

**U.S. Industry Opportunities for Advanced
Nuclear Technology Development
Funding Opportunity Number: DE-FOA-0001817
Industry Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Introductory Questions and Answers**

Please revisit answers as they may have been updated since your last visit (updates are in red). New questions/answers are added at the end of the document.

| # | Question | Answer |
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| | During the webinar and subsequent Q&A processes, we have received a number of requests for the Department to identify whether specific proposed work activities might be eligible for award under the various proposal pathways of the FOA. | Determining the relevancy of the proposal to the goals of the FOA is the responsibility of the applicant. The applicant is requested to carefully read the FOA and make their own determination regarding the potential applicability of the proposal. |
| 1 | The scope of this FOA seems to be incredibly broad. Is the DOE focused on any particular areas of nuclear technology development? | No, this FOA was intentionally crafted to allow the widest spectrum of potential applications possible from U.S. nuclear industry entities involved in developing advanced nuclear technologies. In doing so, the DOE can provide the broadest opportunity for industry to receive support on innovative concepts that are best suited to support the accelerated development and commercialization of new reactor designs, as well as the improvement of existing reactors. |
| 2 | What opportunities are included in this “industry-focused” FOA? | The FOA provides a direct vehicle for U.S. nuclear industry support through 3 distinct application pathways: 1- <u>First of a Kind Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Projects</u> – Applications under this pathway should address major advanced reactor design development projects or complex technology advancements for existing plants which have significant technical and licensing risk. 2- <u>Advanced Reactor Development Projects</u> – Applications will lead directly to advances in the innovation and competitiveness of a broad set of domestic nuclear reactor designs and technologies. 3- <u>Regulatory Assistance Grants</u> – Cost-shared grants will be awarded for applicants seeking funds in support of work with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to resolve design driven regulatory issues, review topical reports or papers, and/or other efforts focused on obtaining certification and licensing approvals. |

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| 3 | Will activities proposed under the First of a Kind Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Projects need to involve the certification or licensing of a new technology? | Yes, these projects are expected to involve the proposed new technologies clearing the final regulatory hurdles prior to deployment. However, the scope of work proposed for Government cost share is anticipated to be much broader, and include activities such as design development, design finalization, engineering and technology development, resolving supply chain issues, and manufacturing/prototyping activities. |
| 4 | Can Regulatory Assistance Grants be used to support efforts that do not result in a certification or license? | Yes, Regulatory Assistance Grants may be applied to early stage development work activities that address potential regulatory concerns for a project, but the proposed work does not need to result in a license. |
| 5 | Are Technology Vouchers included as a part of this FOA? | Not directly. DOE NE will continue to provide support for nuclear technology development similar to that provided by the GAIN Small Business Voucher Pilot Program that was initiated in 2016. Although currently not part of this FOA, the NE voucher program is now available to assist U.S. industry to support nuclear energy innovation. If you are interested in access to these capabilities utilizing the NE voucher program, please visit the link: https://gain.inl.gov/SitePages/Nuclear%20Energy%20Vouchers.aspx for information on how to apply. |
| 6 | What is the expected amount of DOE program funding per year? | The amount of funding available in the various programs supporting projects under this FOA will always be subject to congressional appropriations. However, in the first year of this FOA (FY18), NE hopes to establish awards totaling up to approximately \$30 M, and this could be higher or lower depending on the final FY18 budget. |
| 7 | What is the total expected DOE program funding for this FOA? | The total expected funding for all awards over the five-year period is approximately \$400 million, contingent upon congressional appropriations. |
| 8 | What amount of DOE program funding is expected to be available for an individual award for First of a Kind Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Projects? | NE anticipates making up to 1-2 awards with each individual project receiving a minimum of \$10 million not to exceed \$40 million (excluding recipient's cost share). |
| 9 | What amount of DOE program funding is expected to be available for an individual award for Advanced Reactor Development Projects? | NE anticipates making up to 3-6 awards annually with each individual project receiving a minimum of \$500 K not to exceed \$10 million (excluding recipient's cost share). |
| 10 | What amount of DOE program funding is expected to be available for an individual award for Regulatory Assistance Grants? | NE anticipates making 10 - 20 awards annually with no individual award expected to exceed \$500 K. |

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| 11 | What is the anticipated period of performance for the project? | <p><u>First of a Kind Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Projects</u>: DOE anticipates making cooperative agreement awards with an estimated project period of performance of up to three years.</p> <p><u>Advanced Reactor Development Projects</u>: DOE anticipates making cooperative agreement awards with an estimated project period of performance of up to two years.</p> <p><u>Regulatory Assistance Grants</u>: DOE anticipates making grant awards with an estimated project period of performance for approximately one year.</p> |
| 12 | Can previous work be submitted in an application or used for cost share? | No, this FOA is only for new work. However, prior work done may permit/facilitate the accomplishment of new work proposed in applications to this FOA. Prior work may not be re-performed under the award or count for cost share. |
| 13 | Is a not-for-profit industry group (with eligible member companies) eligible to be the applicant? | Yes, all U.S. entities are eligible for award in accordance with 2 CFR 910.126(b). |
| 14 | If the prime applicant is a U.S.-based company or entity, can a foreign based subsidiary or sub-contractor qualify to participate in the FOA? | The prime applicant is restricted to U.S. entities; however foreign entities may be subrecipients, subawardees, vendors, or team members of the prime/lead applicant. |
| 15 | How does the flow of funds work for subcontractors? Do grant funds come through a prime applicant? | The flow of funds for all of the application pathways is through the prime applicant, unless a subcontractor is a Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC); DOE FFRDCs will be provided funding separately by DOE under their existing DOE contracts. |
| 16 | What percentage can be performed by an FFRDC in support of the prime applicant? | The FFRDC is allowed to perform up to 49% of the scope of work. |
| 17 | Will the applicant be required to provide a cost-share investment? | Yes, industry cost share is required for all potential awards made under this FOA. (See 2 CFR 200.306 and 2 CFR 910.130 for the applicable cost sharing requirements). |
| 18 | How do I determine cost share amount that my project would be eligible to receive? | The applicant should determine the technology maturity/readiness of their application. However, the Department will consider the type of research being proposed (i.e., basic, applied, or demonstration) and will make a final determination regarding the type of research being proposed and the percentage of cost-share to be provided. In these cases, the determination of the Department will be considered final. |

