

WELCOME

This webinar is being recorded and will be published on the Clean Energy Infrastructure eXCHANGE website.

You will not be able to connect to DOE personnel or other participants via voice or video conferencing in today's webinar.

All prospective Applicants that have general NOFO questions, or questions during this webinar, are directed to send them to the Question-and-Answer email address found here (and later in the webinar):
DE-FOA-0003587@netl.doe.gov

DOE will attempt to respond to a question within three (3) business days unless a similar question and answer has already been posted on the website.



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of **ENERGY**

Office of Manufacturing
and Energy Supply Chains

This presentation is being recorded and may be posted on DOE's website or used internally.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Section 40205 Rare Earth Elements Demonstration Facility

DE-FOA-0003587

Announcement Webinar / December 9, 2025



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of **ENERGY**

Office of Manufacturing
and Energy Supply Chains

Notice

- NO NEW INFORMATION OTHER THAN THAT PROVIDED IN THE NOFO DOCUMENTS WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THE WEBINAR.
- There are no particular advantages or disadvantages to the application evaluation process with respect to participating on the webinar today.
- Your participation is completely voluntary.
- All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the Notice of Funding Opportunity DE-FOA-0003587 (“NOFO”) and adhere to the stated submission requirements.
- This presentation summarizes the contents of NOFO. If there are any inconsistencies between the NOFO and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the NOFO is the controlling document, and applicants should rely on the NOFO language.

Presenter



Amanda McAlpin
Deployment Manager
Office of Manufacturing and Energy
Supply Chains

Agenda

Opening Remarks from the DOE MESC Director

Funding Opportunity Details

- **Background**
- **Milestones**
- **Overview**

Submission Details

- **Infrastructure eXCHANGE**

Letters of Intent

Full Applications

Technical Merit Review

Frequently Asked Questions

MESC Director



Angelos Kokkinos

Director

Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains

Rare Earths are critical in everyday life



Health Care



Motors



Seat Belts



UAVs



Data Centers / AI

Funding Opportunity Details



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Funding Opportunity Background

IIJA Section 40205: The Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESCC) will fund through an agreement **with an academic partner**, the design, construction, and build-out of a facility to demonstrate the commercial feasibility of a full-scale integrated **Rare Earth Element (REE)** extraction and separation facility and refinery through the use of feedstock derived from acid mine drainage, mine waste, or other deleterious material such as harmful materials resulting from mining or industrial operations like industrial waste or electronic waste streams.

- The programmatic authorizing statute is Public Law (P.L.) 95-91, DOE Organization Act, as amended and P.L. 116-260, Div. Z, Energy Act of 2020, Title VII, Sec. 7001, as amended by P.L. 117-58, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Div. D, Title II, Sec. 40205, codified at 42 U.S.C. 13344.

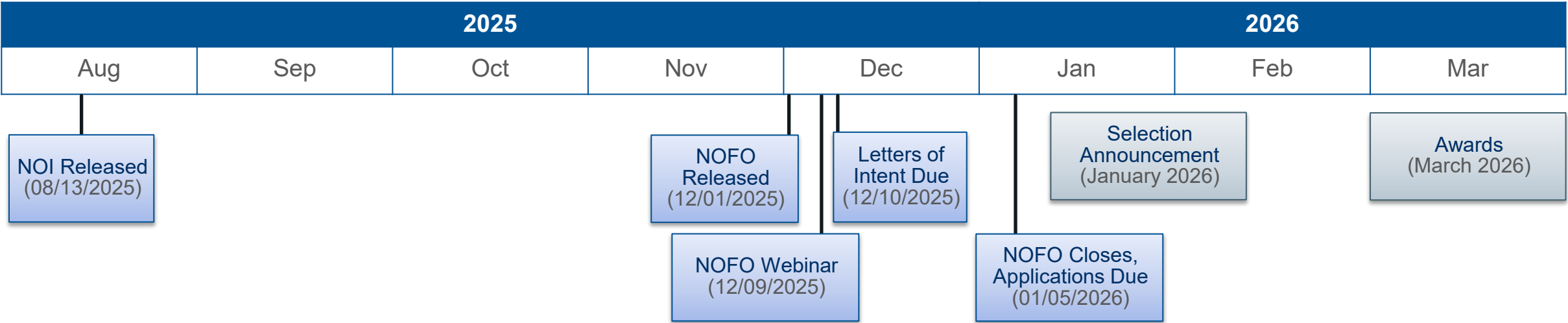
Funding:

- \$134,000,000 in Cooperative Agreement(s)

Intended Recipients of funding:

- A domestic academic partner as the prime recipient (as a pass-through entity or participating materially in the project), with at least one for-profit sector entity as sub-recipient.
- An incorporated consortia as the prime recipient, that includes a domestic academic partner as a member of the consortia with material participation, and the domestic academic partner as a subrecipient to the award.
- An unincorporated consortia, where the prime recipient has a partnership agreement with a domestic academic partner outlining the roles and responsibilities of the project management and where the domestic academic partner is a subrecipient on the award.

Funding Opportunity Milestones



NOFO Issue Date:	12/01/2025
Submission Deadline for Letters of Intent:	12/10/2025 at 5:00 PM ET
Submission Deadline for Full Applications:	01/05/2026 at 5:00 PM ET
Expected Date for DOE Selection Notifications:	January 2026
Expected Timeframe for Award Negotiations:	March 2026

All timelines tentative and subject to change.

