

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. Concept Paper Phase Questions:

Q1. WE'VE REVIEWED THE CONCEPT PAPER FOA AND HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS.

A. WITH REGARDS TO III.A.3 "FOREIGN ENTITIES", WE ARE CONSIDERING WHETHER TO INCLUDE A FOREIGN ENTITY WITH A COMPELLING AND UNIQUE TECHNICAL COMPETENCY AT THE CONCEPT PAPER STAGE, WHICH WOULD LATER REQUIRE SUBMISSION OF THE MENTIONED "WAIVER REQUEST" AT THE LATER FULL APPLICATION STAGE. WE ARE TRYING TO GAUGE THE APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE RISK ASSOCIATED WITH THIS.

- DOES THE LIKELIHOOD OF ACCEPTANCE OF THIS WAIVER REQUEST FACTOR INTO THE EVALUATION CRITERIA OF THE CONCEPT PAPER?
- DOES ARPA-E ACCOMMODATE ANY MECHANISM TO "HEDGE OUR BETS" WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONCEPT PAPER OR FULL APPLICATIONS, INSOFAR AS IT HINGES UPON THE INCLUSION OF WORK DONE OUTSIDE THE US?

B. COMPARING I.F.1 "T2M CONSIDERATIONS FOR TECHNICAL AREA 1: SENSORS" WITH I.H "TEAM EXPECTATIONS", PLEASE CLARIFY THE DISTINCTION (IF ANY) BETWEEN "TEAM MEMBERS" AS REFERRED TO IN I.H, AND "PARTNERS" IN I.F AND THE SUBSECTION I.F.1. ARE PARTNERSHIPS ASSOCIATED WITH "STRONG SUBMISSIONS" (FOR INSTANCE, "CARBON MARKET ENTITIES", "OCEAN OBSERVING ORGANIZATIONS", "NGOS AND/OR OTHER RESEARCH GROUPS [INVOLVED IN MCDR TRIALS]") EXPECTED TO TAKE THE FORM OF TEAM MEMBERS INCLUDED IN THE CONCEPT PAPER AND SUBSEQUENT FULL APPLICATION STAGES? OR CAN "PARTNERSHIPS" BE PROPOSED/DISCUSSED DURING THE APPLICATION STAGES AND THEN MATERIALIZED DURING THE ACTUAL PROJECT PERIOD?

ANSWER:

- A. The evaluation criteria for Concept Papers are provided in Section V.A.1 of the FOA.

No such accommodations are provided. It is also important to note that foreign entities are typically eligible to apply for funding under ARPA-E FOAs, ARPA-E will only make an award of funding to a U.S. affiliate or subsidiary entity (i.e. incorporated in the United States or a U.S. territory). Rarely, a “foreign work waiver” may be provided by ARPA-E in order to allow performance of part of the work outside of the United States. ARPA-E’s provision of a foreign work waiver is a fact dependent, case-by-case determination that is made only in exceptional circumstances and only for discrete parts of an award that necessitate foreign work. Applicants that anticipate the need for a foreign work waiver to perform some work outside of the U.S. should review the Business Assurances & Disclosures Form.

- B. ARPA-E cannot comment on the particular circumstances of an applicant's proposed project team. Each applicant is responsible for proposing a project team that meets the requirements of the FOA.

Q2. DOES ABOVE-SURFACE GAS FLUX MEASUREMENT TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE AIR/SEA INTERFACE BE CONSIDERED RESPONSIVE TO THE SEA CO2 FOA OR DO THE SENSOR MEASUREMENTS NEED TO BE STRICTLY UNDERWATER MEASUREMENT?

ANSWER: Strictly underseaQ4. ARPA-E Marine Carbon Sensing Contracting Question. I was wondering if I could please get a response to the question below?