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| 19 | Can “in-kind” contributions be used for the cost share? | Yes, subject to the conditions described in 2 CFR 200.306. |
| 20 | Can one company submit more than one application? | Applicants may submit more than one application under this FOA (with a limit of two applications per quarterly review cycle). |
| 21 | Can one company submit multiple applications in one topical area? | Applicants may submit more than one application under this FOA (with a limit of two applications per quarterly review cycle). Each application must describe a unique project, with distinct applicability to industry needs, and must clearly demonstrate that the applicant has sufficient resources (i.e., personnel, cost-share, facilities, etc.) to successfully manage the award. |
| 22 | How many awards can one company receive? | An applicant is allowed no more than two (2) active awards resulting from this FOA. Once a current award is complete, the applicant is eligible to receive a new award if selected. |
| 23 | Is a Letter of Intent (LOI) required for participation? | No. |
| 24 | What are the deadlines for submission for this FOA? | This FOA is expected to be continuously open (with modifications as needed) for up to five years, and will provide applicants the opportunity to submit new applications for consideration at any time while the solicitation is open. These applications will be reviewed on a nominal quarterly basis. The due dates are January 31; April 30; July 31; and October 31 at 5:00:00 pm ET. |
| 25 | When will DOE announce selections? | DOE anticipates making selection announcements no later than 60 days after the applications are due. |
| 26 | When will DOE make awards? | If an application is selected for award, the applicant will receive an award after negotiations are complete and the Contracting Officer executes the funding agreement, accessible by the Prime Recipient in FedConnect. |
| 27 | What is the typical time it takes to complete negotiation? | This will depend on the complexity of the application (i.e. applying for a first of a kind demonstration v. regulatory assistance grant); number of sub-recipients; and other factors. |
| 28 | Are pre-award costs allowed? | Recipients must request and receive prior written approval from the contracting officer to incur any reimbursable pre-award costs. Pre-award costs are incurred at the applicant's risk. DOE is under no obligation to reimburse such costs to an applicant who, for any reason, does not receive an award or receives an award for a lesser amount than the applicant expected. Pre-award costs cannot be incurred prior to the Selection Announcement. |

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| 29 | Is the “Ask a Question” feature in FedConnect the best way to ask questions about the FOA? | No, questions regarding the content of the funding opportunity announcement must be emailed to IndustryFOA@id.doe.gov . |
| 30 | Where will the questions/answers on the FOA be posted and publically available? | Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) will be posted at the www.id.doe.gov website. |
| 31 | Will there be a webinar/conference to explain the FOA requirements? | Yes, DOE will conduct a webinar on January 9, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. ET covering project details and FOA application instructions. Attendance is not mandatory and will not positively or negatively impact the overall review of any applicant submissions. |
| | Added December 21, 2017 | |
| 32 | First paragraph in Section I.B. Can you please clarify the meaning of “these technologies” in the following sentence? It is a rather long sentence and it is difficult to understand what “these technologies” refer to. <i>“These activities may include development of technologies that improve the capability of the existing fleet, methods to improve the timelines for advanced reactor deployments, the cost and schedule for delivery of nuclear products, services, and capabilities supporting these nuclear technologies, design and engineering processes, and resolution of regulatory/certification issues potentially impeding the introduction of these technologies into the marketplace”</i> | The reference to “these nuclear technologies” refers to technology development activities that the applicant may decide to propose to the Department for award under this FOA. There is a list underneath this statement that identifies topical areas under which applicants may wish to propose technology development work that would result in nuclear industry innovations and improvements. The scope of the FOA is intentionally broad to allow the widest spectrum of potential applications possible from U.S. nuclear industry entities. |
| 33 | Second paragraph in Section IV.C, when saying: “ <i>Each Application shall be limited to a single concept or technology. Unrelated concepts and technologies shall not be consolidated in a single application</i> ”. What is the definition of “concept”, vs “technology”? Can the application be about the development of, for example, two devices that are key for the development of a specific GenIV technology, but that are unrelated to each other? | The statement “concept or technology” implies thoughts, ideas, plans, machinery, or equipment that might be developed from the application of scientific knowledge, and submitted to the Department for consideration. The statement implies that the Department wishes to support proposals that address discrete “concepts or technologies” as opposed to multiple unrelated concepts and technologies. This being the case, if the applicant wished to apply for funding for two unrelated devices, the applicant should submit two applications. |

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| 34 | Can you please clarify whether applications to the “Advanced Reactor Development” pathway can be about a technology supporting the existing fleet? Section I.C.2 says: “ (...) support for applications involving concepts and ideas that they believe are best suited to improving the capabilities and commercialization potential of advanced reactor designs and technologies”, whereas Section IV.D.5 says “For Advanced Reactor Development projects, applicants should include a technical description that provides a general understanding of the technology being proposed, and how the technology will be implemented into the existing fleet or advanced reactor design”. | The Advanced Reactor Development pathway would allow applicants to propose projects that focus on innovative improvements in existing fleet operations and performance, as well as advanced reactor designs and technologies. DOE will consider clarifying this language in updates to the FOA in the future. |
| 35 | Please clarify the length of the Project Narrative file for Advanced Reactor Development projects. The table in Section IV.C says that it is 15 pages, whereas at the very end of Section IV.D.5 it says that it is 25 pages | Advanced Reactor Development projects have a 25 page narrative limit. (When the FOA is amended, this language will be updated.) |
| 36 | Please confirm whether references are included in the page count for the project narrative? On this regard, Section IV.D.5 says that: “ <i>References are included in the page limits</i> ”, whereas the 4th bullet in Section IV.B does not mention references in the list of sections included in the page count, i.e. “ <i>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</i> ” | References are included in the page limits. |
| 37 | In Section IV.D.22 the following sentence seems misplaced and it is not entirely clear what it means: “ <i>In an appendix to the Budget Justification, the following information for each commitment has been signed</i> ”. | Commitment letters from third parties should be uploaded in the “Commitment Letters from Third Parties Contribution to Cost Sharing” section of the application form. Budgetary information concerning third party cost sharing should be included in the Budget Justification document. |

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| 38 | In Section V.D.2, the FOA says: “ <i>Prior to making a Federal award with a total amount of Federal share greater than the simplified acquisition threshold</i> ”. Can you please clarify what this “simplified acquisition threshold” is? | <p>“Simplified acquisition threshold” means \$150,000 (41 U.S.C. 134), except for–</p> <p>(1) Acquisitions of supplies or services that, as determined by the head of the agency, are to be used to support a contingency operation or to facilitate defense against or recovery from nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack (41 U.S.C. 1903), the term means–</p> <p>(i) \$750,000 for any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, inside the United States; and</p> <p>(ii) \$1.5 million for any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, outside the United States; and</p> <p>(2) Acquisitions of supplies or services that, as determined by the head of the agency, are to be used to support a humanitarian or peacekeeping operation (10 U.S.C. 2302), the term means \$300,000 for any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, outside the United States.</p> |
| 39 | I presume that the statement (Section III.D): “Applicants may submit multiple applications under this FOA (with a limit of two applications per quarterly review cycle)” does NOT include GAIN proposals. | The GAIN NE voucher program is part of a separate Request for Applications and has its own eligibility and submission requirements. Please refer to the NE Voucher RFA at gain.inl.gov . Applications for the GAIN NE voucher program will not count against the application limit for this FOA. |
| 40 | In a situation in which the FFRDC/NL has 49% of the work, can the prime still subcontract with other entities even though the FFRDC/NL may then end up with the majority of the work? That is, the FFRDC/NL may have 49%, and the remaining 51% might be split 30%, 15%, 6% among the prime and two other subcontractors. | If utilizing an FFRDC/National Laboratory contractor, the FFRDC/National Laboratory scope of work may not exceed 49% of the total scope of work to be performed. The remaining 51% must be performed by the prime recipient and any subrecipients and can be split in any way the applicant sees fit to accomplish the proposed work. |
| 41 | The FAQs posted to the web site indicate that non-profits are eligible for apply for an award. At the top of page 4 of the FOA (Section I.C.1), however, it states that “Awards for these projects (FOAK Demo Projects) will be made in the form of cost-shared cooperative agreements with a domestic technology developer and/or utility customer(s), with provisions for appropriately selected team members as subrecipients (see eligibility | No, the terminology is inclusive of non-profits. However, the non-profit organization would need to assure the Department that it had access to the staff, capabilities and means to accomplish the objectives of a project under this pathway. |

