

**ST. VINCENT ELECTRICITY SERVICES LIMITED and  
THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE – CARBON WAR ROOM**



**Request for Qualifications**

**for**

**Mayreau Microgrid Project Engineering,  
Procurement and Construction Contract for St.  
Vincent Electricity Services Limited (VINLEC)**

**Issue Date: April 21, 2017**

**Submission Deadline: May 19, 2017**



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**Project Name: Mayreau Microgrid Project**

**Point of Contact RMI-CWR:** Owen Lewis  
**Point of Contact VINLEC:** Earlan Myers  
**Date of Issue:** April 21, 2017

**Task and Objective:** St. Vincent Electricity Services Limited (VINLEC) has partnered with the Rocky Mountain Institute – Carbon War Room (RMI-CWR) to publish a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to be provided to prospective bidders for the Mayreau Microgrid Project on the Grenadine island of Mayreau.



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## List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
EPC	Engineering, Procurement and Construction
GoSVG	Government of St. Vincent & the Grenadines
MNSASP	Ministry of National Security, Air and Sea Ports
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
PV	Photovoltaic
RE	Renewable Energy
RFP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Qualifications
RMI-CWR	Rocky Mountain Institute – Carbon War Room
VINLEC	St. Vincent Electricity Services Limited
SVG	St. Vincent & the Grenadines



## I. INTRODUCTION

VINLEC and RMI-CWR are issuing this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for interested parties to provide information to qualify for a future tender for Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) services for a solar PV and battery storage microgrid project on the island of Mayreau. VINLEC and RMI-CWR would be seeking proposals from qualified bidders to provide a ground-mounted solar PV plant and battery storage through an EPC contract.

The project is intended to:

- Provide an environmentally friendly source of energy to complement the existing diesel-only generation on Mayreau.
- Provide generation capacity that reduces the cost of electricity production on the island by harnessing the abundant solar resource available on the island as a substitute for more expensive diesel fuel that is presently used.
- Integrate the RE and existing technologies in a seamless manner to improve or at least maintain the quality and reliability of services to the local customers while maximizing efficiencies of the joint systems.
- Provide RMI-CWR the opportunity to deliver a microgrid solution for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as a demonstration of the possibilities with new solar and battery technology for the Caribbean. Working in partnership VINLEC—our team will work to:
  - Provide environmentally and economically sustainable energy services;
  - Reduce energy costs to allow for investment by the government in public infrastructure; and
  - Demonstrate a technically sound and affordable microgrid model that can be replicated across Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and other Caribbean island nations.

***Through this RFQ process your company is invited to submit information to be assessed for qualification to participate in the later RFP round.***

This RFQ document contains the following information:

- Project Information – Section 2
- Qualification Requirements – Section 3
- Qualification Form – Annex 1



## II. PROJECT INFORMATION

Sustainable Energy for SVG: The Government's National Energy Policy (March 2009) sets the following goal for RE: "Increase the utilisation of renewable energy technologies on all islands of St. Vincent and the Grenadines". Additionally, the Energy Action Plan for St. Vincent and the Grenadines, First Edition (January 2010) sets the goal of 60% of projected total electricity output from renewable energy sources by 2020. The Mayreau Microgrid Project would contribute towards the achievement of both of these national RE targets.

VINLEC, a government owned vertically integrated company and is responsible for the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity for public use on mainland St. Vincent as well as the Grenadine islands of Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, and Union Island.

Under the Mayreau Microgrid Project, VINLEC is seeking, via an Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) contract, to install a 150-200kW ground-mounted solar PV array and 100-250kWh of battery storage to be interconnected and integrated with the Mayreau grid.

VINLEC's current generation plant on Mayreau consists entirely of diesel generators and the company relies on imported fuel to operate the power plant. At present just under 20% of VINLEC's electricity production in SVG is from RE sources, i.e. solar and hydro. VINLEC plans to transition to a generation mix with significantly higher RE penetration through the utilization of solar PV and storage, hydropower, and geothermal power.

The Mayreau Microgrid Project is expected to have a significant impact on electricity generation on the island. The estimated energy production of a 150kW solar PV system is 257MWh and the solar PV and storage installation is expected to result in 51.8% RE penetration for the island grid. VINLEC will provide the site for the proposed solar PV array and battery bank installations.

This is the first project of its type being developed in the country by VINLEC and GoSVG.

The goal for this RFQ is to identify a short list of bidders from which an EPC contractor would be selected to undertake detailed design, supply all required materials and equipment, install the solar array and battery storage, connect and integrate the system to the Mayreau Electrical System. The firm would also operate and maintain the solar PV and storage systems for a period of at least one (1) year following commissioning. Subsequent to this RFQ, a Request for Proposals (RFP) would be issued to a limited number of the best qualified firms, selected from RFQ submitters.



### III. SELECTION CRITERIA

A selection panel will evaluate and score written proposals using the following point scale:

Evaluation Criteria	Points
Submission Completeness / organisation	5
Financial Qualifications	30
EPC Insurance / Bonding	15
EPC quality assurance, safety	10
EPC PV Solar Project Experiences/References_	30
Key Team Members/Engineering Qualifications_	10
	<b>100</b>

#### III a. Proposal Marking

Evaluators would examine the individual evaluation criteria and assign a score for each. Where appropriate, half marks would be given. The sum of the individual evaluation criteria scores will determine the bidder’s total score.

#### Thresholds

An overall threshold of 75-points would initially be in effect. The goal is to invite six to eight EPC suppliers to proceed to the RFP stage. The threshold of 75-points may be adjusted to accommodate the RFP invitation goal.

### IV. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to develop a list of qualified firms VINLEC requests that bidders complete the attached Prequalification Form (Annex 1) and include a copy of your statement of qualifications related to solar PV and battery storage projects and EPC services. Your completed Prequalification Form and statement of qualifications is requested by **May 19, 2017**.





Your completed Prequalification Form and copy of your statement of qualifications should be sent as PDF document(s) via email to the following persons:

**Mr. Owen Lewis**  
**Project Manager – Islands Energy Program**  
**Carbon War Room**  
**Tel: 1-664-392-4696**  
**Email: [olewis@carbonwarroom.com](mailto:olewis@carbonwarroom.com)**

**Mr. Thornley Myers**  
**Chief Executive officer**  
**St. Vincent Electricity Services Limited**  
**Kingstown**  
**St. Vincent & the Grenadines**  
**Tel: 1-784-456-1701**  
**Email: [ceo@vinlec.com](mailto:ceo@vinlec.com)**

Materials provided will be shared with the St. Vincent Electricity Services Limited, and Rocky Mountain Institute – Carbon War Room for the purpose of evaluating qualifications and determining eligibility to bid on the upcoming Mayreau Microgrid Project EPC RFP. Once the final bidders list for the RFP is determined, each potential bidder will be contacted directly to discuss the RFP.



# Annex 1-Prequalification Form