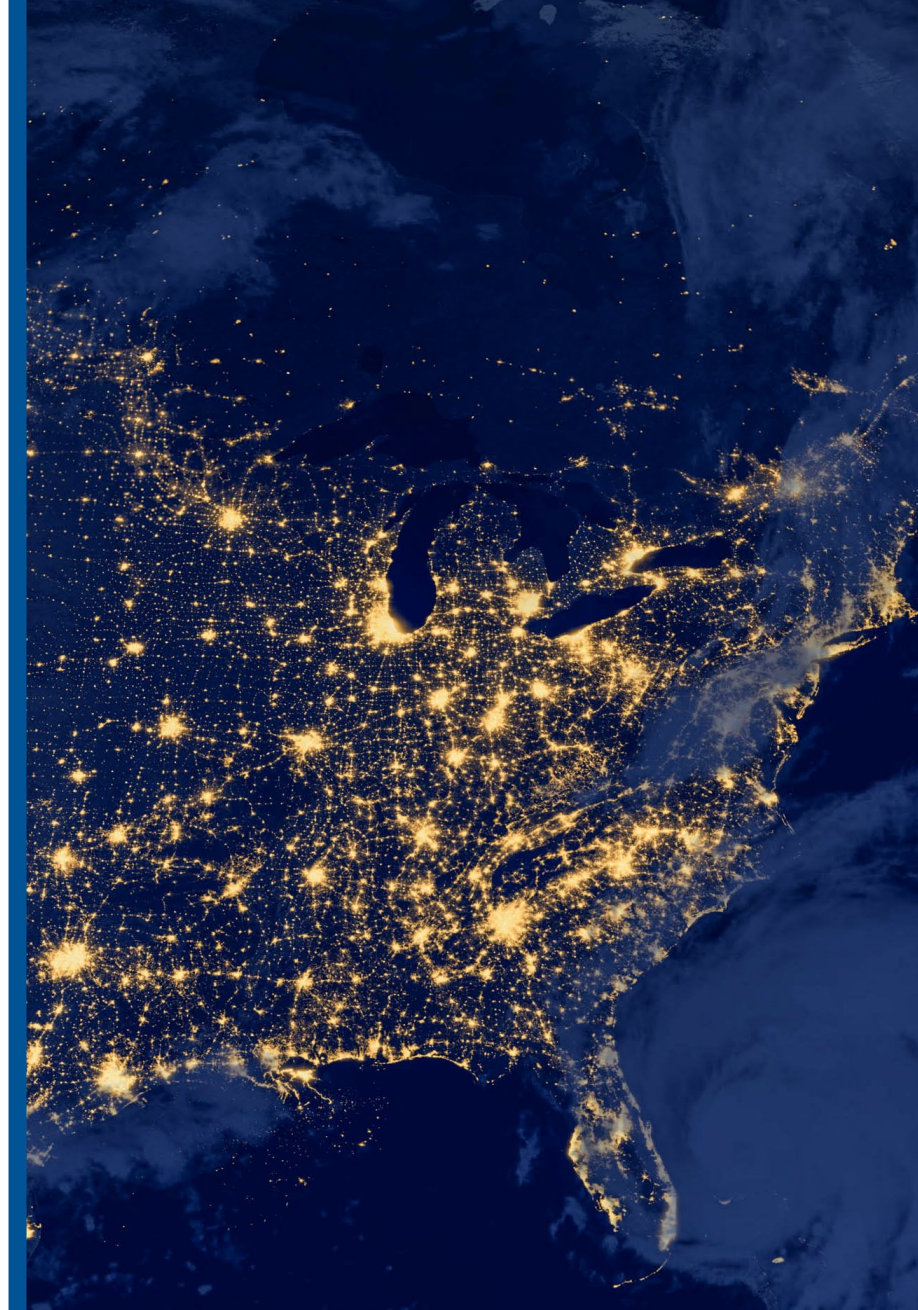


Funding Opportunity Overview

This program will advance the Administration's plans to bolster the U.S. domestic supply chain for rare earth elements, which are critical minerals and materials (CMM), thereby reducing reliance on foreign sources, enhancing national security, and creating energy dominance.

The objective of this program is to:

- Fund the design, construction and operation of one (or more) cost effective, innovative, demonstration processing line(s) at a new or existing facility that will **supply 150 to 1000 metric tons per year of rare earth elements (REEs)** for domestic use.
- The facility **MUST** process, separate, and refine rare earth oxides into rare earth metals **from feedstock derived from acid mine drainage, mine waste or other deleterious material**, including e-waste at a single site -- with a priority for heavy rare earth elements.



Funding Opportunity Overview

Single Topic Area:

Anticipated Award Size (Federal Share): \$67 – \$134 Million

Anticipated Number of Awards: 1 – 2

Minimum cost share required: 50% of the total project costs

Approximate award project period: Up to 36 months

Anticipated length of budget periods: 9 - 18 months

Funding Opportunity Available At: Infrastructure-eXCHANGE

Letters of Intent Due: December 10, 2025, at 5:00PM ET

Full Applications Due: January 05, 2026, at 5:00PM ET



Restricted Eligibility

NOFO Part 1 Section II.A.1.

In accordance with 2 CFR 910.126, Competition, **eligibility for this NOFO is restricted to entities partnering with an academic institution.** Consistent with 42 U.S.C. 13344(c)(1) “the Secretary shall fund, through an agreement **with an academic partner**, the design, construction and build-out of a facility.” Therefore, eligible applicants will be restricted to the following:

- A domestic academic partner as the prime recipient (as a pass-through entity or participating materially in the project), with at least one for-profit sector entity as sub-recipient.
- An incorporated consortia as the prime recipient, that includes a domestic academic partner as a member of the consortia with material participation, and the domestic academic partner as a subrecipient to the award.
- An unincorporated consortia, where the prime recipient has a partnership agreement with a domestic academic partner outlining the roles and responsibilities of the project management and where the domestic academic partner is a subrecipient on the award.

Submit NOFO Questions to: DE-FOA-0003587@netl.doe.gov
Full Q&A Available at: <http://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov>



Partnering

NOFO Part 1 Section I.C.

- DOE is compiling a “Teaming Partner List” to facilitate the formation of project teams for this NOFO.
- The list allows organizations that may wish to participate on an application to express their interest to other applicants and to explore potential partnerships.
- The Teaming Partner List will be available on Infrastructure eXCHANGE and will be regularly updated to reflect new teaming partners who provide their organization’s information.
- Information to be submitted: Investigator Name, Organization Name, Organization Type, Background and Capabilities, Website, Contact Address, Contact Email, and Contact Phone.



