

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 Phase Questions:

Q1. While it might seem obvious, we just want to be sure: Do the Cost Sharing requirements, as specified in Section B, pages 13-16, apply exactly as written for applications in response to Targeted Topic D?

ANSWER: The cost sharing requirements set forth at Section III.B are correct as written and, unless an exception or exceptions are described under a particular Targeted Topic, are applicable to all Targeted Topics published under this FOA.

Q2. Instruction 2 for the cover page/executive summary states: Identify the most relevant Technical Category for the proposed technology from the "Technical Areas of Interest" in the applicable Appendix of the FOA. Select only one Category unless the FOA specifically allows applications to name multiple categories." I cannot find a list of the Technical Categories in Appendix D of Funding Opportunity No. DE-FOA-0001953. This appendix is titled Diagnostic Resource Teams to Support the Validation of Potentially Transformative Fusion-Energy Concepts. What technical category should be used and what is the list of available technical categories?

ANSWER: Refer to Table 1 under topic D, which lists the concepts (e.g. Flow-shear-stabilized Z pinch, Magnetic compression of merged FRCs, etc.). The technical categories for this topic are the experiments the diagnostics could be applied to. In addition, as noted in Section A, "All credible fusion approaches with a plausible pathway to commercially viable fusion energy are potentially of interest to ARPA-E. However, the list in Table 1 represents the highest priority concepts for this Targeted Topic."

Q3. The ARPA-E announcement has a buy-American requirement for equipment. However, the only companies that make the type of laser required for my proposal are located in Europe. How does one request an exception to the buy-American requirement when there is no American manufacturer and should this be discussed in the proposal or left for later?

ANSWER: Refer to FOA Section IV.E.7. Applicants selected for award negotiation can address any special circumstances during the negotiation process. No actions or notifications are required from applicants prior to submission of their applications.

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Q4. It is not clear whether proposers are expected to make contact with the PI's of the plasma experiments to be diagnosed before writing the proposal. I am planning a diagnostic relevant to the [description omitted]. Should I be in communication with them now or should I write a proposal based only on publicly available information without making contact with the PI's of these experiments. Will the PI's of these experiments participate in deciding which proposals become funded and will this depend on prior communication proposers would have made with them?

ANSWER: Applicants are not required to make contact with the PIs of the relevant plasma experiment, but may do so at their discretion. Refer to FOA Section V.B for information on the review and selection process. ARPA-E supported plasma experiment PIs and other similar persons will not participate in the merit review of applications received under this Targeted Topic.

Q5. Does ARPA-E have specific template for proposals?

ANSWER: Yes, refer to the Required Documents Checklist on page 4 of the FOA. Also, visit the ARPA-E eXCHANGE website, locate the DE-FOA-0001953 Funding Opportunity Announcement, and open the "Required Application Documents" section of the announcement.

Q6. The ion temperature T_i is listed as a priority measurement for the pulsed, intermediate-density experiments. ... Would a proposal for T_i measurement via collective Thomson scattering be responsive to this FOA?

ANSWER: ARPA-E will review compliant and responsive Full Application submissions to this funding opportunity. Full Applications submissions are compliant if they meet the requirements of "Compliant Criteria" of the FOA, and are responsive if they meet the Program Objectives and other requirements set forth in the FOA section IX.IV. Appendix D section 2.A. "Technical Areas of Interest" and do not fall under the list of Appendix D. section 2.B. "Submissions Specifically Not of Interest". Applicants must review the technical requirements of the FOA and independently determine whether their proposed concept warrants a submission.