

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RFP #2024-006  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Municipal Solar Grant Program

	Questions	Answers
1.	<p>The RFP says grants will be awarded in October. [Town] will need voter approval to proceed with a solar project. There will need to be a warrant article about it on the March 2025 town meeting ballot.</p> <p>How long we would have to decide whether to accept a grant? Will we still be able to accept it in March 2025 after we know the results of the vote?</p>	<p>In compliance with the regulations set by the USDOE, the Department is required to allocate 60% of the total grant amount within 180 days of the application approval, which took place on May 3, 2024. The Department's goal is to distribute \$888,000 by the deadline of November 3, 2024. The remaining 40% of the funding (\$592,000) does not have the same time constraint. However, all funding awards must adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP), which stipulates that projects must be operational no later than 24 months after the grant agreement is approved by the Governor and Executive Council, and no later than the program's conclusion on June 30, 2026.</p> <p>The Department acknowledges the potential need for town meeting approvals in the spring of 2025 and is dedicated to the efficient and effective distribution of funds over different timelines, as long as the milestones are both feasible and attainable within this specific timeframe.</p>
2.	<p>The RFP says payments will be cost reimbursements. Should our town be prepared to pay the solar installer's invoice and then wait for reimbursement?</p> <p>How long will it take to receive a reimbursement check?</p>	<p>Recipients of this program will receive payment based on a reimbursement of costs submitted with proper invoicing. It is necessary for the proposer to be prepared to cover the costs upfront. The reimbursement process normally takes up to 30 days to complete. Reimbursements may also be contingent on specific milestone events and other conditions as outlined in the approved grant agreement.</p> <p>Additionally, the Department will withhold 10% of the grant amount until the project is fully completed, interconnected, and a final inspection report is submitted by the technical monitor.</p> <p>It is important to note that expenses incurred before the grant agreement is approved by the Governor and Executive Council will not be eligible for reimbursement.</p>