



Tony Baldwin, Ed.D., Superintendent

175 Bingham Road, Asheville, NC 28806
P 828.255.5921 F 828.255.5923
www.buncombe.k12.nc.us

Dr. Wanda Greene
Buncombe County Manager
205 College Street, Ste, 300
Asheville, NC 28801

June 30, 2011

SUBJECT: Enka High School Solar Initiative

Dr. Greene,

In an effort to offset rising energy costs and concurrent operating costs, the Buncombe County Board of Education is evaluating the merits of a site lease and Solar Energy Purchase Agreement (SEPA) at Enka High School for a maximum term of 20 years. The Board of Education is following NCGS 160A-272, "Lease or Rental of Property".

To date, the Board has held two work sessions related to this type of agreement, issued and advertised a "Solar Developer RFP", held a pre-proposal meeting at the school site with prospective developers and received proposals.

In order for the Board to consider and execute an agreement to lease the rooftop space at Enka High School for a solar array for a period of more than 10 years, the County Commissioners must determine that the property will not be needed by the County for other purposes for the term of the lease.

Summary of Request: That the County Commissioners determine that the rooftop of Enka High School located at 475 Enka Lake Road, Candler NC will not be needed by the County for the 20 year term of the lease under consideration by the Board of Education (approximately September 2011 – September 2031).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Baldwin", is written over a horizontal line.

Tony Baldwin, Ed.D
Superintendent

TB/TF: cjn

Attachments

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

In accordance with Article 12 of G.S. 160A, the Buncombe County Board of Education is seeking proposals for solar developers to lease certain roof space at Enka High School for the purpose set forth below.

Sealed proposals will be received until 1:00 PM on June 28, 2011 for Solar Developers to design, install, finance and maintain solar photovoltaic and solar thermal systems that will be installed on Buildings A, D, E, F, G, and H of Enka High School in Candler, NC (575 Enka Lake Rd., Candler, NC).

Deliver all proposals directly to the address below:

Buncombe County Schools, Purchasing Division
175 Bingham Road
Asheville, NC 28806

Complete plans, specifications and proposal forms can be obtained electronically from Innovative Design, Inc. during normal office hours after May 16, 2011. Contact Mike Nicklas, FAIA.

Plans will be available in digital PDF format upon request. A CAD drawing of the existing roof plan and digital copies of submittal documents will also be provided. Drawings and documents shall be requested from Innovative Design.

Buncombe County Schools reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all proposals.

The term of such lease shall be for a period of up to 20 years.

A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at 1:00 PM on May 27, 2011 at Enka High School, 575 Enka Lake Rd., Candler, NC. Conference attendees must report to the main office upon entering the building. Attendance is mandatory to submit a proposal.

Requests for Information must be received prior to 5PM, Friday, June 17, 2011. Submit Requests for Information via email or fax to Mike Nicklas, FAIA at nicklas@innovatedesign.net or 919-832-3339. Replies shall be answered via email by June 21, 2011.

By: Mr. Ted Sizemore, Chairman

The Buncombe County Board of Education

**Solar Developer Proposal For:
Buncombe County Schools
Enka High School Solar Systems**

May 16, 2011

Proposals are being sought by Buncombe County Schools from Solar Developers to Design, Install, Finance and Maintain solar systems that will be installed at the existing Enka High School located at 575 Enka Lake Road, Candler, North Carolina.

The Solar Developers will be provided the option of making proposals on one or more of the following three options:

- Option 1: Solar Water Heating System
- Option 2: Photovoltaic System
- Option 3: Both Option 1 (Solar Water Heating System) and Option 2 (Photovoltaic System)

At the end of this explanatory information you will find proposal forms that **must be completed** for each option for which you would like to be considered as Solar Developer. You will also find more general questions that pertain to all the options.

