

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 to determine if their technology warrants a submission to ARPA-E.

II. Questions for week ending: FEBRUARY 22, 2013

Q9. Who will be the ARPA-E program manager for RANGE?

ANSWER: See Section VII entitled "Agency Contacts" of the FOA. Accordingly, the requested name of the ARPA-E Program Manager for RANGE will not be publically disclosed or made available until the completion of award negotiations.

Q10. I have a project that addresses both of ARPA-E's two mission areas, but does not correlate as strongly with the FOA's stated first and second objectives. Could a seedling project that supports ARPA-E's mission statement be funded, even if it is not strongly correlated to the stated objectives of this particular FOA?

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not provide a pre-submission assessment of an applicant's technology or proposed project. Applicants must review the Technical Requirements of this funding opportunity to determine if their technology warrants a submission to ARPA-E.

Q11. The range funding opportunity is directed toward the development of a propulsion system--not just the battery source. It does, however limit the response to electric vehicles--and omits the opportunity for other propulsion methods.

A. If I tried to respond to this funding opportunity with a concept document for a propulsion system would it be considered?

ANSWER: A: Please see the answers for Questions 8 and 10.

B. I would very much like to discuss this propulsion system in more detail with you if you can suggest a way that can be done.

ANSWER: B: Please see the answer for Question 5.

Q12. Our general question is whether ARPA-E has a mechanism or forum or contact list through which our company could make contact with potential bidders to this solicitation with the hope of finding another innovative technology that could further benefit by being married with our technology?

ANSWER: Please see the ARPA-E RFI-0000000 Announcement of Teaming Partner List for Robust Affordable Next Generation Storage (Range) which is posted on the ARPA-E funding opportunity web page (<https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov/#Foaldf9bc31d4-16ae-489f-9db4-ca977dc67ff5>).

Q13. If we were to submit a Concept Paper, would this Concept Paper be shared with others responding to the solicitation creating the potential for future teaming?

ANSWER: No. ARPA-E does not share concept papers with applicants.

Q14. I read with great interest ARPA-E's new FOA, "RANGE". I am writing this to have your feedback on some of our ideas around F-Ion and MG-Ion batteries to address the topic of this FOA.

ANSWER: Please see the answer for Question 5.

III. Questions for week ending: MARCH 1, 2013

Q15. In regards to funding opportunity no. DE-FOA-0000869, Robust Affordable Next Generation EV Storage, could you please take into consideration the following scope of work: with reliability and durability needs within the DOE, ARPA-E, and for future global vehicle consumers & manufacturers, please consider to expand your current scope of work for research, development, demonstration and deployment of robust affordable next generation EV storage listed in DE-FOA-0000869 to include off-road vehicles and vocational trucks.

ANSWER: Applicants must review the Technical Requirements of this funding opportunity to determine if a particular concept is within the scope of the FOA. Please see Sections I.C, I.D, I.E, and I.F of the FOA.

Q16. My team and I would like to submit an application for ARPA-E. We would like to propose a new type of energy storage device. Would this type of technology meet the funding requirements?

ANSWER: Please questions 8 and 10 above

Q17. On page 29 the FOA states: "... the prime recipient must provide at least 20% of the total project cost as cost share, except as provided in sections III.b.2 or III.b.3 below." Assuming the listed exceptions do not apply, is it acceptable for subtier project team members (i.e. Not the prime recipient) to provide part or all of the cost share, or must the entire 20% come from the prime recipient alone?

ANSWER: As stated in Section III.B.5, each Project Team is free to determine how much each Project Team member will contribute towards the cost share requirement. The amount contributed by individual Project Team members may vary, as long as the cost share requirement for the project as a whole is met. Although the cost share requirement applies to the Project Team as a whole, the funding agreement makes the Prime Recipient legally responsible for paying the entire cost share. The Prime Recipient is solely responsible for managing cost share contributions by the Project Team and enforcing cost share obligations assumed by Project Team members in sub-awards or related agreements.

Q18. Regarding the RANGE FOA, is it possible to still add an entry to the teaming partner list?

ANSWER: Yes. The RANGE Teaming Partner List is updated on a weekly basis. Please see the ARPA-E RFI-0000000 Announcement of Teaming Partner List for Robust Affordable Next Generation Storage (Range) which is posted on the ARPA-E funding opportunity web page (<https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov/#Foaldf9bc31d4-16ae-489f-9db4-ca977dc67ff5>).

IV. Questions for week ending: MARCH 8, 2013

Q19. Can you please respond to the following questions?

- A. Are fuel cells acceptable architectural elements?**
- B. For example if hydrogen for the fuel cells comes from electrolysis of water, does this qualify as a "electrically rechargeable fuel cell" per page 13 of the FOA?**
- C. Electrical double-layer capacitors (ultra-caps) are not mentioned. They have some, but not all, of the safety properties sought. If used as part of an architecture are they acceptable?**
- D. Is a prototype expected?**

ANSWER: Q19.A: Yes.