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| | requirements listed in Section III A).” Does that imply that non-profits are excluded from leading a Demonstration Pathway projects unless they are a technology developer or utility? | |
| 42 | Section III.F notes the period of performance for awards. For example, advanced reactor development projects list an estimated period of performance of up to two years. The word “estimated” makes it sound like there might be some leeway, but the phrase “up to two years” implies that the projects will not be longer than two years. Will there be any flexibility in period of performance? | The estimated period of performance of 'up to two years' means a maximum of two years can be requested but less time can be requested. There isn't flexibility in the award period. |
| 43 | Does the limit of only two applications per entity per quarterly review cycle apply to just prime applicants? | Yes, the limit is only applicable to prime applicants. |
| | Added January 4, 2018 | |
| 44 | Will there will be a meeting or webinar to expand on the FOA and provide an opportunity for potential participants to ask questions? | The DOE Office of Nuclear Energy will hold an informational webinar on the Industry FOA on January 9, 2018 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm ET. The link to the webinar can be found here: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7675161096076116995 |
| 45 | First of a Kind Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Projects and Regulatory Assistance Grants explicitly call out licensing work in expected work scope while not featured in Advanced Reactor Development Projects. Will including licensing activities in Advanced Reactor Development Projects proposals fall outside the expected proposal scope? | The expectation of having licensing work included in First of a Kind Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Projects stems from an anticipation that the project has reached a stage of maturity where the applicant is executing licensing work as a mid- to-late stage step preceding commercialization. DOE is willing to accept proposals which include licensing activities as a part of the Advanced Reactor Development Project pathway under the circumstance that the proposal will lead directly to advances in the innovation and competitiveness of domestic nuclear designs and associated technologies. However, if accepted, the cost share expected from industry for these activities will likely be at the 50% level. |

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| 46 | The paragraph states that no more than two awards may be granted to a single applicant, and that an applicant is eligible for an award after completion of the first award. Please clarify whether an applicant can be selected for two awards at a time, and whether an applicant can perform technical activities under two awards concurrently (awarded either in the same evaluation period or in different evaluation periods). | Any applicant company is eligible to receive 2 awards at any one time, and can perform activities under 2 awards concurrently. Once an applicant has completed work under an award, that applicant is eligible to compete for another award. |
| 47 | IV.D.9 Capabilities has three sections; two of those sections (Facilities & Other Resources Appendix and Equipment Appendix) are instructed to be added as appendices to Item #5 Project Narrative. Please confirm these Item #9 appendices are excluded from the Project Narrative page count. | The Capabilities document is a separate document and does not count against the Projective Narrative page count. Please log into the application site and create a draft application. This will help clarify application structure. |
| | Added January 11, 2018 | |
| 48 | Would a proposal that is focused on design development, first-of-a-kind engineering, permitting, and/or licensing of a capability or facility that is not directly in support of the existing fleet of nuclear reactors or the deployment of new, innovative designs be eligible for an award under the First of a Kind Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Project pathway? | Applications submitted under this pathway are expected to result in operational improvements of the existing fleet, or the deployment of new, innovative designs, and have the potential to be deployed by the mid-to-late 2020s. The applicant should consider whether the proposed project will meet these goals when deciding whether to submit an application under this pathway. |
| 49 | If any additional conflicts are discovered, shall we following the instructions of the FOA and ignore those of the website, or vice versa, or shall we submit additional questions to the CO? | Applicants are instructed to follow the directions identified in the FOA. If discrepancies are discovered, please notify the Contracting Officer as soon as possible for resolution. |
| 50 | For the section on “Potential Conflicts of Interest or Bias in Selection of Reviewers Appendix,” for which proposed person(s) shall information be provided? The FOA instructions indicate that we are to list persons who are or have been collaborators, co-authors, or co-editors with what the FOA terms as “you,” as well as “your graduate advisor(s) and principal postdoctoral sponsor(s).” | The applicant should list the names of all funded or unfunded collaborators with potential Conflicts of Interest or Bias. |

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| 51 | The FOA calls for a Narrative Cover Page to include certain specific information. Later, the FOA refers to “the cover sheet of the application,” upon which additional information is to be provided. We assume both refer to the Narrative Cover Page. Please confirm. | The Narrative Cover page and the “cover sheet of the application” are one and the same and the FOA language will be updated to reflect this. |
| 52 | <p>FOA Section IV.D.7 requests technical expertise for teaming partners by name and organization as well as roles and responsibilities. It then goes on to ask for collaborators who will contribute.</p> <p>As such, there are three categories of personnel; Principal Investigator, Partners (Co-Principal Investigators), and additional collaborators. How many people can be identified for partners (co-principal investigators) and additional collaborators?</p> <p>Are resumes/CVs needed for each category of personnel? What is the page limit for the additional collaborators resumes/CVs?</p> | There is no limit on the number of parties that can be identified as partners or additional collaborators. Resumes are required for lead personnel as described in Section IV of the FOA. The page limit for any resume submitted under this FOA is 2 pages. |
| 53 | FOA Section IV.B states that a font size of 11 point times new roman to be used in text. Please provide acceptable font and font size for exhibits, graphics, and tables. | The applicant may use the font and font size of their choosing for exhibits, graphics, and tables, as long as these items are adequately legible to the reviewers (i.e., will not require the use of magnification to read). |
| 54 | FOA Section IV.D.14 requires current and pending support for all senior – key personnel. It is conceivable that a single partner (co-principal investigator) could have several pages of current and pending support using times new roman 11 point font. Please provide guidance (either additional pages, or reduced font) | The applicant has a limit of 5 pages to identify recent similar work that has been conducted by the applicant company. If applicant cannot reasonably address all of the information requirements within the 5 page limit, the applicant should prioritize and identify the most recent, relevant work activities, and summarize the remainder of the work on page 5 of the Current and Pending Support. |
| 55 | Will the Webinar on January 9th be recorded for future reference? | Yes, a recording of the webinar will be available at https://id.doe.gov on or before January 19, 2018 |

