National Laboratory of the Rockies

Managed and Operated by the Alliance for Energy Innovation, LLC

Request for Proposals (RFP) Number RFP-2026-10201

"Medium-Voltage Direct Current Filter"

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY

This solicitation is being conducted under the procedures for competitive subcontracts established by the National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR). NLR will award a subcontract based on the following:

BEST VALUE SELECTION

All Statement of Work (SOW) requirements being met with the best combination of:

- Technical factors (based on qualitative merit criteria), and
- Evaluated price

Issue Date: **5/14/2026** Due Date: **6/26/2026** Time Due: **5pm** Mountain Time

Technical questions must be received in writing no later than 5/29/2026

Written questions concerning this solicitation document and its requirements will be answered in writing. In response to technical questions, NLR will issue an amendment to this solicitation document that will formally provide all the questions and answers. All recipients of the solicitation document will receive responses to questions.

1. Solicitation Type Best Value Selection
Firm Fixed Price, Subcontract

NAICS Code and Small Business Size Standard

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this solicitation is:

Code	Classification	Size Standard
541330	Engineering Services	$25.5M

- Dollar amounts in millions of dollars are generally reflective of a 5-year average total annual receipts. Annual receipts are calculated in accordance with 13 CFR 121.104.

Information Regarding Small Business Size Certification*

Offerors shall certify that the size and socioeconomic status representations submitted in their SAM.gov registration are current, accurate, and complete as of the date of their offer in response to this solicitation, in accordance with FAR 52.219-9(c)(2)(ii)(B), by completing the 'Small Business Size Certification' (12/26/2025) form found in 'Appendix/Form' section.

If an Offeror is not registered in SAM.gov, the Offeror certifies that its self-certification of size and socio-economic status, as provided in Attachment 3 – Small Business Certification Form is current, accurate, and complete as of the date of its offer by completing the 'Small Business Size Certification' (12/26/2025) form found in 'Appendix/Form' section.

**Required for Small Business Concerns.*

SUBMIT OFFERS TO AND REQUEST INFORMATION FROM THE NREL RFP CONTACT BELOW

2. NREL RFP Contact

Jacob Nofsinger, Subcontract Administrator
National Laboratory of the Rockies
15013 Denver West Parkway, MS: RSF030
Golden, CO 80401

Email: Jacob.Nofsinger@nlr.gov

Electronic copies of forms and appendices can be found at:

http://www.nlr.gov/workingwithus/standard-terms.html

Procurement Forms | NLR

3. Project description:

As specified in the Statement of Work entitled "Medium-Voltage Direct Current Filter", (Appendix A) and the Technical Specifications entitled "Technical Specifications for Medium-Voltage Direct Current (MV-DC) Filter (Attachment 1 to Appendix A).

4. Proposed subcontract award and period of performance

The Alliance for Energy Innovation, LLC has entered into Contract No. DE-AC36-08GO28308 with the Department of Energy (DOE), an agency of the U.S. Government, for the management and operation of the National Laboratory of the Rockies (hereinafter called "NLR"). All references to "NLR" in this solicitation shall mean the Alliance for Energy Innovation, LLC.

It is the intent of NLR to award **one (1) Firm Fixed Price** subcontract under this solicitation. The anticipated period of performance is **14** months.

5. Competitive negotiated subcontract using Best Value Selection

This solicitation shall be conducted using Best Value Selection that results in an award that is most advantageous to NLR based on the best value combination of (a) evaluated qualitative merit and (b) evaluated price of the offers submitted.

Best Value Selection is based on the premise that, if all offers are of approximately equal qualitative merit, award will be made to the offeror with the lowest evaluated price. However, NLR will consider awarding to an offeror with a higher evaluated price if the offer demonstrates the difference in price is commensurate with the higher qualitative merit. Conversely, NLR will consider awarding to an offeror with a lower evaluated qualitative merit if the price differential between it and other offers warrant doing so.

