



Request for Proposals: Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program

Water meter replacement program

Due: Tuesday, February 28, 2024 2:00 p.m. MST

General Information

Overview/Background

The Town of Eagar is located in the beautiful White Mountains of North Eastern Arizona. The Town is the sole provider of metered water services within town limits. The system is currently comprised of the following meter sizes:

2150 3/4"

33 – 1"

4 – 1 1/2"

46 – 2"

2 – 3"

1 – 4"

Well Meters are located in vaults in the following sizes and must align with the Distribution Automation system that will be selected

7 – 3"

1 – 6"

Existing meters are from different companies serving a population of roughly 5,000 and the majority of meters are between 20-30 years old. Eagar does experience the "four seasons" with freezing temperatures typically from December-February.

Project Description

The Town of Eagar is requesting proposals for the development and implementation of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)/Automatic meter reading (AMR) system to be comprised of 2,158 AMI/AMR meters and eight (8) well meters. Current metering practices of the Town include public works employees manually reading all meters within the municipality then supplying reads to the finance department who inputs and checks all information before running monthly statements. All meters within the system will be replaced and upgraded with new technology and meters. Installation guidelines will be provided by awarded supplier to the installation company. Town is anticipating this project to move forward as quickly as possible taking no longer than 18 months for all meters to be installed. Each respondent is requested to provide as much information regarding the scope of this RFP, including but not limited to the respondent's capabilities with respect to project management, the products and components proposed, service, maintenance, warranties, and post-installation support and service.

The intent of this RFP is to solicit proposals for services for the implementation of a fixed based advanced metering infrastructure (AMI)/Advanced meter reading (AMR) system and associated management and maintenance thereof as described herein.

The Town of Eagar wishes to procure an AMI/AMR system which:

1. Provides integrated time interval data daily (hourly is preferred).

2. Replaces existing water meters (all are in utility easements or town right-of-ways) and increases the accuracy of the reads associated with the system through use of modern technology based products.
3. Increases the efficiency of the water system, lowers operating costs, and aids in customer service.
4. Provides water meter reading redundancy.
5. Provides an option which enables the meters to be read in a *drive-by* method utilizing a mobile reading device capable of reading the same transmitter as the fixed base transmitter, or some other method which equals or exceeds those described.
6. Provides that while in fixed base mode, the system shall have two-way communication capability which allows the system to poll the transmitter at each meter location for a current read, and which also allows for upgrades of the fixed base transmitter firmware as to incorporate technology advances and/or as deemed useful and necessary by the Town of Eagar.
7. Utilizes an Exclusive/Primary Licensed FCC Frequency, or equivalent, to enable robust operation, high capacity bandwidth, interoperability with current and future applications and future upgrades and advancement. Respondents may also submit a cellular option possessing the same characteristics.
8. Provides meter leak detection on the distribution and customer sides of the meter.
9. Provides component pricing and after sale service costs post-completion of the project. Includes warranty information and system specifications.
10. Backhaul of system needs to interface with radio or cellular components as fiber is not available.
11. System will need to interface with Town's billing software, Pelorus Methods, Inc.
12. Include pricing and specifications for a Distribution Automation System.

Guidelines:

As part of this RFP, each respondent shall submit pricing for the water meters, necessary components for operation, software and hardware, battery life and replacement specifications, if boosters/repeaters would be needed, a minimum and maximum price for every meter type listed, the maximum escalation for the percentage of increase after first five (5) years, and training. Thereafter, if the Town of Eagar determines to proceed with an RFP and select a respondent, the Town and the selected respondent shall enter into negotiations for a final contract the terms of which shall be generally consistent with this RFP. In conjunction with any contract which may be awarded in this process, the Town of Eagar will reach an agreement on provisions in securing the metering system.

Smart Utility Network Vendor References

RFP vendors must provide three (3) references of utility systems of similar size (or larger), customer count and similar service area (ie. Weather/location) as Eagar that are successfully using the proposed system version. Proposer needs to show a minimum of five (5) years experience in field.

Smart Utility Network Project Objectives – Short Term

The Town of Eagar wishes to acquire and implement an AMI/AMR system to satisfy the needs of growth and development in the area. The following are short term goals for Eagar:

- Reduce water loss

- Improve water conservation/water accountability
- Replace all meters in system to AMR/AMI system.
- Reduce current labor required by Public Works department and Finance department in completing monthly billing
- Improve customer service
- Install all components of system within one year to 18 months
- System that supports direct communication to meters in field

Smart Utility Network Project Objectives – Future Goals

Future objectives of implementation are as follows:

- Add customer on-line portal
- Improve cash flow and reduce long-term costs
- Reduced time reading meters to allow more time to be spent on infrastructure projects
- Improve response times to potential problems
- Asset management
- Availability of information for emergency preparedness

Smart Utility Network Project Life

The Town of Eagar is looking for longevity from this project; as such, it is expected that the new system will have a 20-year life span with warranties to ensure product life starting at the time of installation of said unit. Battery life as well as the instructions for replacing batteries in the system needs to be indicated in RFP as well as the associated price. All meter sizes must be compatible with system that will be provided, system must allow for future development and growth of Town, and any upgrades/changes to the system and/or meters must be agreed to, in writing, by the Town Manager before proceeding.

Instructions to Proposers

RFP Proposal Submission

Submit Sealed Proposals to:

Town of Eagar

Attn: Jessica Vaughan

Town Clerk

PO Box 1300

Eagar, AZ. 85925

(928) 333-4223 ext, 303

Proposals may also be sent to the following email: j.vaughan@eagaraz.gov

Please visit www.eagaraz.gov for a complete list of open bids.

Bids must be received by 2:00p.m. February 28, 2024. Bids may be hand delivered to 22 W. 2nd Street Eagar AZ 85925, Bids **MUST** specify attention to Jessica Vaughan, Town Clerk– and state Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program.

Proposal Timeline and Schedule

| ACTIVITY | DATE |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| RFP issuance date | 02/15/2024 |
| Deadline for vendor questions | 02/26/2024 |
| RFP Proposal Responses due date | 02/28/2024 2:00 p.m. |
| Target date for vendor selection | On or about 03/5/2024 |
| Target date to finalize contract | On or about 03/26/2024 |
| Desired start date for deployment | On or about 04/01/2024 |

Pricing

| <u>Category</u> | <u>Year 1</u> | <u>Year 2</u> | <u>Year 3</u> | <u>Year 4</u> | <u>Year 5</u> | <u>Total Five (5) year cost</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|--------------|
| Software/product licenses | | | | | | | |
| Support and maintenance | | | | | | | |
| Upgrade or system maintenance | | | | | | | |
| Distribution Automation system | | | | | | | |

| <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Unit Price</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 2,150 | 3/4"meter | | |
| Per PRV | PRV | | TBD |
| Per valve | Valve | | TBD |
| 33 | 1"meter | | |
| 4 | 1½"meter | | |
| 46 | 2"meter | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------|
| 2 | 3"meter | | |
| 1 | 4"meter | | |
| 7 | 3"well meter | | |
| 1 | 6"well meter | | |
| 1 | Misc. Labor | | |
| Per transmitter | Transmitter replacement | | TBD |
| Per meter lid | Meter box lids | | TBD |
| Per station/repeater | Booster stations or repeaters | | TBD |