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| 56 | FOA IV.D.9 – Capabilities requires a list and description of infrastructure, facilities, and equipment resources for this grant. Given the amount of facilities and equipment needing to be described, would DOE consider making this a 5 page limited section? | The FOA will be updated to allow a 5 page limit for the applicant to provide a list and description of infrastructure, facilities, and equipment resources. |
| 57 | The FFRDC/NL effort is capped at 49% which indicates the prime applicant is responsible for 51% of the effort. As part of that 51% can the prime applicant include their sub recipients, contractor/vendor and consultants? | Yes, the prime applicant is free to decide how the work will be allocated between any sub-recipients, contractors, vendors, and/or consultants. |
| 58 | In paragraph 5, the FOA states that DOE will make a determination of the appropriate cost share percentage based on the type of research proposed. If the DOE concludes that an applicant's proposal chose the "wrong" cost share percentage based on the type of research proposed, will the applicant be allowed to modify their proposal to use the "correct" cost share percentage, or will the proposal be rejected? Recommend that DOE provide a clear one-to-one correlation between the three pathways and the minimum cost share percentage required for each (e.g., FOAK Nuclear Demonstration Readiness Projects require a minimum 50% cost share requirement and Advanced Reactor Development Projects require a minimum 20% cost share requirement, etc. regardless of type of research being proposed). | No modification to an application will be allowed. DOE follows the requirements of EPACT 2005 Section 988 concerning cost share. An application will not be rejected if DOE does not agree with the cost share proposed by the applicant. If the application is selected for an award, and DOE modifies the cost share, then DOE will require that the applicant provide the required documentations and assurances that they can meet the modified cost share requirement prior to finalization of the award. Also, see last sentence of paragraph 5 “If interested applicants have questions regarding the appropriate percentage of cost sharing required for a particular proposed project, they are encouraged to engage with the DOE Contracting Officer early on in the application development process to seek a required cost share determination.” |
| | Industry FOA Live Webinar Jan 9, 2018 from DOE Germantown | |
| | Webinar Questions | Webinar Answers. Clarifications to existing answers and questions that were not answered in the webinar are included in red. |
| 59 | Can an applicant make multiple, simultaneous proposals with each being aligned with a different Tier? | The answer is two total, not two per pathway. There is a limit of 2 per quarter by any company. Once the quarter ends we will announce awards and the company can submit two additional applications the next quarter. We believe this is a reasonable approach but if experience dictates that we need to change the limit, we will evaluate that at a future time. |

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| 60 | Does a CRADA give company all of the IP for the NE Vouchers? | The IP protection is capped at 5 years for CRADAs. The federal government gets rights to the IP generated but protects it for 5 years. |
| 61 | Are Accident tolerant fuels included in this FOA? | Yes. It depends based on what we have asked for. Not all accident tolerant fuels will be applicable but there is room for that. We are putting the onus on U.S. industry to explain their needs and why a private/government cost share partnership should be considered. We do not want this to be a deadline chasing activity. You should submit your application when you are ready, don't feel like you need to chase an arbitrary date. |
| 62 | Do the proposals need to fit within the defined missions of the DOE programs listed to manage them (i.e. NEET, ART, LWRs, etc.). Also, is it intended that the FOA require a 51/49% funds allocation (max of 49% to a National Lab) | Not necessarily. This is not a call for those programs to complete work for those programs themselves. You should be looking at the most promising technologies that you can develop; we will worry about the funding source. The second part is yes. FFRDC's are capped at 49%. |
| 63 | If Tier 2 is named "Advanced Reactor Development Projects", why are you accepting proposals to support current LWRs under Tier 2? | The advanced technology is the focus, not the reactor type. For example, if there was a desire to apply a new digital technology to the existing fleet that would enhance the existing fleet with a new, advanced technology. Remember we are not just talking plant designs; we are talking design, systems, components, SSC's. Some companies are pursuing entire designs and other are focusing on a specific component. We are not taking those focused on components out of bounds as long as they fit within the DOE-NE mission and objectives. We are considering advanced LWR designs as well as advanced reactors with other cooling capabilities. Our definition of advanced reactor includes advanced LWR designs. |
| 64 | Could the DOE award a Tier 1 project while lowering the funding amount from what the applicant initially proposed? | Yes, this is all part of the budget review process that goes along with the award negotiation. There is always an opportunity for an application request to be reduced. |
| 65 | Currently there is \$30M allocated for this FOA. Will that change with a CR till end of FY? If a budget will be passed, do you expect more funding added during the year? | If you follow the federal budget appropriation process, during a continuing resolution we have to operate and execute the government in a minimalist nature based on the lowest amounts we have requested or what the House and Senate have put in their budget earlier in the year. The \$30 million is a conservative budget based on our worst case budget for 2018. As long as we are in a short-term continuing resolution making awards will be limited, not impossible, but limited. We do anticipate adjustments once a budget is actually passed. A CR could be significantly higher than what we currently have as well but the \$30 million is conservative based on worst case scenario. |

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| | | The House language has \$60 million in its current budget for this type of FOA. |
| 66 | Are universities allowed as partners? Are they limited to 49% cap? | Yes, they are allowed to partner. The university is not a FFRDC so there is no cap for them. I'm not sure how strong an application would be that had a large university budget since this is intended to drive toward commercialization. The case is yours to make on why partnerships are structured the way they are in your application. |
| 67 | Would an application concerning technologies associated with inspecting, monitoring and/or remediating spent nuclear fuel be considered? Addressing the storage or transportation areas related to the spent fuel. | If it supports advanced reactor capabilities then it would be allowable. That is on a case-by-case basis. One priority is on the entire fuel cycle so you would have to show how it would accelerate and promote the growth of nuclear energy in the United States. |
| 68 | Early in the discussion you mentioned \$30M as available funds based on conservative estimates of the yet to be approved budget. How does that relate to the \$40M, \$10M, and \$500K of the "Anticipated Total Federal Cost Share" regarding the 3 pathways? | Those are maximum awards under each pathway. We are required to give those numbers as part of a financial assistance package. Depending on the nature of the budget we will look to make as broad a range of awards as possible under each pathway. |
| 69 | This is a question for the panel at the end: What is the reasoning for capping the scope of work performed (and funding received) by an FFRDC/NL contractor at 49%? | This was somewhat arbitrary but we wanted to allow the industry partner to take a lead role for the project. If we get input that more laboratory work to actually complete the projects is needed, then we will reevaluate the limit in the future. |
| 70 | Can the form of cost share on the industry partner be in the form of employee time and effort | Yes, in-kind labor costs have been included in the past. It should be described how that is going to take place. This is referenced in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. |
| 71 | Is it acceptable to use a standard EERE budget justification workbook to provide budget justification information? | I don't know what the EERE budget justification template is. We will engage EERE and see if that will meet the need. Look at our budget justification template to see if all parts are there. Clarification: At this point, please follow the budget justification requirements in the FOA. |
| 72 | Would utility owners groups be eligible to submit an application | If they meet the definition of a U.S. company as described in the FOA. We defined those very clearly so if you meet those requirements, you can apply. From experience in the NP2010 program, we had a consortium as a prime recipient. A consortium would be allowed. |
| 73 | For cross-cutting technologies solving industry problems, is there any opportunity for reduced cost share less than 20%? | The cost share provisions will be managed in accordance with the Energy Policy Act of 2005 Section 988 and I do believe that it allows for adjustment of cost share numbers, but that is a formal process. This will be a case-by- |

