

Question		Answer
1	Clarifying guidance on the submission of Letters of Intent.	Guidance listed on page 9 of the lab call.
2	Is there a limit on the number of concept papers a laboratory can submit as the leading applicant?	No
3	Is there a limit on the number of concept papers in which a particular laboratory can participate?	No
4	Will all concept papers be encouraged to submit full applications?	No, but the discouragement of a concept paper does not restrict the applicant from adjusting and still submitting a full proposal. Concept paper responses are due by December 19th.
5	How many concept papers are allowed per lead institution?	No limit.
6	Can the same national lab submit at least one concept paper per Topic?	Yes.
7	Can a national lab be named as a subrecipient (i.e., not leading) on concept papers submitted by other national labs?	Yes.
8	The lab call appears to be silent on how many any lab can lead or be part of. Please clarify.	Applications should identify one lab as the lead with additional labs identified as subrecipients.
9	The call requires an industry partner. Is there a cost share requirement that the industry partner must meet?	No partner required, just encouraged. No cost share required.
10	Are the national labs allowed to share federal funding with the industry partners? If so, is there a maximum amount of funding that may be shared?	The Lab call is awarded through an FWP with individual labs. No cost share requirements exist for an FWP.
11	Page 9 of the call reads: "Labs are encouraged to develop CRADAs with their domestic industry partners. A CRADA between each lab and its partners will be required to govern the work responsibilities for the project, intellectual property, and other applicable requirements for the project and the lab M&O contact."	It's up to each National Lab to determine the partnering mechanism needed to execute the proposed project scope.

	Please clarify if a CRADA is required or if national lab Tech Transfer Offices will be allowed to determine the need for a CRADA based on the scope of work with the industry partner.	
12	Please confirm there is no limit on the number of concepts that may be submitted by a national laboratory to a given topic area or in total.	No limit.
13	Should the letters of commitment not be included during the letter of intent or concept paper phase and only required during the full proposal phase?	Correct, all letters of commitment will be submitted with the full proposal.
14	Are Contracting Officer's Letters required at time of full application submission, or can we submit the attached memo in place of the CO Letter explaining CO Letters are no longer required for DOE Office of Science labs (i.e., ORNL) at the time of submission, but are required after award?	Yes. The Lab call is awarded through an FWP with individual labs. "Authorization from cognizant Contracting Officer for FFRDC" is listed as a requirement of full applications.
15	Since national labs are prohibited from lobbying, is the SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form required for national labs with the full application?	Yes, SF-LLL is still required for each applicant and, if partnering, each subrecipient lab will need to be submitted as part of the full application.
16	Do we submit a single combined concept paper, or would each lab need to submit their own concept paper focused on each of their specific research plans?	LOI needs to be submitted by each lab, but a single concept paper can be submitted by the lead lab CC'ing any subrecipient during submission.
17	Is uranium considered as a critical mineral as related to this call?	Only in the case where Uranium would have to be a value-added product from a CMM containing feedstock.
18	Are coal and coal fly ash considered areas of interest in this Lab Call?	No exclusions are identified in the lab call.
19	Is there a required minimum percentage of cost share?	No cost share is required. Any cost share provided by industrial partners needs to be identified where required.
20	Can a single concept paper address multiple Topic	One topic area per application.

	Areas? Or must we focus only on one Topic Area per concept paper?	
21	Is there a maximum amount of federal funding that can be requested?	No minimum or maximum amounts were stated in the lab call.
22	Is offshore mining within the scope of the call?	Scope does not restrict topics.
23	Is there a specific role industry partners should play in these projects?	This is up to the National Lab.
24	Is uranium considered a critical mineral in the context of this call?	Only in the case where Uranium would have to be a value-added product from a CMM containing feedstock.
25	Regarding Topic 1: Mining Innovation—Resource Mapping. Under this subtopic, is data collection within the scope of the call?	Scope does not restrict topics.
26	What is the expected spatial scale for this work? For example, are we looking at mine-scale (1–2 km), local-scale (10–50 km), or regional-scale (100–1000 km) studies?	No exclusions are identified in the lab call.
27	Can you kindly confirm whether cost share is required for the "Mine of the Future RDD&D" National Lab Call, and if so what is the minimum required?	No cost share is required.
28	In the context of this call, does coal qualify as a conventional ore?	Scope does not restrict topics.
29	Is produced water from mining operations considered to be in-scope as a feedstock for this Lab Call?	No exclusions are identified in the lab call.
30	Is solid waste from non-mining operations – specifically fly ash from coal combustion – in scope as a feedstock for this Lab Call?	No exclusions are identified in the lab call.
31	I wish to confirm the deadlines of October 27, 2025 for the LOI and January 27, 2026 for the full application. Any information related to the date of issuance for the NOFO would also be appreciated.	Deadline dates updated in lab call document.
32	Can an unfunded collaborator work in and/or provide	As long as the data collected under this lab call can be made publicly

