

DOE OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY

Funding Opportunity Announcement Webinar

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ENERGY PROVIDERS NETWORK (DE-FOA-0001453)

Lizana Pierce, Senior Engineer and Program Manager



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Indian Energy

March 1, 2016

Send FOA Questions to tribal@ee.doe.gov

FOA Document, Forms & Frequently Asked Questions

DE-FOA-0001453: ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ENERGY PROVIDERS NETWORK

Through this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department's Office of Indian Energy is soliciting applications from "Alaska Native Regional Corporations" and "Inter-tribal Organizations" to provide technical assistance on a regional basis, to best meet the needs of their member Indian tribes, resulting in clear measurable outcomes or end-products that include a plan to become financially sufficient beyond DOE's Office of Indian Energy funding and a methodology of equitably providing services across member Indian tribes or Alaska Native villages. See the Funding Opportunity Announcement for definitions and eligibility.

[Apply](#)

Informational Webinar

The DOE Office of Indian Energy will host an informational webinar for potential applicants on March 1, 2016 from 3:00-5:00 pm Eastern. In addition to describing the FOA, the presenter will describe who is eligible to apply, what the application needs to include, cost share and other requirements, how to ask questions, and how applications will be selected for funding.

Register for the Webinar:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1340168707350748930>

Other eXCHANGE Information

The eXCHANGE system is currently designed to enforce hard deadlines for Application submissions. The APPLY and SUBMIT buttons automatically disable at the defined submission deadlines. The intention of this design is to consistently enforce a standard deadline for all applicants.

Applicants that experience issues with submissions PRIOR to the FOA Deadline:

In the event that an Applicant experiences technical difficulties with a submission, the Applicant should contact the eXCHANGE helpdesk for assistance (EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov).

DOCUMENTS

- [Establishment of an Inter-tribal Technical Assistance Energy Providers Network](#)

REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Pursuant to the FOA, Applicants are required to submit the "Required Application Documents" with their Application. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed or considered.

Full Application

- [SF-424 Application](#)
- [EERE 335 - Budget Justification](#)
- [SF-LLL](#)
- [Summary Slide Template](#)

[Hide Required Application Documents](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

- EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov
EERE eXCHANGE support.
- tribal@ee.doe.gov
Questions regarding this FOA.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

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

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

- Full Application Submission Deadline: 4/14/2016 5:00 PM ET

<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/#Foald47df7cd5-5f75-4e14-954b-bce53b93cdca>



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Indian Energy

FOA Document, Forms & Frequently Asked Questions

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- [SF-LLL](#)
- [Summary Slide Template](#)

[Hide Required Application Documents](#)

<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>

FOA Document, Forms & Frequently Asked Questions

Funding Opportunity Exchange

 Printable Version

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Select a FOA to view questions and answers for the specific funding opportunity. Alternatively select "Non-FOA related items" to view system FAQ items.

DE-FOA-0001390: Deployment of Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects on Indian Lands - 2015

Question 1: I work with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in Alaska where I support rural medical clinics for Native Alaskan communities. Some of the clinics I support have been looking for funding to reduce the energy consumption of their facilities. From the information online, it sounds like the grant for Deployment of Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects on Indian Lands would be a good fit. Would you mind confirming whether this is the case and if it would be worthwhile to apply for these funds? Also, is there a particular emphasis on particular types of energy projects? (i.e. renewable energy, reducing energy consumption, studies/audits, etc.).

Answer 1:

Per Section III.F (Questions Regarding Eligibility) of the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), "DOE will not make eligibility determinations for potential Applicants prior to the date on which applications to this FOA must be submitted. The decision of whether to submit an application in response to this FOA lies solely with the Applicant."

Please review the requirements of the FOA to determine whether this FOA would be a good fit for reducing energy consumption in rural medical clinics for Native Alaskan communities. Specifically, see Section I, Funding Opportunity Description, and Section III, Eligibility Information.

The focus of this FOA is the deployment of commercially-proven warrantied (1) clean energy and energy efficiency retrofits on tribal buildings (Topic Area 1); or (2) community-scale clean energy deployment (Topic Area 2). [Emphasis added]

Question 2: Good afternoon. The Washoe Housing Authority a (TDHE) is interested in this opportunity, is there more information regarding this funding.