Q3. WE ARE NOT COST AND ACCOUNTING CERTIFIED (CAS), BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT IS NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS EFFORT. HOWEVER, I AM NOT SURE IF WE ARE COMPLIANT WITH FAR 31 AS WE USE ---REDACTED--- FOR TIME ENTRY AND COST ACCOUNTING. WE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A SIMPLE BILL RATE FOR EACH RESOURCE ON THE PROJECT MULTIPLIED BY THE TOTAL HOURS FOR THAT RESOURCE. A TIME AND MATERIALS APPROACH. A T&M APPROACH WOULD NOT WARRANT ALL THE DETAILS IN THE SF-424 AND 424A (INDIRECT COST RATE, FRINGE BENEFITS, SALARIES, ETC). BEFORE WE GO TOO FAR DOWN THE TECHNICAL SOLUTION CREATION, WE NEED TO KNOW IF WE HAVE THE REQUIRED INFRASTRUCTURE SET UP TO BID. FOR EXAMPLE, A PROJECT COST WOULD BE:

- **PROJECT MANAGER: 100 HOURS AT ---REDACTED---**
- **ENGINEER A: 1,000 AT ---REDACTED---**
- **TOTAL COST: \$---REDACTED--- THAT WOULD BE BILLED AS ACTUALS ON A MONTHLY INVOICING CYCLE.**

WE COULD JUSTIFY THE REASONABLENESS OF THE RATES COMPARED TO THE RATES ON OTHER GOV'T T&M PROJECTS.

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not pre-asses an applicant's budget proposal. The applicant must follow the instructions presented in the SF-424 and SF-424A. But the SF-424 is not required at the Concept Paper stage.

Q4. I DIDN'T SEE A SPECIFIC ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION IN THE FOA SO I'M HOPING YOU CAN ASSIST US. ARE FINAL BUDGETS/COST SHARE COMMITMENTS REQUIRED AT THE CONCEPT PAPER STAGE (I.E., NO CHANGES TO THE BUDGET CAN BE MADE AFTER SUBMISSION OF THE CONCEPT PAPER)? OR ARE THE PROVIDED BUDGET AND COST SHARE AMOUNT SIMPLY AN ESTIMATE AND CAN BE CHANGED PRIOR TO SUBMITTING A FULL APPLICATION?

ANSWER: Applicants can update their Funding and Cost projections in the Full Application phase of the submission process.

Q5. WE HAVE A PI WHO IS INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THE FUNDING BUT LOOKING FOR SOME FURTHER INFORMATION TO BE ABLE TO ASSIST WITH COSTING.

PLEASE CAN YOU CONFIRM WHAT OVERHEADS WE ARE ABLE TO CLAIM? IF POSSIBLE CAN YOU ALSO PROVIDE A COPY OF THE T&CS RELATING TO THE FUNDING TOO PLEASE.

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicant's budget proposal. T&Cs for each award will be made available after full application period and prior to award. However, ARPA-E's model cooperative agreement is available for review on the ARPA-E website -- <https://arpa-e.energy.gov/technologies/project-guidance/pre-award-guidance/funding-agreements>.

Q6. I WORK AT A UNIVERSITY AFFILIATED RESEARCH CENTER (UARC). WE TYPICALLY RECEIVE FUNDING THROUGH OUR NAVSEA CONTRACT, INCLUDING FUNDING FOR DARPA PROJECTS. IS THIS OPTION AVAILABLE FOR THE ARPA-E SEA CO2 PROGRAM?

ANSWER: Please see Section II.C.2 (Funding Agreements with FFRDCS/DOE Labs, GOGOs, and Federal Instrumentalities) for applicable information.

Q7. WILL A SBIR/STTR VERSION OF THE SEA CO2 FOA BE RELEASED?

ANSWER: No. However, small businesses are eligible to apply to this FOA. See Section III.A (Eligible Applicants) of the FOA for additional information.

Q8. WE HAVE TWO QUESTIONS REGARDING THE COST SHARING AND BUDGETING REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS FOA.

- 1. IS THE FFRDC BUDGET CONSIDERED PART OF THE TOTAL PROJECT COSTS AND THEREFORE HAS A REQUISITE PORTION OF COST SHARING REQUIRED? IF SO, ARE THE OTHER PARTNER INSTITUTIONS EXPECTED TO COVER THE FFRDC PORTION OF THE COST SHARING?**
- 2. CAN YOU PLEASE CLARIFY THE DIFFERENCE IN TEAM MAKE UP BETWEEN THE PROJECT TEAMS ELIGIBLE FOR THE 5% COST SHARE VS. THE 10% COST SHARE? WE THINK IT IS THE INCLUSION OF A SMALL OR LARGE BUSINESS TO THE TEAM, BUT WE'D APPRECIATE THE CLARITY.**

ANSWER: 1. See Section III.B.7. Cost Share Contributions by FFRDCs and GOGOs of the FOA.

