Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises
P.O. Box 960, Warm Springs, OR 97761

Request for Proposal: Warm Springs Reservation Geothermal Resource Assessment

Issued by: Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises

Issue Date: Thursday, October 29, 2026

Proposal Due Date: Thursday, November 19, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time

Project Location: Warm Springs Reservation, Jefferson and Wasco Counties, Oregon

Notice to Interested Firms: You are invited to respond to this Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide professional geothermal resource assessment services for the Warm Springs Reservation Geothermal Resource Assessment (the Project). This RFP is issued by Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises (WSPWE), a wholly-owned enterprise of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (CTWS or Tribe). The selected firm will complete desktop studies, design and carry out new geophysical data collection to fill identified data gaps, process and model the results, and deliver a synthesis of the reservation's geothermal resource potential with recommendations.

Proposal Submission Contact: Please submit proposals via email to:
Cathy Ehli, General Manager, Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises
cathy.ehli@wspower.com

Questions related to this RFP: Please direct written questions about this RFP and Project to:
Joe Schwartz, Senior Advisor, 7Skyline
joe@7skyline.com

1. Introduction

1.1 Tribal and Organizational Background

The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, or CTWS) is a federally recognized, self-governing, sovereign Tribe consisting of three Tribes: the Warm Springs, the Wasco, and the Paiute. The Tribes organized as the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon in 1938. Over the past 88 years, CTWS has endeavored to create new avenues for robust economic development on its 640,000-acre rural reservation in Jefferson and Wasco Counties, north-central Oregon. The reservation is approximately 85 miles east of the state's largest population centers and 58 road miles from the closest urbanized area. It encompasses parts of the Cascade Volcanic Arc and the Deschutes River Basin at the nexus of four electrical transmission and distribution systems. Energy generation and transmission are central to the Tribe's economic development strategy and goals.

CTWS and its energy enterprise, Warm Springs Power & Water Enterprises (WSPWE), bring proven energy development and management experience and expertise from over two decades of co-ownership of the 450 MW Pelton-Round Butte Hydroelectric Project with Portland General Electric. In 1981, WSPWE was formed by Tribal member referendum under Section 12 of the Tribe's Section 17 Federal corporate charter. WSPWE is wholly owned by CTWS and operates under the direction of its board of directors, empowered by the CTWS Tribal Council. WSPWE co-manages the Pelton-Round Butte Hydroelectric Project and leads Tribal energy projects across the Warm Springs Reservation.

In accordance with the Tribes' procurement policies, WSPWE is issuing this RFP to solicit proposals from qualified geothermal and geoscience consulting firms to conduct a geothermal resource assessment of the Warm Springs Reservation.

2. General Information on the RFP

2.1 Project Background

Over the past three decades, CTWS has worked to unlock the Warm Springs Reservation's geothermal resources as part of a long-term vision to develop reliable baseload electric generation capacity to serve loads on the reservation and throughout the Pacific Northwest region. The Tribe views geothermal energy as a unique opportunity to generate forecastable revenue, create good local jobs for Tribal members, fund essential Tribal services, and contribute to the stability and growth of the regional power grid. Over the decades, CTWS has invested significantly in geothermal research and exploration, including surface studies,

geophysical surveys, detailed field measurements, temperature-gradient assessments, and analyses of geothermal potential throughout the Tribes' reservation.

Through this RFP, WSPWE seeks one qualified firm (the Contractor) to build on the Tribe's prior investigations, identify and fill gaps in the existing data, and deliver a synthesis of the reservation's geothermal resource potential with recommendations for priority next steps for its geothermal resource development.

2.2 Scope of Work

The Contractor shall perform the following tasks. Tasks are listed in their expected sequence; the Contractor may propose overlapping or concurrent work where it benefits the Project.

Task 1. Desktop Studies

- 1.1 Tribal Environmental and Cultural Reviews
  - 1.1.1 Review cultural resource surveys in coordination with the CTWS Branch of Natural Resources (BNR) cultural specialists.
  - 1.1.2 Document and map culturally sensitive areas; integrate avoidance or mitigation measures into the plan.
  - 1.1.3 Review findings with WSPWE and BNR for feedback and approval.
  - 1.1.4 Finalize environmental and cultural review reports for submission to Tribal leadership and appropriate regulatory agencies.
- 1.2 Geothermal Data Gap Analysis
  - 1.2.1 Document and describe prior geothermal investigations and results.
  - 1.2.2 Document geologic map coverage and quality.
  - 1.2.3 Document hydrologic and geochemical coverage and quality, including:
    - 1.2.3.1 Known springs
    - 1.2.3.2 Wells
  - 1.2.4 Document and describe geophysical coverage and quality.
  - 1.2.5 Identify and describe spatial or data quality gaps and recommendations.

