

Request for Proposals
Development of FERC 1920 and Transmission Planning Training
and Resources for State Energy Offices

Solicitation Number: NASEO-2026-RFP-012

Released: Wednesday, August 12, 2026
Responses Due: Wednesday, August 26, 2026

National Association of State Energy Officials
1812 North Moore Street, Suite 1820
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Note on applicants' eligibility: All applicants must meet the [DOE Mandatory Requirements and Standard Provisions](#). This includes having a current registration in SAM.gov and providing assurance that the applicant is not a debarred or suspended entity.

General Information

Overview

The National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) is the only national nonprofit organization representing the governor-designated energy directors and their offices – the State Energy Offices – from the 56 States and Territories across the nation. Formed by the states in 1986, NASEO facilitates sharing of best practices among states, serves as a technical and policy resource for states, and advocates the interests of State and Territory Energy Offices (State Energy Offices) to Congress and federal agencies.

State Energy Offices play an increasingly important role in electricity policy, transmission planning, and grid modernization. In May 2024, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued Order No. 1920, establishing new requirements for long-term regional transmission planning and cost allocation to improve grid reliability, transparency, and state engagement.

To help State Energy Offices understand these requirements and effectively participate in transmission planning processes, NASEO seeks a contractor to develop and deliver targeted training on FERC 1920 and supporting resources. While the training will focus on requirements of FERC 1920 generally, the supporting resources will be focused on two aspects of the FERC 1920 requirements: cost allocation frameworks and advanced transmission technologies.

Purpose of this Request for Proposals

NASEO is seeking proposals from qualified organizations to strengthen State Energy Office engagement in transmission planning, with a particular focus on FERC Order No. 1920.

The selected contractor will:

- Develop and deliver two complementary FERC 1920 and Transmission Engagement training tracks—one for states in RTO/ISO regions and one for states outside RTO/ISO regions.
- Develop a transmission cost allocation framework that outlines considerations and approaches for allocating the costs of interregional transmission projects.
- Develop a playbook for State Energy Office consideration of advanced transmission technologies.
- Support dissemination of training materials and resources to State Energy Offices and other state stakeholders.

The trainings should build upon existing technical assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories and incorporate input from NASEO's Transmission Working Group and State Energy Offices. While the primary audience is State Energy Offices, the materials should also be applicable to Public Utility Commission staff, consumer advocates, Governor's offices, and other state stakeholders.

Timing and Resources

Proposals should discuss the proposing organization's expertise, subject matter familiarity, relevant experience, and ability to carry out the activities described in this request for proposals (RFP). For the purposes of proposal evaluation and approval, as well as execution of the services, all prices, costs, and conditions shall remain firm and valid for a ninety (90) day period, commencing on the day of the proposal due date. Upon award of the contract, all prices shall be firm and valid for the duration of the contract. The estimated RFP timetable is:

ACTION	DATE
RFP Issued	August 12, 2026
Written Proposals Due	August 26, 2026
Proposal Evaluation Complete (estimated)	September 2, 2026
Proposal Award Notification (estimated)	September 4, 2026
Contract Awarded/Subcontractor Start Date (estimated)	September 21, 2026
Contract/Subcontractor End Date (estimated)	December 31, 2026

Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted to:

Catherine Reed

Senior Program Director

National Association of State Energy Officials

Email: creed@naseo.org

The funds utilized by NASEO to support this work have been provided to NASEO by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Electricity. The funding agreement between DOE and NASEO will be incorporated in the final contract between NASEO and the subcontractor. All requirements of the DOE funding agreement with NASEO (found here [DOE Mandatory Requirements and Standard Provisions](#)) shall be controlling, including, but not limited to, federal reporting and the propriety and form of expenses and costs.

Scope of Work

The selected contractor will complete the following tasks.

Task 1. Project Kickoff and Work Plan

- Participate in a kickoff meeting with NASEO to confirm project objectives, schedule, roles, and deliverables.

Task 2. Develop and Deliver FERC 1920 and Transmission Engagement Trainings

- Develop agendas for two one-day virtual training tracks:
 - States within RTO/ISO regions.
 - States outside RTO/ISO regions.
- Work with NASEO to identify and recruit appropriate subject matter experts.
- Deliver and implement both training sessions.

Task 3. Develop Training Summaries

- Prepare concise written summaries for each training that capture key concepts, lessons learned, and recommended actions for State Energy Offices.

Task 4. Develop a Transmission Cost Allocation Framework

- Develop a practical framework for State Energy Offices describing considerations and potential approaches for allocating the costs of interregional transmission projects across states and regions.
- Include examples of existing practices and emerging approaches where appropriate.

Task 5. Develop Playbook for State Energy Office Consideration of Advanced Transmission Technologies

- Develop a playbook for State Energy Office consideration of advanced transmission technologies.
- This playbook could include a summary and assessment of cost-benefit methodologies available to assess grid optimization technologies; a high-level analysis of the energy and economic development benefits of grid optimization technologies for states; and guidance as to what the State Energy Office levers are, when they should engage and who they should work with, what analysis they should request, what questions to ask utilities, regulators, RTO/ISOs.
- This task is to be developed with input from and in support of the NASEO Grid Optimization Task Force.

Task 6. Support Resource Dissemination

- Assist NASEO in sharing the training materials and cost allocation framework through webinars, peer exchanges, presentations, or other outreach activities.

