Request for Proposals

Mapping of Low-Carbon Fuel Blending & Testing Capabilities in Canada

econext
Accelerating Clean Growth
Newfoundland & Labrador

RFP Release Date: July 06, 2026
Proposal Due Date: July 31, 2026

Background

For Canada to achieve net-zero targets, marine transportation (MT) greenhouse gases (GHGs) must be addressed. MT is complex and encompasses a wide range of vessel types. In the long term, decarbonization will involve adopting new technologies. However, vessels have a long life, and inventories will take time to turn over. In parallel with decarbonization objectives, strengthening Canada's energy security and fuel supply resilience is becoming increasingly important. Expanding the use of domestically produced low-carbon fuels can help diversify fuel supply chains, reduce dependence on imported fuels, and improve the reliability of fuel availability for marine operators.

One of the most promising near-term decarbonization pathways is fuel blending: mixing conventional fuels, such as diesel, with lower-carbon alternatives, such as renewable diesel and biodiesel, as well as the development of new blended fuels, such as green methanol. Even small blends of lower-carbon fuels can improve environmental outcomes, grow demand for low-carbon fuels, help suppliers comply with Clean Fuels Regulations, and support the development of more secure and resilient domestic fuel supply chains.

While most vessels can incorporate blends, fuel types/ratios are unique. Before adoption, users require testing. Different facilities exist across Canada that can undertake fuel blending, testing and demonstrations. This scope of work includes the identification of existing resources that can help industry accelerate pilot projects towards adoption – in addition to identifying gaps to inform future investments.

Objective

The primary objective of this scope of work is to identify, assess, organize and communicate the fuel blending and testing capabilities that exist across Canada.

The assessment will include mapping existing infrastructure, equipment, and operational capacity that support the blending, testing, and demonstration of renewable diesel, biodiesel, methanol, hydrogen, and other emerging low-carbon fuels and fuel systems. This assessment includes fuel blending facilities, laboratory and analytical testing resources, marine and industrial engine testing infrastructure, generators, turbines, emissions monitoring systems, vessel-based demonstration platforms, and related research assets.

In addition, the assessment will include identifying infrastructure and equipment gaps that limit Canada's ability to support fuel blending and testing for marine applications, and will highlight opportunities to strengthen national capacity, enable

pilot and demonstration projects, accelerate commercial adoption, and support the growth of a domestic low-carbon fuels industry.

Scope of Work

The successful consultant will undertake the following activities:

1. **National Capabilities Mapping**
   - Identify, map and organize existing fuel blending and testing capabilities in Canada, with a focus on equipment, technical capacity, and operational status.
   - Identify the equipment and infrastructure required to support blending and testing of low-carbon fuels in marine applications, including renewable diesel, biodiesel, methanol, hydrogen and other emerging fuels.

2. **Gap Analysis and Opportunity Identification**
   - Identify equipment and infrastructure gaps that currently limit the ability to conduct fuel blending and testing for marine applications across Canada.
   - Evaluate how existing and future blending and testing capabilities could support pilot projects, commercial adoption, and the growth of a domestic low-carbon fuels industry.

The consultant will meet with the client on a bi-weekly basis to provide progress updates and to work with the client to address any barriers that arise. These meetings may take place in person or virtual, pending location, cost, schedules, etc.

Deliverables and Timing

Deliverable 1:
A draft report that details and maps low-carbon fuel blending and testing capabilities in Canada, including gap analysis and opportunity identification.

Deliverable 2:
A presentation of the draft report to the client, facilitating discussion and addressing questions.

Deliverable 3:
A final report that incorporates feedback on the draft report, detailing the consultant's findings regarding low-carbon fuel blending & testing capabilities in Canada, gap analysis and opportunity identification. The final report will be accompanied by a presentation to the client.

Deliverable 4:

Presentation at a facilitated workshop to be organized by econext to discuss research findings.

Timeline (anticipated):

1. RFP Release Date: July 06, 2026
2. Proposal Due Date: July 31, 2026
3. Project Kickoff: Sept. 1, 2026
4. Draft Report: Oct. 30, 2026
5. Final Report: Nov. 20, 2026
6. Workshop: January 2027

RFP respondents should be prepared to commence work immediately upon contract award and execute the project in accordance with the anticipated timeline.

Evaluation Criteria

Submissions will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Knowledge and experience in relation to the work. Demonstrated ability to meet expectations based on completion of similar projects and/or quality of previous works, including primary team member details.
- Understanding of the scope and objectives of the project. Demonstrated comprehension of/adherence to the RFP.
- Proposed approach/workplan, including methodologies or frameworks to be used in the environmental and economic analyses, detailed timeline, and project milestones.
- Identification of potential risks to achieving the project's objectives and mitigations/contingencies to address them.
- Knowledge of, and experience working with or within, Newfoundland and Labrador's energy industries.
- Price: Value of work proposed versus identified costs.

Proposal Submissions

The contracting organization for this RFP is econext. A single electronic document is sufficient. The proposal should be no longer than five (5) pages, and be concisely worded with clearly described objectives, methods, timelines, and outcomes. The proposal must acknowledge and fully accept the terms and conditions as laid out in this RFP.

Supporting documentation may be appended. Suggested appendices include: (1) brief descriptions of the respondent's company/relevant experience with similar

projects; and (2) a description of the relevant work experience of the staff assigned to this project.

The electronic copy of submissions should be in DOC and/or PDF format, and sent to Colin Corbett, econext's Director, Innovation, via email at corbett@econext.ca no later than 5 p.m. NDT on **July 31, 2026.** Questions from interested applicants can be directed to the same address. Any additional clarification or information will be shared with all proponents.

Budget

The maximum budget available for this contract is $25,000 (exclusive of HST). Respondents are expected to provide detailed budget breakdowns in their submissions.

Terms and Conditions

- All proposals received will be considered strictly confidential;
- The lowest cost, or any proposal, will not necessarily be accepted;
- Proposed costs must be represented in Canadian dollars;
- Applicants must be a company or organization of legal entities validly incorporated or registered in Canada, with work being undertaken in Canada;
- No payment will be made for the preparation and submission of proposals for this project;
- No fee will be made on the cost of work incurred to remedy errors or omissions for which the consultant is responsible; and
- econext reserves the right to meet with all, or any, of the applicants during the proposal evaluation stage to clarify information in the submissions and seek additional detail which may be used in the evaluation.