2012 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR

CAPACITY

Levitan & Associates, Inc.

Procurement Administrator on behalf of

Illinois Power Agency

For

Ameren Illinois Company

ISSUE DATE: March 7, 2012 DUE DATE: April 5, 2012

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction			
2.0	Back	1		
3.0	Purpose and Scope			
	3.1	3.1 2012-13 Products and Volumes		
	3.2	2013-15 Products and Volumes	3	
	3.3	Bidding Requirements	5	
4.0	Other Requirements			
	4.1	Contract	5	
	4.2	Pre-Bid Letter of Credit	6	
5.0	RFP Schedule and Procedure			
	5.1	Schedule	6	
	5.2	Communications	8	
	5.3	Bidder Pre-Qualification Application	8	
	5.4	Requests for Additional Information from Bidders	10	
	5.5	Review of Bidder Pre-Qualification Application	10	
	5.6	Bidder Registration	11	
	5.7	Supplier Fee	12	
	5.8	Binding Bids	12	
	5.9	Notification and Award	12	
6.0	Evaluation Process and Criteria			
	6.1	Evaluation of Binding Bids	13	
	6.2	Bids Not Subject to Subsequent Negotiation	13	
	6.3	Binding Bids	13	
7.0	Conf	Confidentiality		
	ATT	ACHMENT A – 2012-13 Confirmation Agreement		
	ATT	ACHMENT B – 2013-15 Confirmation Agreement		
	ATT	ACHMENT C – Form of Pre-Bid Letter of Credit		

1.0 Introduction

Levitan & Associates, Inc. ("LAI"), as Procurement Administrator on behalf of the Illinois Power Agency ("IPA"), is issuing this Request for Proposals ("RFP") for capacity to serve Eligible Retail Customers of Ameren Illinois Company covering the period June 1, 2012 through May 31, 2015. Ameren Illinois Company serves about 1.2 million customers throughout Illinois. The Ameren Illinois Company is a subsidiary of Ameren Corporation, headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri. More information about Ameren Illinois Company can be found at http://www.ameren.com.

Capacity will be procured in accordance with the IPA's 2012 Procurement Plan to meet the resource adequacy requirements of eligible customers that are served under fixed price, bundled service tariffs. Eligible customers include retail customers in the following customer classes that have peak demand less than 400 kW and whose service has <u>not</u> been declared competitive: residential (DS-1); non-residential less than 150 kW (DS-2); non-residential from 150 kW to 400 kW (DS-3A); and, lighting service (DS-5). The IPA seeks to procure adequate capacity, which, when combined with previous capacity purchases, will meet 100% of Ameren Illinois Company's capacity requirements for the 2012-13 planning year, 50% of the capacity requirements for the 2014-15 planning year.

2.0 Background

Public Act 095-0481, including the Illinois Power Agency Act "(IPA Act") and modifications to the Public Utility Act ("PUA"), declared that customer classes with peak demands of 400 kW or more had to be competitive by no later than May 2010 for Ameren Illinois Company. The legislation also established the IPA to administer a procurement process beginning in August 2008. Under Section 16-111.5(a) of the PUA, Ameren Illinois Company had oversight responsibility for procuring capacity, energy, and renewable energy credits ("RECs") for Eligible Retail Customers for the period June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009. Procurement responsibility then shifted to the IPA and the IPA's administrator to facilitate the procurement process to ensure additional power purchases from June 1, 2009 onward.

Continuing with the 2012 procurement, under Section 16-111.5(d) of the PUA, the IPA filed a procurement plan with the Illinois Commerce Commission ("Commission") on September 28, 2011. On December 21, 2011, the Commission approved the procurement plan with certain modifications.¹ Consistent with the requirements of the PUA, the procurement plan identifies the portfolio of energy and power products to be procured. As Procurement Administrator for the 2012 procurement cycle, LAI is authorized to serve as the interface between Ameren Illinois Company and bidders. In issuing this RFP, LAI has the responsibility for receiving and reviewing all bids, and submitting a

.

