

ARFI Post-Issuance Q&A

Notes:

The questions provided have been modified to preserve confidentiality. Recommendations and other editorial comments regarding the ARFI structure have been received with thanks from the Duke Energy Team.

Q1. Can you please clarify the COD dates? It is stated in Part 1 – Instruction of the uptake form, commercial operation by January 1, 2034 and January 1, 2035. Section 7.A. of the ARFI document, however, states commercial operation by the end of 2034 and by the end of 2035. Response to Question 5 and Question 7 dated February 12, 2025 imply by the end of 2035.

A: As stated in Section 7.A. and the responses to Questions 5 and 7 of the February 12, 2025 ARFI Conference Q&A, the requested Commercial Operations Date for the first 800 to 1,100 MW block and total 2,200 to 2,400 MW of offshore wind are by end of year 2034 and end of year 2035, respectively. As background, the 2023 CPIRP modeling assumed the capacity availability at the beginning of years 2034 and 2035, however the Utilities further clarified in the Supplemental Planning Analysis that "[g]iven the expected timeline to execute the ARFI and obtain further necessary approvals, it will likely not be possible to achieve a 2033 in-service date for the first 800- MW block of offshore wind as currently modeled in Fall P3 Base. However, a 2034 in-service date may be achievable assuming proposed NTAP actions progress" (2023 CPIRP Supplemental Planning Analysis, p. 53).

Because the Utilities need to understand the interplay between timing, risk and cost of constructing a Project to properly evaluate OSW as part of its overall needs, the Utilities request Participants identify whether achieving Placed In Service for an initial 800 to 1,100 MW with a 2034 Commercial Operation Date and then 2,200 to 2,400 MW by end of 2035, respectively, is achievable and, if not, identify the earliest achievable date that a Project Submission could be constructed. As described in the instructions for Part V(a) and (b)(i-iii), "[T]he Outermost date targeted under this ARFI is Q4 2035, however, acknowledging current context with the Executive Order, the Time Periods below extend optionally through 2037." In addition to the Minimum Required Submission, Participants in the ARFI can elect to provide Alternative Submissions through this period at their discretion.