Statement of Substantial Involvement

NOFO Part 1 Section III.H.

Cooperative Agreements

DOE anticipates awarding cooperative agreements under this NOFO, which include a statement of DOE's "substantial involvement" in the work performed under the resulting awards. For cooperative agreements, DOE does not limit its involvement to the administrative requirements of the award. Instead, DOE has substantial involvement in the direction and redirection of the technical aspects of the project. DOE's substantial involvement in resulting awards may include the following:

- DOE shares responsibility with the recipient for the management, control, direction, and performance of the project.
- DOE may intervene in the conduct or performance of work under this award for programmatic reasons. Intervention includes the interruption or modification of the conduct or performance of project activities.
- DOE may redirect or discontinue funding the project based on the outcome of DOE's evaluation of the project at the Go/No-Go decision point(s).
- DOE participates in major project decision-making processes.

Other Transactions Authority

DOE may use DOE's other transactions authority as codified at 42 USC § 7256(a) and (g) to enter into another transaction agreement with Recipients on a case-by-case basis. DOE may negotiate another transaction agreement when DOE determines that the use of a standard cooperative agreement, grant, or contract is not feasible or appropriate for a project. For information on other transaction agreements, see <https://www.energy.gov/management/other-transaction-authority>.

Cost Sharing Requirements

NOFO Part 1 Section II.C.1. & NOFO Part 2 Section II.A.

- Applicants are expected to follow through on estimated cost share commitments proposed in their applications if selected for award negotiations.
- The cost share **MUST** be at least 50% of the total project costs for demonstration projects or commercial projects.
- The cost share **MUST** come from non-federal sources, unless otherwise allowed by law.
- Cost share may come from project participants, state or local governments, or other third-party financing.
- Federal financing, such as DOE Loan Guarantees, cannot be leveraged by applicants to provide the required cost share or to otherwise support the same scope that is proposed in response to this NOFO.
- Applicants are encouraged to refer to 2 CFR 200.306 and 2 CFR 910.130 for additional cost sharing requirements.

Expected Performance Goals

NOFO Part 1 Section III.D.

	Application	Phase 1: Initial Planning	Phase 2: Permitting and Preparation	Phase 3: Construction and Installation	Phase 4: Commissioning, Qualification, and Validation
☆ Initial Application ◇ Go/No-Go Decisions		☆			
Approximate Proportion of Project Cost	Pre-DOE Funding	5-10%	5-20%	60-80%	10%
Approximate Duration	N/A	Up to 12 Months		Up to 18 Months	Up to 6 Months
Budget Period	N/A	Budget Period 1		Budget Period 2	Budget Period 3
Phase/Milestone Summary	N/A	Conduct initial planning and analysis for the facility activities.	Obtaining the required permits for construction and finalize activities required to initiate construction.	Execute the construction and/or tenant improvements of the facility and complete installation of any required equipment.	Finalize the line commissioning, complete qualification and/or acceptance testing, and validation. Ensure that the facility is able to meet production targets.

Expected Performance Goals (cont.)

NOFO Part 1 Section III.D.

The projects selected from this NOFO will:

- Supply 150-1000 metric tons/year of REE from demonstration(s) activity while pioneering processes for REE separation from feedstock derived from acid mine drainage, mine waste, or other deleterious material that provides environmental benefits.
- Demonstrate the commercial feasibility of rare earth element extraction, separation, and refining into rare earth metals.
- Separate mixed rare earth oxides into pure oxides of each rare earth element and refine rare earth oxides into rare earth metals at a single site.

Awards selected under this NOFO will adhere to a four-phased structure for managing scope, schedule, deliverables, and budget.

- **Phase 1 and 2** – Initial Planning and Permitting and Preparation (Budget Period 1)
 - Phase 1 Initial Planning
 - Phase 2 Permitting and Preparation
- **Phase 3** – Construction and Installation (Budget Period 2)
- **Phase 4** – Commissioning, Qualification and Demonstration (Budget Period 3)
- Transition Between Phases

Submission Details



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Means of Submission

- Letters of Intent and Full Applications **MUST** be submitted through Infrastructure eXCHANGE at <https://infrastructure-eXCHANGE.energy.gov/>.
- MESC will **NOT** review or consider applications submitted through other means.
- The User Guide for Applying to the Department of Energy MESC Funding Opportunities can be found at [Infrastructure eXCHANGE: Manuals \(energy.gov\)](#)

Registration Requirements

- To apply to this NOFO, Applicants **MUST** submit application materials through Infrastructure eXCHANGE:
 - Applicants **MUST** have a Login.gov account to access [Infrastructure eXCHANGE](#). Please ensure that the email address associated with Login.gov matches the email address associated with your eXCHANGE account.
 - Obtain a “control number” at least 24 hours before the first submission deadline.
- Although not required to submit an application, the following registrations **MUST** be complete to receive an award under this NOFO:

Registration Requirement	Website
SAM	https://www.sam.gov
FedConnect	https://www.fedconnect.net
Grants.gov	http://www.grants.gov/register



Infrastructure eXCHANGE

Funding Opportunities

Teaming Partner List

Funding Archive

Questions and Answers

Submissions

Conflicts of Interest

Merit Review

Reports

My Account

Notice of Temporary Restraining Order

As required by court order, the Department of Energy is providing this Notice and Order to all employees, contractors and grantees. Click [here to read](#).

ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Create New Announcement

Jump to an Announcement:

	Announcement Number	Announcement Title	Announcement Type	Office
Clear	3587			
	DE-FOA-0003587	Rare Earth Elements Demonstration Facility	Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)	Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESC)

(<http://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov/>)

https://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#Foaid4f655156-cdf7-436b-8f0a-402f8a3a842b

DE-FOA-0003587: RARE EARTH ELEMENTS DEMONSTRATION FACILITY

The Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chain (MESC) is issuing this NOFO to request applications for projects to design, construct, commission and operate a Rare Earth Element (REE) Demonstration Facility that demonstrates the separation of REEs from feedstock derived from acid mine drainage, mine waste, or other deleterious materials to rare earth oxides and refining into rare earth metals at a single site.