Evaluation Criteria

Buncombe County Schools will evaluate the proposals based upon the following criteria:

- Overall projected cash flow for Buncombe County Schools
- REC (Renewable Energy Certificates) and power purchase values
- Whether both the Solar Water Heating System and the Photovoltaic System are included within proposal
- Background and history of team members in successfully completing similar solar systems
- Involvement of team members (design, construction, financing, maintenance) in other solar developer type projects (provide details on all projects in last two years)
- Quality, efficiency and durability of products intended to be utilized
- Proposed maintenance strategy
- References

Your proposals must include the following:

- 1) A written response to the above *Evaluation Criteria*;**
- 2) The completion of the following *Description of Proposed Systems* forms;**
- 3) The completion of the attached *Cash Flow* forms for each option you are proposing.**

After reviewing proposals and before final selection it is possible that one or more Solar Developer teams will be asked to make presentations. Although Buncombe County Schools would prefer to have one Developer complete both the Solar Water Heating System and the Photovoltaic System, Buncombe County Schools reserves the right to select different proposals for the PV and thermal systems.

The Buncombe County Board reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Questions

All questions should be addressed to:

Michael Nicklas, FAIA
Innovative Design
850 West Morgan Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
nicklas@innovativedesign.net
919-832-6303; fax: 919-832-3339

Those written questions received by email or fax 1:00PM, Friday, June 17, 2011 will be responded to no later than June 21, 2011. No questions will be responded to if received after June 17, 2011. All questions and responses will be sent to all those expressing interest in making a proposal.

Request for Proposals (RFP)

There will be advertisements placed in local papers starting Sunday, May 15, 2011. Those expressing interest in the project will, upon receipt of their e-mail address by Innovative Design, receive all required RFP forms electronically. Included within the RFP materials that you will receive will be all forms that are required to be completed, information on the roof and mechanical/storage rooms where equipment is to be located, and most obvious pipe routing. Additionally there will be a CAD-formatted roof plan (requiring field verification) indicating the location of existing roof-mounted equipment, drains and vents.

Mandatory Pre-proposal Meeting

There will be a **mandatory** pre-proposal meeting on Friday, May 27, 2010 at 1:00pm at the Enka High School (575 Enka Lake Road, Candler). Those attending will be required to check-in at the school's main administrative office prior to the meeting. At this meeting we will tour the High School and you will be able to see the roof areas, mechanical room and other critical spaces that are impacted by the solar systems.

Submittal Date

Two (2) paper copies of your proposal and a CD with the entire proposal shall be submitted to Buncombe County Schools to arrive no later than 1:00pm on June 28, 2011. Mail and express packages shall be addressed to:

Timothy Fierle, AIA
Director of Facilities and Planning
Buncombe County Schools
175 Bingham Road
Asheville, NC 28806

828-255-5916 Phone

Re: Solar Developer Proposal

Your proposal shall be placed in a separate envelope, inside the mailing package. On the outside of the inner envelope you shall 1) state that it is a "Solar Developer Proposal," 2) include the name of the company submitting the proposal and 3) provide the date.

Confidentiality agreements will be signed by those individuals from Buncombe County Schools or representing the School System who will be reviewing the proposals from Solar Developers and who will be finalizing the final contracts with the Solar Developer selected. Within your proposal, **clearly mark each specific area that contains information that should be protected by the confidentiality agreement.**

Schedule

The following is the tentative schedule. It is possible that this schedule could vary.

Advertize for Solar Developers	May 15
Proposals sent electronically to responding/interested Solar Developers	May 16
Mandatory Pre-proposal meeting at Enka High School (1:00pm)	May 27
RFP from Solar Developers due at Facilities and Planning (1:00pm)	June 28
Optional Interviews (if scheduled)	July 6/7
Approval of Solar Developer by Board for Negotiations	July 7
Sign Lease and Access Agreements	September 1
Pre-construction meeting	September 7
Last day Building D's new roofing will be completed by Owner	October 1
Complete construction	December 30

Optional Mounting Spaces

Included within the RFP plans are designated, **optional** spaces where the photovoltaic and solar water heating systems can be placed. Your proposal does not need to utilize all of these spaces. These spaces represent the maximum opportunities in which to place the systems.

All of the optional roofing spaces are in areas where there is single-ply roofing. In those spaces designated for photovoltaics, preliminary structural analysis has determined that these roof areas are designed to handle an additional 10 pounds per square foot of loading.