6. Mandatory Qualifications

To be considered a 'responsive offeror' the following minimum criteria must be met. These criteria are not evaluated but are instead 'pass/fail' criteria. NLR reserves the right to ask clarifying questions of the offerors as necessary in determining responsiveness to this RFP. Offerors' proposals that do not meet the mandatory qualifications will not be evaluated or considered further for award under this solicitation.

Qualification No.	Qualification	Submission Requirement
6.1	Acceptable Safety Record	Completed Risk Evaluation Worksheet with EMR score of less than 1.0
6.2	Support center based in the United States	Statement confirming location of support center, with address, in cover letter

7. Qualitative merit criteria for Best Value Selection

The Statement of Work (Appendix A) and the Technical Specifications (Attachment 1 to Appendix A) in this RFP serve as NLR's baseline requirements that must be met by each offer.

The qualitative merit criteria establish what NLR considers the technical factors valuable in an offer. These qualitative merit criteria are performance-based and permit selection of a higher priced offer that provides higher qualitative merit.

The following qualitative merit criteria will be used to determine the technical value of the offer in meeting the objectives of the solicitation.

Each qualitative merit criterion ***and its assigned weight*** is listed below:

Criterion #	Criterion	Assigned Weight (%)	Description
7.1	Technical Approach	80%	• The extent to which the proposed equipment solution meets or exceeds project objectives. • Offeror's ability to meet or exceed the design requirements. • Quality of components, enclosure, and controls platform. • Ability for proposed equipment solution to safely integrate with existing equipment.
7.2	Experience	20%	• The extent of Offeror's previous experience with similar equipment fabrication and implementation. • The ability of Offeror to provide reliable operational support. • Successful experience contracting with entities for similar scope and magnitude (government experience is preferred).
		100%	**Total of Merit Criteria**

8. Price evaluation for Best Value Selection

After evaluation of the qualitative merit criteria, the following price evaluation will be used to determine the best value of the offer in meeting the objectives of the solicitation.

The combined qualitative merit value will be considered substantially more important than the price.

9. Evaluation process

NLR will evaluate offers in two general steps:

Step One—Initial Evaluation
An initial evaluation will be performed to determine if all required information has been provided for an acceptable offer. Offerors may be contacted only for clarification purposes during the initial evaluation. Offerors shall be notified if their offer is determined unacceptable and the reasons for rejection will be provided. Unacceptable offers will be excluded from further consideration.

Step Two—Discussion, Selection, Negotiation, and Award
All acceptable offers will be evaluated against the Statement of Work and the qualitative merit criteria listed above. Based on this evaluation, and taking into consideration the proposed price, NLR has the option, depending on the specific circumstances of the offers received, to use one of the following methods of selection:

(a) make individual selection(s), conduct negotiations, and make an award(s);

(b) conduct parallel negotiations with all offerors and make award(s);

(c) conduct discussions with all offerors, select successful finalists, conduct parallel negotiations with successful finalists, and then make award(s);

(d) conduct discussions with all offerors, conduct parallel negotiations with the finalists, select successful finalist(s), and then make award(s);

(e) select successful finalists, conduct successive negotiations, and make successive selections and awards;

(f) make no award(s).

The Buy American statute restricts the purchase of supplies that are not domestic end products. Accordingly, Offerors should note that NLR will use the evaluation factors found in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 25 to evaluate offers, giving preference to domestic offers. Foreign offers will be adjusted for evaluation purposes in accordance with FAR 25.106 and Subpart 25.5 (as such terms are defined in FAR 25.003).

10. Proposal preparation information

Note: An Offeror Checklist is provided as a summary guide of proposal content requirements. The official requirements for proposal content are included in this RFP.

a. The proposal must include a **cover letter**, including the RFP title and number, name of your organization, principal investigator or project manager (with postal address, telephone number(s), and email address), and any **information required by Section 6, Mandatory Qualifications**. The cover letter should be succinct and capture the essence of your offer. The technical proposal with its title page, along with all components of the proposal and other required documents as described in sections b through h below shall each be provided as separate PDF files (provided in a compressed or "zipped" folder, preferred).

