

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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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: JUNE 14, 2013

Q9. Are small business concerns eligible to participate as team members under this FOA, if the lead organization is a large business, a FFRDC or University?

ANSWER: Yes, small business concerns are eligible to participate as team members under this FOA if the lead organization is a large business, a FFRDC, or University.

III. Questions for week ending: JUNE 21, 2013

Q10. We understand that the focus of the ARPA-E switches program is on wide-bandgap semiconductor power devices. Our question is: would this program be interested in techniques which extend the capabilities of Si devices to mimic wide-bandgap semiconductors?

ANSWER: Silicon power semiconductor devices have several important limitations, as outlined in the FOA. However, ARPA-E will consider all proposals that show strong evidence of being able to meet or exceed all of the FOA targets, including those focused on fundamentally new approaches to silicon-based devices. Applications will not be excluded solely based on the selected semiconductor material.

IV. Questions for week ending: JUNE 28, 2013

Q11. In row 1.7 (“Dynamic Performance”) of “Table 2: Primary Technical Targets” on page 18 of the FOA, does IMAX represent the output current or is it the maximum inductor current? In other words, if it is the output current, should the hard switched PFC boost converter be designed for 40000W output power?

ANSWER: IMAX is the maximum device current.

Q12. We are considered a private institution of higher education and, per subject program guidelines, would be defined as a 'domestic educational institution'. We are considering a proposal option where one of our business partners performs as lead submitting agency and we, the domestic educational institution, perform as a sub performing less than 80% of total project work. Using this scenario, what is our cost share requirement?

ANSWER: Per Section III.B.3 of the FOA, "Project Teams where domestic educational institutions, domestic nonprofits, and/or FFRDCs perform greater than or equal to 80%, but less than 100%, of the total work under the funding agreement (as measured by the Total Project Cost) are required to provide at least 10% of the Total Project Cost as cost share." Under the scenario presented in this question, the domestic educational institution would not be performing greater than or equal to 80% of the total work. Therefore, this Project Team would have a cost share requirement of 20%, as outlined in Section III.B.1 of the FOA.

V. Questions for week ending: JULY 5, 2013

Q13. Can a group of Co-PIs submit LOI's and full proposals to both the proof-of-concept seedling project and technology development project competitions if the concepts are technologically distinct?

ANSWER: Yes. Per Section III.C.3 of the FOA, "Applicants may submit more than one application to this FOA, provided that each application is scientifically distinct."