Task 2. Data Gap Survey Design and Solicitation

- 2.1 Reconcile the data gap analysis and recommendations with Task 1.1 (Tribal Environmental and Cultural Reviews).
- 2.2 Craft RFQs to fill data gaps for areas approved by WSPWE.
- 2.3 Identify qualified subcontractors.
- 2.4 Solicit, review, and select subcontractors.

Task 3. New Data Collection

3.1 Schedule new data collection to fill data gaps in accordance with known seasonal limitations (e.g., cultural uses, road closures, fire season).

3.2 Collect surveys as designed, potentially including high-resolution gravity, magnetic, and magnetotelluric (MT) data, in areas of interest and approval.

Task 4. Data Processing

4.1 2D and/or 3D modeling of MT results, depending on survey designs.

4.2 2D gravity and magnetic inversion along transects.

Task 5. Synthesis and Reporting

5.1 Project synthesis, including results of desktop studies, new data collection, and recommendations, prepared by the Contractor with its survey subcontractors, if any.

5.2 Results and recommendations shared as a presentation to the Tribal Council and Community.

5.3 All new data, synthesis, reports, and recommendations collected and archived for future use by and for the Tribe.

Tasks 2.2 through 2.4 apply to survey work the Contractor subcontracts. For survey work the Contractor performs with its own crews, the Contractor will submit its survey design, quantities, and pricing at its proposed unit rates to WSPWE for approval before collection begins (see Section 2.4).

Period of Performance. All work, including the Task 5.2 presentation and Task 5.3 data archive, must be performed from January 1, 2027 through March 31, 2028.

2.3 Contract Structure, Pricing, and Payment

WSPWE intends to award one professional services contract to one Contractor for all five tasks. Pricing will be structured as follows:

- **Tasks 1, 2, and 5:** a firm fixed price for each task.
- **Tasks 3 and 4:** unit rates (for example, per gravity station, per line-kilometer of magnetic data, per MT station, mobilization and demobilization, and per model or inversion), plus a proposed allowance for each task. Because survey locations and quantities will not be known until Tasks 1 and 2 are complete, Task 3 and 4 work will be authorized in writing by WSPWE, at the Contractor's contracted unit rates, once WSPWE approves the survey design and areas.

WSPWE will pay the Contractor on a reimbursement basis. The Contractor will submit a single monthly invoice that is itemized by task and accompanied by a short progress report. Tasks 1, 2, and 5 will be invoiced by percent complete against each task's fixed price. Tasks 3 and 4 will be invoiced by units completed at the contracted unit rates, supported by documentation of the work performed. Payment is conditioned on WSPWE's acceptance of the work and deliverables invoiced.

2.4 Self-Performance and Subcontracting

The Contractor may perform Task 3 and 4 work with its own crews, subcontract it, or both. The following conditions apply:

- The proposal must identify which work the respondent intends to self-perform and which it intends to subcontract.
- The Contractor must obtain WSPWE's written approval before awarding any subcontract.
- All subcontractor invoices will be managed and paid by the Contractor.
- Surveys may be conducted only in areas WSPWE has approved.
- The Contractor remains fully responsible for the performance of its subcontractors and must flow down confidentiality, data ownership, and site access requirements of this RFP to each subcontractor.

2.5 Site Access, Approvals, and Permits

The Contractor and its subcontractors must comply with all applicable CTWS laws and ordinances. All fieldwork on the Warm Springs Reservation requires permits and land-access authorizations from the CTWS BNR and other Tribal departments, as applicable. The Contractor will obtain these permits and authorizations through WSPWE, which will coordinate with BNR and other Tribal departments on the Contractor's behalf. The Contractor will provide the information WSPWE needs to support these requests and may not begin fieldwork until the required permits and authorizations are in place.

2.6 Data Ownership and Confidentiality

All data, models, maps, reports, presentations, and other deliverables produced under the contract, including data collected by subcontractors, will be the property of CTWS. The Contractor will deliver all data in its native and standard industry formats, together with the metadata needed for future use. The Contractor may not use, publish, or disclose Project data or deliverables without CTWS's prior written consent. The Contractor and its subcontractors will be required to sign confidentiality agreements prior to Project commencement.