b. Formatting instructions
- A page is defined as one side of an 8 ½" x 11" sheet of paper.
- Use a 12-point font.
- Maintain at least 1-inch margins on all sides.
- All pages must have the same page orientation (i.e., do not present pages that offset by 90 degrees).
- Include the following notice on your cover page:

*"**Notice for Handling Proposals:***
This proposal shall be used and disclosed for Alliance/NLR and Government evaluation purposes only. Any authorized restrictive notices which the Offeror places on this proposal shall also be strictly complied with. Disclosure of this proposal outside the Government, Alliance/NLR, Alliance/NLR consultants, or other national laboratories personnel for evaluation purposes shall be made only to the extend authorized by, and in accordance with, the procedures in DEAR 915.207-70 and, as applicable stated in

the procurement solicitation document for source evaluation and selection process.

Upon completion of the evaluation, the evaluator shall certify in writing to the Source Evaluation Team Chairperson that all copies of this proposal have been destroyed and/or deleted from any electronic device, medium or storage location with the exception of those retained in the procurement file or in the case of successful offeror(s) in the project management file."

c. An electronic copy (assembled pdf) of the **technical proposal** directed toward meeting the requirements of NLR's Statement of Work, Technical Specifications, and qualitative merit criteria (see Section 7 above). The technical proposal shall identify any proposed changes to the Statement of Work or Technical Specifications as a stand-alone attachment to the technical proposal. The technical proposal shall be organized in the following sections:

Section No.	**Description**

1	Technical Approach. The Offeror shall include the following:
	• Auxiliary/support power requirements (heaters, fans, telecom gear, etc.); specify if these components require an independent power feed(s).
	• Description of control and power module standby power consumption.
	• Physical dimensions, weights, and connection methods of complete system to aid with installation planning, please address:
	  o Interface drawings and requirements;
	  o Mounting and foundational requirements; and
	  o Electrical and thermal clearance requirements.
	• Description of any required persistent or temporary remote connections required for maintenance or operations.
	• Description of standard operating modes and unique capabilities.
	• Factory acceptance testing procedures.
	• Standards and certifications to which units and system comply.
	• Production and delivery lead times.
	• Safety guidelines and unique features.
	• Warranty options, ongoing support, license, and any other ancillary information.
	• Production/assembly location and shipment method.
	• Preliminary design, production, and delivery timelines.

2	Experience. The Offeror shall provide a minimum of three (3) recent and relevant past performance examples. In order to be considered recent, a contract, purchase order, or subcontract must have been completed within five (5) years preceding the RFP release date. Relevant past performance is that in similar size, scope, and complexity to the requirements in the SOW. Past performance examples shall include (1) the entity for which the work was performed, (2) total awarded price, (3) delivery date, (4) a concise

d.

Section No.	Description
	explanation of the work performed, specifically related to how it is relevant to this solicitation's requirements, and (5) an explanation (if any) of performance issues or problems that occurred, corrective actions taken, and any expected or realized results based on those corrective actions. Redactions are acceptable to protect client confidentiality.
3	Warranty (does not count toward page count). A 12-month warranty shall be provided as a requirement to be considered technically acceptable. The Offeror shall provide a copy of the warranty applicable to the final equipment to be delivered to NLR. Any applicable warranty shall be included in the Offeror's proposed price.
Each section shall be a maximum of 15 pages which includes all text, graphics, charts, attachments, appendices, addendums, indices, exhibits, etc. (resumes and proposed changes to the Statement of Work are not included in page count) and the total technical proposal shall not exceed 30 pages. In the event that the page limit is exceeded, NLR at its sole discretion, reserves the right to remove pages from the sections of any non-conforming submittals to bring each non-conforming submittal within the page count requirement. The warranty description does not count toward the 30 page count maximum.	