Answer 2:

More information can be found on EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#Foald4a7967f3-f608-497f-a02d-95c215342d15>. The Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) itself can be found under "FOA Documents" and required application documents found by clicking "View Required Application Documents".

Please specifically review Section III, Eligibility Information.



Anticipated Schedule

FOA Issue Date:	February 12, 2016
Informational Webinar:	March 1, 2016 at 3:00 pm Eastern Time
Submission Deadline for Applications:	April 14, 2016 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time
Expected Date for DOE Selection Notifications:	Summer 2016
Expected Timeframe for Award Negotiations	Fall 2016

EERE Exchange Registration

- To apply to this FOA, **Applicants must register with and submit Application materials through EERE Exchange** at <https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov>, EERE's online Application portal.
- Frequently asked questions for this FOA and the EERE Application process can be found at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/FAQ.aspx>.
- Register in Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) to receive automatic updates when Amendments to this FOA are posted. However, please note **Applications will not be accepted through Grants.gov.**

Other Registration Requirements

- The EERE Exchange registration does not have a delay; however, **the remaining registration requirements could take several weeks to process and are necessary for a potential Applicant to receive an award under this FOA.**
- Although not required in order to submit an Application through the EERE Exchange site, **all potential Applicants lacking a DUNS number, or not yet registered with SAM or FedConnect should complete those registrations as soon as possible.**
- Please see Part VI.B of the FOA (pages 36-37) for information on how to register in the above systems.

Notice

- All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the Funding Opportunity Announcement DE-FOA-0001453 (“FOA”) and adhere to the stated submission requirements.
- **This presentation summarizes the contents of FOA. However, if there are any inconsistencies between the FOA and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the FOA is the controlling document and applicants should rely solely on the FOA language or officially seek clarification from DOE by submitting a written question to tribal@ee.doe.gov.**
- If you believe there are any inconsistencies, please contact us by sending an email to tribal@ee.doe.gov.

Agenda

FOA Summary

Applications Not of Interest

Award Information

Applicant Eligibility

Cost Share

Content and Form of Application

Application Eligibility

Merit Review and Selection Criteria and Process

Registration Requirements

Application Submission and Points-of-Contact

Questions

Closing

FOA Executive Summary

FOA Summary	Under this FOA, DOE is soliciting applications from “Alaska Native Regional Corporations” and “Inter-tribal Organizations” to provide technical assistance on a regional basis, to best meet the needs of their member Indian tribes, resulting in clear measurable outcomes or end-products that include a plan to become financially sufficient beyond DOE’s Office of Indian Energy funding and a methodology of equitably providing services across member Indian tribes or Alaska Native villages. (See Section III.A for eligibility definitions).
Total Amount to be Awarded	Approximately \$4 million to \$7 million in Federal funds.
Average Award Amount	DOE anticipates making awards that range from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 for the entire period of performance.
Types of Funding Agreements	Grants
Period of Performance	Three (3) to five (5) years, after which it is expected that the Inter-tribal technical assistance energy provider will be financially sufficient and can continue these efforts without further DOE support.



FOA Executive Summary

Eligible Applicants	Subject to the definitions and requirements in Section III.A, eligible entities are restricted to (1) “Alaska Native Regional Corporations”; and (2) “Inter-tribal Organizations” that, as part of their applications, provide written evidence of their authority to submit an application on behalf of two or more Indian tribes.
Cost Share Requirement	10% of total allowable costs of the project (i.e., the sum of the DOE share, and the Recipient share of allowable costs equals the total allowable cost of the project).
Means of Submission	Applications <u>must</u> be submitted through EERE Exchange at https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov , DOE’s online application portal. DOE will <u>not</u> review or consider applications submitted through other means. The Users’ Guide for Applying to the Department of Energy DOE Funding Opportunity Announcements is found at https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov/Manuals.aspx .
Submission of Multiple Applications	Applicants may <u>not</u> submit more than one application to this FOA. DOE will only consider one application per Applicant.
Application Forms	Required forms and templates for applications are available on EERE Exchange at https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov .



Strengthening Tribal Communities Sustaining Future Generations



The DOE Office of Indian Energy is charged by Congress under the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self Determination Act of 2005 (Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct 2005), Title V, codified at 42 USC § 15801) to “provide, direct, foster, coordinate, and implement energy planning, education, management, conservation, and delivery programs that –

- (1) promote Indian tribal energy development, efficiency, and use;
- (2) reduce or stabilize energy costs;
- (3) enhance and strengthen Indian tribal energy and economic infrastructure relating to natural resource development and electrification; and
- (4) bring electrical power and service to Indian land and the homes of tribal members located on Indian lands or acquired, constructed, or improved (in whole or in part) with Federal funds.