There are also two roof/wall mounting opportunities on south-facing side of the gymnasium. Unlike the other optional spaces, these roof/wall-mounting opportunities, being very visible, are a very high priority for the School System. Because of this priority, **it is required (assuming acceptance by purchaser of REC/power) that at least two-thirds (or 39 KW) of the maximum 58 KW potential that is indicated on the RFP plans must be a part of your proposal.**

Roofing Conditions and Warranties

In the roof areas that are designated for photovoltaics, Versico single-ply roofing membranes have been installed that are still under warranty. It will be essential that the Solar Developer work with Versico (Local Representative: Terry Slifer, email tsliferpremier@bellsouth.net), Cell: 704-608-8384) so that their original warranties are maintained. All of the photovoltaics that are to be installed on the roof areas must utilize ballasted/pan type mounting so that there are no roof penetrations other than that required for wiring and potentially where there could be limited roof/wall mounted applications at the gymnasium.

In the area designated for the solar water heating systems (Building D), roof curbs and a new single-ply roofing system will be installed prior to any work by the solar developer. The latest day that this new roofing work will be completed by the Owner is October 1, 2011. These curbs, as indicated in the RFP plans, have been done in a manner that allows for either a drainback or closed, pressurized glycol type system. More curbs than will be required for this phase of work will be installed. The curbs have been designed for anticipated uplift as well as dead-load conditions (see proposal plan documents). When laying out the final water heating collector arrangement, curbs located to the south should be utilized first. Additionally, a roof penetration will be prepared (as shown on the RFP Plans) where a drainback piping arrangement could lead from the roof-mounted collector location to the drainback module location below (in the storage closet). Like with the photovoltaic-designated roof spaces, this roofing area will be under warranty and will require that the solar developer work with the roofing manufacturer to insure that the new roof warranty is not negatively impacted.

If during the period of construction a roof leak is experienced, it is required that the Solar Developer, in conjunction with the manufacturer-approved roofing contractor, repair the roof leak within one day. If raining and a permanent repair is not immediately possible, it is required that the roof be temporarily covered until a permanent repair is completed. If the roof is not repaired/addressed within this time frame, the Owner will have the ability to make this repair and charge the Solar Developer for this expense.

Structural Analysis

Structural analysis has been conducted by Lysaght and Associates, Raleigh, NC, on the designated roof areas indicating that the anticipated loading will be acceptable. (See RFP plans for loading assumptions.)

However, recognizing that the loading conditions posed by the proposed systems may vary from the previous assumptions, it will be required that the selected solar developer, prior to implementation, conduct their own structural analysis indicating that their specific roof and/or roof/wall mounting strategy meets all current building code and allowable loading conditions.

The structural engineer conducting this analysis shall be registered in North Carolina and seal their analysis. This analysis is to be submitted to Innovative Design prior to any installation.

Building Permits

It is the responsibility of the Solar Developer to obtain (including paying for) building permits associated with the work the Solar Developer is implementing. The work of installing the solar system(s) will be implemented by contractors duly licensed in North Carolina.

Lease Agreement

Enclosed in the RFP is a draft lease agreement that will serve as the basis of the lease signed between the Solar Developer and Buncombe County Schools. This lease is subject to N.C.G.S. §160A-272 and all relevant provisions regarding public notice for leases extending more than 10 years.

Maintenance

It is the desire of Buncombe County Schools to have the option of retaining a maintenance contract with the appropriate entity within the proposing Solar Developer team for up to twenty years, even if Buncombe County Schools exercises their option to purchase the system at an earlier time. Buncombe County Schools will retain the option of discontinuing the maintenance agreement after the purchase, with reasonable notice.

Included within the Cash Flow forms, that are required to be submitted, is a category for Maintenance. Within this form you shall list your proposed annual maintenance fee that the Solar Developer would charge Buncombe County Schools for each year after the system(s) is purchased. List this value for every year after the earliest possible year in which the system(s) could be purchased and extend this listing through year 20. The values placed in this submittal form will be the values which Buncombe County Schools is expecting to be included within a final lease agreement.

Solar Developer Proposal Options

Despite the fact that it is advantageous to Buncombe County Schools to have a solar developer implement both the photovoltaic and solar water heating systems, each proposal for each option will be considered individually. It is possible to submit for the solar water heating system by itself (Option 1), the photovoltaic system by itself (Option 2) or both systems combined (Option 3). We have included Option 3 as a separate opportunity anticipating that maintenance or financing possibilities could be more advantageous if both are combined.

