



Accelerating Government

Sustainable Procurement to Drive Alignment with Sustainable Criteria

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Procurement is an increasingly important lever for meeting the government-wide sustainability goals set in Executive Order 14057. The solicitation language offered below will enable Federal agencies to procure sustainable IT products, services, and solutions from sustainable vendors, reducing the government's direct and indirect impacts on the climate and environment. For additional information, please see:

- U.S. General Services Administration [Environmentally Preferable Products](#) guidance
- [National Contract Management Association](#)'s Sustainable Procurement resources

Sample Acquisition Language:

The following solicitation language is designed for use within an IT Services solicitation. The language is generalized and will need to be tailored to the solicitation at-hand, but it should easily allow procurement officials to use the companion data center scorecard.

- **Procuring Sustainable Products** - The offeror must follow the environmentally preferable purchasing guidelines of FAR Subpart 23.7 – *Contracting for Environmentally Preferable Products and Services* by maximizing the use of products that are energy-efficient (e.g., ENERGY STAR® certified), biobased, and environmentally preferable (e.g., EPEAT®-registered). In line with FAR 23.704, contractors are expected to purchase EPEAT®-registered electronic products, unless an exception applies or the product will not be cost effective over the life of the product.
- **Procuring Sustainable Services & Solutions** - *Instructions to Offerors*: As a sub-part to the Technical Volume, Offerors must describe how their technical approach aligns with Green IT and Sustainable Software best practices. Within 5-pages, the Offeror shall describe how their solution addresses the following applicable areas of consideration:

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Accelerating Government Mission Outcomes Through Collaboration, Leadership, and Education

Renewable Energy:

The offeror shall describe any plans or initiatives aimed at achieving renewable energy goals for data center operations, such as the Federal Government's target of 100% renewables by 2030.

The offeror shall describe if the data center solution will utilize renewable energy sources, and if so, to what extent? Are there any innovative approaches to sourcing renewable energy specifically for data center operations.

Carbon and Energy Efficiency:

The offeror shall disclose any measures taken to assess and improve Carbon Usage Effectiveness and GHG emissions reduction strategies within their data center solution.

The offeror shall describe whether the data center solution will incorporate ENERGY STAR® and EPEAT®-registered IT products, and if so, how are these preferences integrated into data center infrastructure.

W The offeror shall provide information on the Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) rating specific to the data center solution and any proposed efforts to enhance energy efficiency within the data center environment.

Data Management and Circularity:

The offeror shall describe policies or practices for managing data within the data center solution, considering factors like data utilization, storage efficiency, and data lifecycle management.

The offeror shall describe whether the data center solution is designed with circularity principles in mind, such as product longevity, modularity, and end-of-life recyclability for data center equipment and infrastructure components.

Resilience and Sustainability Planning:

The offeror shall describe any resilience, vulnerability, or sustainability plans they have implemented specifically for data center operations, even if not explicitly required by regulation.

The offeror shall describe whether the data center solution incorporates water management and stewardship strategies, considering the unique water usage patterns and requirements of data center facilities.

The offeror shall describe any climate vulnerability assessments specific to data center locations or implemented measures to address climate-related risks within the data center solution.

The offeror shall describe any proactive steps taken to distribute data centers nationally for resilience against extreme weather events and to minimize environmental impacts.