WaveConnect Facility  
RFI 01-09-BRP  
Questions & Answers  

These are PG&E’s responses to questions received by WEC manufacturers as part of the RFI process. The questions and answers are not intended to modify, affect, replace, or supersede the requirements as stated in the RFI; but are intended to clarify and supplement the RFI. This disclaimer applies to all information.

Q1. Please confirm site total capacity is 5MW and how will this be divided between the four proposed WEC suppliers.

A1. PG&E is still exploring how capacity is defined. We believe that the 5 MW capacity will be based on the average operating output over the entire year as determined by the manufacturer. Due to the uncertainties associated with the potential power production and uptime, PG&E hopes that this project will help determine how nameplate capacity will be officially designated by FERC in the future.

We expect that there will be a division of capacity among the four suppliers. Given that individual WECs have different power outputs, we will have several different WECs as supplied by the manufacturers. From these different WECs, we will decide how to allocate capacity. Again, we expect that availability will not be 100%, so we will be looking to the WEC suppliers to give their best estimate of capacity can be delivered.

Q2. Based on Question 1 above, what is the relevance of Submittal 6 in the RFI (i.e.; why are proposed WEC suppliers asked to supply information regarding 2.5MW and 5 MW configurations)?

A2. As the project progresses, systems may drop out due to various reasons. PG&E may replace WECs over time as the project progresses due to this. PG&E also wishes to see what the configuration would be for focusing on one or two WECs in such a scenario, as well as the estimated configuration that the manufacturer feels would be appropriate. PG&E is also considering a second wave energy site. We will therefore use this configuration as part of their final protocol for choosing the appropriate technology for commercial-scale build-outs.

Q3. Regarding Submittal 6, please clarify whether 2.5 MW and 5 MW configuration refers to installed capacity OR equivalent annual energy production.

A3. As stated above, the capacity would be based on average output for the facility.

Q4. What is the proposed voltage and current level for the “home run” cable?

A4. One driving factor for the RFI is to establish the range for voltage and current requirements for the “home run” cables. In the final design, we intend for this to be flexible, and accommodate a range of values. Thus, required voltage and current output from each device type is left to discretion of the WEC manufacturer. As stated, power conditioning will take place on shore to match PG&E voltage. We leave it to the manufacturer to determine the appropriate method for conditioning for their particular device.

Q5. Is it intended to include a data link within the “home run” cable?

A5. Yes, there will be an optical fiber within the home run cable.

Q6. Our company is currently in the process of planning a three year development and demonstration project for our wave energy converter. The information and experience gathered from our previous wave tank and ocean testing program has been used to define a prototype development and demonstration project currently planned to commence in Q2 2010 and conclude in Q2 2013. Although our Company is not able to satisfy some of the
requirements of the PG&E RFI at this time, the Company believes that any deficiencies will be resolved upon completion of the demonstration project. Given that the planned completion date coincides with the PG&E timeline for delivery of WECs, we would like to inquire as to the possibility of approaching PG&E at that time, or perhaps maintaining some form of dialog throughout the demonstration project - with the intent of participating in the WaveConnect pilot facility.

A6. PG&E appreciates that some WEC manufacturers are still in earlier phases, and does not wish to automatically eliminate them from this effort. We will examine all responses, and may hold open one spot for a device that holds promise, but that will not be ready for 2012. Additionally, PG&E may look at another wave energy facility at another location in its territory, and that location may also hold potential for promising newer technologies.