It shall be recognized that Buncombe County Schools will place addition weight on submittals that propose both systems.

Option 1: Solar Water Heating System

Included within your proposal shall be all costs and labor associated the design, equipment, installation and insurance plus financing and maintenance for the installation of a complete solar water heating system that is designed to meet a percentage of the hot water load that you determine to be optimum. Roof curbs and one pipe penetration, as indicated in the RFP plans, will be provided by Buncombe County Schools. To account for the cost of these curbs we are requesting that you factor into the first year of column F within the Option 1, Solar Water Heating System Cash Flow form (and column M in Option 3), a value that you feel appropriately compensates the school system for the curb cost that would typically be incurred by the solar developer. The Building D roof area where the Water Heating Systems collectors will be placed is currently in the process of being reroofed by the Owner and will be completed by October 1, 2011, at which time the collectors can be installed.

Buncombe County Schools is prepared to pay the Solar Developer a guaranteed minimum amount if the hot water load (through demand altering changes created by the High School) drops below 75% of the current predicted load. Planning for potential future solar thermal possibilities, there is space allocated on the curbs for well in excess of the predicted amounts necessary for the immediate hot water requirements.

The curb layout, within the designated roof space for the water heating system, has been positioned so that either a drainback or closed, pressurized glycol type system could be implemented.

If a drainback system is selected, the preferred location where a drainback module can be located is a storage room under the array, (see RFP plans). Preliminary structural analysis indicates that the floor structure within the closet area consists of 8 H 3 joists spanning 8'. Each joist has an allowable load capacity of 4800 pounds. From this location, a route (indicated in RFP plans) has been approved where supply and return piping can extend from this storage room to the main mechanical room where the solar storage tank(s) can be easily located near to the existing hot water boiler and storage system.

A roof penetration, through which the piping in a drainback configuration could enter into the storage room below, will be provided. Any additional penetrations must not negatively impact the warranty.

If a pressurized glycol system is selected, it is likely that the supply and return would run on top of the roof, utilizing non-penetrating supports to a location where the piping can extend downward on the side of the building into the main mechanical room. If the solar developer selects a pressurized glycol system, it must address overheating possibilities that will likely occur in the summer months when hot water demand is low.

While the curbs provided have been designed to handle the loads listed on the RFP plans, it will be required that the solar developer provide structural analysis by a registered structural engineer licensed North Carolina indicating that the collector configuration, size, uplift and weight are acceptable.

A specific roof space allocation has been designated on the roof plans for this system. There is new single-ply roofing system with structural curbs that are now being installed by the School System to help facilitate the installation. The actual space required for installation will vary depending upon the number and size of collectors selected. It is required that the overall collector array remain within this designated area. In laying-out and installing the collectors, insure that you:

1. provide adequate space for servicing of the collectors and piping as well as other equipment currently on the roof;
2. allow roof drainage to be maintained;
3. maintain the integrity of the roofing system;
4. protect the existing roof areas during construction;
5. do not negatively impact the current lightning protection; and
7. because installation will occur in an area where there is a new roof with a warranty, it will be the responsibility of the Solar Developer to provide within their proposal all costs associated with engaging an approved (by roofing manufacturer) roofing company that will implement approved methods and materials necessary to protect the roofing system and insure that any new roof penetrations are weatherproofed in an acceptable manner. All staging and main work areas on the roof shall be protected during construction.

Option 2: Photovoltaic System

Included within your proposal shall be all costs and labor associated the design, equipment, installation and insurance plus financing and maintenance for the installation of a photovoltaic system including the photovoltaic modules, inverter, disconnects, monitoring system, mounting, wiring and all other related equipment necessary for complete installation.

Specific roof space allocations have been designated on the roof plans for this system. The actual space required for installation will vary depending upon the modules selected, however, it will be required that the overall collector array remain within these areas. In laying out the system array, adequate access around the perimeter of the array must be maintained.