FOA Description

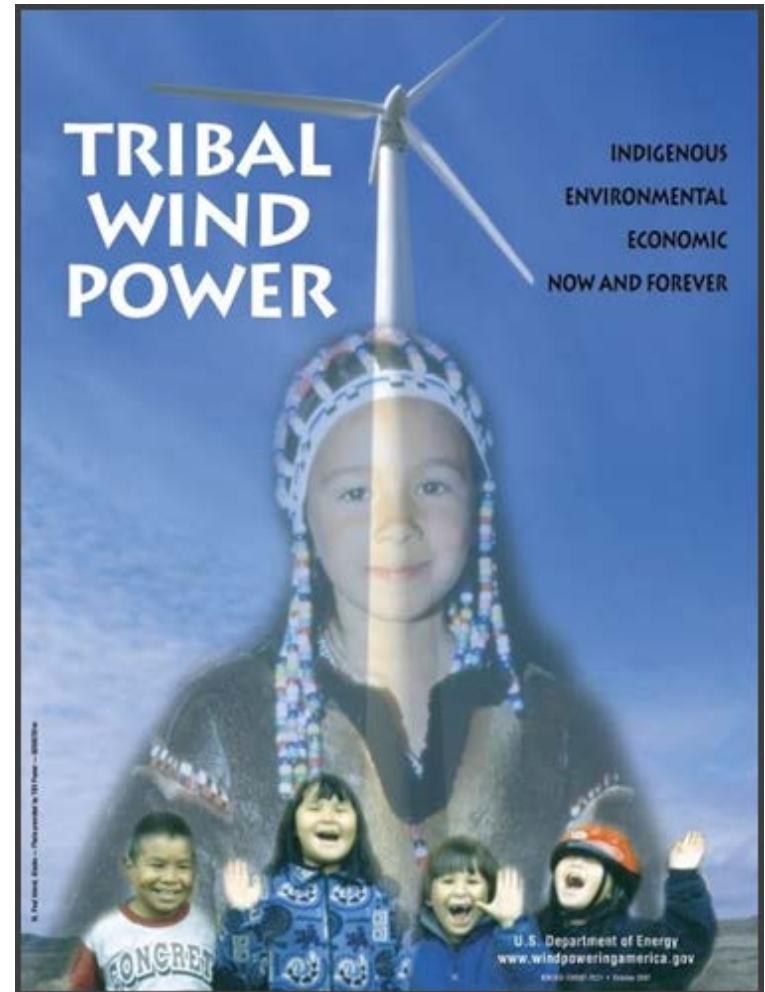
Through this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), the Office of Indian Energy will continue its efforts to maximize the development and deployment of energy solutions for the benefit of American Indians and Alaska Natives and together with “Alaska Native Regional Corporations” and “Inter-tribal Organizations”, will provide tribal communities and Alaska Native villages the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to implement successful strategic energy solutions on a regional, rather than individual Indian tribe or village, basis.



FOA Description

The DOE Office of Indian Energy is initially piloting the Technical Assistance Energy Providers Network through “Alaska Native Regional Corporations” and “Inter-tribal Organizations”.

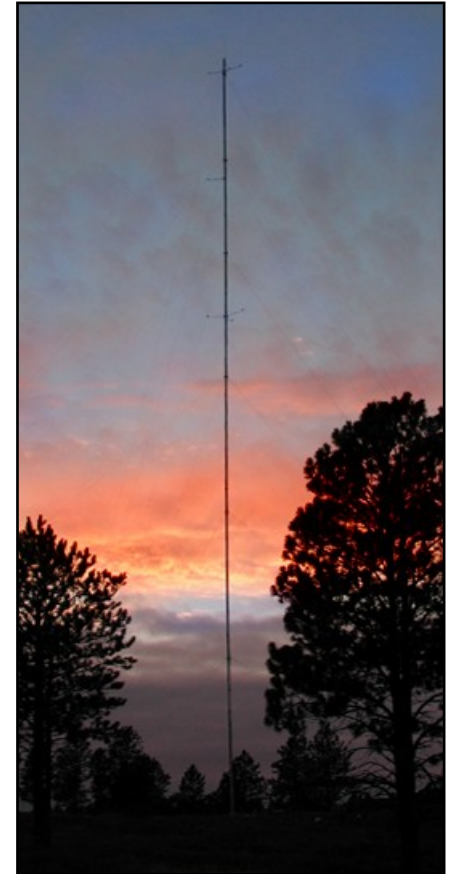
Therefore, under this FOA, the DOE Office of Indian Energy is soliciting “Alaska Native Regional Corporations” and “Inter-tribal Organizations” interested in establishing internal energy experts to provide technical energy assistance and informational resources to their member Indian tribes including Alaska Native villages, on a regional basis.