2. See Section III.B.3. Reduced Cost Share Requirement of the FOA.

Q9. I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE SEA CO2 PROGRAM:

- A. THE FOA (PAGE 48) STATES THAT THE PROPOSED WORK SECTION OF THE CONCEPT PAPER SHOULD INCLUDE "ESTIMATED FEDERAL FUNDS REQUESTED; TOTAL PROJECT COST INCLUDING COST SHARING." HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED WORK SECTION OF THE CONCEPT PAPER TEMPLATE PROVIDED. SHOULD A PROPOSED BUDGET BE INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION, AND IF SO, HOW MUCH DETAIL SHOULD BE GIVEN?**
- B. ARE CITATIONS TO SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL LITERATURE INCLUDED IN THE 4-PAGE LIMIT?**

ANSWER: A. Only the federal funds requested and total project cost including cost sharing should be provided in this section.

B. Yes.

Q10. I HAVE A QUESTION REGARDING THE DEFINITION OF RMSE IN TABLE 4, IT LISTED THAT $RMSE < 0.25$, DOES THIS REFERS TO PH VALUE OR DOES THIS REFER TO THE ERROR (OF AN IMPORTANT VARIABLE) SHOULD BE SMALLER THAN 25% OF THE OBSERVED VALUE?

ANSWER: The Root Mean Square Error of a predicted value for any parameter listed in Table 2 should not exceed 0.25 when compared with the equivalent observed parameter from holdout data. The "mean" refers to temporal averaging.

Q11. WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF DISPOSABILITY FOR THIS CALL WITH RESPECT TO THE STABILITY OF THE MATERIAL THE SENSORS AND THE COMPONENTS ARE MADE OF, THE POTENTIAL FOR LEAKING INTO THE ENVIRONMENT OF HARMFUL CHEMICALS, PLASTICS, HEAVY METALS AND/OR ANY OTHER CONTAMINANTS, AND THE ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF THE SENSORS THAT CAN/WILL BE RETRIEVED (AND OVER WHAT TIME PERIOD)? ARE CONSIDERATIONS OF DISPOSABILITY SPECIFICALLY TARGETED TO AUTONOMOUS OPERATIONS?

ANSWER: "Disposable" in this case refers to "Components of a sensor or sensor system intended to be left in the ocean and not retrieved after use". The one exception includes sensors designed and developed for existing and near-term planned ARGO systems as an interim solution to a non-disposable profiling platform.

Q12. I AM CONTACTING YOU FROM A FEDERAL LAB (DEPARTMENT OF NAVY; NAVSEA; NAVAL UNDERSEA WARFARE CENTER DIVISION NEWPORT) WITH INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING AS A TEAM MEMBER (NOT LEAD PI) OF A CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE FOA SEA CO2. I AM UNDER THE IMPRESSION (1) THAT THE COST SHARING REQUIREMENT FOR THIS FOA REQUIRES A 5% COST CONTRIBUTION FROM THE PROPOSING TEAM FOR WORK PERFORMED BY FEDERAL LABS (OTHER TYPES LABS AND BUSINESS CAN HAVE DIFFERENT PERCENTAGE REQUIREMENTS). I AM ALSO UNDER THE IMPRESSION (2) THAT THIS 5% CONTRIBUTION CANNOT BE PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL ORGANIZATION. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT ANOTHER COLLABORATOR ON THE TEAM WOULD HAVE TO PAY THIS 5% CONTRIBUTION. AM I UNDERSTATING THESE TWO REQUIREMENTS CORRECTLY?

ANSWER: Cost share requirements are based on the prime recipient and the composition of the project team. The cost share contribution percentages differ based on the requirements under Section III.B. Cost Sharing of the FOA.