The proposal from the Solar Developers will, depending upon the proposed modules, contain a peak KW based upon the amount of modules that can be logically located within the space allocated. We anticipate that the peak KW will vary depending upon the module selection and the amount of space utilized.

In laying-out and installing the module configurations, insure that the Solar Developer:

1. provides for adequate servicing of the modules as well as other equipment currently on the roof;
2. allows roof drainage to be maintained;
3. maintains the integrity of the roofing and wall systems;
4. protects the existing roof areas during construction;
5. does not negatively impact the current lightning protection; and
6. because there is an existing roofing warranty with Verisco, it will be the responsibility of the Solar Developer to provide within their proposal all costs associated with engaging a Versico-approved roofing company that will implement approved methods and materials necessary to protect the roofing system and insure that any new roof penetrations are weatherproofed in an acceptable manner. All staging and main work areas on the roof shall be protected during construction. It is anticipated that the protections will mainly consist of implementing protective slip sheets under the ballasted, non-penetrating support system and installing waterproof roof penetrations for wiring. Only pan or ballasted mounting rack systems that do not penetrate the membrane will be acceptable.

The proposal from the Solar Developers will, depending upon the proposed modules, contain a peak KW based upon the amount of modules that can be logically located within the space allocated. We anticipate that the peak KW will vary depending upon the module selection and the amount of space utilized.

Real-time Monitoring

As a requirement of these two installations, the Solar Developer will implement a real-time monitoring system that can be utilized by Enka High School and others, through web-base access, as an educational tool. See the specifications of this monitoring system within the RFP documents.

The educational-based real-time monitoring system must be implemented in a manner that, from a security standpoint, allows those accessing the web-site to only view and not, in any way have access into the school's control systems or Buncombe County School's operational network.

As a part of the educational component of the real-time monitoring system, the Solar Developer will also provide for the possibility that the Owner could install a flat-screen in the Cafeteria which would display this output.

The maintenance of this website shall be by the Solar Developer as long as the system is owned by the Solar Developer.

Thermal Energy and Thermal REC Purchase Agreement

Thermal REC component of the Proposal will be based upon the value that the Solar Developer is able to negotiate (from 10 to 20 years) in a REC Purchase Agreement. In the event that Buncombe County Schools purchases the system from the Solar Developer, the REC Purchase Agreement will also be transferred to Buncombe County Schools at that time. For this reason it will be required that Buncombe County Schools be part of finalizing any agreement with the party purchasing the RECs.

Reimbursement to Solar Developer for Thermal Energy Collected and Delivered to Buncombe County Schools

Buncombe County Schools will reimburse the Solar Developer for the monitored BTUs supplied from the solar tank(s) to the building loads. The rate of the reimbursement follows.

The following represents the predicted monthly hot water building loads, assuming the implementation of planned hot water conservation measures. These monthly loads represent the predicted end-use demand levels, regardless of the efficiency of the hot water gas boiler.

Month	Predicted DHW in therms/month	Guaranteed minimum
Jan	304	228
Feb	304	228
Mar	334	251
Apr	319	239
May	334	251
Jun	152	114
Jul	182	135
Aug	334	251
Sep	319	239
Oct	334	251
Nov	319	239
Dec	213	160
Total	3,448 therms	2,586 therms

* If the annual demand is below 2,586 therms and the solar system is providing adequate energy to meet the 75% level but the energy cannot be used the Solar Developer will be compensated for the net difference between the 75% level and the actual demand. If there is a demand for energy, there will be no limit as to the amount that can be supplied as long as it doesn't exceed the demand.

Given that the actual loads per month and year will certainly vary from these simulated levels, we would like for the Solar Developer to size the actual system to supply, on an annual basis, no more than 85% of the domestic water heating load.

The Solar Developer can supply less than these percentages but in no case will Buncombe County Schools pay for energy collected but not used. The exception to this is if the total actual monthly water heating load is 75% or lower than the amounts listed above, the Solar Developer will be compensated for the difference in the 75% demand level and the actual demand level. Payment by Buncombe County Schools will be on a bi-annual basis with an annual adjustment, if necessary, to account for decreased demand.

Buncombe County Schools will reimburse the Solar Developer at rates as listed below for the measured, delivered BTUs (in therms).