Anticipated Deliverables and Timeline

#	Deliverable	Target Milestone	Notes
1	Project Kickoff and Workplan Review	Week 1	Submitted to NASEO for review and approval before work begins
2	Develop and Deliver FERC 1920 and Transmission Engagement Trainings	Weeks 2-8	
3	Finalize Training Summaries	Week 9	
4	Develop a Transmission Cost Allocation Framework	Weeks 2-14	
5	Develop Playbook for State Energy Office Consideration of Advanced Transmission Technologies	Weeks 8-14	
6	Support Resource Dissemination	Weeks 14-16	

Project Budget

The proposed project budget should reflect a times and materials consulting agreement. This is a competitively bid project; costs should be feasible and prudent. The subcontractor must submit cost proposals by task for the entire Statement of Work using the DOE budget justification

spreadsheet which is a separate file available for download from DOE's website. The total proposed maximum budget should reflect the cost of requested content, with written materials in basic editable format with no graphic design.

Compensation

The subcontractor shall invoice monthly for actual work completed. NASEO shall reimburse the subcontractor for actual milestones achieved and hours spent in the execution of the work (not to exceed the total approved task budget shown in the final contract agreement) once NASEO has received payment from DOE. The subcontractor will submit a monthly invoice (along with supporting time records for personnel hours) and progress report by the tenth day of each month of the agreement.

Rejection of Proposals and Incurred Costs

This RFP does not obligate NASEO to award a subcontract. All costs incurred in response to this RFP are the responsibility of the respondent. NASEO reserves the right to reject any or all submitted proposals. NASEO reserves the right to request new proposals or to cancel all or part of this solicitation.

Contract Requirements

The funds for this work have been provided through a funding agreement from DOE to NASEO. The underlying terms and conditions of the funding agreement between DOE and NASEO will be provided to the subcontractor and incorporated in the awarded subcontract. All requirements of the DOE funding agreement with NASEO shall be controlling, including, but not limited to, federal reporting and the propriety and form of expenses and costs. If selected for award by NASEO, the selection must be approved by DOE prior to NASEO executing the subcontract with the subcontractor.

Responding to the RFP

Please submit responses to the RFP to Catherine Reed at creed@naseo.org. **RFP responses are due no later than August 26, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Any questions on the RFP should be directed to Catherine Reed at creed@naseo.org no later than August 19, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. ET.** All questions received and answers will be posted to the NASEO RFP website.

Responses shall include and fully address the following:

- Cover letter (should include the following):
 - Unique Entity Identification Number
 - SAM.gov registration expiration date
 - Assurance that applicant is not a debarred or suspended entity
- Resumes (please identify any foreign nationals included in the proposal)
- Description of relevant experience including prior work on grid optimization technologies, transmission, and policy and regulatory matters as well as working with relevant state agencies (in particular with State Energy Offices).
- Proposed approach and treatment of the tasks with a view toward expected deliverables
- Proposed Budget by Task
 - The budget should be completed using the [DOE budget justification spreadsheet](#).

- Please note that there is no cost-share requirement, applicants can use either the 3-year or 5-year budget justification and add all costs for their proposal under Budget Period 1.

Please limit the cover letter, the description of relevant experience, and the narrative that addresses the proposed approach and development of the project tasks and proposed budget **to 6 pages in 11-point font**. Resumes and the proposed budget do not count toward the page limit.

Note: Late proposals will not be accepted.

Subcontractor Selection and Required Qualifications

NASEO will select a subcontractor through a competitive selection, which will include consideration of the following:

- Experience working with State Energy Offices or other relevant state agencies.
- Strong subject-matter expertise in electricity transmission and ability to develop training on these highly technical subjects to a policy audience.
- Competitive budget proposal.
- Quality of professional experience in relevant field.
- Flexibility of availability.

NASEO will use the following criteria in evaluating all responses to this RFP:

- **Administrative (applicant must meet these requirements for NASEO to review the proposal)**
 - Unique Entity Identification Number.
 - Current SAM.gov registration.
 - Assurance in writing that applicant is not a debarred or suspended entity.
- **Technical Experience and Applicant Qualifications (40% of total score)**
 - Demonstrated expertise in transmission policy, grid optimization technologies, and utility regulatory policy, with evidence of prior work with state agencies, consumer advocates, or regulatory bodies.
 - Prior engagement with or demonstrated understanding of State Energy Office priorities and the policy context in which State Energy Offices operate.
 - Familiarity with transmission planning processes and cost-allocation methods at the state and federal levels.
 - Strong written and oral communication skills, with demonstrated ability to translate complex regulatory and technical concepts into clear, accessible content for a non-specialist audience.
- **Proposed Approach for Implementation (40% of total score)**
 - Proposal responds to the topics outlined in the RFP, in the form of a detailed workplan outlining their approach to each task, key milestones, and a schedule for deliverable review and feedback. Proposals that demonstrate a creative or innovative approach to the resources outlined are strongly encouraged.
 - Existing resources/subcontractor availability to meet needs of flexible deployment.
 - Overall quality and professionalism of the proposal (well written, structured and organized) and materials are provided in the format requested.

- **Budget (20% of total score)**
 - Given the scope, is the estimated cost of the proposal appropriate?
 - Does overall cost reflect an efficient value for the level of effort?
 - Is the level of effort for each task appropriate?