Information pertaining to cultural resources and culturally sensitive areas is confidential. The Contractor and its subcontractors will restrict access to that information to personnel who need it to perform the work, will not disclose it to any third party, and will return or destroy it at the end of the contract as WSPWE directs.

2.7 Representations

This RFP does not commit WSPWE to enter into a contract, nor does it obligate WSPWE to pay for any costs incurred in preparation and submission of proposals or in anticipation of a contract. WSPWE reserves the right to modify, cancel, or withdraw this RFP, to negotiate with respondents to resolve technical or contractual specifications, and/or to reject any or all proposals and to terminate contract development at any time when doing so is in the Tribe's best interest. Prior to the execution of a contract, WSPWE reserves the right to:

- Request additional information from a respondent;
- Reject any or all proposals;
- Accept other than the lowest cost proposal;
- Obtain clarification from respondents concerning proposals; and
- Conduct negotiations with selected respondents.

2.8 Confidentiality of Proposals

Any portions of a proposal containing confidential or proprietary information should be clearly marked "Proprietary and Confidential" and, where practical, kept separable from the rest of the proposal. WSPWE reserves the right to release any such information to its agents or contractors for the purpose of evaluating proposals. Under no circumstances will WSPWE be held liable for any damages resulting from any disclosure of a respondent's claimed confidential information during or after the RFP process.

3. RFP Submittal Preparation

3.1 Format and Submission

Proposals must be submitted by email to Cathy Ehli (cathy.ehli@wspower.com), no later than **5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on Thursday, November 19, 2026**. The email subject line should read "WSPWE Geothermal Resource Assessment RFP Submission: <Respondent name>." Respondents are responsible for ensuring their proposals are received by the deadline.

3.2 Proposal Content Requirements

A proposal that does not include all the items listed below may be deemed incomplete and is subject to rejection. If it appears that certain information is inadvertently omitted, WSPWE may

contact the respondent to obtain the information. Proposals must include the following items in the order listed:

1. Cover Letter
2. Firm Qualifications and Experience
3. Key Personnel
4. Technical Approach and Methodology
5. Project Schedule
6. Cost Proposal
7. Indian Ownership Documentation (if claiming preference)
8. Additional Information

3.2.1 Cover Letter

The cover letter should summarize the respondent's proposed approach and team, identify which Task 3 and 4 work the respondent intends to self-perform or subcontract, and state the total of the Task 1, 2, and 5 fixed prices and the proposed Task 3 and 4 allowances. The cover letter must also:

- Acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued;
- State that the proposal remains valid for 90 days after the Proposal Due Date (see Section 4.5);
- Be signed by a representative having signature authority to contractually commit the respondent to the offer in the proposal and be dated no later than the Proposal Due Date.

3.2.2 Firm Qualifications and Experience

Respondents must describe their qualifications and experience in geothermal exploration and resource assessment of similar scope, including:

- Desktop geologic, hydrologic, geochemical, and geophysical studies and data gap analysis;
- Design and execution of gravity, magnetic, and MT surveys;
- 2D and 3D MT modeling and 2D gravity and magnetic inversion;
- Synthesis of exploration results into resource assessments and recommendations;
- Work with Tribal clients and cultural resource protocols; and
- Firm's financial capacity to perform the work.

3.2.3 Key Personnel

Respondents must identify the key personnel proposed for the Project. For each, provide a resume, the person's role on the Project, and relevant professional licenses or registrations. Key personnel may not be substituted after award without WSPWE's written approval.

3.2.4 Technical Approach and Methodology

Respondents must describe their approach to each task in Section 2.2, including:

- Data sources and methods for the Task 1 desktop studies and data gap analysis;
- Survey design methodology, data acquisition standards, and quality assurance and quality control procedures;
- Processing, modeling, and inversion methods and software;
- Which Task 3 and 4 work will be self-performed or subcontracted;
- The approach to seasonal limitations, site access, and permitting through WSPWE; and
- A list of deliverables and their proposed formats.

3.2.5 Project Schedule

Respondents must provide a detailed schedule that completes all work within the Period of Performance (January 1, 2027 – March 31, 2028). The schedule should show task durations and milestones, WSPWE and BNR review and approval points (including Task 1.1.3 review, approval of survey areas, and subcontract approvals), seasonal constraints on fieldwork, and the timing of the Task 5.2 presentation to the Tribal Council and Community.

