

# Louisiana Public Service Commission



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Deputy Undersecretary

June 16, 2017

*Via Email Only*

Lane Kollen  
Randy Futral  
J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc.  
570 Colonial Park Drive, Suite 305  
Roswell, GA 30075

Re: Solicitation for under \$50K bid to assist Staff in Reviewing Cleco Power LLC's upcoming application for authorization of new mortgage indenture.

Dear Mr. Kollen and Mr. Futral:

Cleco Power, LLC ("Cleco") has notified the Commission via correspondence dated June 9, 2017 that it intends to file an application in early to mid-July of this year under the Commission's General Order dated March 18, 1994 for authorization to replace its existing mortgage indenture of 1950 with a new mortgage indenture. Cleco intends to request that the Commission take action in time for the new mortgage indenture to become effective by January 1, 2018, or as close to that date as reasonably possible.

Your firm has previously assisted the Commission with a similar request in Docket No. S-33218 which makes your firm uniquely qualified to assist in this review. Therefore, by way of this bid solicitation letter, the Commission is seeking a proposed budget from your firm to act as independent technical consultant to assist the Commission in conducting a review of Cleco's filing and to work closely with in-house Legal, Utilities and Auditing Staff.

If you are retained in this matter, you will perform all necessary steps to bring this matter before the Commission including but not limited to the following: review the application and supporting documentation; prepare and review data requests and responses; prepare a report and/or pre-filed testimony in support of Staff's ultimate recommendations, together with exhibits supporting the report and/or pre-filed testimony. The scope of the work shall continue through a Commission vote on Staff's Recommendation.

Mr. Kollen  
Mr. Futral  
Bid Solicitation  
June 16, 2017  
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The November 10, 2014 General Order states, in part:

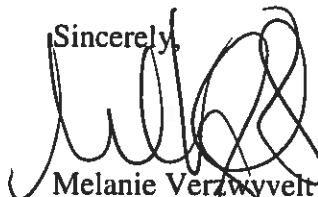
A. No Formal RFP Process Required

1. Contracts for consulting and/or legal services which are anticipated to result in a maximum bid amount of compensation, including all professional fees but excluding expenses, to not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00), may be considered and approved by the Commission without the necessity of an RFP. The expenses allowed for such services shall be limited to twenty percent (20%) of the total bid amount, unless the Commission specifically authorizes a greater amount.

In instances where no formal RFP process is required, the Commission Staff may select one or more qualified counsel and/or consultants (whichever applies) from the Consultant Lists which are compiled and kept on file at the Commission. Except in the event of a Procurement Emergency, Staff will notify in writing Selected Qualified Counsel and/or Consultants who will be asked to submit proposals for Staff review within the time frame specified in the request. The request shall provide sufficient detail regarding the appointment. All responsive proposals complying with the expense and cost limitation of the preceding paragraph responses shall be submitted to the Commission for formal vote at a properly noticed Business and Executive Session or at a Special Executive Session.

The Commission Staff anticipates that, based on prior proceedings, the budget necessary to satisfactorily perform the services described herein is less than \$50,000.00. Therefore, no formal RFP is required.

This hire is on the agenda for the Commission's June 2017 Business and Executive Session. If you would like to submit a bid, please do so electronically to [brandon.frey@la.gov](mailto:brandon.frey@la.gov), [melanie.v@la.gov](mailto:melanie.v@la.gov) and [kim.trosclair@la.gov](mailto:kim.trosclair@la.gov) on or before **June 22, 2017**.

Sincerely,  
  
Melanie Verzwylt  
LPSC Staff Attorney