	data that was collected from an international location?	available.
33	On page 11 of the call, we understand that "Each Full Application shall be limited to a single concept or technology." But can that single concept/technology cut across more than one Topic Area?	One topic area per application.
34	Can proposals submitted to the ARPA-E ROCKS NOFO be submitted or adapted to this Lab Call?	Application for this lab call must be distinct from proposals submitted to other government funding opportunities to avoid the possibility of duplication of efforts.
35	Page 11 (13/36 of pdf) lists N/A for DOE Work Proposals, Authorization Letters, and SF-LLL documents.	Referenced documents are required forms to be submitted with the full applications. These forms did not have page limit restrictions identified in the lab call.
36	Please let us know if control numbers will be assigned to the following encouraged concept papers.	For the control number please use the Prime Recipient's UEI. If the Prime Recipient is submitting multiple applications, use the Prime Recipients UEI with the suffix .2, .3 .4 ect. For example: Application 1: ABC123DEF456 Application 2: ABC123DEF456.2 Application 3: ABC123DEF456.3
37	Does this lab call require a DOE CO Approval letter?	Only upon award.
38	Requesting confirmation on whether the Field Work Proposal and Letter of Authorization are still required at the time of submission.	Official FWP's and letters of authorization will be required upon award.
39	Could you clarify the control number requirement?	For the control number please use the Prime Recipient's UEI. If the Prime Recipient is submitting multiple applications, use the Prime Recipients UEI with the suffix .2, .3 .4 ect. For example: Application 1: ABC123DEF456 Application 2: ABC123DEF456.2 Application 3: ABC123DEF456.3

40	Please clarify if a detailed SOPO should be submitted with the full proposal or if it will be requested later for awarded projects.	The Workplan and Market Transformation Plan section of the technical volume within references that a SOPO is required separately and a high-level summary and reference to SOPO be provided with in the technical volume submission.
41	Might there be any consideration given to allowing the 200-word summary suitable for public release to be moved to a second page	Has a 1 page limit separate from the cover page.
42	Is this lab call compliant with EO 14332?	The lab call request is separate from FOAs/NOFOs and is executed via an FWP directly with the national lab if selected.
43	Are universities eligible to be a subrecipient on the subject call?	The lab call will be executed with the individual lab through an FWP. Any subrecipients will be managed by the lab.
44	(1) Is the foreign waiver request applicable if we have industry participants (we will work exclusively with the U.S. subsidiaries only) who WILL NOT provide cost share? (2) Is the foreign waiver request needed if the U.S. subsidiary receives federal funds but DOES NOT provide cost share?	The lab call will be executed with the individual lab through an FWP. Any subrecipients will be managed by the lab.
45	Would LOCs be needed from the Lead Lab and other partner institutions if they do not provide cost share?	Letters of commitment (LOC) are required to ensure the proposed work by subs will be executed as defined in the proposal.
46	Links in the lab call to access the templates for the WP and SF-LLL take me to landing pages stating, "this page does not exist".	SFLLL 2 0-V2.0.pdf
47	Is a separate SOPO required? Page limit on SOPO?	The separate SOPO is requested to serve as a basis for a FWP, if selected. Use of SOPO templates is not required.

48	Can foreign nationals or foreign companies work on the lab call either in a paid or volunteer basis?	If selected, the lab call will be executed through an FWP with DOE HQ. Any foreign involvement must go through the RTES, or comparable process that each lab already has in place to for export control concerns.
49	Will any proposals be thrown out if a non-technical document is left out of the submission?	The lab call is a request for proposals that, if selected, will be executed through an FWP. Each proposal will be reviewed to ensure the necessary documentation is provided but will not be thrown out if a document is omitted. If a good proposal is received, HQ will work with the submitter to ensure they have all the documentation needed to execute the FWP.