This program will advance the Administration's plans to bolster the U.S. domestic supply chain for rare earth elements, which are critical minerals and materials (CMM), thereby reducing reliance on foreign sources, enhancing national security, and creating energy dominance.

The objective of this program is to:

- Fund the design, construction and operation of one (or more) cost effective, innovative, demonstration processing line(s) at a new or existing facility that will supply 150 to 1000 metric tons per year of rare earth elements (REEs) for domestic use.
- The facility must process, separate, and refine rare earth oxides into rare earth metals from feedstock derived from acid mine drainage, mine waste or other deleterious material, including e-waste at a single site -- with a priority for heavy rare earth elements.

DOCUMENTS

- [NOFO DE-FOA-0003587 Part 1](#) (Last Updated: 12/1/2025 07:28 AM ET)
- [NOFO DE-FOA-0003587 Part 2](#) (Last Updated: 12/1/2025 07:29 AM ET)
- [Question & Answer Log Updated - 12.3.25](#) (Last Updated: 12/3/2025 12:34 PM ET)

APPLICATION FORMS AND TEMPLATES

The following forms and templates may be used as part of the application submission. Note that these forms and templates do not necessarily constitute all the documents required for a complete application. Please refer to the 'Application and Submission Information' of the published announcement to learn more about the required application content requirements.

[View Application Forms and Templates](#)

WEBINAR DETAILS

NOFO 3587 Informational Webinar to be held Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 1:00pm ET.

Join the Webinar with Microsoft Teams link here: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MTNkMjA3YWVtMGJlMjI0Y2NkLWE5MmUzZmlwZTJjMmQ3...

CONTACT INFORMATION

- InfrastructureExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov
- DE-FOA-0003587@netl.doe.gov

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Responses to questions are posted to the [FAQs webpage](#).

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

- Letter of Intent Deadline: 12/10/2025 5:00 PM ET
- Full Application Submission Deadline: 1/5/2026 5:00 PM ET

TEAMING PARTNERS

To access the Teaming Partner List for this announcement, click [here](#).

Apply
Click for Control Number



Key Submission Points

- Check entries in Infrastructure eXCHANGE.
 - Submissions could be deemed ineligible due to an incorrect entry.
- MESC **strongly encourages applicants** to submit all required application documents **at least 48 hours** in advance of the submission deadline.
- Make sure you hit the “Submit” button.
 - Any changes made after you hit submit will un-submit your application and you will need to hit the submit button again.
- For your records, print out the Infrastructure eXCHANGE page at each step, which contains the application’s Control Number.

Applicant Points-of-Contact

- Applicants **MUST** designate primary and backup points-of-contact in Infrastructure eXCHANGE with whom MESC will communicate to conduct award negotiations.
- It is imperative that the Applicant/Selectee be responsive during award negotiations and meet negotiation deadlines.
- Failure to do so may result in cancellation of further award negotiations and rescission of the Selection.

Letters of Intent



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Letters of Intent

NOFO Part 1 Section IV.C.

- Applicants are **encouraged** to submit a Letter of Intent by the specified due date and time.
- The submission should not contain any proprietary or sensitive business information.
- Letters of Intent will not be used for down-selection purposes and do not commit an applicant to apply. Applicants are not bound to the statements made in the Letter of Intent; it is reasonable for project partners, locations, or other factors to change during the application development process.
- DOE will **not** provide feedback on the Letters of Intent.
- Please reference the Infrastructure User Guide for Applicants Manual for further instructions:
 - [Infrastructure eXCHANGE: Manuals \(energy.gov\)](#)

Letters of Intent – Content

NOFO Part 1 Section IV.C.

- The Letter of Intent is a web form in Infrastructure eXCHANGE; it is not a letter that needs to be attached and uploaded.
- To begin the Letter of Intent, click on either the Announcement Number or Title of the applicable funding opportunity in eXCHANGE. Then, click the ‘Apply’ button to create the Letter of Intent.
- The Letter of Intent includes an abstract, which should provide a truncated explanation of the proposed project. The abstract is entered in eXCHANGE and may not exceed 600 characters. Applicants **MUST** include the following information:

Letter of Intent Content Requirements in eXCHANGE	
Project Title	The project title should be consistently used across other application documents.
Lead Organization	Complete legal name of the lead organization.
Percentage Effort Performed by the Lead Organization	Provide the percentage effort to be performed by the lead organization in terms of overall budget percentage.
Organization Type	Academic; Federal Government; Federally Funded Research and Development (FFRDC); Government Owned and Operated (GOGO); Indian/Native American Tribal Government; Individual; Large Business; Non-Profit; Small Business; State and/or Local Government
Organization Location	Business location of the lead organization City, State, and Zip Code.
Recipient Technical Point of Contact (POC)	Name and title for the Principal Investigator (PI) or Lead Project Manager (LPM).
Senior/Key Personnel	Provide complete legal name/title of all Recipient Senior/Key Personnel
Subrecipients/Key Partners	Provide complete legal names of all Subrecipients and Key Partners (if known)
Subrecipient & Key Partner Senior/Key Personnel	Provide complete legal name/title of all Subrecipient & Key Partner Senior/Key Personnel
Project Location	Anticipated location of the project City, State, and Zip Code.
Project Description	Description should not exceed 200 words and should provide a truncated explanation of the proposed project.

Full Applications



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Full Application Eligibility Requirements

Applicants **MUST** submit a Full Application by **Monday, 01/05/2026, 5:00 pm ET**.

Full Applications are eligible for review if:

- The Applicant is an eligible entity pursuant to **NOFO Part 1 Section II.A**;
 - II. Eligibility, A. Eligibility Applicants
- The Full Application is compliant pursuant to **NOFO Part 1 Section VI.E.2**;
 - IV. Application Content Requirements, E. Funding Restrictions, 7. Entities Submitting to both MESG and LPO Programs
- The Full Application is responsive to the **NOFO Part 1 Section VI.D**; and
 - IV. Application Content Requirements, D. Application Content Requirements
- The Full Application meets any other eligibility requirements listed in **NOFO Part 1 Section II**.
 - II. Eligibility

Full Application Process

NOFO Part 2 Section IV.A.