Q19.B: The FOA focuses on onboard electrically rechargeable systems.

Q19.C: Yes.

Q19.D: Please refer to Section 1.E. of the FOA.

V. Questions for week ending: MARCH 15, 2013

Q20. I have an energy storage project that stores electromechanical energy and is superior to electrochemical storage. Can I utilize this funding opportunity?

ANSWER: Please see the answers for Questions 8 and 10.

Q21. Would ARPA-E be interested in ***? Compared to Li-ion battery, these two battery technologies have much higher energy density but there is still a long way to go before they can meet DOE targets.**

ANSWER: Please see the answers for Questions 8 and 10.

Q22. We are preparing a Concept Paper for the RANGE FOA. In the template, there is a box for a control number, we would appreciate to know what number is this box referring to. Is it the FOA no (DE-FOA-0000869)? Or an institution related number.

ANSWER: Upon creation of an application submission in ARPA-E Exchange (<http://ARPA-E-FOA.Energy.gov>), Applicants will be assigned a Control Number. ARPA-E requires Applicants to prominently display the Control Number on the upper right corner of the header of every page of a Concept Paper, within the box provided in the template. Please see Section IV.C (Content and Form of Concept Papers) and Section IV.H.1 (Use of ARPA-E eXCHANGE) of the FOA.

Q23. I am writing this to have your feedback on some of our ideas around demonstrating *** PI. advice, if these topics and our strategies are of interest.**

ANSWER: Please see the answers for Questions 8 and 10.

Q24. Is the ARPA-E RANGE program accepting applications for performing the proof-of-concept work for a possibly transformational technology in the area of energy storage, like ***?**

ANSWER: Please see answers to Questions 8 and 10.

Q25. I want to edit and correct typos in our entry in the range teaming list. Please let me know how this can be done.

ANSWER: Please e-mail your corrections to ARPA-E-CO@hq.doe.gov (with the FOA name and number in subject line).

Q26. Is there a comprehensive checklist that we can follow to submit a Concept Paper?

ANSWER: Please see the “Required Documents Checklist” on page 1 of the FOA. ARPA-E does not provide a comprehensive checklist for Applicants. Applicants should carefully review Section IV (Application and Submission Information) for details on the Concept Paper submission process.

Q27. Do the prime recipient's team members need to be identified explicitly by the concept paper deadline of March 21?

ANSWER: No. However, as specified by the compliant criteria in Section III.C of the FOA, Concept Papers will not be deemed compliant unless the Applicant meets the eligibility requirements in Section III.A of the FOA. In addition, please see Section IV.C (Content and Form of Concept Papers) of the FOA.

Q28. Can new team members be added between the Concept Paper deadline and the Full Application deadline?

ANSWER: Yes.

Q29. In the FOA, it was mentioned that robust design architectures are included in the scope of Category 1. We have developed an energy storage system ** would this approach be considered within category 1?**

ANSWER: Please see the answer for Question 15.

Q30. I had the following questions regarding the ARPA-E RANGE project:

Q30.A. HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE TEAM PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?

Q30.B. WHAT TRL NEEDS TO BE THE PROJECT?

Q30.C. CAN THE CONCEPT PAPER INCLUDE PERSONNEL AND FINANCIAL DATA?

Q30.D. IN WHAT FUNDING CATEGORIES CAN MY PROJECT ** BE AWARDED IN: PROOF-OF-CONCEPT SEEDLING PROJECT OR TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT?**

ANSWER: Q30.A. Please Section V.A.1 (Criteria for Concept Papers) of the FOA.
Q30.B. ARPA-E does not specify a TRL-Level, as provided in Section I.A (Agency Overview), ARPA-E seeks transformational energy projects.
Q30.C. Please Section IV.C (Content and Form of Concept Papers) of the FOA.
Q30.D. Please see the answers for Questions 8 and 10.

Q31. We are not sure what you are looking for relative to the funds and costs tab below. While we understand that a 20% cost share is required for the full application, our understanding was that a specific budget number was not needed for the concept paper submission. The ARPA-E exchange tool is not allowing us to submit our concept paper without populating the specific amount of our project contribution. Any guidance you can provide is appreciated.

ANSWER: Applicants provide a “rough” cost estimate in ARPA-E eXCHANGE. Applicants may modify such cost estimates during the Full Application phase of the RANGE FOA.

Q32. How may I request a reduced cost share in ARPA-E eXCHANGE?

ANSWER: To request a reduced cost share pursuant to the terms of the FOA, Applicants must check the certification check box at the bottom of the “Funds and Cost” tab within ARPA-E Exchange (<http://ARPA-E-FOA.Energy.gov>).

VI. Questions for week ending: APRIL 26, 2013

Q33. I am wondering if you can provide us with comments from individual reviewers on our Concept Paper?

ANSWER: ARPA-E provides Applicants with summary feedback on Concept Papers, based in part on reviewer comments, in order to guide the further development of their proposed technology.