Year	Rate/therm	Year	Rate/Therm
1	\$0.950	11	\$1.216
2	\$0.974	12	\$1.246
3	\$0.998	13	\$1.278
4	\$1.023	14	\$1.310
5	\$1.049	15	\$1.342
6	\$1.075	16	\$1.376
7	\$1.102	17	\$1.410
8	\$1.129	18	\$1.446
9	\$1.157	19	\$1.482
10	\$1.186	20	\$1.519

PV Power and REC Purchase Agreement

The PV electricity sales and associated REC sales component of the proposal will be based upon the value that the Solar Developer is able to negotiate with the utility for the sale of power/RECs derived from the photovoltaic system installed on the facility for a period up to twenty (20) years. In the event that Buncombe County Schools purchases the system from the Solar Developer, the Power/REC Purchase Agreement will also be transferred to Buncombe County Schools at that time. For this reason it will be required that Buncombe County Schools be part of finalizing any agreement with the party purchasing the Power/RECs

Draft Lease

Attached is a draft lease which shall serve as the basis of the agreement between the Solar Developer and Buncombe County Schools.

General Information on Submitting Proposals

1. **EXCEPTIONS:** All proposals are subject to the terms and conditions outlined herein. Proposer specifically agrees to the conditions set forth by signature to the proposal.
2. **CERTIFICATION:** By executing the proposal, the signer certifies that this proposal is submitted competitively and without collusion (G.S. 143-54), that none of our officers, directors, or owners of an unincorporated business entity has been convicted of any violations of Chapter 78A of the General Statutes, the Securities Act of 1933, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (G.S. 143-59.2), and that we are not an ineligible vendor as set forth in G.S. 143-59.1. False certification is a Class I felony.
3. **ORAL EXPLANATIONS:** The State/Buncombe County Schools shall not be bound by oral explanations or instructions given at any time during the competitive process or after award.
4. **REFERENCE TO OTHER DATA:** Only information which is received in response to this RFP will be evaluated; reference to information previously submitted shall not be evaluated.
5. **ELABORATE PROPOSALS:** Elaborate proposals in the form of brochures or other presentations beyond that necessary to present a complete and effective proposal are not desired.

In an effort to support the sustainability efforts of the State of North Carolina we solicit your cooperation in this effort.

It is desirable that all responses meet the following requirements:

- All copies are printed **double sided**.
 - All submittals and copies are printed on **recycled paper with a minimum post-consumer content of 30%** and indicate this information accordingly on the response.
 - Unless absolutely necessary, all proposals and copies should **minimize or eliminate use of non-recyclable or non re-usable materials** such as plastic report covers, plastic dividers, vinyl sleeves, and GBC binding. Three-ringed binders, glued materials, paper clips, and staples are acceptable.
 - Materials should be submitted in a format which allows for **easy removal and recycling** of paper materials.
6. **COST FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION:** Any costs incurred by Proposers in preparing or submitting offers are the Proposers' sole responsibility; the State of North Carolina/Buncombe County Schools will not reimburse any Proposer for any costs incurred.
 7. **TIME FOR ACCEPTANCE:** Each proposal shall state that it is a firm offer which may be accepted within a period of 70 days. Although the contract is expected to be awarded prior to that time, the 70 day period is requested to allow for unforeseen delays.
 8. **TITLES:** Titles and headings in this RFP and any subsequent contract are for convenience only and shall have no binding force or effect.
 9. **CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROPOSALS:** In submitting its proposal the Proposer agrees not to discuss or otherwise reveal the contents of the Proposal to any source outside of the using or issuing agency, government or private, until after the award of the contract. Proposers not in compliance with this provision may be disqualified, at the option of the State/Buncombe County Schools, from contract award. Only discussions authorized by the issuing agency are exempt from this provision.

