



Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

March 17, 2010

Subject: Solicitation 1515 Spring 2010 Agency Research and Development– RFSOQ
Questions and Answers #1

BPA has received questions regarding this Solicitation. BPA reviewed the questions and issued the following responses. BPA reserves the right to respond directly to the party submitting the question and the right to provide the questions and responses to all potential Offerors. Responses are provided for information only and do not modify the terms and conditions of Solicitation 1515. Any change to the terms and conditions of Solicitation 1515 will be issued as an Amendment signed by the Contracting Officer.

- 1-1. Question:** Do DOE matching funds count towards the 50% cost share requirement?
Answer: DOE funds can be used towards the 50% cost share requirement.
- 1-2. Question:** Does funding contributed by DOE that has already been spent count towards the 50% cost share requirement?
Answer: No, funds already spent will not meet the 50% cost share requirement.
- 1-3. Question:** Would DOE funding spend between today and August in support of this program count towards the 50% co-funding requirement?
Answer: No, funds spent prior to executing a contract with BPA will not be counted towards the 50% cost share requirement.
- 1.4 Question:** What is the deadline for 50% cost share commitment?
Answer: 50 % cost share commitment must be secured at the time the BPA contract is ready to be signed. BPA expects to sign contracts on or before October 1, 2010.
- 1-5. Question:** How does BPA want the budget structured and how will BPA fund multiple year projects?
Answer: In the Step 2 RFO BPA will request a detailed budget for the first year of the project (October 01, 2010 to September 30, 2010). Initial budgets for subsequent years do not need to have the same high level of detail. BPA will fund projects on an annual basis subject to availability of funds, project performance, and BPA's priorities for the R&D Portfolio. BPA will request a detailed budget for each subsequent year at the time BPA considers funding that year.

- 1-6. Question:** The “Statement of Objectives” document describes some very specific research areas while the “Request for Statements of Qualifications” document makes reference to the larger number of topics in the BPA Technology Roadmaps. Are proposals from any of the topics highlighting in the 2010 Technology Roadmap document welcome?
Answer: BPA is seeking proposals for projects related to any topic included in the Technology Roadmaps.
- 1-7. Question:** In the Northwest Energy Efficiency Technology Roadmap does the “Priority Score of R&D Gap” on page 3 reflect BPA’s preference for proposal topics?
Answer: The Priority Score of R&D Gap reflects BPA’s desired project areas for the Energy Efficiency Technology Roadmap. A R&D Gap with a value of 100 represents the highest priority for BPA within the EE Technology Roadmap.
- 1-8. Question:** Is there a requirement or strong preference for research to take place within the BPA region?
Answer: There is no preference for research within the BPA region. In some instances, for example wind integration, a project located within the region may deliver a greater value to BPA. The application of the research must directly benefit BPA and its power system.
- 1-9. Question:** A statement that each proposal should include the suggested number and timing of all Stage Gates”, appears in the “Statement of Objectives” document. Should the SOQ include the suggested number and timing of all Stage Gates or should it only be included in the RFO proposal?
Answer: Stage gates are not required in the SOQ Summary of the Work Plan. Additional details regarding stage gate requirements will be provided in the Step 2 Request for Offers.
- 1-10. Question:** During the SOQ Conference on March 11, 2010, BPA stated that research focused on commercially available technologies would not be funded through the Office of Technology Innovation. However, the statement [“...others may focus on demonstration projects that enhance the commercial viability and acceptance of the technology”...] appears in the “Statement of Objectives” document. Please confirm that research focused on commercially available technologies would not be funded through the Office of Technology Innovation.
Answer: BPA Energy Efficiency Emerging Technology (E3T) Assessment and Demonstration Project continuously evaluates new and emerging commercial Energy Efficiency technologies that are not widely adopted. In addition to new and emerging technologies, the E3T executes projects to validate the electrical energy savings of existing commercial products in a test set representing typical conditions in the Pacific Northwest. Research and projects involving existing commercially available technologies in Energy Efficiency Technology Roadmap will be evaluated via the E3T process.

In the other BPA Technology Roadmaps BPA will consider funding projects that involve a demonstration or pilot for commercially available products that have not been deployed on BPA systems. BPA reserves the right to fund a demonstration or pilot project for commercially available technology.

1-11. Question: Were the High Priority R&D Gaps in the Northwest Energy Efficiency Technology Roadmap determined to be high priority because they are closely related to the BPA Areas of Particular Interest?

Answer: The EE Roadmap is not based on the Areas of Particular Interest. The EE Roadmap includes input from regional stakeholders, BPA program managers, and industry experts. The EE Roadmap identifies the priority R&D areas within Energy Efficiency. The Areas of Particular Interest represent the priorities for the overall Solicitation and the BPA R&D portfolio based on BPA's needs.

1-12. Question: Does Section 4.a.iii in the RFSOQ refer to the "Advancing the Grid" and "Renewable Energy Integration" areas of particular interest?

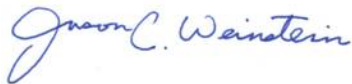
Answer: Yes, RFSOQ section B.4.a.iii refers to Areas of Interest in SOO A.5 Advanced Grid Analysis and Renewable Energy Integration.

1-13 Question: Are stage gates required at multiple times throughout the project during each subsequent year of a multiple year project?

Answer: In general subsequent years of a project should include a stage gate for funding and a stage gate at other logical decision points during each year of the project. Additional details about state gate requirements will be provided in Step 2 RFO.

Please contact me at (503) 230-3892 or via email at jcweinstein@bpa.gov if you have any questions or concerns about the responses provide to these questions.

Sincerely,



Jason Weinstein
Contracting Officer