FOA Description - Continued

It is therefore envisioned that “Alaska Native Regional Corporations” and “Inter-tribal Organizations” will structure their technical assistance on a regional basis, to best meet the needs of their member Indian tribes, resulting in clear measurable outcomes or end-products that include:

- A plan to become financially sufficient beyond DOE’s Office of Indian Energy funding and
- A methodology of equitably providing services across member Indian tribes or Alaska Native villages.



Northern Cheyenne Tribe (MT)
Completed wind feasibility
(anemometer at sunset)

FOA Description - Continued

As part of these inter-tribal regional programs, it is envisioned that energy experts would:

- 1) Coordinate energy solutions among participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages) within the region;
- 2) Deliver technical assistance to participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages) within the region;
- 3) Build the human capacity of participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages) by providing information to tribal leaders and staff through workshops or webinars;
- 4) Serve as an information clearinghouse for participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages);
- 5) Network with regional and national energy organizations;
- 6) Advise DOE's Office of Indian Energy on the energy goals and needs within their region; and
- 7) Enhance DOE's technical assistance network across Indian Country.

FOA Description - Continued

As part of your application, you need to include:

- **Travel costs for five one-week trips to Golden, Colorado**
In an effort to build a network of those selected regional technical assistance providers and ensure their energy representatives have consistent energy information and skills necessary to assist their member Indian tribes, the Office of Indian energy will provide training during the first year of the grant and provide access to DOE resources and energy experts throughout the grant period.
- **Travel costs for annual reporting**
Selected Applicants will be required to document progress in quarterly reports and the project results in a comprehensive final report, as well as present at an annual Program Review to be held in Denver, Colorado. For planning purposes, Applicants should plan to attend and present project activities annually during the project period, beginning Fall of 2016. Travel costs for this annual review (one-week in duration plus travel days) should be included for each year of the grant period and included in the proposed budget.

Applications Specifically Not of Interest

The following types of applications will be deemed nonresponsive and will **not** be reviewed or considered for an award:

- Applications that fall outside the parameters specified in Section I.A of the FOA.
- Applications proposing the
 - Purchase of major equipment,
 - Installation of energy hardware,
 - Installation of meters and/or other indicators to induce behavioral changes,
 - Evaluation of product marketing opportunities,
 - Assessment of manufacturing opportunities,
 - Research,
 - Product development,
 - Procurement of project related services, or
 - Major construction of manufacturing facilities or buildings.

Award Information

Total Amount to be Awarded	Approximately \$4 million to \$7 million in Federal funds.
Average Award Amount	DOE anticipates making awards that range from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 for the entire period of performance.
Types of Funding Agreements	Grants
Period of Performance	Three (3) to five (5) years, after which it is expected that the Inter-tribal technical assistance energy provider will be financially sufficient and can continue these efforts without further DOE support.



Applicant Eligibility

Who's Eligible to Apply?

- Only the following types of Applicants are eligible to apply to this FOA. Applicants that do not meet these requirements will be deemed ineligible and their Applications will not be reviewed or considered.
- In accordance with EPOA 2005 authorities and consistent with 2 CFR 910.126(b), eligibility for award under this FOA is restricted to:
 - (1) “Alaska Native Regional Corporations”; and
 - (2) “Inter-tribal Organizations” that, as part of their applications, provide written evidence of their authority to submit an application to this FOA on behalf of *two or more* Indian tribes.

Applicant Eligibility - Continued

- For purposes of this FOA only, “**Alaska Native Regional Corporations**” means one of the thirteen Alaska Native Regional Corporations, as defined in and established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688) [43 U.S.C. §§ 1601 et seq.].
- “Inter-tribal Organization,” for purposes of this FOA only, means an organization comprised of *two or more* Indian tribes, established under Congressional, State, or Tribal law to act on behalf of the participating Indian tribes.