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| | | case decision based on the provisions of that law to adjust the cost share requirements which we will evaluate when a case comes in. Clarification: Please note that you are competing with other applicants who may propose providing more than the minimum cost share, and this will be a discriminating factor in the selection process. |
| 74 | Section F of the FOA contains a subsection that discusses "Class Patent Waivers" in regards to subject inventions. Noting that there was multiple types of patent waivers offered by the DOE in relation to subject inventions, are subject inventions created or conceived under this FOA limited to Class Patent Waivers or is the Recipient able to file any type of waiver to retain title to the subject inventions? | Under this FOA, IP waivers will be considered on a case-by-case basis. DOE-NE is not considering Class Patent Waivers at this time. |
| 75 | Is software product development or commercialization of software developed by DOE labs eligible for the application? | It depends if it drives technology innovation that would move advanced reactor designs toward commercialization, or provide the requested improvements of existing designs. |
| 76 | Please explain "prime recipient" in relation to this program. | The Department considers the "prime recipient" to be the lead applicant responsible for the execution, finances, and management of the project and the award. The "prime recipient must meet the eligibility requirements identified in Section III.A of the FOA. |
| 77 | There have been several projects and grants recently completing current scope (over the past 2 years (for example). Has DOE reviewed those projects and identified any that have a potential for continuing under this FOA? Seems a continuation or expansion of some projects under this may be a shorter path than starting additional projects. John Mahoney NGNP Industry Alliance | NE will consider these previous awards in the context of the goals of the new industry FOA. If the applicant feels that there is additional scope applicable to the previous project that meets the intent of this FOA, they are welcome to submit an application. Specific work scope conducted under the previous award cannot be identified for cost sharing under a new award. |
| 78 | What is the ID # to be placed at the end of our file names? | The ID # to be used is the number that is automatically generated when the prime applicant initiates an application. |
| 79 | Given that the labs will not be eligible as the prime or lead applicant, are there restrictions on number of applications per quarter and number of active awards that the labs can be a part subject to the these limitations? | No, there are no restrictions on sub-awardees. Clarification: There are no restrictions on the number of awards that an FFRDC can participate on. However, the FFRDC cannot be responsible for more than 49% of the work on any award. |

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| 80 | Are concepts limited to power producing reactors? | It depends. As long as the concept proposed by the applicant meets the goals of the FOA and supports innovation and competitiveness of the U.S. nuclear industry, the application may be considered for award. |
| 81 | Do the Accident Tolerant Fuel's clearly reduce the fuel cost, improve performance AND extend fuel lifetime? This is not a question of other POTENTIAL cost savings. | We do not understand the question. Please reword and submit to the Industry FOA e-mail at: IndustryFOA@id.doe.gov |
| 82 | Regarding the limit of 2 applications per period, can a company partner with other companies as a non-prime recipient? | Yes, this is allowable and there is no limit to the number of sub-awards a company can have. |
| 83 | On the FOA: if a proposal is not selected in the quarter in which it was submitted, is it eliminated from further consideration in future quarters? | We are evaluating that. I believe what we are going to do is reconcile and disposition applications in each review period. The applicant then would be eligible to adjust the application and then resubmit in the next quarter. |
| 84 | Can an entity re-submit a proposal that does not get awarded? | Yes, feedback will be provided from the review process to improve non-awarded applications. |
| 85 | It might be helpful for someone or company to make a proposal without specific team members but know what type of team members are needed. Essentially, it would be easier for the person making the proposal to bring on an appropriate team to fulfill requirements team requirements after getting the go ahead from the government with timelines in place. | From an application perspective you cannot do a review on a budget without team members. You will need to submit a full application as described in the FOA so that we can perform a complete review on the application. One of the merit review criteria is Team Capabilities which means we need to understand who those team members are. |
| 86 | ARPA-E has reduced the Cost Share percentage for small businesses. Would NE consider a reduction in the Cost-Share for this FOA | We will consult with our colleagues at ARPA-E and, as it makes sense, we will apply those lessons to this FOA. Clarification: Please note that you are competing with other applicants who may propose providing more than the minimum cost share, and this will be a discriminating factor in the selection process. |
| 87 | Once the budget is spent on awards for a year. What happens to the remaining applications? | Once the funding for a pathway has been allocated to an award, we are anticipating that the pathway may be closed with a modification to the FOA. We cannot fully answer that question until we know the budget better. A lot of funding and distribution will depend on the scope of work. For example, programs where the proposal has high interest may be a funding source for some of these projects. As Tim Beville indicated, this is not just one source of funds. This is multiple program lines in the DOE-NE budget. We have identified a variety of sources of funds and it depends on the appropriation |

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| | | and how this FOA can be balanced with the other funding needs of the Office of Nuclear Energy mission. |
| 88 | Are projects that focus on the existing fleet eligible for Pathway 2? | Yes. |
| 89 | If a voucher is awarded in a quarter, can more vouchers be awarded through the rest of the year? | Yes, as I stated earlier, you can have up to two at a single time. |
| 90 | The FOA states: "Regulatory support cost shared grants will be awarded...to support" items such as analysis and engineering, however further states that "Support for salaries, travel, or other costs...is not allowed." Can you clarify how analysis/engineering is accomplished without paying for salaries? Can you give examples of what is allowed to be costed? | The statement "Support for salaries, travel, or other costs...is not allowed" has been deleted in an amendment to the FOA. For the latest FOA version, please go to www.id.doe.gov . |
| 91 | Are there page limits to the applications? | Yes. The page limits for an application are identified in Section IV of the FOA. |
| 92 | What is the expected contractual method of execution -- will it be a CRADA, or is DOE NE open to more flexible contracts? | Awards under this FOA will be made as cooperative agreements under Pathways 1 and 2, and grants under Pathway 3. If you applying for a technology development voucher under the NE Voucher program (through GAIN), the contractual method of execution will be a CRADA. |
| 93 | Is there a restriction on accessing www.id.doe.gov ? I wasn't able to access it from multiple computers and multiple locations. Is the email IndustryFOA@id.doe.gov ok to send for IT issues like this? | There are no restrictions. Please try alternate www.id.energy.gov . If you continue to have problems accessing the site, please contact the Contracting Officer through: IndustryFOA@id.doe.gov |
| 94 | Is the \$30M allocation for this FOA a yearly allocation, or spread across the entire 5-year Period of Performance? Thank you. | That is a conservative estimate for Fiscal Year 2018. This will be a percentage allocation from the DOE-NE from 2019 onward for five years. Clarification: Please see Section II.B of the FOA which identifies the approximate 5-year funding for awards under this FOA. |
| 95 | If a company has received one or two awards, can they apply for another? (We know they can only apply for 2 per quarter) Can they apply if they have received active awards? | A company can have two active awards at any given time. This means that over the course of 5-years an applicant can complete multiple awards and continue to apply. |

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| 96 | If one pathway is "closed" for a fiscal year, what happens to an application already submitted? Does it remain in queue until the next fiscal year? | Applications will be reviewed and dispositioned in each quarter, so they will not remain in a queue. The applicant will be responsible for monitoring the amendments and other information on the FOA to determine current funding availability and opportunities. |
| 97 | What is the most appropriate venue to offer feedback on the FOA? Should we submit comment via email to the same address that accepts questions about the FOA? | Yes, please provide feedback at the e-mail address provided. Clarification: IndustryFOA@id.doe.gov |
| 98 | Does the cost share on the industry include fringe benefits and overhead costs on their part? | Yes. |
| 99 | Is there a standard Budget justification template for this solicitation? | It should be in the application site under the tier you have selected. |
| 100 | Is there a limit to a number of awarded projects a company can have at one time? Is it better to submit multiple small proposals vs one larger proposal? | The total number of awards a company can have is two awards. It's not up to us to answer 'what is better'. The company needs to thoughtfully decide what to submit based on its needs. If you would like to give us additional input on ways to structure this FOA to better support industry, please let us know. We may add to or delete aspects of these pathways based on needs. |
| 101 | What "mile stones" or objectives are you trying to achieve by year? | This FOA has been structured to provide broad flexibility to industry to further the development of technologies that improve the capability of the existing fleet, methods to improve the timelines for advanced reactor deployments, the cost and schedule for delivery of nuclear products, services, and capabilities supporting these nuclear technologies, design and engineering processes, and resolution of regulatory/certification issues potentially impeding the introduction of these technologies into the marketplace. We are trying to establish private/public partnerships that will achieve the broad goals of improving innovation and competitiveness of the U.S. nuclear industry. We have not set any specific milestones, but expect the applicants to provide the plans and milestones that will meet the above FOA objectives. |
| 102 | JoAnne - Is Prime required to be a for-profit entity? | That has been answered in the context of the FOA, which is that non-profits can participate as prime as long as they are structured in a way that they can handle the project management aspects of the project. We have defined who is eligible so I would defer to the words in the FOA. |
| 103 | Can the Accident Tolerant Fuel funding be transferred into the Advanced Reactor area, since ATF does not reduce the risk to the public, since no one has died from | No. |