Q13. I AM PUTTING TOGETHER A CONCEPT PAPER IN RESPONSE TO THE SEA CO2 FOA AND HAVE A QUESTION ON THE COST SHARING REQUIREMENTS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE SEEN THIS REQUIREMENT, AND I AM HAVING TROUBLE FIGURING OUT WHAT CATEGORY OF COST SHARE OUR PROJECT TEAM WILL FALL UNDER. OUR PROJECT TEAM WILL BE COMPOSED OF A SMALL US BASED BUSINESS, A US ACADEMIC INSTITUTION, AND A US FEDERAL AGENCY (NOAA LAB, NOT AN FFRDC OR DOE LAB). DOES THIS MEAN WE ARE AT THE 10% OR 20% COST SHARE REQUIREMENT LEVEL?

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicants proposed project team or cost share requirements. Applicants must refer to the Funding Opportunity Announcement Section III: Eligibility Information and make their own determination.

II. Full Application Phase Questions:

Q14. IS \$10 MILLION A STRICT, HARD CAP ON THE MAXIMUM AWARD FEDERAL SHARE FOR THE SEA-CO2 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY?

ANSWER: Yes.

Q15. WE'RE A COTS SENSING PLATFORM PROVIDER AS WELL AS AN UNDERWATER SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CONSULTING COMPANY. OUR PARTICIPATION (PRODUCTS AND SERVICES) HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN MORE THAN ONE CONCEPT PAPER SUBMITTED BY TEAMS WHICH HAVE NOW BEEN ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT A FULL APPLICATION TO THE SEA CO2 PROGRAM.

I DID NOT SEE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON OUR PARTICIPATION IN MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS BUT I WANTED TO DOUBLE CHECK BEFORE WE JEOPARDIZE ANYONE'S APPLICATION BY NOT DOWN-SELECTING.

ANSWER: Yes, your company is allowed to participate in multiple teams.

Q16. WE HAVE DEVELOPED THE FOLLOWING QUESTION WHICH WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED IN THE RELATED FAQ.

MAY APPLICANTS PROPOSE A PORTION OF TT&O EXPENDITURES (COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH SPECIFIC TT&O TASKS) AS PART OF THEIR COST-SHARING INSTEAD OF TAKING THE FEDERAL FUNDS?

ANSWER: As long as the applicant proposes at least 5% of the Federal funding (i.e., the portion of the award that does not include the applicant's proposed cost share) provided by ARPA-E will be budgeted for TT&O activities, then the applicant may propose applying any overage towards cost share. Please also refer to Sections III.B. Cost Sharing and IV.G.8. Technology, Transfer and Outreach in the FOA.

Q17. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO EXTEND THE JULY 6TH SUBMISSION DEADLINE BY A WEEK OR MORE? KEY WRITERS HAVE VACATION PLANNED FOR THE WEEK OF THE 4TH OF JULY DUE TO THE INDEPENDENCE DAY NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

ANSWER: No.

Q18. 1. FOR A FULL APPLICATION, CAN LETTERS OF SUPPORT/COLLABORATION BE PROVIDED AS SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL OR AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, OR MUST THEY BE INCLUDED IN THE PAGE LIMIT OF THE TECHNICAL VOLUME?

2. IF A THIRD PARTY (I.E. A COLLABORATOR BUT NOT A SUBRECIPIENT) INCURS COSTS AS PART OF THEIR PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES, CAN THOSE COSTS BE CONSIDERED FOR THE OVERALL COST SHARE OF THE PROJECT?

ANSWER: 1. _Please refer to General FAQs 4.15 and 8.3.

2. Cost share contributions must be specified in the project budget, verifiable from the Prime Recipient's records, and necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient accomplishment of the project. Every cost share contribution must be reviewed and approved in advance by the Contracting Officer and incorporated into the project budget before the expenditures are incurred. Every cost share contribution must be allowable under the applicable Federal cost principles, as described in Section IV.G, of the FOA.

Q19. I AM WRITING FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION ON A QUESTION IN THE FAQ FOR DE-FOA-0002989 SEA CO2 FOA. THE FOLLOWING QUESTION AND ANSWER WAS PROVIDED IN THE FAQ:

Q6. I WORK AT A UNIVERSITY AFFILIATED RESEARCH CENTER (UARC). WE TYPICALLY RECEIVE FUNDING THROUGH OUR NAVSEA CONTRACT, INCLUDING FUNDING FOR DARPA PROJECTS. IS THIS OPTION AVAILABLE FOR THE ARPA-E SEA CO2 PROGRAM?