Q34. On page 20 of the FOA (Mod. 1) it states “Proof-of-Concept seedlings are projects which both range between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000 and have a period of performance of no more than a year.” Are these dollar numbers meant to refer to the ARPA-E award amount or the total project cost (i.e. Award + Cost Share)?

ANSWER: The dollar thresholds established in Section II.A (Award Overview) of the FOA refers to the total amount of Federal funding that ARPA-E may issue to an Awardee. This threshold does not include an Awardee’s required cost share amount, as explained in Section III.B (Cost Sharing) of the FOA.

Q35. We missed the concept paper submission deadline. Can we still submit a concept paper for consideration?

ANSWER: No. Once the Concept Paper Submission deadline has passed the ARPA-E Exchange system will not allow the creation of, or submission of any new Concept Papers. In addition, an Applicant must successfully submit a Concept Paper in the ARPA-E Exchange system to be eligible to create and submit a Full Application for this funding opportunity. Please see Full Application compliant criteria detailed in Section III.C.1 (Compliant Criteria) of the FOA.

VII. Questions for week ending: MAY 3, 2013

Q36.A. There is a 20 page limit on R&D strategy. Does this limit include text, figures and references? Can I list references in appendices to the R&D strategy section or to the complete proposal instead?

Q36.B. The required documents checklist on P.1 states “Statement of Project Objectives (5 pages max.)” Whereas on P.38 is says “1 page max”. So, is it a 5 or a 1 page limit?

ANSWER: Q 36.A: Yes. The 20 page limit includes text, figures, and references. Applicants should present supporting references, data, calculations, estimates, and/or projections in the R&D Strategy section, and not include appendices. Please see Section IV.D.1 (Content and Form of Full Applications – First Component: Technical Volume) of the FOA.

Q 36.B: On May 3, 2013, ARPA-E posted a modification to the RANGE FOA which clarified that the page limit for the Statement of Project Objectives is 1 page. Please visit ARPA-E eXCHANGE (<https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov>) to access the modified FOA.

Q37. We would like to change our prime recipient from one team member to another. Please advise if there is any issue with this as we proceed with our full application submission.

ANSWER: Yes. Applicants may expand or otherwise modify the proposed Project Team for their Full Applications.

Q38. On page 38 of the FOA a maximum of 2 pages is listed to discuss technology to market strategy in the technical volume, while the required technical volume says 5 pages are allocated for this section. Can you please confirm which page limit should be followed?

ANSWER: Please see Section IV.D.1 (Content and Form of Full Applications – First Component: Technical Volume) of the FOA. Applicants must limit the Technology-to-Market Strategy to two pages.

Q39.A In a project team if a domestic educational institution is not performing at least 80% of the work can our cost share portion be at least 5% and our subrecipients who are large business must provide 20% of the total project cost? This would then make the total cost share 25% of the total project cost.

Q39.B If there are 3 subrecipients are they all required to provide 20% or can the total cost share amount of their contribution equal 20% of the total budget?

ANSWER: Q 39.A: As stated in Section III.B.5 (Cost Share Allocation) of the FOA, each Project Team is free to determine how much each Project Team member will contribute towards the cost share requirement. The amount contributed by individual Project Team members may vary, as long as the cost share requirement for the project as a whole is met. Although the cost share requirement applies to the Project Team as a whole, the funding agreement makes the Prime Recipient

legally responsible for paying the entire cost share. The Prime Recipient is solely responsible for managing cost share contributions by the Project Team and enforcing cost share obligations assumed by Project Team members in sub-awards or related agreements.

Q39.B: Please see III.B.5 (Cost Share Allocation) of the FOA. The cost share requirement applies to the Project Team as a whole, not individual team members. Therefore, each Project Team is free to determine how much each Project Team member will contribute towards the total cost share requirement. The amount contributed by individual Project Team members may vary, as long as the cost share requirement for the project as a whole is met.

Q40. Can you please define “substantially” in terms of the U.S. Manufacturing Requirement?

ANSWER: The term “substantially” in terms of the U.S. Manufacturing Requirement is not defined in law or regulation. Thus, this is a policy determination, dependent on the circumstances of each award.

Q41. The FOA requests references to be identified in the proposal but doesn't state exactly how ARPA-E wishes to have references included in the applications. Can applicants submit an appendix document with the application that includes all the references?

ANSWER: Please see the answer for Question 36.A.

Q42. The required documents checklist immediately following the table of contents in the FOA states that the maximum page count for technology-to-market strategy is 2 pages. The technical volume template states that the maximum page count for technology-to-market strategy is 5 pages. What is the correct maximum page count for the technology-to-market section?

ANSWER: The correct maximum page count for the technology-to-market section of the technical volume is 2 pages. The technical volume template available on ARPA-E eXCHANGE has been updated to reflect this correction. Please visit <https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov> to access the updated technical volume.