¹ 11-0660 (Illinois Power Agency – Petition for Approval of Procurement Plan) Order December 21, 2011.

confidential report to the Commission recommending acceptance or rejection of bids. The IPA Act and the PUA authorize the Procurement Monitor to monitor the interactions among the Procurement Administrator, suppliers and the utilities and to report to the Commission on progress of the procurement process. The Procurement Monitor also consults with the Procurement Administrator regarding the development and use of benchmark price criteria, standard form contracts, credit policies, and bid documents. Boston Pacific Company, Inc. is the Procurement Monitor for the 2012 procurement process.

3.0 Purpose and Scope

The IPA intends to procure capacity on behalf of Ameren Illinois Company for the period June 1, 2012 through May 31, 2015, consistent with the Commission-approved procurement plan. The IPA will also solicit bids for physically-settled energy products and renewable energy credits to serve eligible customer load through separate RFPs.

Two separate Confirmation Agreements will be used, one for the period from June 1, 2012 through May 31,2013, and one for the period from June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2015, as described below.

3.1 2012-13 Products and Volumes

The capacity to be procured for the 2012-13 planning year consists of the following monthly "Planning Resource Credits" ("PRCs") as such term is defined in the MISO Documents²:

² "MISO Documents" refer to the MISO Business Practice Manuals, as the same may be amended, collectively with MISO's Open Access Transmission, Energy and Operating Reserve Markets Tariff ("ASM Tariff") on file with the FERC, as may be amended from time to time.

Month	PRC Quantity	
June 2012	1,910	
July 2012	1,980	
August 2012	1,830	
September 2012	1,480	
October 2012	1,120	
November 2012	970	
December 2012	1,030	
January 2013	1,180	
February 2013	1,090	
March 2013	850	
April 2013	860	
May 2013	1,170	

Each PRC Quantity above represents the quantity in MW of Unforced Capacity; as such term is defined in the MISO Documents, during the applicable Period of Delivery.

The PRCs delivered under the 2012-13 Confirmation Agreement shall be usable to satisfy the MISO Resource Adequacy Requirements ("RAR") of Ameren Illinois Company. PRCs must be deliverable to the AMIL Local Balancing Authority area, but can include Aggregate PRCs, Local PRCs, and External PRCs, including any PRCs properly generated from Demand Response Resources ("DRR") and/or PRCs properly generated from Load Modifying Resources ("LMR") pursuant to the MISO RAR. Additionally, Seller must transfer the PRCs to Ameren Illinois Company using the Module E Capacity Tracking Tool, or any successor system ("MECT"). The MECT counterparty code for Ameren Illinois Company is AMCP.

3.2 2013-15 Products and Volumes

On July 20, 2011 MISO filed Tariff modifications and enhancements to Module E³. These enhancements include moving to an annual forward capacity construct and thus moving away from the current monthly capacity construct. The proposed capacity construct recognizes the physical locations of Planning Resources, and takes into account physical capacity import and capacity export

-

³ FERC Docket ER11-4081-000

constraints. MISO had requested an order from FERC on the subject filing no later than February 29, 2012⁴.

MISO proposes to establish seven Local Resource Zones ("LRZs") to ensure that sufficient qualified Planning Resources can be relied upon to meet load within each portion of the MISO Region. Capacity requirements in a LRZ are met with Planning Resources located within each LRZ or from outside the LRZ if transmission capacity is sufficient. Within each LRZ, MISO will also establish Local Clearing Requirements, along with capacity import and export limits, which will be established for each LRZ. Load Serving Entities ("LSEs") serving load in each LRZ will meet their Planning Reserve Margin Requirements ("PRMR") either: (1) through participation in an annual Planning Resource Auction ("PRA"), a market mechanism that will create an auction process for determining the locational price of capacity, i.e. Auction Clearing Price ("ACP") for each LRZ. The PRA will be conducted as a single round, sealed bid auction. LSE's that own or have operational control of Planning Resources can convert the MW of Unforced Capacity of those Planning Resources into ZRCs and submit offers for such ZRCs into the PRA; or (2) by Self-Scheduling their Planning Resources in the PRA to avoid the potential financial impact of ACPs; or (3) through opt out procedures where LSE's will be able to submit a Fixed Resource Adequacy Plan ("FRAP") to MISO to demonstrate that the LSE has sufficient ZRCs to meet all or a portion of their PRMR for the LRZ.