ANSWER: PLEASE SEE SECTION II.C.2 (FUNDING AGREEMENTS WITH FFRDCS/DOE LABS, GOGOS, AND FEDERAL INSTRUMENTALITIES) FOR APPLICABLE INFORMATION.

THE ONLY APPLICABLE STATEMENT TO DOD UARCS IN SECTION II.C.2 INSTRUCTS THE FOLLOWING, "FUNDING AGREEMENTS WITH NON-DOE/NNSA FFRDCS, GOGOS (INCLUDING NETL), AND FEDERAL INSTRUMENTALITIES (E.G., TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY) WILL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE SPONSORING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE LABORATORY."

OUR UARC AGREEMENT WITH NAVSEA IS AN IDIQ CONTRACT FOR CPFF TASK ORDERS WHICH IS FAR DIFFERENT FROM A GRANT, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT OR OTA. IS ARPA-E ABLE TO FUND A SELECTED PROPOSAL AS A CPFF TASK ORDER UNDER A UARC CONTRACT WITH NAVSEA?

ANSWER: When a Lab (non-DOE) is a member of the Project Team, ARPA-E is able to execute an Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) directly with the non-DOE National Lab entity. An IAA is an agreement between two Government Agencies (not to include DOE Labs). ARPA-E would also execute a single, separate Cooperative Agreement with the other entity(s) in the Project Team. ARPA-E is not able to fund a selected proposal as a CPFF task order under a UARC contract with NAVSEA.

Q20. (I) FOR A SMALL BUSINESS, THE COST SHARING HAS TO BE 5% OF THE TOTAL PROJECT COST. DOES THIS TOTAL PROJECT COST INCLUDE OR NOT INCLUDE THE COST SHARE?

(II) IF A TEAM COMPRISES A US SMALL BUSINESS AND AN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, DOES THE COST SHARING HAVE TO BE APPLIED UNIFORMLY TO THE SMALL BUSINESS AND THE ACADEMIC INSTITUTION, OR CAN ONE PROVIDE MORE COST SHARING THAN THE OTHER TO ACHIEVE THE REQUIRED OVERALL RATE?

ANSWER: (I). Total Project Cost is the sum of the Prime Recipient share and the Federal Government share of total allowable costs. The Federal Government share generally includes costs incurred by GOGOs, FFRDCs, and GOCOs. Please also confirm the minimum cost share requirement for your

project team. The minimum percentage for a team that includes a small business is likely to be more than 5%.

(II). Please see Section III.B.5 of the FOA.

Q21. WE WERE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT A FULL PROPOSAL BASED ON OUR CONCEPT PAPER, AND WE WOULD LIKE TO GAIN CLARITY FROM ARPA-E AROUND THE USE OF NON US-PERSONS. OUR COMPANY RESIDES IN --US CITY-- AND HAS US CITIZENS AVAILABLE TO DO THE PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK. HOWEVER, IT COULD BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL PARTIES FOR US TO USE UK NATIONALS THAT RESIDE WITH OUR PARENT COMPANY IN THE UK. WE COULD LEVERAGE THEM FOR EXPERT REVIEW, ADMINISTRATIVE TRACKING TASKS, OR EVEN SYSTEM DESIGN. THIS COULD ALSO RESULT IN LOWER POTENTIAL COSTS.

THE QUESTION WE HAD WAS AROUND THE NECESSITY OF SUBMITTING A BUSINESS ASSURANCE AND DISCLOSURES FORM. DOES ARPA-E PREFER TO AWARD CONTRACTS TO ENTITIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE UK NATIONALS? WE WOULD PREFER TO LEVERAGE OUR GLOBAL TEAM, BUT WE CAN EXECUTE WITH OUR US TEAM. WOULD ARPA-E PREFER US TO SUBMIT A BUSINESS ASSURANCE FORM OR WOULD IT BE MORE FAVORABLE IF WE DID NOT SUBMIT THIS AND USE ONLY US PERSONS?

ANSWER: With regards to Eligibility Information, please see Section III.A of the FOA. Please see Section IV.G.6 of the FOA for requirements regarding performance of work in the United States. With regards to the Business Assurance and Disclosure Form, all applicants are required to provide the information requested in the form. Please see Section IV.D.6 of the FOA.