“Inter-tribal Organizations” may include, but are not limited to, inter-tribal councils, regional tribal organizations or associations, Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs), and tribal federations.

Cost Sharing Requirements

- Under this Funding Opportunity Announcement, required **cost share must be at least 10% of the total allowable costs of the project** (i.e., the sum of the DOE share, and the Recipient share of allowable costs equals the total allowable cost of the project).
- All cost share must come from non-Federal sources unless otherwise allowed by law. See 2 CFR 200.306 and 2 CFR 910.130 for the applicable cost sharing requirements.

Cost Sharing Requirements - Continued

- All cost share must come from non-Federal sources unless otherwise allowed by law (see note below and Appendix B). See 2 CFR 200.306 and 2 CFR 910.130 for the applicable cost sharing requirements.

NOTE:

- Per the Indian Self-Determination Act (Public Law 93-638) as codified and amended, funding under the **Indian Self-Determination Act** may be used as non-Federal cost share by Indian Tribes on Federal grants.
- For **Tribal self-governance funding agreements**, see 25 U.S.C. Section 458cc(j), *Funds*, “All funds provided under funding agreements entered into pursuant to this subchapter, and all funds provided under contracts or grants made pursuant to this subchapter, shall be treated as non-Federal funds for purposes of meeting matching requirements under any other Federal law.”
- For **self-determination contract funding**, see 25 U.S.C Section 450h(c), *Use as matching shares for other similar Federal grant programs*, “The provisions of any other Act notwithstanding, any funds made available to a tribal organization under grants pursuant to this section may be used as matching shares for any other Federal grant programs which contribute to the purposes for which grants under this section are made.”
- For **compact funding**, see 25 U.S.C. Section 450j-1(j), “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a tribal organization may use funds provided under a self-determination contract to meet matching or cost participation requirements under other Federal and non-Federal programs.”



Cost Share Contributions

- Contributions must be:
 - Specified in the project budget
 - Verifiable from the Recipient's records
 - Necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient accomplishment of the project
- Every cost share contribution must be reviewed and approved in advance by the Contracting Officer and incorporated into the project budget before the expenditures are incurred
- **As all sources of cost share are considered part of total project costs, the cost share dollars will be scrutinized under the same Federal regulations as Federal dollars to the project.**

Allowable Cost Share

- Cost Share must be allowable and must be verifiable upon submission of the Application
- Refer to the following applicable Federal cost principles:

Entity	Cost Principles
Educational Institutions	2 CFR Part 220
State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments	2 CFR Part 225
Non-profit Organizations	2 CFR Part 230
For-profit Organizations	FAR Part 31

Allowable Cost Share - Continued

- Cash Contributions
 - May be provided by the Recipient, Subrecipients, or a Third Party
- In-Kind Contributions
 - Can include, but are not limited to:
 - Contribution of time
 - Unrecovered indirect costs
 - Unrecovered facilities and administrative costs
 - Rental value of buildings or equipment
 - Value of a service, other resource, or third party in-kind contribution.

Unallowable Cost Share

- The Recipient may not use the following sources to meet its cost share obligations including, but not limited to:
 - Revenues or royalties from the prospective operation of an activity beyond the project period;
 - Proceeds from the prospective sale of an asset of an activity;
 - Federal funding or property (e.g., Federal grants, equipment owned by the Federal Government);
 - Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), other green attribute monetization funds, or any other form of cost sharing received after the DOE grant period;
 - Except for pre-award costs with prior DOE approval, any costs incurred prior to award selection;
 - Expenditures that were reimbursed under a separate Federal Technology Office.

Cost Share Payment

- Recipients must provide documentation of cost share contribution, incrementally over the life of the award.
- The cumulative cost share percentage provided on each invoice must reflect, at a minimum, the cost sharing percentage negotiated.
- In limited circumstances, and where it is in the government's interest, the DOE Contracting Officer may approve a request by the Recipient to meet its cost share requirements on a less frequent basis, such as monthly or quarterly. See Section III.B.6 of the FOA (see Cost share Payment on page 10).