The capacity to be procured for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 planning years consists of the following annual "Zonal Resource Credits" ("ZRCs") as such term is defined in MISO's proposed tariff revisions.

Planning Year	ZRC Quantity	
2013-14	1,660	
2014-15	1,110	

The ZRCs delivered under the 2013-15 Confirmation Agreement can include, but are not limited to, any ZRCs properly generated from Demand Response Resources ("DRR") and/or Load Modifying Resources ("LMR") pursuant to the MISO Documents. At its sole discretion, Ameren Illinois Company shall have the right to do any of the following, where applicable, with respect to the procured ZRCs: (a) offer such ZRCs into the MISO PRA, (b) submit such ZRCs through a FRAP, or (c) Self Schedule such ZRCs. If the ZRCs are not located in the LRZ associated with Ameren Illinois Company's load, the basis difference between the ACPs will be settled pursuant to the Confirmation Agreement. If the ZRCs

⁴ As of March 6, 2012 FERC has not issued an order on the filing.

contain Minimum Offer Price Rule bid criteria and the ZRCs subsequently do not clear in the MISO PRA, the price to be paid by Ameren Illinois Company will be set to zero and the seller would be responsible for any positive difference between the ACP for the ZRCs' LRZ and the Ameren Illinois Company LRZ. The seller must be able to transfer any ZRCs to Ameren Illinois Company using the MECT, or any successor system. In the event that MISO's implementation of ZRCs is delayed, the contract includes terms to revert the product to PRCs.

3.3 Bidding Requirements

Bidders may offer bids for any or all of these Contract Quantity requirements subject to the following restrictions:

- 1. PRCs shall be bid in whole MW amounts with a minimum bid quantity no less than 10 PRCs, in increments of 10 PRCs, and a maximum quantity equal to the Contract Quantity for each specific period. Each bid increment must have an associated price in \$/MW-month.
- 2. ZRCs shall be bid in whole MW amounts with a minimum bid quantity no less than 10 ZRCs, in increments of 10 ZRCs, and a maximum quantity equal to the Contract Quantity for each specific period. Each bid increment must have an associated price in \$/MW-year.
- 3. Bidders may offer PRCs and/or ZRCs for some or all of the periods independently. For example, a bidder may offer 80 PRCs in month A, 100 PRCs in month B, and 50 ZRCs in year Z, and any of those bids may be accepted or rejected in 10-MW increments.
- 4. Bidders may not offer bids with contingencies, such that acceptance of one bid is conditioned upon the acceptance or rejection of another bid.

4.0 Other Requirements

4.1 Contract

Ameren Illinois Company expects to enter into binding contracts with the winning bidders. Drafts of the proposed contracts are included with this RFP as Attachment A, 2012-13 Confirmation Agreement, and Attachment B, 2013-15 Confirmation Agreement. The terms and conditions specified in the proposed contracts are designed to be consistent with the terms and conditions of the Edison Electric Institute Master Purchase and Sale Agreement Version 2.1.

Prospective bidders will be provided the opportunity to comment on the draft contracts. Bidders should download the contract documents and submit comments with tracked changes in MSWord via email to aiurfp@levitan.com. The contract comments will be reviewed by the Procurement Administrator,

Procurement Monitor, Ameren Illinois Company, IPA and Commission Staff. Based on comments received from bidders, the Procurement Administrator reserves the right to modify the terms of the contract prior to the date when binding bids are due. Bidders must agree to the terms of the final contract in advance of submitting binding bids. The terms of the contract will not be subject to negotiation with the winning bidders.

4.2 Pre-Bid Letter of Credit

Each bidder will be required to provide a pre-bid irrevocable letter of credit ("ILOC") in the form of Attachment C, to ensure that winning bidders whose bids are approved by the Commission execute contracts and deliver the awarded capacity products. In order to request modifications to the pre-bid ILOC, bidders should download the document and submit comments with tracked changes in MSWord via email to aiurfp@levitan.com. The pre-bid ILOC comments will be reviewed and all acceptable modifications will be posted to the procurement website on a rolling basis for the use of all bidders. Only those modifications to the form of the ILOC that are posted on the website will be accepted.

