



Request for Information for Enterprise Architecture Tooling_09-20_JT

Date of Release: September 17, 2020

1. General Information

1.1. Request for Information (RFI) Objective

This is a Request for Information (RFI) only and does not constitute a commitment, implied or otherwise, that the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) will take procurement action in this matter.

The ERCOT objective in this RFI is to evaluate Enterprise Architecture (EA) tools that will allow for efficiencies in ERCOT's Architecture practice.

Electric Reliability Council of Texas will be using Scout RFP to manage the submission process for the Enterprise Architecture Tooling RFI.

In order to participate, each respondent is required to create a free supplier account with Scout by accessing the following link and following the instructions for new account creation.

<https://go.scoutrfp.com/rfps/public/143257>

Once registered, you can view details and ask questions (via Scout's message center) to Electric Reliability Council of Texas within the Scout platform. You will also be able to invite additional team members to collaborate, and submit your RFI Response.

1.2. ERCOT Point of Contact

The sole point of contact for inquiries concerning this RFI is:

Jason Terrell
ERCOT
2705 West Lake Drive
Taylor, Texas 76574
(512) 248-6331
Jason.Terrell@ercot.com

All communications relating to this RFI must be directed to the specified ERCOT Point of contact.

1.3. Procurement Timeline

Procurement Timeline	
RFI Release Date	September 17, 2020
Notice of Intent to Respond	September 23, 2020
Respondent Questions Due	September 28, 2020
Response to Respondent Questions	October 02, 2020
Respondent Responses Due	October 15, 2020
Respondent Presentations	TBD
Future Solicitation for Proposal (if needed)	TBD

2. Scope, Purpose, and Objective

2.1. Project Background

There are two distinct functions of architecture services at ERCOT. There is Enterprise Architecture and IT Solutions Architecture. Enterprise Architecture is focused on long-term strategy and alignment with business goals; IT Solution Architecture is focused on detailed technology and system design to support project delivery and goals.

At ERCOT the Enterprise Architecture function is accountable for the following:

- Defines the business architecture and technical strategies to support business goals and to provide direction to project deliveries;
- Partners with Strategic Advisors to develop concepts and charters for projects;
- Works with all ERCOT architects to provide consensus based enterprise solutions; delivers charter details, as needed, to communicate these solutions;
- Provides recommendation on sequencing and prioritization;
- Partners with Business and IT to establish enterprise standards.

At ERCOT, IT Solutions Architecture (ITSA) is accountable for the following:

- Develops and maintains the Enterprise Architecture Repository;
- Maintains all technical health details for applications and hardware;
- Conducts annual Enterprise Application Portfolio reviews and develops technical health roadmaps;
- Builds the detail technical design and build specifications for assigned projects;
- Facilitates Architecture Review Board;
- Manages capacity management and planning information.

This project is to ascertain a new Enterprise Architecture (EA) tool that will allow for efficiencies in ERCOT's Architecture practice, both EA and ITSA. Specific functions that would be required from the EA Tool:

- Portfolio Management – ability to manage application lifecycles and readily assess impacts of obsolete application components or technologies to the entire system stack and to projects. Out-of-box integration with Flexera Technopedia would be most-ideal. The ability to tag specific applications and technologies as standards and maintain the standards lifecycle would also be required
- Capability Modeling – permits the rationalization of application and technology portfolios; recognize overlaps in capabilities
- Solution Modeling – allows for systems to be modeled using multiple viewpoints; complex systems can be decomposed into applications and application components
- Comprehensive Reporting – on-demand reporting facility that would enable what-if analyses to be performed
- Roadmapping – technical dependencies specified in the solution models would be reflected in portfolio roadmap creation
- ServiceNow-Ready Integration – ability to integrate with ServiceNow CMDB to serve our strategic direction for CMDB in the future

- Out-of-Box Adapters for Integration – ability to bulk-load application, technology and project name data
- User-customizable Metamodel – base metamodels that are compliant with TOGAF and ArchiMate and can be easily extended to accommodate user-defined attributes and possibly user-defined relationships to grow as ERCOT’s architecture practice grows