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| | a commercial reactor accident. Therefore, reducing reactor cost is the best way to reduce public risk of deaths/injuries by displacing more dangerous power systems, i.e. All of them. | |
| 104 | Clarification Q, please. Regarding the number of awards a given company can receive, is there a limit on the number of awards a company can receive over the lifetime of the FOA, i.e. could a company receive one award in January 2018, one award in April 2018, and one award in November 2018...each resulting from one or two applications per submittal period? Thank you. | A company can have two active awards at any given time. This means that over the course of 5-years an applicant can complete multiple awards and continue to apply. |
| 105 | Are the "Ceiling" amounts for maximum funding fixed limits for each Tier? | Yes, they are fixed limits. |
| 106 | Are awards and funding more likely to be distributed in response to proposals submitted in advance of the first deadline (31 January)? | No, as I said earlier, we are envisioning this to be an ongoing process that reacts to thoughtful application on the timeframe that industry requests. We understand that there is a limited budget each year, but there will be a budget each year. It would not be our intent to distribute all of the year's funds in the first period. |
| 107 | On page 17 of FOA-0001817, the project narrative includes a bullet titled "Proposed Scope Description" followed by a bullet titled "Technical Description." Whereas the "Technical Description" bullet then includes some sub-bullets listing what should be included, there is no detail provided for the "Proposed Scope Description" bullet. Are these two items distinct? If so, is further definition required around the Project Scope Description? | The proposed scope description is just an overview of the technical description that you will include below it. They are interconnected and there is no prescriptive format for the scope description. |
| 108 | Can award funding be carried over to next FY to complete projects in the 18-24 months | Clarification: Yes. Potentially, that would be part of the award negotiation. It would carry over in certain circumstances, for example, during the final quarter of the fiscal year. As long as it is part of a competitive process, there is no problem with carrying over funds. We are looking for discrete beginning and endings for every project that are relatively short term projects. These projects are fully funded up front so it can be continued across fiscal years. |
| 109 | Is FFRDC cost share paid by the government or the | FFRDC cost share is paid by the applicants. |

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| | applicant? | |
| | Who determines the TRL for each proposal? | We expect that the applicant will define their own TRL when submitting the application. During the review we would evaluate the proposed TRL and if it differed from DOE's opinion it would be adjusted during the negotiation phase of the award. This is important since industry cost share would be expected to increase at higher TRL levels. |
| 110 | Will ITAR regulations be considered, or is that determined based on the topic of the submitting application (i.e. Nuclear fuel application vs. sensor application) | Answer to be posted at a later date. |
| 111 | Where can the 1. Conflict of Interest Acknowledgement form be found? Thank you. | The form is available in the application |
| 112 | How is allocation of funding decided between the different tiers? | That is an internal decision that will be made based on the spread of budget allocation and the scope, quality, and number of applications in each tier. |
| 113 | Will FFRDC's be funded and paid directly by the DOE, as opposed to FFRDC payments being passed through the Prime award recipient? | The FFRDC would be paid directly by DOE. |
| 114 | Do the NE Vouchers count toward the limit of FOA awards? | The NE Vouchers are separate from the Industry FOA so they should not affect each other. |
| 115 | Who will be the owner of the requirements property or IP generated in this process? | The guidelines for treatment of IP generated under agreements with the Government are outlined in Section VIII.F. Of the FOA. |
| 116 | Did I hear correctly, that the DOE is interested in breeder reactors? | NE is interested in receiving applications supporting the development of all reactor types that meet the goals of the FOA. |
| 117 | Is it possible that the DOE would/could make a single award for the totality of available funding (30M) in the first "wave"? | Yes, that would be possible. We need to consider the universe of applications and how it all fits together. We don't want to speculate so until we know what the budget is we won't know. Our intent is not to focus on a single award in 2018 so it will depend on appropriations and number, quality, and type of applications received as with all financial assistance applications. |
| 118 | Is there a cap on how much money a subcontractor can receive from a project? | No, there is no cap on the amount of funding that can be provided to sub-awardees. |
| 119 | Which version of the R&R Budget (Total Fed + Non-Fed) are we required to submit as a PDF, since the bidders' library only contains an Excel version of the form? | The applicant should submit an Excel version of the R&R Budget document. This requirement has been updated in the current amendment to the FOA. |
| 120 | Will the number of Tier 1 awards still be 1-2 for the | NE currently intends to make 1-2 awards in the top tier pathway over the 5 |

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| | entire 5 years or will remain like this? | year period. However, we reserve the right to select additional awards if additional funding becomes available. |
| 121 | Is 'performance of work in the U.S.' a 100% requirement for the award, including cost share? | That is the intent, but we realize that in some cases the technical feasibility and economics of the proposal depend on conducting work in locations outside of the U.S. However, NE will consider the amount of work that the applicant intends to perform in the U.S. as a discriminating factor in the selection of applications for award |
| 122 | Is the DOE interested in reactor technology to consume plutonium and/or SNF, including commercial and Navy SNF? | Maybe, it depends on how it would bring technologies closer to commercialization. Clarification: NE will consider all applications and will base its selection decision on how well the proposal meets the goals specified in the FOA. |
| 123 | When does the DOE anticipate making its first award announcement following the first submittal deadline of 31 January? | DOE intends to make announcements of successful applications in late March of 2018. Finalization of awards will be dependent on award negotiation, readiness of the applicant to proceed with the work, and availability of funding. |
| 124 | After generating a new application for a Regulatory Assistance Grant, we discovered that several instructions found on the INL website application page conflict with those of the FOA. Shall we following the instructions of the FOA and ignore those of the website, or vice versa, or shall we submit questions to the CO? | Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We have taken steps to correct this discrepancy. Please feel free to contact us at our FOA email address (IndustryFOA@id.doe.gov) if you identify any other issues with the application site. |
| 125 | Some of us fear that most of the funding would be depleted early on, maybe even after round 1. How is that anticipated to be managed if we only have \$30M for whole FY? | NE has identified approximately \$30 M of funding based on our FY18 funding situation under the current continuing resolution. We will know more about the funding that will be available through the remainder of the year when the budget has been resolved. Until then, the \$30 M is just an estimate. The selecting officials intend to take a thoughtful and judicious approach to funding awards based on how well the proposals address the goals of the FOA and the available funding. |
| 126 | Has the DOE streamlined in any way, the review and award process described today such that there is a reasonable expectation that the DOE can complete the review process and make an award announcement by the end of March? | Yes, NE is making an effort to streamline the application review and award process so that we can turn awards around on a quarterly basis. Please note that external circumstances outside the control of the Department could impact the announcement timing. |
| 127 | Is that 20 vouchers for FY18 or CY18? | That would be for fiscal year 2018. We are aligned with the first quarter of fiscal 2018 at this point. |