The application process includes multiple submission phases: a Letter of Intent phase and a Full Application phase. **THE LETTER OF INTENT IS NON-BINDING AND NOT MANDATORY. IF A LETTER IS NOT SUBMITTED, THEN AN APPLICATION WILL STILL BE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW IF IT MEETS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.**



All submissions MUST conform to the form and content requirements described below, including maximum page lengths.

- Each MUST be submitted in Adobe PDF format unless stated otherwise;
- Each MUST be written in English;
- All pages MUST be formatted to fit on 8.5" x 11" paper with margins not less than one inch on every side. Use Calibri typeface, a black font color, and a font size of 12-point or larger (except in figures or tables, which may be 10-point font). A symbol font may be used to insert Greek letters or special characters, but the font size requirement still applies. The use of Calibri does not apply to templates provided in Infrastructure eXCHANGE.
- References MUST be included as footnotes or endnotes in a font size of 10 or larger. Footnotes and endnotes are counted toward the maximum page requirement;
- A **control number** will be issued when an applicant begins the Infrastructure eXCHANGE application process. The control number MUST be included with all application documents. Specifically, the control number MUST be prominently displayed on the upper right corner of the header of every page and included in the file name (i.e., *Control Number_Applicant Name_Full Application*);
- Page numbers MUST be included in the footer of every page; and
- Each submission MUST not exceed the specified maximum page limit, including cover page, charts, graphs, maps, and photographs when printed using the formatting requirements set forth above and single spaced. If applicants exceed the maximum page lengths indicated, DOE will review only the authorized number of pages and disregard any additional pages.

Full Application Process - eXCHANGE

NOFO Part 2 Section IV.A.

Information on Infrastructure eXCHANGE

- Infrastructure eXCHANGE is designed to enforce the deadlines specified in this NOFO. The “Apply” and “Submit” buttons will automatically disable at the defined submission deadlines.
- Applicants who experience technical difficulties with submission **prior** to the NOFO deadline should contact the Infrastructure eXCHANGE helpdesk for assistance (InfrastructureExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov). The eXCHANGE helpdesk and/or the eXCHANGE system administrators will assist applicants in resolving issues.
- Please reference the Infrastructure User Guide for Applicants Manual for further instructions:
 - [Infrastructure eXCHANGE: Manuals \(energy.gov\)](#)

Under normal conditions (i.e., at least 48 hours BEFORE the submission deadline):
Applicants should ALLOW AT LEAST ONE HOUR to complete the Infrastructure eXCHANGE submission process for a Full Application.

Full Application Process - eXCHANGE

NOFO Part 2 Section IV.A.

To access application forms and instructions available on Infrastructure eXCHANGE, go to <https://infrastructure-eXCHANGE.energy.gov> and select the appropriate funding opportunity number.

Note: The maximum file size that can be uploaded to the Infrastructure eXCHANGE website is 50MB. Files larger than 50MB cannot be uploaded and hence cannot be submitted for review. If a file is larger than 50MB but is still within the maximum page limit specified in the NOFO, it **MUST** be broken into parts and denoted to that effect.

For example: TechnicalVolume_Part_1
TechnicalVolume_Part_2

DOE will NOT accept late submissions that resulted from technical difficulties due to uploading files that exceed 50MB.

Full Application Process - eXCHANGE

You will not be able to start the Full Application submission until the Letter of Intent deadline has passed, even when the Letter of Intent was optional.

Applicants can do the following to initiate the Full Application phase of the submission process in eXCHANGE:

- **If an optional Letter of Intent was submitted:**
 - Login to Infrastructure eXCHANGE
 - Open the “My Submissions” page
 - Locate the Letter of Intent record
 - Click “Start Full Application”
- **If an optional Letter of Intent was not submitted:**
 - Login to Infrastructure eXCHANGE
 - Locate DE-FOA-3587 on the “Funding Opportunity” page
 - Click “Apply”

Full Application Content Requirement

NOFO Part 1 Section IV.D.2.

- Each Full Application **MUST** be limited to a single concept.
- Full Applications **MUST** conform to the following requirements and **MUST** not exceed the stated page limits.
- The maximum file size that can be uploaded to the Infrastructure eXCHANGE website is **50MB**. See NOFO Part 2 Section IV.A.

#	Component	File Format	Page Limit	File Name
1	Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_424
2	Technical Volume	PDF	30 pages	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_TechnicalVolume
3	Letters of Commitment	PDF	1 page each	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_LOCs
4	Impacted Indian Tribes Documentation	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_ImpactedTribes
5	Statement of Project Objectives	MS Word	8 pages	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_SOPO
6	Budget Information Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)	MS Excel	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_SF-424A
7	Budget Justification Workbook	MS Excel	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Budget_Justification
8	Subrecipient Budget Justification	MS Excel	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Subrecipient_Budget_Justification

Full Application Content Requirement (cont.)

NOFO Part 1 Section IV.D.2.

#	Component	File Format	Page Limit	File Name
9	Work Proposal for FFRDC, (see DOE O 412.1A)	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_WP
10	Authorization for Non-DOE or DOE FFRDCs	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_FFRDCAuth
11	Waiver for Foreign Entity Participation	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_FEW
12	Performance of Work in the United States (Foreign Work Waiver)	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_FWW
13	Resumes (Research and Development (R&D))	PDF	3 pages each	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Resumes
14	Current and Pending Support (for each covered individual)	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_CPS
15	Transparency of Foreign Connections	PDF	n/a	BusinessSensitive_ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_TFC
16	Potentially Duplicative Funding Notice	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_PDFN
17	Location(s) of Work	MS Excel	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_LOW
18	Environmental Questionnaire	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_EQ
19	Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, if applicable (SF-LLL)	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_SF-LLL
20	Certification Regarding Lobbying (OMB 4040-0013)	PDF	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Cert Lobbying
21	Summary for Public Release	PDF	1 page	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Summary
22	Summary Slide	MS Power Point	n/a	ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Slide
23	40205 Application Data Sheet and Workbook	MS Excel	n/a	BusinessSensitive_ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Workbook
24	Financial Model	MS Excel	n/a	BusinessSensitive_ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Financial Model
25	Financing Documentation	PDF	n/a	BusinessSensitive_ControlNumber_LeadOrganization_Financing Documentation