Content and Form of Applications

- Applications must include:



- **Application for Federal Assistance Form SF-424 (Required)**

- **Summary for Public Release (Required)**

- **Summary Slide (Required)**

- **Technical Volume - 10 page limit (Required)**

- **Workplan - 5 page limit (Required)**

- **Attachments**

Content and Form of Applications

- Attachments:

- **Maps and Graphics (Optional)**
- **Statement of Commitment and Cost Sharing (Required)**
- **Evidence of Authority (Required for Inter-tribal Organizations Only)**
- **Subcontract Plan, if applicable (Optional)**
- **Resumes (Required)**
- **Budget Justification (Required)**
- **Subaward Budget Justification (Required only if thresholds met)**
- **Budget Support (Optional)**
- **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Required)**

FOA Document Checklist (Pages 15)

SUBMISSION	#	COMPONENTS	FILE NAME (IF NECESSARY)
Each file must be submitted in Adobe PDF format, unless stated otherwise.	1	Application for Financial Assistance SF-424 (Required)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization_App424
	2	Summary for Public Release (Required, 1 page limit)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Summary
	3	Summary Slide (Required, 1 page limit, Microsoft PowerPoint format. See Appendix D.)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Slide
	4	Technical Volume (Required, 10 page limit , excluding the Cover Page and Table of Contents. See Section IV.C.4)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _TechnicalVolume
	5	Workplan (Required, 5 page limit including milestone table and project schedule, Microsoft Word format. See Appendix C)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Workplan
	6	Maps and Graphics (Optional)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _MapsGraphics
	7	Statements of Commitment and Cost Sharing File (Required)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Commitments
	8	Evidence of Authority (Required for Inter-tribal Organizations Only)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Authority
	9	Subcontract Plan File, if applicable (Optional)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _SubcontractPlan
	10	Resume File (Required)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Resumes
	11	Budget Justification Workbook EERE 335 (Required, Microsoft Excel format. Applicants <u>must</u> use the template available in EERE Exchange.)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Budget_Justification
	12	Subaward Budget Justification Workbook EERE 335, if applicable (Required <u>only</u> if thresholds met, Microsoft Excel format. Applicants <u>must</u> use the template available in EERE Exchange.)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Subawardee_Budget_Justification
	13	Budget Support (Optional)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _Budget_Support
	14	SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Required)	ControlNumber_Lead Organization _SF-LLL



Application Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must submit an Application by **April 14, 2016 5:00 PM Eastern Time**
- Applications are eligible for review if:
 - The Applicant is an eligible entity (Section III.A of FOA)
 - The Cost Share requirement is satisfied (Section III.B of FOA)
 - The Application is compliant with the content and form requirements (Section III.C of FOA)
 - The proposed project is responsive to the intent of the FOA (Sections I.A and III.D of FOA)
 - The Application meets any other eligibility requirements listed in Section III of the FOA.
- DOE will **not** make eligibility determinations for potential Applicants prior to the date on which Applications to this FOA must be submitted. The decision whether to submit an Application in response to this FOA lies **solely** with the Applicant.

Merit Review and Selection Process

- The Merit Review and Selection Process consists of a series of reviews including an initial eligibility review, rigorous technical review, and programmatic review.
- Rigorous technical reviews are conducted by reviewers that are experts in the subject matter of the FOA.
- Ultimately, the Selection Official considers the recommendations of the reviewers, along with other considerations such as program policy factors, to make the selection decisions.

See a depiction of the process on the next slide

Merit Review Process

Eligibility Review

Independent Review

Independent Reviewer Meeting

**Federal Consensus Board
(Technical Merit)**

**Federal Consensus Executive Board
(Selection Recommendations)**

**Selection Official makes Selections for
Negotiation of Award**



Technical Merit Review Criteria

The sub-criteria under each criterion are of equal weight, unless otherwise specified.

Criterion 1: Project Summary (15%)

- Clarity of the overview of the proposed project
- Quality and completeness of the description of the Applicant, including
 - A brief history of the organization,
 - Its goals/vision/mission,
 - Description of the Indian tribes and region being represented,
 - Demographics of Indian tribes being served, and,
 - For Inter-tribal Organizations, a description of the evidence being provided that documents the authority to submit an application on behalf of two or more Indian tribes.
- Soundness of the discussion of the need for and impact of DOE funding to the proposed project and the implications if not funded.