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| 128 | So a company cannot apply for more than one voucher in different nuclear R&D areas? Is it really only 1 voucher per cycle for a given company? | Yes, since there are four review cycles per year this shouldn't be a big issue. We would review one application for the NE voucher program per review cycle. |
| 129 | If there are multiple voucher applications from a company, would those applications all be disqualified or will DOE/GAIN still be able to choose one for funding? | Only one voucher per cycle, per company would be funded under the GAIN NE voucher program . We are not going to focus all of our attention on one company. The community should not put the government in a position where the government has to choose in a position where the government has to choose what to review. If we are reviewing one application at a time, then you should follow the rules and submit one application. We would review one application regardless of how many you submit. |
| 130 | How can federal cost share be up to 100% of cost of proposal (according to the slides)? E.g., speaker said that up to 500K for tier 3 and 10M for tier 2. | The maximum Federal cost share is outlined in Section II.E. of the FOA. As an example, if NE selects 2 projects in Pathway 1, the total for those 2 projects will be a maximum of \$40 M. This means the applicants must provide a minimum of \$40 M of cost-share. |
| 131 | Can you please clarify if other program managers from offices other than NE-5 be managing projects under this FOA? | This is a NE-wide process; this is not a NE-5 effort. If an application is selected for award and is funded under a specific program, the work done under that award would be managed under that program. As stated in the webinar, the NE priorities are maintaining the existing fleet, populating the advanced reactor pipeline, and improving fuel cycle capability. |
| 132 | Would innovative new fuels be considered? | Yes, it could be but, the relevance of the proposal to the goals of the FOA will need to be justified in the proposal. |
| | Added January 18, 2018 | |
| 133 | Please consider expanding the page allocation for the Advanced Reactor Demonstration Project Narrative File from 15 to 20 pages, enabling a more thorough project description, given the potential size and complexity of a project of up to \$10M in cost share funding. | The applicant is expected to provide the Project Narrative File within the 25 page limit. |
| 134 | The required "Research and Related (R&R) Budget Form", provided in the DOE application website, is in an Excel format. The FOA instructions state that this should be submitted as a PDF file – "IND FOA FY20__ Budget "Insert ID#.pdf" ". Please confirm it is acceptable to submit this form in the Excel format, per the form provided on the website. | This discrepancy has been corrected in Amendment 0001 to the FOA. Please use Excel format for the R&R Budget Form. |
| 135 | Would DOE consider allowing the use of fold outs (11" | Applicants are expected to provide all information on 8 1/2" by 11 " paper. |

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| | by 17" paper size with 1 inch margins) for larger graphics, such as schedule/Gantt chart? If acceptable, can you confirm that an 11"x17" page would count as 2 pages? | No 11" by 17" paper is allowed. Please follow the directions identified in the FOA. |
| 136 | Would DOE consider allowing a smaller size font for graphics and tables, such as Arial Narrow 10 point or Times New Roman 9 point? | The applicant may use the font and font size of their choosing for exhibits, graphics, and tables, as long as these items are adequately legible to the reviewers (i.e., will not require the use of magnification to read). |
| 137 | Instructions for the Resume/Vitae section of the application require us to provide education and professional experience information for each individual. However, Section O. PROTECTED PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION, on page 56, specifically states that the applications <u>must not</u> include data, such as education or employment history. Could you please provide guidance to deconflict these two contradicting requirements? | This has been clarified in amendment 0003. Please do not include any PII information in the project information document. This information must only be submitted in the Resume/Vitae file and DOE will follow PII requirements to protect the provided data. |
| 138 | 1. Budget: a. The provided SF-424 budget template is provided as an excel file and the FOA indicates it should be submitted as an excel file (.xls). While the id.doe.gov submission site shows it should be uploaded as a .pdf. Should we submit it as listed in the FOA? Or as a pdf as indicated on the online submission? b. We are supposed to submit one for the lead applicant and each non-FFRDC collaborator. Are we to combine them into one document or are we to upload multiple attachments? It is not clear if we can attach multiple files. | Please follow the directions identified in the FOA. Submit a separate budget document for the Prime applicant and each collaborator. The application site will have a place to upload each budget document individually. We recommend you start a draft application to help clarify structure and content of the application. |
| 139 | 2. Budget Justification: a. Are we to provide a separate budget justification for each team member (i.e., lead applicant and each collaborator), or are we do combine into a single file. | Please submit a separate budget justification for the prime applicant and each sub-applicant or collaborator. |
| 140 | 3. Data Management Plan a. The FOA indicates a data management plan should be submitted with the proposals, but it is not stated in the | Requirements for Data Management Plans have been clarified in Amendment 0003 to the FOA. Data Management Plans will only be required if a project is selected and as part of the award process. |

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| | FOA where the data management plan should be placed (such as in the PMP). The id.doe.gov submission site does not provide a location for submittal as well. Can guidance be provided as to where the DMP should go for the submission? | |
| 141 | Where do we upload the data management plan? | Requirements for Data Management Plans have been clarified in Amendment 0003 to the FOA. Data Management Plans will only be required if a project is selected and as part of the award process. |
| 142 | Does DOE really intend for national laboratories to include past performance? | Applicants are not required to provide past performance for national laboratories/FFRDCs. |
| 143 | The application website notes the Advanced Reactor Development Project Narrative as 25 pages. The paragraph above says 15 pages and the FOA calls out 15 pages. | This discrepancy was corrected in Amendment 0002 to the FOA. The page limit is 25 pages. |
| 144 | The Application Website provides the form entitled “Section B” for the Summary Abstract. On the form itself, the following instructions are provided: “For Sections A and B, provide a one-page maximum summary of the project, including background and objectives and replace text here. For Section C, two pages are allowed.” However, the FOA, instructions specify a total two-page limit for the Summary Abstract, using the template on the Application Site. Would the Government please clarify if this is the correct template for the Summary Abstract, and if so, what constitutes Sections A, B, and C? | Template has been corrected. |
| 145 | The application site lists Facilities & Other Resources Appendix and Equipment Appendix under the Capabilities File instructions section, however, it instructs us to provide these sections as Appendices to the Project Narrative. Please clarify whether these appendices should be included in the Capabilities file or Project Narrative file. If they are to be included in the Project Narrative file as Appendices, please confirm they are not included in the page count limitations. | The Capabilities document is a separate document and does not count against the Project Narrative page count. Please log into the application site and create a draft application. This will help clarify application structure. |

