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# CONCEPT PAPER

Q1. For the concept paper, are cover pages required and would they be counted toward the 5-page limit for the submission?

A1. Cover pages are not required for concept papers. However, if a cover page is included in the concept paper it will not be counted towards the 5-page limit.

Q2. Do references count towards the 5-page limit for the concept paper?

A2. Yes, if references are used, it would count toward the 5-page limit.

Q3.  Is it okay if individual PIs submit their own proposals (i.e. As opposed to a single submission of all proposals by one individual)

A3. Yes, individual PI concept paper submissions are acceptable.

Q4. Do letters of commitment count toward the 5-page limit, and should they be in the same PDF?

A4. No, if letters of commitment are provided, it will not count toward the 5-page limit. Letters of commitment can be included in the concept paper or attached separately.

# COST SHARE

Q1. Are there cost share requirements for partners?

A1. No, there are no cost share requirements under this Research Call.

# DEFINITIONS

Q1. Could you provide clarification/definition for “asset owner”? Is this specifically Utility or could it be a State, Municipality, or even a contracted vendor providing services or equipment to a utility?

A1. The subject Research Call is focused on the electricity subsector. Therefore, asset owners and operators in this context includes entities such as cooperatives, municipalities, and investor-owned utilities.

Q2. Can you verify that Entity XX qualifies as an “asset owner operator from the electricity subsector” for this call?

A2. DOE/NETL cannot provide verification for each applicant whether an entity would qualify as an asset owner/operator. However, under this Research Call, the definition of an asset owner/operator broadly describes an entity responsible for generation, transmission, or distribution of power to customers.

# DISCRETION OF THE APPLICANT

Q1. Are flexible loads considered as DERs in this FOA?

A1. The Research Call references FERC Order No. 2222 to define DER. Based on this definition, applicants must determine for themselves if their proposed approach is applicable under this Research Call.

# ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Q1.  Can industry partners receive funding through this research call?

A1. Yes, industry partners can receive funding. However, only DOE sponsored National Laboratories are eligible to apply for funding as the prime recipient. Additionally, the prime recipient will be responsible for funding subrecipients using the funds provided from DOE HQ if selected.

# ESTIMATED PROJECT COST

Q1. Could you provide clarification/definition on the expectations for Estimated Project Cost to be provided in section 3 of the Concept Paper? Is the expectation for a simple total? Should estimated subrecipient amounts be included? Should the estimate include a breakdown for each year of the funded project?

A1. Please include the total estimated project cost. It is not necessary to include subrecipient amounts or annual estimates for the concept paper.

# LETTERS OF COMMITMENT

Q1.  Does DOE distinguish between a letter of commitment and a letter of support?

A1. For the concept papers submitted to the subject Research Call, typically, a letter of commitment would identify the team member’s role and contribution. Whereas, a letter of support, would express endorsement or encouragement for the project.

# NUMBER OF PROPOSALS

Q1.  Would like to confirm that there are no limitations on the number of proposals that can be submitted.

A1. Correct, there are no limitations on the number of proposals from each lab; however, each proposal must be unique and address a single Topic Area.

# RED TEAM TEST

Q1.  Do we need a “Third party to red team test” for topic 5 (offline analysis)? If so, how should we interpret the role?

A1. Yes, although it will be an offline solution, it would still be good to test for vulnerabilities to understand the exposure to cybersecurity risks in the context of use.

# SUB-AWARDEE

Q1.  Are there any caps regarding funding levels for prime/partners (e.g. prime must receive at least x% of total funding and individual partners cannot exceed more than y% of total funding)

A1. No, however, it is encouraged that the National Laboratories do the majority of the work. Therefore, no more than 49% of the funding in total should be provided to the non-Federal participants.

Q2.  For projects awarded where National Labs are sub-awardees, will DOE fund these labs directly, or will the lead lab subcontract with the National Lab sub-awardee?

A2. The prime recipient will be responsible for funding and managing sub-awardees.