



ADDENDUM #2
Office of Sustainability, Climate Action & Resilience
Carbon Offset and Removal
RFP # 7237-21

July 20, 2021

The attached addendum supersedes the original Information and Specifications regarding RFP # 7237-21 where it adds to, deletes from, clarifies or otherwise modifies. All other conditions and any previous addendums shall remain unchanged.

Please note: Due to COVID-19, BIDS will only be accepted electronically by emailing purchasing@bouldercounty.org.

1. Question: My proposed project is a subscription-based CO₂ Capture & Reuse System that would enable cannabis cultivators to replace 100% of their sourcing of industrial CO₂ to accelerate plant growth with biogenic CO₂ captured from fermentation at local breweries. Is this an acceptable strategy for the RFP?

ANSWER: Yes.

2. Question: All cultivators who subscribe to the service will be required to enroll in a commercial composting service with a licensed hauler that has completed a Waste Management Plan and otherwise meet DOR/MED requirements. Recorded weights of composted organic waste will be used to estimate avoided emissions compared to a baseline landfill scenario using EPA WARM. Is this an acceptable strategy for the RFP?

ANSWER: Currently commercial composting services are limited, and we are uncertain that we could require our cultivators to compost and report on it.

3. Question: My proposal includes funding for additional analysis that will elucidate the life cycle carbon emissions associated with the subscription-based CO₂ Capture & Reuse System. Utilizing both primary data from the project and secondary data from the scientific literature, the analysis will generate the basis of a comparative life cycle assessment of captured biogenic CO₂ and industrial CO₂ systems, with a focus on production processes including compression of the gas into liquid form, shipment, and storage at cultivation facilities (Summers et al., 2021). Is this an acceptable strategy for the RFP?

ANSWER: We prefer to spend the bulk of the funding on projects that are directly offsetting emissions and not on primary research/analysis. However, if it is a relatively minimal amount toward this analysis, we will accept it as part of a larger proposal.

4. Question: The project would establish the first large-scale delivery service of CO₂ captured from fermentation for cultivators in Boulder County. Consequently, the proposal includes costs—in the form of down payments, lease payments, and operational expenses—related to the delivery and bulk storage systems: a dedicated microbulk compressed CO₂ tanker truck (2-to-4-ton capacity), and 6-to-12-ton storage units at cultivators. Can such capital expenditures and/or operational expenses be included in the proposal?

ANSWER: Yes, as long as it does not go over the total budget.

5. Question: Because the project depends on the supply of CO₂ from local breweries, the proposal includes costs—in the form of down payments, lease payments, and operational expenses—related to the capture system(s). Can such capital expenditures and/or operational expenses be included in the proposal?

ANSWER: Yes, as long as it does not go over the total budget.

6. Question: Can you verify where the “6,500 MTCO₂e annual emissions” is calculated from? Also is the “M” million or “metric?”

ANSWER: Metric

Can we have access to the carbon calculations that were done to reach this number?

ANSWER:

	14,579,632	kWh = total cannabis facility portfolio consumption for 2020
-	2,187,275	kWh = Approximate energy offset via Renewable*Connect and Jack's Solar Garden
	12,392,357	kWh not offset
x	1.117	lbs/kWh = Xcel's Colorado 2019 grid CO2 emissions factor
	13,842,263	lbs of CO2/year
	6,921	Tons of CO2/year
	6,279	Metric tons (tonnes) of CO2/year

Would this be the benchmark number we would be held aiming to mitigate or can we do our own GHG estimate for Boulder county?

ANSWER: This would be the benchmark.

How many cultivation facilities are currently a part of the EIOF fund?

ANSWER: 17 cultivators

Is Boulder County interested in addressing all of the cannabis cultivators in the City and County?

ANSWER:

This is for cultivators in unincorporated Boulder County. The City of Boulder also has an energy impact offset fund and works in close collaboration with Boulder County. This RFP was written with piggyback language that enables the City of Boulder to also contract with the vendor that Boulder County selects but they are not obligated to do so. The choice would be up to the managers of the City of Boulder's energy impact offset fund.