Q22. I AM PREPARING A FULL PROPOSAL TO THE SEA-CO2 FOA AND I AM UNCLEAR ABOUT HOW TO ENTER COSTS ON THE "OTHER" TAB. THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS TAB STATE THAT OTHER DIRECT COSTS ARE "NOT INCLUDED IN THE INDIRECT POOL FOR WHICH THE INDIRECT RATE IS BEING APPLIED TO THIS PROJECT". WE HAVE "OTHER" COSTS SUCH AS FLOWING SEAWATER FACILITY USE FEES THAT DON'T FIT IN ANY OTHER CATEGORY, BUT WHICH DO HAVE IDC CHARGED. WHERE AND HOW SHOULD WE ENTER THESE COSTS?

ANSWER: Indirect cost pools means groupings of incurred costs identified with two or more cost objectives but not identified specifically with any final cost objective. With regards to the Other Direct Costs tab in the Budget Justification Workbook/SF-424A, direct costs associated with the proposed project may be included in this tab if they are not already included in the indirect cost.

Q23. WE HAVE REACHED AN INTERNAL DEADLINE WHERE WE CAN'T SEEM TO PUT TOGETHER SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO COVER OUR COST SHARE. OUR TEAM IS COMPOSED OF A UNIVERSITY AND TWO FEDERAL LABORATORIES.

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO RECEIVE A PROPOSAL THAT DOESN'T MEET THE FULL COST SHARE REQUIREMENT?

ANSWER: Please see Section III.B.3 Reduced Cost Share Requirement in the FOA.

Q24. I AM WORKING ON THE BUDGET FORM AND THE THIRD YEAR IS NOT PULLING TO THE SF-424A SHEET. IS THERE ANY WAY TO GET A NEW WORKBOOK OR CAN YOU PROVIDE ME WITH A WORKAROUND FOR THIS?

ANSWER: All proposed costs for a SEA CO2 project should be incorporated into Phase 1 (18 months) and Phase 2 (18 months). Please split out costs by Phase and not by calendar year.

Q25. I AM PREPARING A SUBMISSION IN RESPONSE TO THE SEA CO2 FOA AND HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE COST SHARE REQUIREMENT. I SEE THAT IF MY TEAM IS EXCLUSIVELY ACADEMIC/NON-PROFIT, THE COST SHARE REQUIREMENT IS 5%, BUT IT IS 10% IF MY TEAM INCLUDES SMALL BUSINESSES.

THE FUNDED PARTICIPANTS ON MY TEAM ARE ALL NON-PROFIT/ACADEMIC. HOWEVER, WE ALSO HAVE UNFUNDED COLLABORATORS THAT ARE FOR-PROFIT COMPANIES.

WHAT IS THE COST SHARE REQUIREMENT IN THIS CASE? WOULD IT BE ACCEPTABLE TO COUNT IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE UNFUNDED COLLABORATORS AS FULFILLING THE COST SHARE REQUIREMENT?

ANSWER: ARPA-E may not provide pre-submission assessments on a project team's specific cost sharing requirement. Applicants should carefully review the cost sharing requirements in Section III.B of the FOA. With regards to in-kind contributions, please see Section III.B.6. Cost Share Types and Allowability in the FOA.

Q26. ON PAGE 39 OF THE SEA-CO2 FOA A “DATA STORAGE AND ACCESS PLAN” IS DESCRIBED, AND IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS REFERENCES TO SECTION VI.B.7 OF THE FOA ARE MADE. THE DATA STORAGE AND ACCESS PLAN “SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AS A SEPARATE SECTION OF UP TO TWO PAGES” WITH THE FULL APPLICATION FROM THIS SECTION.

ON PAGE 81, IN SECTION VI.B.7 A “DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN” IS DESCRIBED WHICH SEEMS TO BE A MORE FORMAL AGREEMENT AND SEPARATE FROM THE “DATA STORAGE AND ACCESS PLAN”. THIS SHOULD BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO ARPA-E WITHIN 6 WEEKS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AWARD AGREEMENT ACCORDING TO THIS SECTION.