A completed "Attachment 6 – Price Proposal Template" in an electronic copy (converted to pdf). An individual offeror's price proposal standard format can be used if the data included is substantially the same as the NLR form. The offeror's price and delivery terms must be valid for 90 days from the date of the offer. The price proposal should separate price for lower-tier subcontract(s).

e. A completed "**Representations & Certifications**" form. Please download from the NLR general access website link below:

http://www.nlr.gov/workingwithus/forms.html

f. EITHER the **"Organizational Conflicts of Interest Representation Statement"** OR the **"Organizational Conflicts of Interest Disclosure Statement"**, as applicable per the ***"Instructions for Completion of Organizational Conflicts of Interest Statement – Disclosure or Representation Statement"***. The forms and instructions are located at: **http://www.nlr.gov/workingwithus/forms.html**

g. A completed **Milestone Payment Schedule** (Attachment 4)

h. **A cover letter including either acceptance or change/exception with reason** to the sample subcontract schedule (Attachment 2), anticipated period of performance, and the standard terms and conditions and/or the intellectual property terms and conditions in the appendices. The offeror shall explain any proposed change/exception with respect to the sample subcontract schedule and terms and conditions. Any proposed change/exception must contain sufficient amplification and justification to permit evaluation. Such proposed changes/exceptions will not, of themselves, automatically cause an offer to be termed unacceptable. However, a

large number of proposed changes/exception or one or more significant exceptions not providing any obvious benefit to the NLR or the Department of Energy may result in rejection of such offer as unacceptable. In addition, the cover letter shall include a **summary statement** indicating acceptance of the statement of work (Appendix A) or any change with the reason(s). Lastly, the cover letter shall include proposed delivery terms and any information required by Section 6, Mandatory Qualifications.

h. This solicitation requires the submittal of electronic proposals.

i. This solicitation does not commit NLR to pay costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a proposal in response to this RFP.

11. Solicitation Provisions—full text provided

a. Late submissions, modifications, and withdrawals of offers

Offers, or modifications to them, received from qualified organizations after the latest date specified for receipt may be considered if received prior to award, and NLR determines that there is a potential price, technical, or other advantage, as compared to the other offers received. However, depending on the circumstances surrounding the late submission or modification, NLR may consider a late offer to be an indication of the offeror's performance capabilities, resulting in downgrading of the offer in the technical evaluation process. Offers may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before award.

b. Restrictions on disclosure and use of proprietary data (Nov 2018)

Offerors who include in their proposals proprietary data that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose or used by the government or NLR, except for evaluation purposes shall, in addition to including the "*Notice for Handling Proposals*" required in Paragraph 10 b. above—

1. Mark the title page with the following legend:
"This offer includes proprietary data that shall not be disclosed outside the government or NLR and shall not be used or disclosed—in whole or in part—for any purpose other than to evaluate this offer. If, however, a subcontract is awarded to this offeror as a result of—or in connection with—the submission of proprietary data, the government or NLR shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the proprietary data to the extent required in the resulting subcontract. This restriction does not limit the government or NLR's right to use this proprietary data if obtained from another source without restriction. The proprietary data subject to this restriction are contained on pages [insert page and line numbers or other identification of pages] of this offer"; and

2. Highlight (in yellow) the proprietary data on each page it wishes to restrict and add the following footer:

   "Use or disclosure of proprietary data contained on this page is subject to the restriction on the title page of this offer."

c. [RESERVED]

d. Disclaimer

NEITHER THE UNITED STATES; NOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY; NOR ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY, LLC; NOR ANY OF THEIR CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS, OR THEIR EMPLOYEES MAKE ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, OR ASSUME ANY LEGAL LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, OR USEFULNESS FOR ANY PURPOSE OF ANY OF THE TECHNICAL INFORMATION OR DATA ATTACHED OR OTHERWISE PROVIDED HEREIN AS REFERENCE MATERIAL.

e. Solicitation disputes

The General Accountability Office and the Department of Energy do not accept or rule on disputes for solicitations for Requests for Proposals issued by Management and Operating Contractors for the Department of Energy (operators of Department of Energy National Laboratories). Should an offeror have any concerns regarding the NLR solicitation process or selection determination, the offeror may contact Paul White, Advocate for Commercial Practices, at (303) 384-7575. NLR will address each concern received from an offeror on an individual basis.