7. Question: The "third-party verified" language is a little unclear. Is it expected that we would seek third-party verification or would Boulder county absorb that task/cost?

ANSWER: Yes, the selected party would seek third-party verification.

8. Question: In regard to the bullet point under Option 1: "Projects or technology installation must be ready to implement by the end of 2022;" If energy efficiency

projects are being recommended to growers, do they have to have them implemented by that time? Or do they just have to be suggested by that time?

ANSWER: For the end of 2022 deadline it would be acceptable to have a *signed* contract but not have a project complete. For context on Boulder County’s energy efficiency efforts with cultivators, between July 2019 and February 2020, Energy & Resources Solutions (ERS) conducted on-site energy assessments on 14 cannabis cultivation facilities that were operating at that time in Unincorporated Boulder County. By paring these assessments with utility consumption data and modeling analysis, ERS was able to provide each participating cultivator with a highly individualized report and recommendations for managing energy loads in a manner that reduces operating costs lowers their carbon footprint and maximizes product yields. [This summary report](#) describes the scope of the energy assessments, examines the data analyzes the opportunities, and provides guidance for the cannabis cultivation facilities across the Boulder County portfolio.

9. Question: Does Boulder County have any restrictions on recommending or partnering with vendors to provide more efficient/carbon reduction technologies? For example, if working with an LED vendor, are there restrictions on which vendors we can use or how many vendors must be suggested?

ANSWER: No restrictions on which vendors to use. We typically recommend obtaining 2-3 quotes from various vendors. All products must be Design Lights Consortium or EnergyStar certified to qualify.

10. Question: How does Boulder County define “Demonstrated authority” when it comes to purchasing carbon credits?

ANSWER: Reputation of past projects, credentials shared in the RFP response and track record.

Under Option 1, bullet point 4: are the carbon reduction estimates to be included in the proposal? Or can they be calculated based on individual growers potential projects at the time those projects are recommended to the individual growers?

ANSWER: We expect projected carbon reduction estimates to be included in the proposals.

Submittal Instructions:

Submittals are due at the email box only, listed below, for time and date recording on or before **2:00 p.m. Mountain Time on July 27, 2021**

Please note that email responses to this solicitation are limited to a maximum of 50MB capacity.

NO ZIP FILES OR LINKS TO EXTERNAL SITES WILL BE ACCEPTED. THIS INCLUDES GOOGLE DOCS AND SIMILAR SITES. ALL SUBMITTALS MUST BE RECEIVED AS AN ATTACHMENT (E.G. PDF, WORD, EXCEL).

Electronic submittals must be received in the email box listed below. Submittals sent to any other box will NOT be forwarded or accepted. This email box is only accessed on the due date of your questions or proposals. Please use the Delivery Receipt option to verify receipt of your email. It is the sole responsibility of the proposer to ensure their documents are received before the deadline specified above. Boulder County does not accept responsibility under any circumstance for delayed or failed email or mailed submittals.

Email purchasing@bouldercounty.org; identified as RFP # 7237-21 in the subject line.

All proposals must be received and time and date recorded at the purchasing email by the above due date and time. Sole responsibility rests with the Offeror to see that their bid is received on time at the stated location(s). Any bid received after due date and time will be returned to the bidder. No exceptions will be made.

The Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, and to accept the bid that, in the opinion of the Board, is in the best interest of the Board and of the County of Boulder, State of Colorado.



**RECEIPT OF LETTER
ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

July 20, 2021

Dear Vendor:

This is an acknowledgment of receipt of Addendum #2 for RFP #7237-21, Carbon Offset and Removal.

In an effort to keep you informed, we would appreciate your acknowledgment of receipt of the preceding addendum. Please sign this acknowledgment and email it back to purchasing@bouldercounty.org as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or problems with transmittal, please call us at 303-441-3525. This is also an acknowledgement that the vendor understands that **due to COVID-19, BIDS will only be accepted electronically by emailing purchasing@bouldercounty.org.**

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. This information is time and date sensitive; an immediate response is requested.

Sincerely,

Boulder County Purchasing

Signed by: _____ Date: _____

Name of Company _____

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