5.0 RFP Schedule and Procedure

5.1 Schedule

The following schedule and deadlines apply to this RFP. Subject to the provisions of the IPA Act, LAI reserves the right to revise this schedule at any time with the concurrence of the IPA and the Procurement Monitor. Announcements regarding any schedule revisions will be posted on the RFP website at http://www.levitan.com/AIURFP.

Activity	Date	
RFP Issued	March 7, 2012	
Draft Contract Documents Issued	March 7, 2012	
Optional Bidder Contract Comments Due	March 21, 2012, 12:00 noon CPT	
Bidder Pre-Qualification Application Due	March 21, 2012, 12:00 noon CPT	
Bid Participation Fee Due	March 21, 2012, 12:00 noon CPT	
Pre-Qualification Notices Distributed	March 23, 2012	
Final Contracts Posted to Website	April 2, 2012	
Bidder Practice Session	April 3, 2012	
Bidder Registration Form and ILOC Due	April 3, 2012, 12:00 noon CPT	
Binding Bids Due	April 5, 2012, 2:00 pm CPT	
Preliminary Notifications to Bidders	April 6, 2012	
Procurement Administrator and Procurement Monitor Submit Reports to Commission	No later than April 9, 2012 ⁵	
Commission Ruling on Bidding Results	No later than April 11, 2012 ⁶	
Final Notifications to Bidders	No later than April 11, 2012 ⁷	
Contracts Executed with Selected Suppliers	No later than April 13, 2012 ⁸	
PRCs transferred in MECT	No later than April 13, 2012	

_

⁵ Legislation allows the Procurement Administrator and Procurement Monitor two business days to submit their reports to the Commission.

⁶ Legislation allows the Commission two business days after receipt of the Procurement Administrator and Procurement Monitor reports to accept or reject the recommendation of winning bids. As of RFP issuance, the Commission's calendar has a Regular Open Meeting scheduled on April 10, 2012.

⁷ Bidders will receive final notification of the bidding results after the Commission ruling.

⁸ Legislation allows Ameren Illinois Company three business days after the Commission ruling on the procurement results to execute contracts with winning bidders. Ameren Illinois Company has committed to executing contracts no later than April 13, 2012.

5.2 Communications

LAI's points of contact for this RFP are:

John Bitler Sara Wilmer
Vice President & Principal Executive Consultant
(617) 531-2818 x22 (617) 531-2818 x15
jrb@levitan.com sw@levitan.com

Levitan & Associates, Inc. 100 Summer Street, Suite 3200 Boston, MA 02110

Fax: 617-531-2826

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing via the procurement website at: http://www.levitan.com/AIURFP. *Questions should not be directed to Ameren Illinois Company*. Questions and responses will be posted on the website. All identifying information will be redacted from the questions and responses prior to posting.

The Binding Bid must be submitted through the secure procurement website at http://www.levitan.com/AIURFP.

5.3 Bidder Pre-Qualification Application

Bidders shall submit a complete Pre-Qualification Application by email to <u>aiurfp@levitan.com</u> or fax to 617-531-2826 (email is preferred) no later than 12:00 noon CPT on March 21, 2012. A non-refundable fee of \$500 (the "Bid Participation Fee") will be required from any bidder submitting a Pre-Qualification Application. Payment instructions for the Bid Participation Fee are posted to the procurement website. A bidder who has already paid the Bid Participation Fee for the Energy RFP, RECs RFP, or in the Spring 2012 ComEd RFPs is not required to pay another Bid Participation Fee.⁹

The Pre-Qualification Application must contain the following information. All non-public information will be treated as confidential.

