

## 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:** If you have any other questions that are outside of your responses to the Questions for Potential Applicants, please submit the questions to a separate email account to: ARPA-E-CO@hq.doe.gov> (with NOI-FOA name and number in subject line).

**Q2. HOW WILL I RECEIVE A RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO [ARPA-E-CO@HQ.DOE.GOV](mailto:ARPA-E-CO@HQ.DOE.GOV) ABOUT THIS NOI?**

**ANSWER:** Responses will be posted to the DE-FOA-0001078 frequently asked questions web page <http://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=faq/current-funding-opportunities>

**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.

II. Questions for week ending: FEBRUARY 7, 2014

**Q4. PAGE 2 OF THE NOI STATES THAT "ARPA-E IS INTERESTED IN RESPONDENTS – INCLUDING TEAMS – WITH FACILITIES AND EXPERTISE TO CONDUCT COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH DESCRIBED BELOW, WITH SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT OF AN ARPA-E PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL." DOES THIS MEAN THAT ARPA-E PERSONNEL MUST BE PART OF THE TEAM RESPONDING TO THE NOI? OR DOES IT MEAN THAT ARPA-E PERSONNEL MUST BE AWARE OF THE CAPABILITIES OF THE TEAM? CAN YOU PLEASE CLARIFY?**

**ANSWER:** No, ARPA-E personnel do not need to be, nor should they be, part of the team responding to the NOI. "Substantial involvement" as described in the NOI refers to the level of involvement that is exercised by ARPA-E personnel in projects that are funded by ARPA-E through Cooperative Agreements (or through other financial assistance awards that require the substantial involvement of the agency in the project). In addition, ARPA-E personnel need not be aware of the capabilities of your project team in order for you or your team to respond to the NOI.

**Q5. AN ACADEMIC INSTITUTION THAT IS A PRIOR ARPA-E AWARDEE WILL PARTICIPATE IN OUR PROJECT TEAM, BUT OUR COMPANY PLANS TO TAKE THE LEAD SUBMIT THE NOI. IS THIS ACCEPTABLE? OR NEED THE NOI BE SUBMITTED BY THE PRIOR RECIPIENT OF AN ARPA-E AWARD?**

**ANSWER:** There is no requirement that a prior ARPA-E recipient respond to the NOI in any capacity (i.e. neither as the lead nor as a team member).

III. Questions for week ending: FEBRUARY 14, 2014

**Q6. IF POSSIBLE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS:**

1. ARE FEDERAL LABS EXCLUDED, OR ARE THEY INCLUDED AND/OR PREFERRED?
2. ARE ALL TESTING CAPABILITIES PREFERRED UNDER A SINGLE ENTITY, OR CAN A TEAM WITH MULTIPLE CAPABILITIES BE OFFERED?
3. IF PARTNERS ARE PERMITTED, ARE LETTERS OF INTENT FROM EACH PARTNER PREFERRED?
4. IS AN APPENDIX ALLOWABLE FOR THE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE?
5. WE ARE PRESENTLY ARPA-E PERFORMERS UNDER ANOTHER PROGRAM. DOES THIS EXCLUDE US FROM RESPONDING TO THIS NOI?
6. WE DID NOT SEE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE POTENTIAL AWARD IF/WHEN IT IS ISSUED. IS THERE AN ESTIMATE OF THE SCALE?
7. IS THERE A PREFERENCE/EXCLUSION FOR UNIVERSITY PARTNERS, IF PARTNERS ARE ENCOURAGED?

**ANSWER:**

1. ARPA-E expects that the FOA will permit Federal research laboratories to participate to the extent permitted in previous ARPA-E FOAs. There is no preference.
2. ARPA-E expects that the FOA will allow for both “Stand-alone” applicants and “Project Teams,” as long as all necessary capabilities are met.
3. See Answer 2 above regarding teaming/partners. Letters of intent are not required for purposes of this NOI, but may be required in response to the planned FOA.
4. Yes, but the page limitations stated in the NOI apply whether or not an appendix is submitted.
5. No, but please note the answer to Question 7 below regarding the need for objective and unbiased evaluation/testing of advanced storage devices.
6. At this time, ARPA-E anticipates one or more awards in the range of \$2M-\$5M each, each for a duration of 2-3 years.
7. ARPA-E expects that the FOA will permit universities to participate to the extent permitted in previous ARPA-E FOAs, without preference.

**Q7. WILL ENERGY STORAGE VENDORS AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS (INCLUDING ARPA-E AWARDEES AND FORMER AWARDEES) BE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARD, INDIVIDUALLY OR AS TEAM MEMBERS, UNDER THE PLANNED FOA?**

**ANSWER:** The FOA is expected to result in applications from organizations/teams that must have the capability to conduct objective, unbiased micro-grid testing/economic analysis of advanced energy storage devices. If selected, these organizations/teams will be required to test multiple storage technologies from different storage vendors/developers that are selected by ARPA-E. Therefore, FOA applicants/team members will be expected to demonstrate how they will protect commercially sensitive information/data i) provided from such organizations for testing/economic analysis, and ii) resulting from such testing/analysis. Organizational conflicts of interest or the appearance of such conflicts that cannot be sufficiently mitigated could be considered grounds for ineligibility for participation/award under the planned FOA.

**Q8. WHAT STORAGE DEVICES/SYSTEMS WILL BE TESTED BY AWARDEE(S) UNDER THE FOA?**

**ANSWER:** The specific devices/systems for testing by FOA awardee(s) will be determined through performance-based protocols issued by awardees and approved by ARPA-E. ARPA-E expects testing of devices/systems that are mostly - if not exclusively – those of ARPA-E awardees or former awardees.