CAN YOU PLEASE CLARIFY THAT THESE ARE INDEED TWO SEPARATE DOCUMENTS (DESPITE SIMILARITY IN CONTENT) AND THAT THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE SUBMISSION DATES FOR THEM? IF THE DATA STORAGE AND ACCESS PLAN IS SUBMITTED WITH THE FULL APPLICATION, WHERE SHOULD IT BE PLACED? IT’S NOT ON THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST ON PAGE 59 OF THE FOA AND THERE ISN’T A SECTION OF THE TECHNICAL VOLUME TEMPLATE TO SHOW WHERE TO PLACE IT THERE.

ANSWER: The Data Storage and Access Plan (two-page maximum) may be included as an appendix to the Technical Volume. The two pages do not count against the Technical Volume page limit. The Data Management Plan, referenced in Section VI.B.7 is a separate document that will be a deliverable for any awardee once the project has commenced.

Q27. ON PAGE 33 OF THE ARPA-E SEA-CO2 SOLICITATION, IT STATES THAT A DATA STORAGE AND ACCESS PLAN SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AS A SEPARATE SECTION OF UP TO TWO PAGES DESCRIBING THE TYPE OF DATA AND INFORMATION EXPECTED TO BE GENERATED DURING THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT; THE TARGET DATE BY WHICH DATA WILL BE SHARED AND ARCHIVED; POLICIES ADDRESSING DATA STEWARDSHIP AND PRESERVATION; PROCEDURES FOR PROVIDING DATA ACCESS AND SECURITY; PRIOR EXPERIENCE IN PUBLISHING SUCH DATA; AND AN INDICATION OF THE PROJECT MEMBER/LEVEL OF FUNDING DEDICATED FOR THE DATA MANAGEMENT COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT. SUBMISSIONS SHOULD IDENTIFY ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM TO DOCUMENT AND ARCHIVE DATA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLAN AND TO ENSURE THAT THE DATA PRODUCTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE VIA OPEN ACCESS PORTALS AND DATA PLATFORM.

WHERE SHOULD WE INCLUDE THE DATA STORAGE AND ACCESS PLAN? SHOULD THIS BE INCLUDED IN THE TECHNICAL VOLUME OR SHOULD IT BE A SEPARATE DOCUMENT? IF IT IS INCLUDED IN THE TECHNICAL VOLUME, DOES THIS SECTION COUNT AGAINST THE PAGE LIMIT?

ANSWER: Please refer to FAQ 26.

Q28. ---REDACTED--- IS LOOKING FORWARD TO RESPONDING TO THE SUBJECT FOA. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO EXTEND THE JULY 6TH SUBMISSION DEADLINE BY A WEEK OR MORE? KEY WRITERS HAVE VACATION PLANNED FOR THE WEEK OF THE 4TH OF JULY DUE TO THE INDEPENDENCE DAY NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

ANSWER: Please see FAQ 17 of this document.

Q29. ---REDACTED--- CORPORATION IS A LEAD ORGANIZATION RESPONDING TO THE SUBJECT FOA. WE HAVE DEVELOPED THE FOLLOWING QUESTION WHICH WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED IN THE GENERAL FAQ'S:

RELATING TO THE BUSINESS ASSURANCES DOCUMENT SECTION 5, WAIVER REQUEST – FOREIGN WORK, OUR PROJECT TEAM IS CONSIDERING SOME FOREIGN SITES TO USE AS BASES FOR OFFSHORE TESTING DURING THE 2ND PHASE OF THE PROJECT. IS COMPLETION OF THE WAIVER REQUEST REQUIRED AT THE PROPOSAL STAGE OR MAY WE APPLY POST-AWARD?

ANSWER: All project work must be conducted in the US unless a partial waiver is granted. Such waivers are requested in the applicant's Business Assurances Form (during Full Applications Phase of the FOA) and are negotiated with applicants selected for awards.

Q30. SECTION I.J OF THE SUBJECT FOA, DATA STORAGE AND ACCESS PLAN, CALLS FOR INCLUSION OF UP TO 2 PAGES AS A SEPARATE SECTION, HOWEVER NO FURTHER INFORMATION IS PROVIDED DESCRIBING WHERE IN THE APPLICATION PACKAGE THIS SECTION SHOULD BE LOCATED.

SHOULD THIS BE INCLUDED AS A SEPARATE SECTION OF THE TECHNICAL VOLUME, OUTSIDE OF THE 20 PAGE LIMIT?

ANSWER: Please refer to FAQ 26.