Bidder's Information: Provide name of company, address, and company representative (name, phone number, email address and fax number). Provide basic information on the bidder as requested, including a brief description of bidder ownership or operation of capacity resources in MISO. Describe any

_

⁹ Bid Participation Fees paid for the 2012 Rate Stability Procurements for Ameren Illinois Company or ComEd cannot be applied to the spring 2012 procurements.

defaults or adverse situations as requested.

Notice Information: Provide information that can be used to complete contracts in the event that the bidder is awarded capacity as a result of this procurement.

Agency Authorization: A bidder submitting a Proposal under an agency authorization ("Agency Agreement") must identify the Principal or Principals in the Agency Agreement. A bidder applying under an Agency Agreement must provide one copy of its Agency Agreement with its Pre-Qualification Application.

Financial Information: The Bidder or its parent company that is providing an unconditional corporate guarantee ("Guarantor") must provide the following information indicating financial condition and evidence of creditworthiness.

- (a) Credit information must include the current senior unsecured long-term debt credit ratings from Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch, if available, or if not available, the current issuer or corporate credit ratings.
- (b) Financial information must include: (i) the most recent annual audited financial statements, including a balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows, all notes corresponding to those financial statements, and schedules this requirement should be met by an SEC Form 10-K, if available; (ii) the most recent quarterly unaudited financial statements, including a balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows, all notes corresponding to those financial statements, and schedules this requirement should be met by an SEC Form 10-Q, if available; and (iii) any SEC Form 8-Ks, or the equivalent, filed since the most recent quarterly financial statement.

If these financial statements are not available, the bidder shall provide substitute financial information that must include: (i) annual audited financial statements for the most recently completed fiscal year, including notes corresponding to the annual financial statements and schedules; (ii) the most recent quarterly unaudited financial statements, including notes corresponding to the quarterly financial statements and schedules; and (iii) any notifications from the company to investors or a government body regarding unscheduled material events affecting the company's investors or the public, which were issued following the most recently completed fiscal year.

All substitute financial information should include an attestation from an authorized officer of the company that certifies the financial statements are accurate and complete, as well as an independent accountant's report that certifies those financial statements are free from material misstatement. Rejecting non-SEC financial reports is at the Procurement Administrator's discretion if the Procurement Administrator deems any non-SEC financial

reports to be insufficiently supported.

(c) Prior to execution of the Confirmation Agreements referenced in this RFP, if there is any subsequent change in credit rating (including watch list actions), litigation, financial commitments, contingencies, or financial condition, a statement describing such material change must be submitted to LAI within 1 business day of occurrence. LAI will utilize this financial information to assess the creditworthiness of the bidder or its Guarantor, and calculate the collateral Threshold (set forth in Table A in Section 5.5 below) that will be in effect for the bidder.

5.4 Requests for Additional Information from Bidders

The Procurement Administrator may contact bidders to obtain additional clarification regarding the Pre-Qualification Application. All requests for information from the Procurement Administrator will be issued in writing, via email.

5.5 Review of Bidder Pre-Qualification Application

The Procurement Administrator and Procurement Monitor will review the Pre-Qualification Applications submitted by prospective bidders to determine the completeness of the applications. The information provided will be used to pre-qualify prospective bidders. In order to be eligible for pre-qualification, a bidder must have paid all balances due to the IPA.

Bidders who will submit bids for the 2013-14 and/or 2014-15 planning years must meet specific creditworthiness criteria in order to be eligible for a positive collateral Threshold. Table A below illustrates the collateral Thresholds for different credit ratings. Each bidder and Guarantor will be granted a single credit limit to be applied across any Confirmation Agreement awarded as a result of this Capacity RFP and all other Fixed Price Customer Supply Contracts (as defined in Attachments A and B) between the parties. Affiliated bidders will be limited to a maximum aggregate unsecured credit limit that equals the highest potential Threshold provided in Table A, *i.e.*, \$80 million.