10. **RIGHT TO SUBMITTED MATERIAL:** All responses, inquiries, or correspondence relating to or in reference to the RFP, and all other reports, charts, displays, schedules, exhibits, and other documentation submitted by the Proposers shall become the property of the State/Buncombe County Schools when received.
11. **PROPOSER'S REPRESENTATIVE:** Each Proposer shall submit with its proposal the name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) with authority to bind the firm and answer questions or provide clarification concerning the firm's proposal.
12. **SUBCONTRACTING:** Proposers may propose to subcontract portions of the work provided that their Proposal clearly indicates what work they plan to subcontract and to whom and that all information required about the prime contractor is also included for each proposed subcontractor.
13. **PROPRIETARY INFORMATION:** Trade secrets or similar proprietary data which the Proposer does not wish disclosed to other than personnel involved in the evaluation or contract administration will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by NCAC T01:05B.1501 and G.S. 132-1.3 if identified as follows: Each page shall be identified in boldface at the top and bottom as "CONFIDENTIAL". Any section of the proposal which is to remain confidential shall also be so marked in boldface on the title page of that section. In spite of what is labeled as confidential, the determination as to whether or not it is shall be determined by North Carolina law.
14. **HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES:** Pursuant to General Statute 143-48 and Executive Order #150, Buncombe County Schools invites and encourages participation in this procurement process by businesses owned by minorities, women, disabled, disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled.

The Proposer agrees in particular to maintain open hiring and employment practices and to receive applications for employment in compliance with all requirements of applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations issued pursuant thereto relating to nondiscriminatory hiring and employment practices.

15. **PROTEST PROCEDURES:** If a Proposer wants to protest a contract awarded pursuant to this solicitation, they must submit a written request to the Purchasing Officer, Buncombe County Schools, 175 Bingham Road, or PO Box 16771, Asheville, NC 28806. This request must be received by the Purchasing Division within thirty (30) consecutive calendar days from the date of the contract award, and must contain specific sound reasons and any supporting documentation for the protest. NOTE: Contract award notices are sent only to those actually awarded contracts, and not to every person or firm responding to this solicitation. Contract status and award notices are available through the purchasing division or Innovative Design with contact information as shown on the first page of this solicitation. Proposers may call to obtain a verbal status of contract award. All protests will be handled pursuant to the North Carolina Administrative Code, Title 1, Department of Administration, Chapter 5, Purchase and Contract, Section 5B.1519.
16. **TABULATIONS:** Proposers may call the purchasing division to obtain a verbal status of contract award.
17. **RECIPROCAL PREFERENCE:** G.S. 143-59 establishes a reciprocal preference law to discourage other states from applying in-state preferences against North Carolina's resident Proposers. The "Principal Place of Business" is defined as the principal place from which the trade or business of the Proposer is directed or managed.

Description of Proposed Systems

In order that Buncombe County Schools is better able to fairly evaluate your proposal, please provide the following information and include in your proposal.

Option 1: Solar Water Heating System

General Information

Type system (drainback, pressurized glycol, etc.) _____

Estimated thermal energy supplied from solar storage tank to load:

	Water Heating System	
year 1	_____	therms
year 6	_____	therms
year 20	_____	therms

Annual degradation factor (%/year) _____ %/year

Proposed REC

REC Rate/therm	_____	\$/therm
REC inflation rate	_____	%/year

RECs will be sold to: _____

Years in REC Agreement _____ years

List the years in which buy-out option may be exercised by Buncombe County Schools

year(s) _____

Date (month and year) of first:

water heating thermal energy produced _____

Indicate Items Included or not included in Option 1

Fees	_____	yes	_____	no
Sales tax	_____	yes	_____	no
Special studies	_____	yes	_____	no
_____	_____	yes	_____	no
_____	_____	yes	_____	no

Solar Water Heating System

Solar Collectors

List the following information on each optional low-temperature solar thermal collector that you are considering:

1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Location of the manufacturing plant: _____
Collector size (feet, inches and area): _____
Type collector: _____
Collector Certifications: _____

Number of collectors: _____
Gross Area (square feet): _____ square feet
Aperture Area (square feet): _____ square feet
Volumetric Capacity (gallons): _____ gallons
Dry Weight (pounds): _____ pounds
Recommended Flow Rate (GPM): _____ GPM
Test Pressure (PSIG): _____ PSIG
Number/type of Cover Plates: _____
Type of solar HTF: _____

Fr (tau alpha) Coefficient: _____
Fr-UL Coefficient (W/m2K): _____ W/m2K
Temperature Coefficient: _____
Flow Rate (GPM): _____ GPM