Technical Merit Review Criteria - Continued

Criterion 2: Project Description and Outcomes (40%)

- Extent to which the proposed project serves the Indian tribes being represented, taking into account:
 - Clarity and completeness of the discussion of the needs of the Indian tribes being represented and the barriers to energy project development
 - Applicability of previous activities, results of those activities, or any other relevant background
 - Clarity of the discussion of project goals and the relevance to the objectives of the FOA
 - Extent to which the proposed project activities address the needs of the Indian tribes being represented
 - Potential impacts of the specific measurable outcomes and end-products of the proposed project
- Reasonableness of the methodology to be employed to ensure services under the proposed project are equitably provided among member Indian tribes including Alaska Native villages.
- Quality of the proposed plan to become financially sufficient beyond the grant funding.

Technical Merit Review Criteria - Continued

Criterion 3: Roles, Responsibilities, Capabilities and Commitment (30%)

- Soundness of the project management approach, including:
 - Organizational and individual roles and responsibilities; and
 - Capabilities of the Applicant and participants to comprehensively address all aspects of the proposed project and/or the reasonableness of the plan to obtain qualified consultants, contractors, or vendors (if applicable).
- Demonstrated level of commitment of the Applicant and each participating organization as evidenced by:
 - (1) Past actions; and,
 - (2) Level of involvement and cost sharing.

Criterion 4: Workplan (15%)

- Clarity and completeness of the narrative description of each activity necessary to complete the project; and,
- Likelihood of achieving project objectives through logical task structure and milestones.

Selection Factors

The Selection Official may consider the merit review recommendation, program policy factors, and the amount of funds available in arriving at selections for this FOA

Program Policy Factors

In addition to the Technical Merit Review Criteria, the Selection Official may consider the following program policy factors in determining which Applications to select for award negotiations:

- The degree to which the proposed project, including proposed cost share, optimizes the use of available DOE funding to achieve programmatic objectives;
- Geographic diversity; and,
- Whether the proposed project will advance the goals of the Climate Action Champion program, as committed to by the designated Champion pursuant to its designation agreement. The Climate Action Champion program goals include improving climate resilience and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Registration Requirements

- To apply to this FOA, Applicants must register with and submit application materials through EERE Exchange: <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>.
- **A control number will be assigned while registering in EERE Exchange. Retain this number as it will be used as an identifier and required on all application documents.**
- Although not required to submit an Application, the following registrations must be complete to received an award under this FOA:

Registration Requirement	Website
DUNS Number	http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform
SAM	https://www.sam.gov
FedConnect	https://www.fedconnect.net
Grants.gov	http://www.grants.gov

Means of Submission

- Applications **must** be submitted through EERE Exchange at <https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov>
 - DOE will not review or consider applications submitted through any other means
- The Users' Guide for Applying to the Department of Energy Funding Opportunity Announcements can be found at <https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov/Manuals.aspx>

Key Submission Points

- Check entries in EERE Exchange
 - Submissions could be deemed ineligible due to an incorrect entry
- DOE strongly encourages Applicants to submit applications 1-2 days prior to the deadline to allow for full upload of application documents and to avoid any potential technical glitches with EERE Exchange.
- Make sure you hit the submit button
 - **Any changes made after you hit the submit button will un-submit your application and you will need to hit the submit button again**
- For your records, print out the EERE Exchange Confirmation 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 EERE Exchange with whom DOE will communicate during the process.
- 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

Questions

- Questions about this FOA?
 - Email tribal@ee.doe.gov
 - All Q&As related to this FOA will be posted on the EERE Exchange website. See the Frequently Asked Questions or FAQs.
 - DOE will attempt to respond to questions within 3 business days, unless a similar Q&A has already been posted on the website.
 - You will be notified via email when a response to your question has been posted.

Questions

- Problems logging into EERE Exchange or uploading and submitting application documents with EERE Exchange?
 - Email [EERE- ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov](mailto:EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov).
 - Include FOA name and number in subject line
- As we did not entertain questions during this webinar, please send those to us via email to tribal@ee.doe.gov. Please include FOA name and number in subject line.

Closing

- Please download Funding Opportunity Announcement DE-FOA-0001453 and read it thoroughly so you understand all the steps and requirements for submitting an application. Do not rely solely on this webinar.
- If you are considering submitting an application, please register in EERE Exchange as soon as possible to obtain a Control Number. This control number must be included on all application documents.
- Check the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on EERE Exchange periodically for any supplemental information or amendments to the FOA.