The credit rating used for Table A will be the lowest senior unsecured long-term debt rating then assigned by Standard and Poor's Financial Services LLC (a subsidiary of The McGraw-Hill Companies, "S&P"), Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), Fitch Ratings (a subsidiary of Fimalac, S.A., "Fitch"), or their respective successors. If such senior unsecured long-term debt rating is not available, then the rating then assigned as an issuer default rating by Fitch, or the issuer rating then assigned by Moody's, or the issuer rating then assigned by S&P if such entity is a U.S. utility operating company with an investment grade rating, or the issuer rating then assigned by S&P, discounted one notch, if such entity is not a U.S. utility operating company with an investment grade rating; provided,

however, that (a) in the event a Party is rated by all three rating agencies, then the lower of the two highest ratings will be used and (b) in the event the two highest ratings are common, such common rating will be used.

Table A

(Credit Ratin	g	Threshold (the lesser of the following)	
S&P	Moody's	Fitch	Percent of Tangible Net Worth	Credit Limit
A- and above	A3 and above	A- and above	16%	\$80,000,000
BBB+	Baa1	BBB+	10%	\$60,000,000
BBB	Baa2	BBB	8%	\$40,000,000
BBB-	Baa3	BBB-	6%	\$20,000,000
Below BBB-	Below Baa3	Below BBB-	0%	\$0

5.6 Bidder Registration

Once the Procurement Administrator has completed its review of the Pre-Qualification Applications, bidders will be notified if they have or have not been pre-qualified. Notification of pre-qualification will be issued no later than March 23, 2012. If a bidder satisfies the pre-qualification requirements, the bidder will then be required to provide Ameren Illinois Company with a pre-bid ILOC in the amount of \$100,000. The pre-bid ILOC must be in the form provided as Attachment C, with only those modifications which have been posted as acceptable on the procurement website. **Please note the required credit ratings for issuing banks stated in paragraph 14 of the pre-bid ILOC**. The pre-bid ILOC must be provided by 12:00 noon CPT on April 3, 2012, in order to satisfy the registration requirements. The pre-bid ILOC must remain valid from April 3, 2012 through May 2, 2012.

In addition to providing the pre-bid ILOC, pre-qualified bidders will also be required to complete a Bidder Registration Form certifying that they are not part of a joint venture or participating in a bidding agreement with another bidder for the purposes of submitting a bid under this RFP, and that they will execute the Confirmation Agreement(s) if selected as a winning bidder. The Bidder Registration Form can be downloaded from the procurement website, and must be submitted by 12:00 noon CPT on April 3, 2012.

5.7 Supplier Fee

The Illinois Power Agency has determined that a Supplier Fee will be charged to winning bidders in this procurement. The Supplier Fee is designed to cover the costs of administering the procurement process. Winning bidders will be required to execute a Supplier Fee Agreement following notification of award. The Supplier Fee Agreement is posted to the procurement website, additional information regarding the amount of the Supplier Fee will be made available prior to bidding.

5.8 Binding Bids

Registered bidders shall submit binding, firm and irrevocable bids for each product offered during the bidding window from 12:00 noon CPT to 2:00 pm CPT, on April 5, 2012. Binding bids must be submitted on the form provided on the secure procurement website. Bids shall be priced in either \$/PRC (equivalent to \$/MW-month) or \$/ZRC (equivalent to \$/MW-year), depending on the bid period. Bids must be offered as sealed, binding commitments with pay-as-bid-settlement at the fixed price. The bidder will be responsible for providing Capacity for all hours of the term.

5.9 Notification and Award

In accordance with the IPA Act, the Procurement Administrator will evaluate the binding bids immediately after 2:00 pm CPT, on April 5, 2012, and will submit a confidential report of the procurement and the bids recommended for selection to the Commission within two business days. As specified in Section 16-111.5 (f), the Commission shall review the confidential report and shall accept or reject the recommendations of the Procurement Administrator within two business days after receipt of both the Procurement Administrator's and Procurement Monitor's reports.

Preliminary notifications will be made to bidders on April 6, 2012. The Procurement Administrator will distribute final notifications to bidders immediately upon receiving notification of the Commission ruling. successful bidders will be required to sign the Confirmation Agreement(s) upon notification that they have been selected. The maximum time between the close of bidding and the execution of the contract, as specified by the PUA, is 7 business days, based on the following provisions: (a) The Procurement Administrator and the Procurement Monitor will submit separate confidential reports on the procurement results and recommendations to the Commission within 2 business days after opening the bids. (b) The Commission will review the reports and accept or reject the recommendations of the Procurement Administrator within 2 business days of after receipt of the reports. (c) Ameren Illinois Company will enter into binding contracts with the winning bidders within 3 business days after the Commission ruling on the results of the

procurement.