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| 146 | There is currently a requirement in the FOA to submit a Data Management Plan, however, there is not place on the Application Site to submit it. Please clarify how we should submit this document with our application. | Requirements for Data Management Plans have been clarified in Amendment 0003 to the FOA. Data Management Plans will only be required if a project is selected and as part of the award process. |
| 147 | Please confirm acceptability of proposals to include unclassified, export controlled information as part of the proposal, specifically in the past performance file. | Applicants may include unclassified, export controlled information as part of the proposal. Please mark any proprietary or business sensitive information accordingly. Please DO NOT include any of this information in the Project Summary/Abstract |
| 148 | Please indicate where the Data Management Plan shall be included. We imagine this will be an appendix to either the Budget Justification or Project Narrative. If an appendix to the latter, please verify that this section will not count against the page limitation of the Project Narrative. | Requirements for Data Management Plans have been clarified in Amendment 0003 to the FOA. Data Management Plans will only be required if a project is selected and as part of the award process. |
| 149 | The FOA instructs applicants to name all teaming partners by name and organization, as well as their proposed roles and responsibilities. The website gives us space for name and organization, but not for proposed roles and responsibilities. Will a proposal be acceptable if it follows the website format and does not name roles and responsibilities? | The proposed roles and responsibilities of the teaming partners are captured in the "Benefit of Collaboration" document uploaded on the application site. Collaborators are also named by organization, proposed funding, and contact information in a separate section of the application site to distinguish funding allocations and manage conflict of interest issues associated with application review. |
| 150 | Please indicate where the Data Management Plan shall be included. We imagine this will be an appendix to either the Budget Justification or Project Narrative. If an appendix to the latter, please verify that this section will not count against the page limitation of the Project Narrative. | Requirements for Data Management Plans have been clarified in Amendment 0003 to the FOA. Data Management Plans will only be required if a project is selected and as part of the award process. |
| | Added January 24, 2018 | |
| 151 | Which budget form should be used for applications submitted under the Advanced Reactor Development Projects Pathway? FOA Section IV.D.10. indicates that applicants are to complete the "Research and Related Budget (Total Fed and Non-Fed) form," and the response to FOA FAQ Question #119 indicates that applicants should submit an Excel version, but we do not know | You will find the budget form for the applicant at https://www.id.energy.gov/NEWS/FOA/FOAOpportunities/FOA.htm . It is the document that is second from the bottom under the "Document Library" and named SF424 Research and Related 3 yr Budget (.xls document). |

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| | <p>where to find what the questioner referred to as the “bidders’ library,” nor could we find the Excel version of the form at http://grants.gov/ (we did find a PDF version there). Furthermore, after generating a new application for this pathway via https://www.id.energy.gov/, the section on Budget instructs applicants to use a different Excel form: “Budget Information - Non Construction Programs” (available at https://energy.gov/management/office-management/operational-management/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-forms).</p> | |
| 152 | <p>Reference Q&A number 124: FOA Sections IV.C (table) and IV.D.2 refer to SF 42 (R&R) available at www.grants.gov which is OMB Number 4040-0001; however, the link in the Application takes you to an SF 424 form without the R&R designation (OMB Number 4040-0004). Which form is to be utilized? If OMB Number 4040-0004 is the correct form, should file name be adjusted to IND FOA FY20__ SF424 “Insert ID #.pdf (i.e., remove “RR” from file name)?</p> | <p>Use the SF 424 form provided in the application: Application for Federal Assistance SF-424, OMB number 4040-0004, Expiration Date 10/31/2019. Using the naming convention as stated in the FOA: Name File: IND FOA FY20__SF424RR ”Insert ID#.pdf”</p> |
| 153 | <p>The Conflict of Interest Acknowledgement Form is not included as an attachment on the website. Can DOE please provide this form? Can DOE please advise what the Section B Template is to be used for?</p> | <p>There is no form for Conflict of Interest (COI). Submit your response in your preferred format.</p> <p>Conflicts of interest may exist due to previous efforts performed by the Labs or assistance provided in program direction and other mission related activities. Accordingly, each applicant must identify any potential conflicts of interest, fully explain the conflict, whether you feel it is significant or not, along with your rationale, and, if significant, how you will avoid, neutralize, or mitigate the potential conflict</p> <p>The incorrect name was used for the “Section B Template”. The Document Library has been updated with the correct title of “Project Summary/Abstract”.</p> |
| 154 | <p>In the FOA and on the Application Site, under “Identification of Potential Conflicts of Interest or Bias</p> | <p>Please provide the information as an appendix in both the project narrative and the budget justification. This should not require additional work as it is</p> |

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| | <p>in Selection of Reviewers Appendix” the instructions read: “In an appendix to your Project Narrative, you must identify the following information for each third party contributing to cost sharing: (1) the name of the organization; (2) the proposed dollar amount to be provided; (3) the amount as a percentage of the total project cost; and (4) the proposed cost sharing - cash, services, or property.”Similarly, in the FOA and on the Application Site, under “Commitment Letters from Third Parties Contribution to Cost Sharing” the instructions read: “In an appendix to the Budget Justification, the following information for each third party contribution to cost sharing must be identified: (1) the name of the organization; (2) the proposed dollar amount to be provided; (3) the amount as a percentage of the total project cost; and (4) the proposed cost sharing – cash, services, or property.”Please de-conflict these instructions and confirm that the contribution to cost sharing information should be provided in an Appendix to the Budget Justification.</p> | <p>the same information and format. This request for duplicate requirements will be addressed in the future amendment to the FOA.</p> |
| 155 | <p>From the FOA documentation, it appears that 2 CFR 910.360 governs real property and equipment acquired under this FOA.</p> <p>According to 2 CFR 910.360 (f) Additional uses during and after the project period:</p> <p>(1) During the Project Period, the recipient must make real property and equipment available for use on other projects or programs, if such other use does not interfere with the work on the project or program for which the real property or equipment was originally acquired. Use of the real property or equipment on other projects is subject to the following order of priority:</p> | <p>Non-government use of property is addressed in 2 CFR 910.360(iii) as follows: (iii) Activities under Federal procurement contracts or <u>activities not sponsored by any Federal agency</u>. If so used, use charges must be assessed to those activities. For real property or equipment, the use charges must be at rates equivalent to those for which comparable real property or equipment may be leased.</p> <p>Answer: If the property/equipment is used for non-government activities then lease or rent charges must be assessed for those activities. If the property/equipment is used for activities supporting the Advanced Reactor Development Projects objectives, then it would most likely be considered an appropriate use, even if the specific activity didn’t utilize Federal funding.</p> |

| # | Question | Answer |
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| | <p>(i) Activities sponsored by DOE grants, cooperative agreements, or other assistance awards;</p> <p>(ii) Activities sponsored by other Federal agencies' grants, cooperative agreements, or other assistance awards;</p> <p>(iii) Activities under Federal procurement contracts or activities not sponsored by any Federal agency. If so used, use charges must be assessed to those activities. For real property or equipment, the use charges must be at rates equivalent to those for which comparable real property or equipment may be leased.</p> <p>2 CFR 910.360 does not appear to address non-government use of the property acquired under the FOA. Can the property/equipment acquired under the FOA be used for other non-government activities (e.g., testing, data acquisition, etc.) associated with the Advanced Reactor Development Project but that is not covered by the funds allocated as part of the cooperative agreement or other U.S. government contract or grant?</p> | |
| 156 | <p>Would you please provide the registration list for the Industry FOA webinar?</p> <p>This will aid us in developing collaboration opportunities.</p> | We are unable to provide this information. |
| 157 | In the one page summary of the three Pathways, I saw a small bullet that mentioned that no collaborators are allowed for Regulatory Assistance Proposals (Pathway 3). I was not able to find this information in the amended FOA. Are collaborators/subcontractors allowed for Pathway 3 proposals? | Collaborations with other eligible entities and / or FFRDCs is allowed for Regulatory Assistance. |