RE-Powering America's Land

Project Matching: Facilitating New Renewable Energy Projects
Project Proposal Submittal Form

The EPA Green Power Partnership's (GPP's) Project Matching Initiative works to connect stakeholders with new, not-yet-built renewable energy projects that may align with EPA Partner organization's energy, environmental, and financial objectives. The initiative's goal is to spur the development of new renewable generation by facilitating the signing of long-term green power contracts between end-users and project developers, thereby providing a guaranteed stream of revenue that developers can use to secure project financing.

EPA's GPP hosts intermittent webinars that feature short project presentations from renewable energy developers. Project developers are invited to submit project proposals to GPP for possible inclusion in an upcoming webinar. This form includes all anticipated criteria that EPA will use to select featured projects. All projects submitted for review that meet minimum requirements for data completeness and basic eligibility will be posted on the GPP website. A renewable energy project's inclusion in this initiative does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by EPA.

Project proposals should be submitted electronically to James Critchfield, critchfield.james@epa.gov.

Project Summary

Project name: *NHE American Samoa Renewable Energy Project*

Developer name: *Native Hawaiian Energy (NHE)*

Developer contact: *H. Wailana Kamauu Jr.* **| phone:** *808.626.5331* **| email:** *wailana@al-e.com*

Renewable energy type: *Photovoltaic panels*

Project city/state: *American Samoa (U.S. Territory)*

Project geographic coordinates (To find, use: www.latlong.net/):

Latitude -14.306407 Longitude -170.696191

Total planned megawatt (MW DC) size: *76 MW*

Are there phases? If so, how many and in what size traunches?

Yes, Phase 1 – 28 MW; Phase 2 – 30 MW; Phase 3 – 18MW

What is the expected annual output of the completed project (MWh)?

76 MWh/year

Expected date of construction commencement:

November 1, 2015

Expected date of commercial operation:

Phase 1 – February 27, 2016

What is the largest development hurdle and how is it anticipated to be overcome?

Can you provide examples of similar projects you have developed?

Facility	Kwac	Modules	kWh / day 4.9 hrs/day	kWh / yr	On-Line Date
EPA American Samoa	*56*	*224*	*274.4*	*100,156.0*	*4/20/15*
Sesepasara American Samoa	*3*	*12*	*14.7*	*5,365.5*	*3/25/11*
LBJ Hospital American Samoa	*80*	*320*	*392.0*	*143,080.0*	*6/1/14*
Sagapolutele American Samoa	*4*	*16*	*19.6*	*7,154.0*	*8/1/14*

Site Readiness

Has the project received all necessary federal, state, and local permits to proceed with construction and operation? If not, please outline the key permits required to proceed with project construction/operation and describe the steps you have taken in order to evaluate and address permitting risk for this project.

Yes. NHE secured the necessary permits with American Samoa Territorial Energy Office (TEO) and the American Samoa Department of Commerce. Also, American Samoa TEO is coordinating with the utility company, American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) for the required NEM agreements.

Have you secured long-term site control? If so, please describe the nature of the agreement (lease, ownership, etc.)?

Yes, The American Samoa TEO has set up an internal process with the American Samoa end users to provide lease of the land/facilities in exchange for a guaranteed reduction per Kilowatt Hour in their rates for the life of the Power Purchase Agreement.

Have land leases been filed with the county?

N/A American Samoa does not require county filing. The American Samoa TEO is securing documentation and filing.

Does the project require either an Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment? If so, what is the status?

No, American Samoa TEO has sanctioned this project. American Samoa TEO is responsible for all Renewable Energy projects for American Samoa so no EIS or EA is necessary.

Is this project sited on a current or formerly contaminated land, landfill or mine site?[1] If so, has the site addressed the related environmental issues?

No, this project is not sited on a current or formerly contaminated land, landfill, or mine site.

Interconnection

What is the status of interconnection, and have system impact and facility studies been completed? (Distribution or transmission level projects are both eligible)

American Samoa TEO handles interconnection with ASPA and has received approval for this project to go forward based on an internal grid study.

When do you expect the interconnection study process will be complete? *N/A*

Does the transmission owner (TO) or independent system operator (ISO) have a process to study the project's impact on the local or regional grid and the subsequent cost to interconnect?

Yes, The American Samoa TEO worked with ASPA in order to determine the project impact on the grid. The project was approved to proceed.

Operation & Financing

What is the long- and short-term plan for operating and maintaining the project?

The EPC firm is a proven organization with offices in American Samoa and has been contracted to perform all O&M with separate agreements for both long- and short- term tasks.

Briefly describe why this site is a good candidate for renewable energy development and the process you used to reach this conclusion (e.g., meteorological tower data collection).

Site surveys and audits were conducted to ensure that the facilities could accommodate renewable energy.

Provide a short summary of how you view project finance and structure/ownership taking shape for this project:

NHE will secure traditional tax equity and long-term debt financing the project on the basis of long term PPAs and REC off-take agreements.

Partners

In what ways can organizations participate in the project? (Check all that Apply)

- ❑ **Power purchase agreement for bundled power and RECs**
- ❑ **Financial hedge or contract for differences**
- ✓ **Long term REC offtake**
- ❑ **REC arbitrage / REC swap (e.g., Partner would not own the RECs associated with the project)**
- ✓ **Financial investment / ownership stake**
- ❑ **Other, please specify: _____**

[1] Examples of such properties could include brownfields, municipal solid waste landfills, abandoned mine lands, and Superfund sites, among others subject to state or federal authorities or cleanup programs.

Is the project's ability to secure financing or enter the development phase contingent on finding a partner as detailed in previous question?

No. However we are always looking for strategic partners to join our team.

What are some of the characteristics of your ideal power purchaser, investor, or other partner?

We are interested in investors or others partners who are looking to participate in long-term power purchase agreement projects averaging 20 years that will produce 50-250MW annually of renewable energy with an excellent return on investment in the form of Green-e certified, NARR tracked RECs. It is preferred that in investors or partners have an investment grade credit rating.

What marketing opportunities exist at the project for the partnering entity? Examples might include, naming rights, press support, ribbon cutting ceremonies etc.

The project has great marketing opportunities through Green-e including REC certification and through NARR by APX for REC tracking.