6.0 Evaluation Process and Criteria

6.1 Evaluation of Binding Bids

Upon receipt of binding bids from Registered Bidders, the Procurement Administrator will evaluate the bids in accordance with the requirements specified in Section 16-111.5(e) of the PUA. Bids will be evaluated based on price to arrive at the lowest cost combination of bids that satisfy the Contract Quantities, subject to price benchmarks. The Procurement Administrator, in consultation with the Procurement Monitor, the Commission Staff, and the IPA, will establish market-based price benchmarks for the purpose of independently evaluating the bids received. The benchmarks will be considered confidential but will be subject to review and approval by the Commission prior to bidding. By submitting a binding bid, the bidder agrees to execute the Confirmation Agreement upon award.

6.2 Bids Not Subject to Subsequent Negotiation

Illinois law grants procurement administrators the "discretion to negotiate to determine whether bidders are willing to lower the price of bids that meet the benchmarks approved by the Commission; [and further provides that] any post-bid negotiations with bidders shall be limited to price only and shall be completed within 24 hours after opening the sealed bids and shall be conducted in a fair and unbiased manner; [and further provides that] in conducting the negotiations, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing bidders; [and further provides that] if information is disclosed to any bidder, it shall be provided to all competing bidders." (220 ILCS 5/16-111.5(c)(1)(vii)) Illinois law also requires the procurement administrator to "notify potential bidders that the procurement administrator may enter into a post-bid price negotiation with bidders that meet the applicable benchmarks." (220 ILCS 5/16-111.5(e)(1)) In accordance with this discretion, LAI has chosen NOT to engage in any post-bid price negotiations as a part of this RFP.

6.3 Binding Bids

All bids must remain open, firm and binding until 5:00 pm CPT on April 11, 2012 or until the Commission has ruled on the results of the procurement event.

Those bids that are identified as winning bids following the Commission's ruling on the results of the procurement event must remain open, firm and binding until April 16, 2012 or until the bidder has executed the Confirmation Agreement(s) with Ameren Illinois Company, whichever comes first.

7.0 Confidentiality

Except for bidder's questions on the RFP, all information submitted to the Procurement Administrator by email or through the secure procurement website will be considered confidential. The Procurement Administrator will take reasonable precautions and use reasonable efforts to maintain the confidentiality of all Bidder Pre-Qualification Applications and Binding Bids submitted. Bidders should be aware that, in addition to employees of the Procurement Administrator, the Procurement Monitor will have concurrent access to all procurement information. The Procurement Monitor is under contract with the Commission, and has pledged to protect all confidential information to which the Procurement Monitor has access during this RFP. The Commission will also receive confidential reports from the Procurement Administrator and from the Procurement Monitor, which may contain confidential information submitted by bidders. The winning bidders and the load weighted average of the winning bid prices for each product will be announced publicly after the Commission rules on the RFP results and the Procurement Administrator's recommendations. In addition, the Commission determined that the product volumes awarded for each contract type and for each contract term will be publicly disclosed after a Commission vote accepting the Procurement Administrator's recommendation to accept certain bids, provided there are at least three winning bidders in the entire procurement event.

Prior to the selection of winning bids, bidders will be prohibited from (i) disclosing any information about their bids to other parties and (ii) receiving information about competing bids from other parties. No party will disclose the terms or conditions of such agreements, except (i) to those persons who have a need to know and have agreed to keep such information confidential, and (ii) to comply with any applicable law, rule, regulation, tariff, or court order, consistent with PUA section 16-111.5(h).

ATTACHMENT A – 2012-13 Confirmation Agreement

ATTACHMENT B – 2013-15 Confirmation Agreement

ATTACHMENT C – Form of Pre-Bid Irrevocable Letter of Credit