3.2.6 Cost Proposal

The cost proposal must show the elements of the proposed price:

- **Tasks 1, 2, and 5:** a firm fixed price for each task, with a breakdown showing labor (staff, hours, and rates), materials and equipment, travel, subcontracted services, overhead, and profit.
- **Tasks 3 and 4:** a schedule of unit rates for each type of survey, processing, and modeling work, including mobilization and demobilization, and a proposed allowance for each task with the quantities and assumptions it is based on.
- **Hourly rates:** an hourly rate schedule by labor category for any related additional services WSPWE may request that are outside the scope of work presented in this RFP.

All prices and rates must remain fixed through March 31, 2028.

3.2.7 Indian Ownership Documentation

Respondents claiming Indian preference must provide documentation showing that the firm is at least 51 percent owned and controlled by one or more Indian owners, and that the Indian owner(s) are directly involved in the day-to-day management of the firm on a full-time basis and provide the firm's technical expertise and financial resources. Ownership must be evident in the firm's governance structure, including but not limited to stock ownership, partnership agreement, or papers of incorporation. Respondents should also include documentation of the Indian owner(s)' Tribal enrollment. WSPWE may request additional information to verify eligibility.

3.2.8 Additional Information

Respondents may provide additional relevant information that will assist WSPWE in its evaluation of the proposal.

4. Solicitation Procedures

4.1 Solicitation Schedule

Milestone	Date
RFP issued	Thursday, October 29, 2026
Written questions due	Thursday, November 5, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time
Answers to questions issued by addendum	Tuesday, November 10, 2026
Last day for WSPWE to issue addenda	Monday, November 16, 2026
Proposals due	Thursday, November 19, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time
Estimated notice of award	Thursday, December 10, 2026
Period of Performance	January 1, 2027 – March 31, 2028

WSPWE may change the RFP schedule by addendum.

4.2 Questions

All questions about this RFP must be submitted in writing by email to Joe Schwartz (joe@7skyline.com) by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on Thursday, November 5, 2026. All questions received by the deadline will be answered in a single addendum sent to every known respondent by Tuesday, November 10, 2026. Only written answers issued by addendum are

binding; oral statements by CTWS or WSPWE representatives do not change this RFP. There will be no pre-proposal conference.

4.3 Addenda

Any change to this RFP will be made by written addendum sent to all prospective respondents known to have received the RFP. Addenda will be issued no later than 72 hours before the proposal deadline unless the deadline is extended. Respondents must acknowledge receipt of all addenda in their cover letter and are responsible for being aware of all addenda issued.

4.4 Modification, Withdrawal, and Late Proposals

A respondent may modify or withdraw its proposal by written notice on company letterhead, signed by an authorized officer and received by WSPWE before the proposal deadline. A modification must state that it supersedes the prior submission. Proposals, modifications, and withdrawals received after the deadline will not be considered.

4.5 Proposal Validity

Proposals, including all prices and rates, must remain valid for 90 days after the Proposal Due Date, through February 17, 2027.

5. Evaluation Process

5.1 Screening for Responsiveness

All proposals received will be evaluated for responsiveness and completeness. WSPWE may reject any proposal that (a) is non-conforming to this RFP, (b) does not meet the minimum requirements set forth in this RFP, (c) is received after the proposal deadline, or (d) is submitted by a respondent that lacks the experience and qualifications needed to perform the contract.

5.2 Evaluation Criteria

Responsive proposals will be evaluated based on demonstrated competence, professional qualifications, availability, and fair and reasonable cost, using the following criteria, listed in order of importance:

#	Criterion	Weight
1	Firm and key personnel qualifications and experience (Sections 3.2.2 and 3.2.3)	40%
2	Technical approach and methodology (Section 3.2.4)	25%
3	Cost (Section 3.2.6)	20%
4	Availability and schedule (Section 3.2.5)	10%
5	Experience working with Tribes and cultural resources (Section 3.2.2)	5%
	Total	**100%**

5.3 Interviews, Clarifications, and Negotiation

WSPWE may interview one or more of the highest-ranked respondents and may request clarifications from any respondent. WSPWE intends to negotiate with the highest-ranked respondent and may request best and final offers. If WSPWE cannot reach agreement with that respondent, it may end negotiations and negotiate with the next highest-ranked respondent.

5.4 Award

WSPWE intends to notify all respondents of the results of the evaluation on or around Thursday, December 10, 2026.

6. General Terms

6.1 Compliance with Laws

The Contractor must comply with all applicable CTWS laws, policies, and regulations and with all applicable federal laws.

6.2 Sovereign Immunity

Nothing in this RFP or in any resulting contract waives or limits the sovereign immunity of CTWS or WSPWE. CTWS and WSPWE expressly reserve all rights, privileges, defenses, and immunities available to them under applicable law.