Technical Volume: The key technical component of the Full Application

Content of Technical Volume – 30 pages	Approximate Percent Content of the Technical Volume
Cover Page	1 page maximum
Project Overview	Approximately 10% of the Technical Volume
Technology Description, Innovation, and Merit	Approximately 25% of the Technical Volume
Supply Chain Impact and Viability	Approximately 15% of the Technical Volume
Commercial Plan and Financial Plan	Approximately 20% of the Technical Volume
Workplan, Management Plan, and Partners	Approximately 15% of the Technical Volume
Technical Qualifications and Resources	Approximately 10% of the Technical Volume
Risk Analysis and Mitigation	Approximately 5% of the Technical Volume

Transparency of Foreign Connections

NOFO Part 2 Section IV.B.14.

Applicants **MUST** provide a transparency of foreign connections disclosure and certification as it relates to the proposed recipient and subrecipient(s). Include a separate disclosure for the applicant and each proposed subrecipient.

- **Disclosure Format:** For the convenience of the entity providing the disclosure and certification a template is available at [Transparency of Foreign Connections | Department of Energy](#), however, the entity is not required to use this specific format.
 - If another format is used, the signatory **MUST** include the same substantive information, a signature, date, and the certification statement provided at [Transparency of Foreign Connections | Department of Energy](#).
- **Disclosure exceptions by entity type:**
 - U.S. National Laboratories and domestic government entities are not required to respond to the Transparency of Foreign Connections disclosure.
 - Institutions of higher education are only required to respond to items with an asterisk symbol (*).
 - The applicability of disclosure requirements is determined by the entity type. Regardless of whether the applicant is exempt, the subrecipient(s) **MUST** provide these disclosures unless the subrecipient is also exempt.

Applicants, regardless of entity type, **MUST** provide complete responses for project team members that are not U.S. National Laboratories, domestic government entities, or institutions of higher education.

Transparency of Foreign Connections (cont.)

NOFO Part 2 Section IV.B.14.

Applicants **MUST** provide a transparency of foreign connections disclosure and certification as it relates to the proposed recipient and subrecipient(s). Include a separate disclosure for the applicant and each proposed subrecipient.

- Applicants, regardless of entity type, **MUST** provide complete responses for project team members that are not U.S. National Laboratories, domestic government entities, or institutions of higher education.
- **Questions:** Contact rtesinfo@hq.doe.gov
- DOE reserves the right to request additional or clarifying information based on the information submitted.

Technical Merit Review



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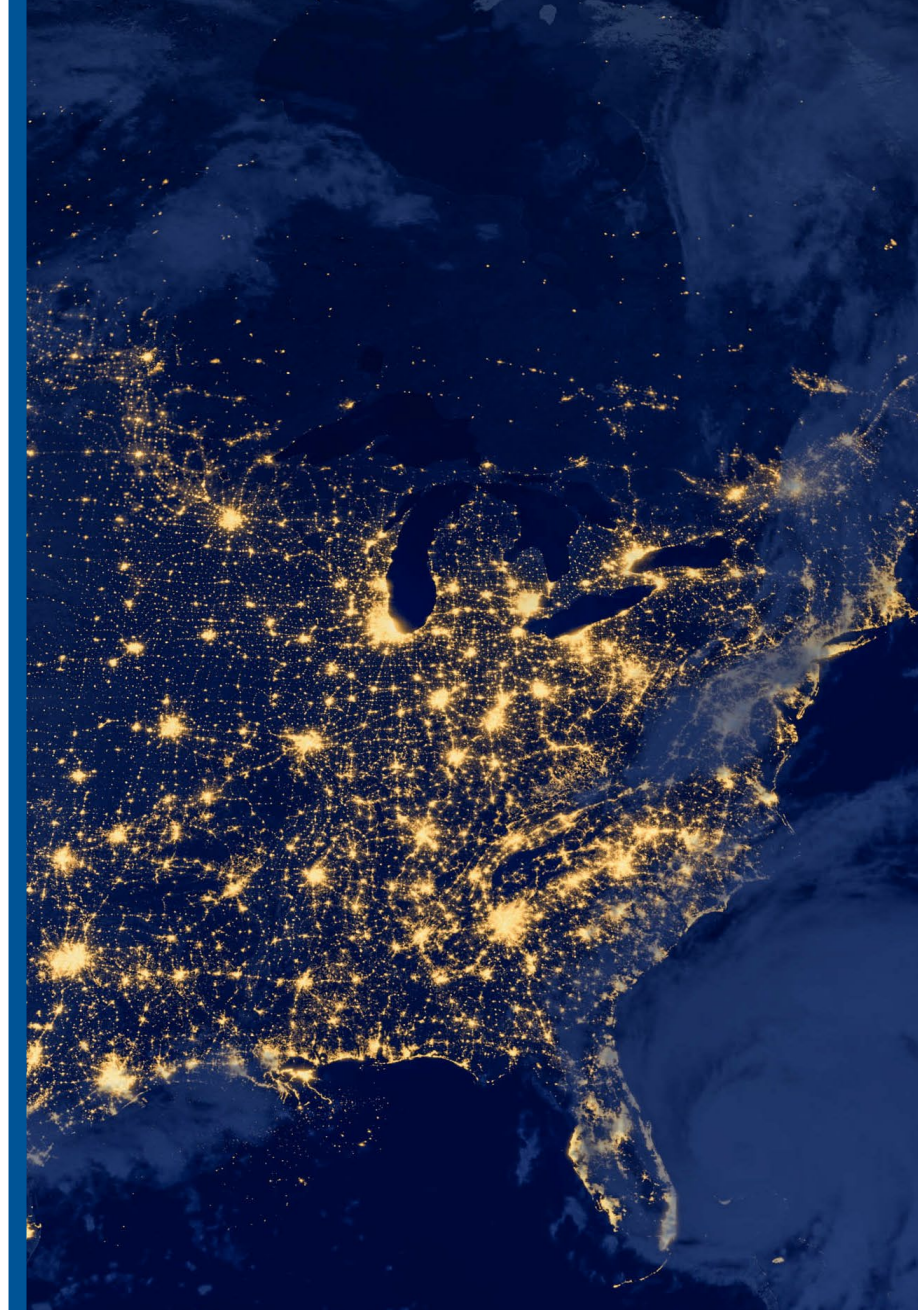
Standards for Application Evaluation

NOFO Part 1 Section VI.A.

