

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. IS THERE A LIMIT ON EQUIPMENT PURCHASES IN THE PHASE I BUDGET, IF FULLY JUSTIFIED?

ANSWER: No, as long as the equipment meets the requirements outlined in the FOA and 2 CFR 200.313. The total budget proposal must also meet the requirements outlined in the FOA.

Q2. ON PAGE 64, THE FOA STATES:

“CATEGORY-A APPLICANTS ARE ESPECIALLY ENCOURAGED TO PARTNER WITH CATEGORY-B APPLICANTS ON CAPABILITIES REQUIRING LENGTHY/NUANCED EXPERIENCE AND/OR EXPENSIVE INSTRUMENTS/DIAGNOSTICS. IT IS ACCEPTABLE FOR CATEGORY-A APPLICANTS TO EITHER INCLUDE A TEAM MEMBER TO FULFILL THE NEEDED CAPABILITY OR TO STATE THAT THEY EXPECT TO WORK WITH A KNOWN CATEGORY-B APPLICANT.”

BUT FURTHER DOWN ON THE SAME PAGE IT STATES:

“ARPA-E PROHIBITS THE SAME PERSON OR PERSONS BEING ON BOTH A CATEGORY-A AND CATEGORY-B APPLICANT TEAM. IN ORDER TO ENSURE OBJECTIVITY IN THE MEASUREMENTS TAKEN BY CATEGORY-B TEAMS, CATEGORY A AND CATEGORY B TEAMS INTERESTED IN PARTNERING SHOULD ENSURE THAT THERE ARE NO ACTUAL OR APPARENT CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WITHIN OR BETWEEN THE TEAMS.”

A. WHAT TYPES AND LEVEL OF COOPERATION BETWEEN CATEGORY A AND B PROPOSALS IS ACCEPTABLE AND ENCOURAGED BY ARPA-E?

B. WHAT IF A CATEGORY A PROPOSAL IS FUNDED BUT THE CATEGORY B PROPOSAL THAT THE CATEGORY A PROPOSAL RELIES ON IS NOT FUNDED; WILL THERE BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR REVISION OF THE CATEGORY A PROPOSAL IN POST-AWARD TO DEVELOP THE CAPABILITIES WITHIN THEIR OWN PROPOSAL THAT ARE NOW NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE INTENDED CATEGORY B PROPOSAL?

C. CAN FACULTY AND STAFF FROM A CATEGORY B PROPOSAL BE LISTED IN A CATEGORY A PROPOSAL WITHOUT DUPLICATING FINANCIAL SUPPORT, SO THAT ALL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE CATEGORY B PROPOSAL FROM THIS INDIVIDUAL COME EXCLUSIVELY FROM THE CATEGORY B PROPOSAL?

ANSWER: A. Applicants should determine the level of cooperation appropriate for their proposed project. Category B teams are encouraged to share the capabilities they expect to provide and describe what support they can provide to Category A teams. Refer also to technical volume Appendix A, LENR, section 3.

B. As described in section B of the Exploratory Topic, ARPA-E reserves the right to ARPA-E “identify and encourage collaborations between Category-A and B teams during technical milestone negotiations.” Therefore, post-selection revision is expected to be part of the pre-award negotiation

process, and this will take account of the specific work proposed in each Category A and Category B application selected for award negotiation.

C. In this case the Category A proposal should list the specified Category B team as an anticipated collaboration rather than individuals from the Category B team.

Q3. WE ARE LOOKING INTO FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NO. DE-FOA-0002785. CAN YOU CLARIFY IF WE HAVE TO BREAK DOWN THE COST BETWEEN PHASE I AND PHASE II FOR A COMBINED PHASE I/II SOLICITATION? CAN YOU CONFIRM THE AMOUNT AND TIME FRAME FOR PHASE I AND PHASE II, IF BREAKDOWN BETWEEN THE TWO IS REQUIRED? IF NO BREAKDOWN IS REQUIRED, CAN WE MOVE THE ENTIRE BUDGET TO PHASE II? ACCORDING TO THE SOLICITATION, IT SEEMS PHASE I WOULD BE \$275,766 MAX AND PHASE I/II WOULD BE \$2,114,202 MAX.

ANSWER: Yes, a cost and time breakdown between PHASE I and PHASE II is required.