

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERAL FAQS SECTION OF ARPA-E'S WEBSITE ([HTTP://ARPA-E.ENERGY.GOV/?Q=FAQ/GENERAL-QUESTIONS](http://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=faq/general-questions)) FOR ANSWERS TO MANY GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT ARPA-E AND ARPA-E'S FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS FOA ONLY ARE INCLUDED BELOW. PLEASE REVIEW ALL EXISTING GENERAL FAQS AND FOA-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BEFORE SUBMITTING NEW QUESTIONS TO ARPA-E.

I. Full Application Questions:

Q1. WILL A PDF VERSION OF AN EMAIL CHAIN SUFFICE FOR THE LETTER OF INTENT TO COLLABORATE FROM A TEAM MEMBER?

ANSWER: That is sufficient for the Full Application phase.

Q2. ON P. 64 THE FOA STATES A MAX. VOLTAGE OF 500 V "ANYWHERE IN THE EXPERIMENT" (TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF CRITERIA/METRICS FOR CATEGORY A: LENR EXPERIMENTS. MAXIMUM INPUT ENERGY OR VOLTAGE \leq 500 EV PER DIRECTLY ENERGIZED PARTICLE, OR \leq 500 V APPLIED VOLTAGE ANYWHERE IN THE EXPERIMENT.)

WE ARE CONSIDERING THE USE OF ELECTRON MULTIPLIER TYPE DETECTORS IN OUR PROPOSED EXPERIMENTS. SOME MODELS OF THESE STANDARD DETECTORS REQUIRE BIASES LARGER THAN 500 V. WOULD THESE BE OK TO USE OR EXCLUDED FOR LENR EXPERIMENTS THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED HERE ?

ANSWER: The intent is to set a limit on the experimental input energy, not to limit detection capabilities. "Anywhere in the experiment" should be construed as any portion of the experimental setup that functionally contributes to the generation of the proposed LENR effect.

Q3. I HAVE A QUESTION ON THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT (UPDATED 9/12/22) OF DE-FOA-0002784: EXPLORATORY TOPICS.

ALTHOUGH THE SUMMARY NOTES THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS "PURPOSELY BROAD IN SCOPE, AND WILL COVER A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS TO ENCOURAGE THE SUBMISSION OF THE MOST INNOVATIVE AND UNCONVENTIONAL IDEAS IN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY," IT GOES ON TO NOTE THAT THE TARGETED TOPIC IS "LOW-ENERGY NUCLEAR REACTIONS."

SO DOES THIS MEAN THAT A SMALL BUSINESS MANUFACTURER THAT HAS AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY RELATED INNOVATION, BUT IT DOES NOT HAVE A NUCLEAR NEXUS, SHOULD NOT APPLY FOR THIS PARTICULAR FOA?

ANSWER: Small Business are strongly encouraged to apply under the SBIR/STTR version (DE-FOA-0002785), but as long as the eligibility criteria are met under III.A of this FOA, a Small Business can apply.

Q4. TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

1. THE “PRE-AWARD-GUIDANCE/FUNDING-AGREEMENTS” FAQ STATES GOGO’S CAN BE PRIME RECIPIENTS FUNDED THROUGH AN IAA. HOWEVER, DE-FOA-0002784 RESTRICTS GOGO’S FROM BEING PRIME [P. 64]. IS THIS THE GOVERNING STATEMENT AND PRECLUDES GOGO PRIMES FOR THIS FOA?
2. DOES A PREVIOUS OR CURRENT IAA BETWEEN TWO AGENCIES CONSTITUTE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR RESPECTIVE CATEGORY A AND B PROPOSALS?
3. DOES A PREVIOUS OR CURRENT CRADA RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AN AGENCY AND A NON-GOVERNMENT PARTNER CONSTITUTE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST?
4. HAS THE CONCEPT PAPER REQUIREMENT BEEN WAIVED FOR THIS FOA? IT IS NOT MENTIONED IN THE FOA.

ANSWER: 1. See Sections II.C.3 and III.A.2. Non-DOE GOGOs are only eligible to apply for funding as a member of a Project Team, but not as a Standalone Applicant or as the lead organization for a Project Team.

2. ARPA-E will not preasses applications. One of the required components of the application is a BUSINESS ASSURANCES & DISCLOSURES FORM which require COI disclosures.

3. See above answer.

4. There is no Concept Paper required for this Topic.

Q5. FOR THIS FOA, OUR TECHNOLOGY USES ENERGY RELEASED FROM NUCLEAR DECAY TO CAUSE A CHEMICAL REACTION TO LATER STORE FOR ELECTRIC ENERGY GENERATION. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR TECHNOLOGY WOULD FIT WELL WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THIS EXPLORATORY TOPIC, BUT WANTED TO HAVE A CLARIFICATION.

OUR CONCERN IS THAT OUR TECHNOLOGY USES RADIOISOTOPE’S NATURAL DECAY ENERGY ABOVE THE 500 EV BUT NOT DIRECTLY ENERGIZED FROM ANY EXTERNAL SOURCES.

WILL THIS FALL UNDER THE EXPECTED SCOPE OF THIS FOA?

ANSWER: Please refer to the ARPA-E website <http://ARPA-E.energy.gov> FAQ page General Question 2.7. ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicant’s proposed technology. Applicants must review the technical requirements of the FOA and independently determine whether their proposed concept warrants a submission.

Q6. CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER A “WORKING CAPITAL FUND” DOD LABORATORY (E.G. US NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY) CAN BE THE “LEAD ORGANIZATION” OR “MEMBER” OF A PROJECT TEAM FOR THIS FOA?

ANSWER: See Section II.C.3. and III.A.2. of the FOA and the answer to Q4.1 above.



Q7. SOME VERY STRONG REPORTS ON THE PRODUCTION AND MEASUREMENTS OF LENR HAVE COME FROM FOREIGN LABORATORIES.

WE (AT [REDACTED]) ARE CONSIDERING TEAMING WITH FOREIGN RESEARCHERS TO WRITE PROPOSALS TO THE EXPECTED LENR PROGRAM. THE EXPERIMENTS WOULD BE DONE PRIMARILY IN THE [REDACTED] LABORATORY IN WASHINGTON DC.

IS IT POSSIBLE TO FUND FOREIGN RESEARCHERS FROM ARPA-E PROGRAM FUNDS FOR ANY OF THESE: (A) SALARY, (B) MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT OR (C) TRAVEL?

ANSWER:

- A. Yes, if all of the work is performed in the United States.
- B. See Section IV.F.7. of the FOA.
- C. See Section IV.F.5 of the FOA.

Q8. A SMALL BUSINESS THAT DOESN'T MEET THE LOWER COST SHARE REQUIREMENTS HAS A 20% COST SHARE RESPONSIBILITY. DOES THIS REDUCE THE ARPA-E PROJECT GRANT BY THE COST SHARE, OR IS THE 20% COST SHARE COMPUTED FROM THE ARPA-E GRANT PLUS THE COST SHARE?

ANSWER: Please refer to General Questions: section 4. Cost Sharing - Question 4.4.