Request for Proposal and Statement of Work (RFPSOW)

Last Revision 2013-07-22

Project Scope

Provide collaborative problem solving and development support for existing open source software project - SolarPermit.org (a 3-clause BSD licensed online database). SolarPermit.org hosts the National Solar Permitting Database, a free, online database of information related to solar permitting requirements of cities and counties across the country. For more information, visit: http://solarpermit.org/about/.

Responsibilities of contractor will include development, QA, UX, and data management; both as directed by Clean Power Finance (the client) and as deemed necessary by collaborative problem solving based on market feedback.

Project Status

Project's current status is best described as a "gmail beta" state where enhancements and new features are being added based on market feedback.

Primary functions of the software are as follows:
- Web based system for community management of AHJ (authority having jurisdiction - e.g. local building departments) requirement data
- APIs for automated interaction with the system, duplicating all functionality available to web UI users. **(Partially Complete - Road Map Item 2013Q3)**
- User account system which includes support for user groups, and credits active community groups with SEO friendly backlinks to encourage industry participation with the web site.
- Comprehensive database of AHJs, unincorporated communities, and their parent/child relationship to local counties.
  - This is the largest and most complete BSD licensed data set known of its kind.
- Comprehensive reporting and data comparison for AHJs and anonymized contributor data. **(Road Map Item)**

Technical Information

Technologies used:
- Django
- MySQL
- JQuery
  - heavy utilization of AJAX
- HTML5
- XML

- GIT (migrating from SVN)
- Apache Web Server

Operating Systems supported (server side):
- Software should work with any unix-like operating system that supports the required technologies.
- FreeBSD
    - current production environment
    - secondary testing environment
- Ubuntu (Linux)
    - primary dev and test environment

Browsers Supported:
- Standards Compliant Browsers
    - Gecko Based (Firefox)
    - Webkit Based (Chromium/Safari)
- Internet Explorer
    - v 10
    - v 9
    - v 8

Of special note:
- As project is open source, there is a heavy focus on both elegance of solutions and elegance of code.
    - High quality is desired to attract participation from the open source community at large.
- Thorough documentation of source is desired.
- SEO benefits are a primary motivating factor of community participation. A focus on continual improvement of URL and page structure is of high importance.
- Team members with open source experience preferred.
- Performance should be improved to run well in low resource (VPS/VM) environments.

Development Process and Schedule

Client is open to recommendations, but current process and schedule are 2 week sprints with concurrent QA processes. Enhancements and Bug fixes are continually incorporated into these sprints.

Project Budget

$40,000 per month / $120,000 per quarter maximum run rate, and a minimum run rate of at least $15,000 per month. With funding through August 31, 2014.

Request for Proposal

- Client is requesting proposal including:
- Team size (Both quantity of members, and hours)
- Division of labor
- Strategic advantage in choosing your company
- Code samples
- Billing terms