



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

### MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: ANDREW DE LA PAZ  
ACTING DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR SAFETY (EHSS-30)  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2023 and 2024 Call for Nuclear Safety Research and  
Development Proposals

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of the joint Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and 2024 call for proposals for the Department of Energy (DOE) Nuclear Safety Research and Development (NSR&D) Program.

The NSR&D Program is managed under the Office of Nuclear Safety (EHSS-30), within the Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security (EHSS), with guidance and assistance provided by the NSR&D Committee. The NSR&D Program functions as a clearinghouse to collect and communicate NSR&D information throughout DOE to support knowledge enhancement of nuclear safety technical issues, standards development, validation of analytical models and methods, and improvements in operating practices.

The NSR&D Program annually solicits proposals for NSR&D projects. The NSR&D Committee members support the distribution of the request within their program offices and evaluate all proposals received based on their potential for Department-wide benefit in support of safe nuclear facility design, construction, operation, and/or decommissioning. The Committee members are:

National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)	Angela Chambers
Senior Technical Advisor for NNSA	Patrick Cahalane
Office of Environmental Management (EM)	Genia McKinley
Office of Environmental Management (EM)	Bill Weaver
Chief of Nuclear Safety for NE	Charles Maggart
Office of Nuclear Energy (NE)	Linda McCoy
Office of Science (SC)	Doug Reed
Office of Science (SC)	Robert Lukes
Office of Nuclear Safety (EHSS)	Andrew De La Paz
Office of Nuclear Safety (EHSS)	Patrick Frias

**The list of evaluation factors will continue to include the five main criteria, with additional information provided in the instructions and criteria documents.**

This year's call for proposals covers FY 2023 and FY 2024 with an approximate estimated total of \$2 million available. Projects selected for FY 2023 funding will be awarded mid CY 2023 while projects selected for FY 2024 funding will be awarded early CY 2024.

Proposals with a one-to-two-year project duration with an approximate cost of \$500,000 and covering one or more of the following seven research areas are being solicited:

- Natural phenomena hazards (NPH) modeling and technology, including for seismic events and events induced by climate change to include extreme straight-line winds, tornadoes, hurricanes, wildland fires, and flood/precipitation with findings that demonstrate direct benefits and improvements to DOE-STD-1020, *Natural Phenomena Hazards Analysis and Design Criteria for DOE Facilities*, and related DOE NPH documents.
- Fire protection and fire performance of DOE facilities and equipment with findings that demonstrate direct benefits and improvements to DOE-STD-1066, *Fire Protection*.
- Safety basis analyses addressing reductions in uncertainty by demonstrating direct benefits and improvements to DOE-STD-3009, *Preparation of Nonreactor Nuclear Facility Documented Safety Analysis*, and DOE-HDBK-1224, *Hazard and Accident Analysis Handbook*, and related DOE safety basis documents.
- ARF/RF testing, modeling and assessment by demonstrating direct benefits and improvements to DOE-HDBK-3010, *Airborne Release Fractions/Rates and Respirable Fractions for Nonreactor Nuclear Facilities*, and related DOE documents.
- Improvements to nuclear protective equipment and/or instrumentation, including nuclear air cleaning, HEPA filtration media and technology demonstrating direct benefits and improvements to DOE-STD-3020, *Specification for HEPA Filters Used by DOE Contractors*, DOE-STD-3025, *Quality Assurance Inspection and Performance Testing of HEPA and ULPA Filters*, DOE-STD-1269, *Air Cleaning Systems in DOE Nuclear Facilities*, DOE-HDBK-1169, *Handbook for Use with DOE-STD-1269-2022, "Air Cleaning Systems in DOE Nuclear Facilities,"* and related DOE documents.
- Technical bases for developing updated or new nuclear safety Directives, Technical Standards or guidance that improves effectiveness and efficiency of regulatory or technical approach, reduces unnecessary burden, or otherwise demonstrates direct benefits and improvements to quality assurance or safety basis requirements affecting nuclear safety of Hazard Category 1, 2, or 3 DOE nuclear facilities.
- Risk assessment and risk-informed performance-based approaches to safety assessment.

Proposals that address areas not included in the above list will still be considered; however, the review process will note that the proposal is outside the targeted research areas.

The *NSR&D Proposal Review and Prioritization Process and Criteria* and *NSR&D Program Proposal Submittal Instructions for Fiscal Year 2023 and 2024* are attached. The deadline for submission of proposals is **Friday, March 31, 2023**. All proposals should be submitted electronically to [nsrdprogram@hq.doe.gov](mailto:nsrdprogram@hq.doe.gov). If you have any questions, please contact your respective Committee member or the NSR&D Acting Program Manager, Patrick Frias, at (301) 903-1774, or by e-mail at [Patrick.frias@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Patrick.frias@hq.doe.gov).

#### Attachments

1. NSR&D Proposal Review and Prioritization Process and Criteria
2. NSR&D Program Proposal Submittal Instructions for Fiscal Year 2023/2024

cc: Andrew De La Paz, EHSS-30  
 Thomas Hiltz, EHSS-30  
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 Sharon Jasim-Hanif, EHSS-32  
 Patrick Frias, EHSS-31  
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