Additionally, attached collector product information and collector performance curve indicating "efficiency" versus "T Collector – T Ambient (degrees F) "

2) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Location of the manufacturing plant: _____
Collector size (feet, inches and area): _____
Type collector: _____
Collector Certifications: _____

Number of collectors: _____
Gross Area (square feet): _____ square feet
Aperture Area (square feet): _____ square feet
Volumetric Capacity (gallons): _____ gallons
Dry Weight (pounds): _____ pounds
Recommended Flow Rate (GPM): _____ GPM
Test Pressure (PSIG): _____ PSIG
Number/type of Cover Plates: _____
Type of solar HTF: _____

Fr (tau alpha) Coefficient: _____
Fr-UL Coefficient (W/m2K): _____ W/m2K
Temperature Coefficient: _____
Flow Rate (GPM): _____ GPM

Additionally, attached collector product information and collector performance curve indicating "efficiency" versus "T Collector – T Ambient (degrees F) "

Solar Storage Tank

List the following information on each optional storage tank that you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Size and Gallons: _____
- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Size and Gallons: _____

Drainback Tank

List the following information on each optional drainback module that you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Size and Gallons: _____
- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Size and Gallons: _____

Controls

List the following information on each optional control system that you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____

Monitoring System

The monitoring system provided will, in addition to tracking BTUs collected will require that a real-time monitoring capability exist so that the performance of the system can be viewed by students and visitors to the High School. List the following information on each monitoring package that you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____

Mounting to Curbs

Mounting of the collectors will be on curbs provided by Owner. Provide the manufacturer (or intended mounting system) you are proposing to use to mount the collectors to the curbs:

Option 2: Photovoltaic System

General Information

DC Peak (kw) _____ kw
 AC Peak (kw) _____ kw

Estimated annual DC and AC output (kwhs)

	DC		AC
year 1 2010	_____	kwhs	_____ kwhs
year 6 2015	_____	kwhs	_____ kwhs
year 20 2029	_____	kwhs	_____ kwhs

Annual degradation factor (%/year) _____ %/year

De-rating factor (DC to AC) _____ %

Proposed REC and PPA

Electricity and REC Rate _____ \$/kwh

Electricity and REC inflation rate _____ %/year

Years in REC and PPA _____ years

REC and PPA will be sold to: _____

List the years in which buy-out option may be exercised by Buncombe County Schools year(s) _____

First power production date (month and year) _____

Indicate Items Included or not included in Option 2

Fees _____ yes ___ no
 Sales tax _____ yes ___ no
 Special studies _____ yes ___ no
 Utility connection costs _____ yes ___ no
 _____ yes ___ no
 _____ yes ___ no

Monitoring System

The monitoring system provided, in addition to tracking KWHs collected, will require that a real-time monitoring capability exist so that the performance of the system can be viewed by students and visitors of the High School. List the following information on each monitoring package that you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____

PV Modules

List the following information on each optional PV Module that you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Location of the manufacturing plant: _____
Collector size (feet, inches): _____
Type module: _____
Collector Certifications: _____

Number of modules: _____
Nominal power (watts/module): _____

- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____
Location of the manufacturing plant: _____
Collector size (feet, inches): _____
Type module: _____
Collector Certifications: _____

Number of modules: _____
Nominal power (watts/module): _____

Inverter

List the following information on each optional Inverter that you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____

Mounting on Ballasted or Pan type System

A ballasted/pan system will be used to mount the modules. No roof penetrations, other than for wiring are allowed. List the following information on each optional ballasted mounting system you are considering:

- 1) Manufacturer/Model: _____
- 2) Manufacturer/Model: _____

Addendum Recognition

Please include the following, acknowledging the receipt and consideration of the following addenda:

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____ Initial _____

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____ Initial _____

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____ Initial _____

Licenses

Provide the name and the North Carolina License Number of the contractors or subcontractors that will be installing the solar system(s).

Name: _____ NC License # _____

Name: _____ NC License # _____

Name: _____ NC License # _____

Proposal Submitted By:

Solar Developer/Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Individual Representing Solar Developer/Company: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____