underscores the team's ability to deliver superior results that not only exceed grant guidelines and state expectations but also foster collaboration among stakeholders to maximize the program's impact. With a proven track record of overcoming challenges, B&B is prepared to offer additional support, such as operations project management, to ensure West Virginia achieves exceptional outcomes as a grant recipient.