

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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I. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q1. IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT, WHO DO I CONTACT?

ANSWER: Please see the FOA guidance on submitting FOA content questions and response publication. Applicants may submit questions regarding this ARPA-E's Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to ARPA-E-CO@hq.doe.gov. All emails must include the FOA name and number in the subject line. The cover page and Executive Summary of the Funding Opportunity Announcement state the deadlines for submitting questions to ARPA-E-CO@hq.doe.gov.

Q2. HOW WILL I RECEIVE A RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO ARPA-E-CO@HQ.DOE.GOV ABOUT THIS FOA?

ANSWER: Responses are posted in the "Frequently Asked Questions" section of ARPA-E's website. There are general FAQs and a FAQ page for each FOA.

ARPA-E will post responses on a weekly basis to any questions that are received.

ARPA-E will cease to accept questions approximately 5 business days in advance of each submission deadline. Responses to questions received before the cutoff will be posted approximately one business day in advance of the submission deadline. ARPA-E may re-phrase questions or consolidate similar questions for administrative purposes.

Q3. WILL ARPA-E POST A RESPONSE TO EVERY QUESTION SUBMITTED TO ARPA-E-CO@HQ.DOE.GOV?

ANSWER: No. ARPA-E will only post responses to questions that have not already been addressed by a published FAQ. Also, ARPA-E may consolidate similar questions for administrative purposes.

Q4. IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT ARPA-E EXCHANGE, WHO DO I CONTACT?

ANSWER: Applicants may submit questions regarding ARPA-E's online application portal, ARPA-E eXCHANGE, to ExchangeHelp@hq.doe.gov. All emails must include the name and number of the Funding Opportunity Announcement in the subject line.

Q5. CAN I SPEAK OR MEET WITH THE ARPA-E PROGRAM DIRECTOR OR OTHER ARPA-E PERSONNEL ABOUT THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT?

ANSWER: No. Upon the issuance of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), ARPA-E Programs and other ARPA-E personnel are prohibited from communicating (in writing or otherwise) with Applicants, or potential Applicants, regarding the FOA. This "quiet period" remains in effect until ARPA-E's public announcement of its project selections. During the "quiet period," Applicants may submit questions regarding the FOA to ARPA-E-CO@hq.doe.gov with the FOA name and number in the subject line. Applicants may also submit questions regarding ARPA-E's online application portal, ARPA-E eXCHANGE, to ExchangeHelp@hq.doe.gov with the FOA name and number in the subject line. ARPA-E will not accept or respond to communications received by other means (e.g., fax, telephone, mail, hand delivery). Emails sent to other email addresses will be disregarded.

Q6. CAN A PERSON BE PI ON ONE PROPOSAL AND A CO-PI ON A SECOND SEPARATE PROPOSAL?

ANSWER: Yes, but the applications must be scientifically distinct from one another.

Q7. MAY APPLICANTS SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE CONCEPT PAPER TO THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY?

ANSWER: Yes, but each Concept Paper submission must be scientifically distinct.

Q8. I HAVE DEVELOPED A TECHNOLOGY THAT MAY BE A GOOD FIT FOR THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY. WILL ARPA-E PLEASE REVIEW THE ATTACHED PROJECT INFORMATION AND LET ME KNOW IF I SHOULD MAKE A SUBMISSION TO THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY.

ANSWER: No. Applicants must review the Technical Requirements of this funding opportunity announcement to determine if their technology warrants a submission to ARPA-E. See e.g. Section I.D (“Technical Categories of Interest”) and Section I.F (Applications Specifically Not of Interest) of the FOA.

II. Questions for week ending: MAY 9, 2014

Q9. WITH REGARD TO PROPOSED SENSING SYSTEMS, THE MONITOR FOA SAYS ON PAGE 7: “EACH OF THESE WOULD REQUIRE NOT ONLY THE PHYSICAL SENSING COMPONENT (LASER SPECTROMETER, CATALYTIC SENSOR, IMAGING SENSOR, BIOLOGICAL SENSOR), BUT ALSO WIND DATA (SPEED, DIRECTION) AND POTENTIALLY OTHER WEATHER DATA (TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION).”

IS WIND DATA ACTUALLY REQUIRED, OR ARE OTHER MEANS OF ESTIMATING THE LOCATION AND MAGNITUDE OF THE LEAK RESPONSIVE?

ANSWER: ARPA-E has revised Section I.B.4 of the FOA to read as follows:

“Each of these would require not only the physical sensing component (laser spectrometer, catalytic sensor, imaging sensor, biological sensor), but also environmental data (e.g., wind speed and direction) and potentially other weather data (e.g., temperature, precipitation). The concentration and environmental/weather data would be used with an inverse dispersion model to estimate the location and magnitude of a leak. Please note that use of specific environmental and weather data is not required; all data-based methods of estimating the location and magnitude of a leak are acceptable.”

Q10. SECTION 2 "TARGET FACILITY" STATES 10X10M WELL PAD AS MODEL TEST FACILITY.

I'M PART OF A CONCEPT INVOLVING VARIOUS MOBILE PLATFORMS WITH SENSORS. THERE IS WORRY WE'RE NOT RESPONSIVE - FOR EXAMPLE, WHY NOT JUST INUNDATE THE WELL PAD WITH INEXPENSIVE STATIONARY SENSORS?

CAN I ASSUAGE WORRIES BY RECOGNIZING THAT SOME MODELS NEED TO BE CHOSEN, AS THE TEXT SAYS, TO BOUND AN EXTREMELY DIVERSE PROBLEM AND THAT PROPOSALS THAT USE HIGHLY-ACCURATE MOBILE SENSORS ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE CALL?

ANSWER: There are many possible approaches towards meeting the objectives of the FOA. ARPA-E encourages a diversity of approaches.

Q11. SEVERAL FOLKS HAVE ASKED FOR THE NAME(S) AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR(S) FOR THE NEW FOAS. WILL YOU PLEASE PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION OR DIRECT ME TO THE LOCATION ON YOUR WEBSITE THAT PROVIDES THIS INFORMATION.

ANSWER: Please see question 5 above.