Applications that are determined to be eligible will be evaluated in accordance with this NOFO and the guidance provided in the “DOE Merit Review Guide for Financial Assistance,” effective October 1, 2020, which is available at:

<https://energy.gov/management/downloads/merit-review-guide-financial-assistance-and-unsolicited-proposals-current>.

See NOFO Part 1, Section VI.D. for Other Selection Factors and NOFO Part 2, Section VI.A. for Standard Evaluation and Selection Processes.



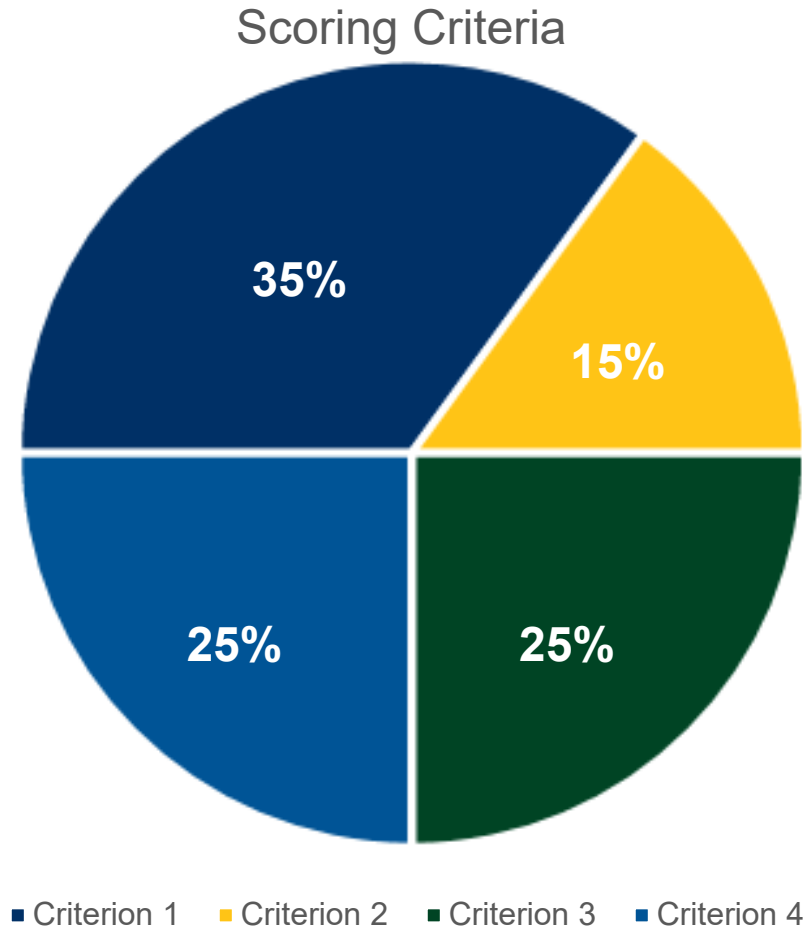


Standard Evaluation and Selection Process (Full Applications)

- The evaluation process consists of multiple phases; each includes an initial eligibility review and a thorough technical review.
- Rigorous technical reviews of eligible submissions are conducted by reviewers that are experts in the subject matter of the NOFO.
- Ultimately, the Selection Official considers the recommendations of the reviewers, along with other considerations such as program policy factors and risk reviews, in determining which applications to select.

Technical Merit Review Criteria

NOFO Part 1 Section VI.C.2.



Criterion 1: Technical Merit and Innovation (35%)

Criterion 2: Supply Chain Impact (15%)

Criterion 3: Project Financial Plan and Commercial Plan (25%)

Criterion 4: Project Workplan, Management, and Partners (25%)

Program Policy Factors

NOFO Part 1 Section VI.D.

The Selection Official may consider the following program policy factors in determining which Full Applications to select for award negotiations:

- The degree to which the proposed project exhibits technological diversity when compared to the existing DOE project portfolio and other projects selected from the subject NOFO.
- The degree to which the proposed project, including proposed cost share, optimizes the use of available DOE funding to achieve programmatic objectives.
- The level of industry involvement and demonstrated ability to accelerate demonstration and commercialization and overcome key market barriers.
- The degree to which the proposed project is likely to lead to increased high-quality employment and manufacturing in the United States.
- The degree to which the proposed project will accelerate transformational technological advances in areas that industry by itself is not likely to undertake because of technical and financial uncertainty.
- The degree to which the proposed projects involve offtake agreements with entities that are not foreign entities of concern. The degree to which applicants producing recycled feedstocks will not export recovered critical materials to a foreign entity of concern.

Program Policy Factors (cont.)

NOFO Part 1 Section VI.D.

- The degree to which the proposed project will employ procurement of U.S. iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials.
- The degree to which the proposed project collectively represents a wide range of applicant types and sizes of applicant organizations.
- The degree to which the proposed project has broad public support from the communities most directly impacted by the project.
- The degree to which the proposed project avoids duplication/overlap with other publicly or privately funded work.
- The degree to which the proposed project enables new and expanding market segments.
- The degree to which the project's solution or strategy will maximize deployment or replication.
- The degree to which the proposed project utilizes feedstock produced in the United States.
- The degree to which the proposed project is not controlled or influenced by foreign entities of concern.
- The degree to which the proposed project will reduce or minimize control of certain markets by foreign entities of concern.