f. Prohibition on use of certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment per the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act Section 889(a)(1)(B)

In accordance with the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act Section 889(a)(1)(B), NLR is prohibited from contracting with any offeror that uses, and/or whose lower-tier subcontractor(s) use, covered telecommunication equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as a critical technology of any system, on or after 08/13/2020, unless an exception applies or a waiver is granted. This includes such equipment or services from five Chinese companies: **Huawei, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications, Hangzhou Hikvision, and Dahua Technology**.

g. Compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (found at 29 U.S.C. 794d)

The requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act apply to NLR's procurement of all electronic and information technology (EIT) and any development, maintenance, or use of EIT.

12. Small Business (Lower-Tier) Subcontracting Plan (derived from FAR 52.219-9)

The following requirement does not apply to small business offerors. This requirement only applies if offeror is notified of intent to negotiate a subcontract in response to this solicitation after the source selection process described above is complete.

Successful offerors shall be required to submit a lower-tier subcontracting plan **upon notification of intent to negotiate a subcontract** in response to this solicitation. The

lower-tier subcontracting plan shall separately address lower-tier subcontracting with small business, small disadvantaged business, and women-owned small business concerns. If the offeror is submitting an individual subcontracting plan, the plan must separately address lower-tier subcontracting with small business, small disadvantaged business, and women-owned small business concerns, with a separate part for the basic subcontract and separate parts for each option (if any). The plan shall be included in and made a part of the resultant subcontract. The lower-tier subcontracting plan shall be negotiated within the time specified by the NLR subcontract administrator. Failure to submit and negotiate a lower-tier subcontracting plan shall make the offeror ineligible for award of a subcontract. Lower-tier subcontracting plan requirements can be found at the following link:

http://www.nlr.gov/workingwithus/standard-terms.html (see Appendix F)

13. Solicitation provisions

The following solicitation documents are attached:

- Appendix A, Statement of Work, dated 4/29/2026
- Attachment 1 to Appendix A, Technical Specifications, dated 4/13/2026
- Attachment 2, Sample Subcontract Schedule
- Attachment 3, Small Business Size Certification Form (if applicable)
- Attachment 4, Risk Evaluation Worksheet
- Attachment 5, Milestone Payment Schedule
- Attachment 6, Price Proposal Template

14. Solicitation provisions—incorporated by reference—general access

This solicitation incorporates one or more solicitation provisions by reference with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. The following documents can be downloaded from **http://www.nlr.gov/workingwithus/standard-terms.html** and **http://www.nlr.gov/workingwithus/forms.html** or the NLR RFP Contact (see Section 2 above) will make available upon request.

The documents and forms that are listed below are applicable to this solicitation and resulting award:

Appendix/Form
✓ NLR Standard Terms and Conditions: Appendix B-8 (1/23/2023);
✓ NLR Intellectual Property Provisions: Appendix C-3 (3/1/2020);
✓ NLR Terms and Conditions for Subcontracts in excess of $900,000 Appendix D (3/01/2020);
✓ NLR Representations and Certifications (12/23/2025);
✓ NLR Small Business Size Certification (12/26/2025)
✓ NLR Proposal Form – Attachment 6, Price Proposal Template

- ✓ NLR Conflicts of Interest Forms
- ✓ NLR Small Business (Lower-tier) Subcontracting Plan Requirements (for subcontracts in excess of $900,000).

15. Notice Regarding NLR Payments to Subcontractors

It is NLR's standard practice to make all payments to domestic subcontractors via electronic (ACH) payments or to international subcontractors via wire transfers. Any Offeror receiving notification of an award under this solicitation must complete and submit a "Request for ACH/Wire Banking Information" form to the applicable NLR Subcontract Administrator. Payments to subcontractors will be deposited directly into the subcontractor's designated bank account in accordance with the banking account/wire transfer information provided on the form by an authorized company representative. An electronic (PDF) copy of the form will be provided by the NLR Subcontract Administrator upon notification of award. ***Please do not include an ACH form with your response to this RFP.***