

## Questions for ESP-RFP-2026-027

### Service Provider for Physics Constrained GNN Development

- 1. What is the minimum notice period RTI will provide before executing a contract pause or shifting the project timeline?**

It is not stated in the RFP but we will issue a Notice of Schedule

Adjustments: RTI reserves the right to pause, extend, or shift allocated man-months to accommodate delays in external data access.

However, RTI shall provide the contracted partner with a minimum of seven (7) calendar days' written notice prior to executing any such contract pause or formal shift in the project timeline.

- 2. Given that our specialized team is secured on a contractual basis, can a standby retainer rate be established during data-access pauses to ensure staff remain dedicated to RTI's use?**

RTI intends to issue a fixed-price subcontract. Payments will be based on milestone deliveries (example: Monthly Progress Reports)

- 3. If data deployment delays extend the project beyond the 10-month schedule, will RTI cover additional administrative and management overhead costs?**

See above response

- 4. Will vendors be permitted to invoice for the actual LOE rendered up to the date of a project pause?**

Please refer to response to milestone delivery payment in previous question.

- 5. Will RTI provide the core software licenses, simulation environments (PSS/E), and cloud infrastructure required for power grid modeling?**

RTI will directly provide the PSS/E license required for the power grid modeling and topology ingestion tasks.

However, vendors are expected to independently provide the cloud subscription and cloud infrastructure usage, absorbing these costs within their total bid price.

PSS/E Environment: The sources specify that Synthetic Data Specialists will be responsible for implementing pipelines using PSS/E topology and generating data based on PSS/E assumed values (such as nodal demand and voltage)

Cloud Infrastructure (not necessarily AWS but in the context of the RFP): The DB Specialist / Cloud Engineer is explicitly tasked with "Managing AWS infrastructure and storage" and the "Setup and maintain[ing] the AWS cloud environment. According to your requirements, the costs associated with this AWS environment—including subscriptions and active usage—must be accounted for in the vendor's Financial Proposal

**6. Should the deliverables be directly compatible with TransCo's Energy Management Systems (EMS) and SCADA, or will they operate as standalone decision-support dashboards?**

The task of ensuring direct compatibility with TransCo's EMS and SCADA is not part of the services for bidding, as the specific role of a Sr. Development Programmer is not included in this RFP.

**7. For the Month 3, 6, and 9 milestone evaluations, what benchmarks or metrics will RTI's Team Leads utilize to formally judge and sign off on whether a deliverable is successful?**

These details can be finalized during subcontract negotiations.

**8. For Month 6, Will RTI require a formal, independent Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT) sign-off to clear this milestone?**

No

**9. Is an industry-standard cryptographic signing protocol (such as SHA-256 with RSA digital signatures) acceptable to RTI for payload verification?**

Bidder can specify this in the proposal.

**10. What specific security framework or standard is acceptable to RTI?**

Bidder can propose the applicable security framework given the tight timeline. The final agreement can be part of the subcontract negotiations.

**11. Under the section of Scope of Work & Position Break down:**

- **DB Specialist/ Cloud Engineer**
- **Sr. Synthetic Data Specialist**
- **Synthetic Data Specialist**
- **Data Analyst**

**Under the Detailed Technical Scope by Position, a new position was introduced which was not included in the Position breakdown. it is the Senior Software Developer.**

Please drop the Senior Software Developer - apologies for the confusion.