Applications Specifically Not of Interest

NOFO Part 1 Section III.G.

The following types of applications will be deemed non-responsive and will not be reviewed or considered for an award:

- Applications that fall outside the technical parameters specified in Background and Context above and the Topic Areas section above.
- Applications for proposed technologies that are not based on sound scientific principles (e.g., violates the laws of thermodynamics).
- Applications from ineligible entities.
- Applications that are based on research, development, or pilot-scale (alone) activities.
- Applications that do not adhere to the feedstock requirements for the statutes.

Questions



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of **ENERGY**

Office of Manufacturing
and Energy Supply Chains

Questions

- Questions about this NOFO? Email DE-FOA-0003587@netl.doe.gov
 - All Q&As related to this NOFO will be posted on Infrastructure eXCHANGE.
 - You **MUST** select this specific NOFO Number in order to view the Q&As.
 - MESC will attempt to respond to a question within 3 business days, unless a similar Q&A has already been posted on the website.
- Problems logging into Infrastructure eXCHANGE or uploading and submitting application documents with Infrastructure eXCHANGE?
 - Email InfrastructureExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov (include NOFO name and number in subject line)

Frequently Asked Questions

Is a letter of intent submission required in order to submit an application?

- Applicants are encouraged, **but not required**, to submit a Letter of Intent by the specified due date and time. The submission should not contain any proprietary or sensitive business information. Letters of Intent will not be used for down-selection purposes, and do not commit an applicant to apply. Applicants are not bound to the statements made in the Letters of Intent; it is reasonable for project partners, locations, or other factors to change during the application development process. DOE will not provide feedback on the Letters of Intent.

We are writing to request clarification regarding the FFRDC Authorization requirement described in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (DE-FOA-0003587, Section II.D.1).

As an Office of Science National Laboratory, in accordance with the Memorandum on Streamlining SPP and CRADA, dated June 3, 2025, the Office of Science no longer requires Contracting Officer approval at the time of proposal submission for responses to DOE Notices of Funding Opportunity: "National Laboratory proposals in response to a DOE NOFO no longer require contracting officer approval at submission. National Laboratories must ensure proposals are aligned to the scope of the M&O contract. Contracting Officer approval will be required if the proposal is subsequently approved for funding."

- If your organization is an Office of Science National Laboratory, Contracting Officer approval at the time of application submittal is no longer required. If selected for negotiations leading to award, Contracting Officer approval is required.

Submit NOFO Questions to: DE-FOA-0003587@netl.doe.gov
Full Q&A Available at: <http://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov>



Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

When trying to download files, my PC keeps telling me the file is "damaged." Is there any remedy for this issue?

- NOFO files have been tested in various configurations with no issues arising. Applicants who encounter this problem should consult their IT staff for assistance.

Can you please provide more details regarding what are considered incorporated consortia and unincorporated consortia listed as eligible entities and specify the difference between them? Can a for-profit business lead with an academic partner as the subrecipient?

- A consortia is a collaborative effort between two or more entities. When incorporated, the consortia exists as a legal entity of its own. For either type of consortium, the academic partner must have a role as outlined in the NOFO, Part 1, Section II.A.1.

If our stage of development is not suitable for a prime role, would it be appropriate to participate as a subrecipient or technology provider within a larger team that is prepared to design, construct, and operate the integrated demonstration facility?

- DOE will not comment on the applicability of a specific proposed project. Applicants must thoroughly review NOFO Part 1, Section III, Program Description, and NOFO Part 1, Section II, Eligibility, to determine if they should apply.

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Full Q&A Available at: <http://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov>



Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

I have a question and need a clarification, if we are eligible to apply for the DE-FOA-0003587 grant. I work for a company that recycles Li-Ion batteries and extracts critical minerals like Lithium, Cobalt, Manganese, and Nickel etc., and just wanted to understand if we are eligible and can apply for this grant.

- DOE will not comment on the applicability of a specific proposed project. Applicants must thoroughly review NOFO Part 1, Section III, Program Description, and NOFO Part 1, Section II, Eligibility, to determine if they should apply.

If the applicant already has a facility built, does that disqualify them from this opportunity? For instance, could we replace the "construction" of a new facility with "retrofitting" or "equipment purchasing" in developing the facility into a demo plant? We would like clarity on if the facility has to be new construction as part of the award.

- Existing infrastructure will not disqualify any applicant. It is the applicant's responsibility to propose how it will meet the objective criteria outlined in the NOFO which may include retrofitting existing infrastructure.

Could DOE please clarify whether FFRDCs, including DOE national laboratories, can be considered “academic institutions” for the purposes of meeting the academic partner requirement?

- FFRDCs including DOE National Labs, are not considered academic institutions.

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Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

The Restricted Eligibility section states that “the Secretary shall fund, through an agreement with an academic partner,” and the examples provided appear to require an academic institution to serve as the prime recipient (either directly or as part of a consortia). Could you please clarify whether there is any flexibility for a for-profit organization to serve as the prime recipient, provided that a domestic academic institution is a major participant or subrecipient? Or is it the Department’s intent that all prime recipients, in every eligible structure, must be academic institutions or consortia that formally include an academic institution in a prime-level role?

- A For-Profit entity is not eligible as a stand alone prime recipient; however, the For-Profit may participate in either an incorporated or unincorporated consortia. For either type of consortium, the academic partner must have a role as outlined in the NOFO Part 1, Section II.A.1.

Regarding the requirement to “fund the design, construction, and operation of one (or more) demonstration processing line(s) ... that will supply 150–1000 metric tons per year of REEs,” could DOE clarify whether the facility is expected to achieve 150 metric tons per year at the start of operations, or whether a phased ramp-up to that output is acceptable as long as the facility ultimately reaches the required capacity?

- The goal of the demonstration facility should be to produce 150-1000 TPY. It is up to the applicant to outline the method and timeline by which they will arrive to that goal tonnage.

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Full Q&A Available at: <http://infrastructure-exchange.energy.gov>

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