



Ohio Environmental Council

Solar Deployment Implementation Consultant – Request For Proposals

August 19, 2026

Background

The Ohio Environmental Council (OEC) is working to expand solar deployment across Ohio through legal advocacy, member engagement, coalition coordination, and decision maker education. OEC is implementing a comprehensive strategy to increase community support for responsibly sited solar projects while advancing energy justice, countering misinformation, and strengthening public participation in Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) proceedings.

OEC seeks a consultant to help build the operational systems, outreach framework, and project management capacity necessary to implement this strategy and meet grant deliverables. The consultant will work closely with OEC's Climate Justice Manager and Energy Team.

Project Overview

The Solar Deployment Consultant will serve as a key implementation and project management partner for OEC's statewide solar outreach strategy.

The consultant will help operationalize the Solar Justice Scorecard, support development of OEC's solar member engagement program, coordinate outreach with coalition partners, strengthen alignment between outreach and legal advocacy, and develop systems that allow OEC to proactively engage communities before significant anti-solar organizing occurs. The consultant will also support implementation of OEC's long-term vision of creating a statewide solar resource hub that educates, mobilizes, and activates members while encouraging responsible solar development throughout Ohio.

Timeline

- Contract term: September 2026 – February 2027

Scope of Work



Ohio Environmental Council

The OEC seeks a consultant to support implementation of its utility-scale solar deployment strategy through the following priority work areas:

1. Member Engagement

- Develop and maintain repeatable member engagement workflows for utility-scale solar projects.
- Coordinate templates for project-specific action alerts, educational communications, and outreach campaigns.
- Support community briefings, webinars, testimony preparation, and other member engagement opportunities.
- Assist with quarterly member updates and project communications.

2. Utility-Scale Solar Resource Hub

- Coordinate ongoing development and maintenance of OEC's Utility-Scale Solar Resource Hub.
- Support development of project summaries, trend reports, educational resources, project library materials, and action resources.
- Coordinate content updates with OEC's Communications Team and ensure resources remain current.

3. Project Management & Performance Tracking

- Develop and maintain implementation plans, project management systems, and internal workflows.
- Establish standard operating procedures (SOPs) that support consistent implementation across projects.
- Maintain implementation trackers and dashboards.
- Support grant reporting by tracking implementation milestones, member engagement metrics, project activity, and other required performance measures.

4. Coalition & Legal Coordination

- Coordinate outreach and implementation with the Clean Climate Energy Coalition and other strategic partners.
- Support implementation of the Solar Justice Scorecard process and maintain project tracking in coordination with OEC's legal team.
- Assist (as needed) with proactive county engagement strategies and coalition efforts to build community awareness and support for responsible solar development before projects enter the permitting process.



Preferred Qualifications

Core Qualifications

- Demonstrated Project management and implementation experience.
- At least 3 years of experience in Community engagement, stakeholder outreach, and relationship-building experience.
- Coalition coordination and cross-functional collaboration.
- Strong interpersonal communication and facilitation skills.

Additional Qualifications

- Strategic planning and program implementation.
- Experience developing operational systems, workflows, and standard operating procedures.
- Knowledge of clean energy, environmental policy, or public policy.
- Knowledge of utility scale solar siting, community outreach, and/or development

Experience working with advocacy organizations, public policy campaigns, clean energy deployment, or community engagement is strongly preferred.

Proposed Budget

\$32,500

Remuneration Guidelines:

Payment structure and final scope will be negotiated prior to execution of the contract.

Application Process

Interested candidates should submit a proposal to accomplish the scope of work to Nolan Rutschilling at nrutschilling@theoec.org, and copy MHouston@theoec.org AND jvelazquez@theoec.org. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and will be accepted until the position is filled, with the goal of the Consultant starting by the end of September 2026.

If you are selected, you will work in coordination with OEC's energy team to agree upon the final elements of the scope of work as a result of collaborative discussions prior to signing a contract.



Ohio Environmental Council

The Ohio Environmental Council is committed to equitable treatment and opportunity in its relation with consultants and potential consultants. As such, we encourage proposal submissions from organizations and individuals who represent diverse communities.