

No.	Category	Question	Final Answer posted
1	Topic 4	How many awards are expected for the ESOP topic? Is DOE expecting one fully integrated project under a single team?	DOE is not expecting a fully integrated project under a single team; rather DOE is open to receiving proposals that address one or more topic areas. More guidance may be provided following the concept review.
2	Topic 4	[ESOP] Subtopic 1 calls for “new market design proposals and business models.” Should this be interpreted as the development of methods, tools, and datasets that can be used to assess proposed market designs and business models?	DOE is open to labs interpretation of the needs to address this call.
3	Topic 4	Initial subtopic 1 deliverables are due at the end of Year 1. Subtopic 2 requires leveraging subtopic 1 output, but is also expected to be completed by the end of Year 1. Is this correct?	ESOP Subtopic 1 and Subtopic 2 shall work in tandem; that is, subtopic 2 does not rely on the output of subtopic 1, but rather should be developed together.
4	Topic 4	The solicitation states, “The Grid Deployment Office will fund the piloting and demonstration of these new methods, tools, and datasets developed as part of this subtopic.” That work falls outside the GMI solicitation and should not be part of the current proposals?	GDO is prepared to support the piloting and demonstration of this subtopic as part of this call.
5	Partners	Does DOE have expectations for non-lab partners as either advisors or as part of the research?	Per the lab call, each proposal requires at least two labs. The involvement of industry is specific to each Topic and will be outlined in its description. Teams should use their judgement to determine the role of non-lab partners and advisors to have a successful proposal and ultimately, successful project.
6	Partners	Are there any limits on how many proposals a lab can co-lead?	There are no limits on how many proposals a lab can co-lead and/or participate
7	Topic 3	Is there any expectation that proposals to the quantum topic should attempt to cover more than 1 sub area?	No, proposals do not need to cover multiple subtopics in quantum Topic.
8	Topic 1	Is the August 2 final presentation date set in stone?	Due to a scheduling conflict that affects multiple labs engaging on Topic 1, the Topic 1 final presentations will be rescheduled for the week of July 24.

9	Partners	Could you clarify any cost share requirement or non-lab expenditure requirements specific to Topic 2 of the call?	Please note that cost share as a reflection of non-lab participation is mentioned, but not required, in Merit Review Criterion 3: Team and Resources (which will be applied across all Topics).
10	Partners	Public utility commissions are mentioned as a potential audience in the call, but not as a potential partner. Are PUCs appropriate partners for this call?	State governments / offices are eligible partners
11	Proposal	Are the Criteria the same for the June 5 presentation deadline as for the full proposal?	We will generally follow the Merit Review Criteria outlined in the lab call for the concept papers, however applicants should focus on the content requested in the template provided.
12	Partners	Are federal entities eligible partners?	Federal entities are not eligible to receive federal funds and/or be partners. However, TVA and Power Marketing Administrations are eligible as partners, but not eligible to receive federal funds.
13	Proposal	Is there value in showing cross-pillar handoffs or connection points (e.g. Topic 5 – Topic 4)?	Yes, please make note of connections to other Topics and/or other Pillars; however, connections to other Topics/Pillars is not required.
14	Partners	How can Labs reach industry?	Labs should use their own resources to reach out to industry.
15	Partners	How can industry reach Labs?	Kerry Worthington (kerry.worthington@ee.doe.gov) can put industry in touch with the relevant Pillar Team Lead (Lab), as well as the GMLC Chair and the Co-Chair on inquiries like this.
16	Partners	How should teams indicate commitments from partner organizations? Do we need a letter of support?	For the final proposal, please include letters of commitment and/or support to indicate commitment from partner organizations.
18	Partners	Do concepts have to have a single PI from a single lab, or can leadership be shared across multiple PIs/labs?	Concepts should have a single Point of Contact from a single lab. Multiple PIs are acceptable.
20	Partners	Since cost share is not mentioned in Topics 1 – 4, the implication is that cost share is encouraged, but optional. Is that correct?	Cost share is optional for all topics, including Topic 5. However, DOE strongly encourages applicants to include external partners who have active roles in project tasks in their proposals for Topic 5.
21	Proposal	I am wondering if having local smart embedded system that forecasts to help home owners or businesses plan their energy use would be in line with some part of this call?	DOE is open to proposals that address Topic principles.

22	Proposal	If any concept is a potential solution meeting major requirements of multiple subtopics under a topic area instead of focusing on a specific subtopic, would that be an eligible concept for consideration?	Yes, DOE is open to proposals that address multiple Topics and Labs are able to indicate the cross-cutting nature of their proposals in their concept submissions
23	Proposal	Following concept presentations, when will PIs learn if they are encouraged for a full proposal	GMI will strive to make final decisions no later than Friday, June 23
24	Partners	To increase stakeholder engagement, all proposed projects will reflect non-laboratory partner participation equivalent to at least 20% of the total allowable project costs" - does this mean that 20% of our federal funds will need to go to our industry partners?	see question 20
25	Partners	How can we connect with V2X MOU participants?	Please reach out directly to the non-DOE MOU member organizations directly. The V2X MOU is located at <a href="https://www.energy.gov/technologytransitions/articles/department-energy-announces-additional-signatories-vehicle">https://www.energy.gov/technologytransitions/articles/department-energy-announces-additional-signatories-vehicle</a>
26	Partners	Is an industry partner defined and/or limited to a distribution grid operator?	No, DOE does not limit the definition of an industry partner to a distribution grid operator.
27	Proposal	Is there a preference for a demonstration of capabilities versus an assessment of capabilities?	Please see the subtopic area 3 for guidance.
28	Proposal	Is there a mechanism defined for how best to present our concept and coordinate the required "conflict avoidance" between the groups?	The Concept Template provides an opportunity to address multiple topics with one proposal.
29	Partners	Can VLOPE, DOT's transportation center ( <a href="https://www.volpe.dot.gov/">https://www.volpe.dot.gov/</a> ) be equivalent to a national lab to meet the partnering requirement for the GMLC Lab call?	No.
30	Proposal	For Topic Area 2 (cybersecurity), you stated that awardees of subtopic areas 1 or 2 will have to coordinate with the other subtopics. Can you explain with an example what that kind of coordination you expect?	For Topic 2, "coordination" between subtopic area 1 and subtopic area 2 includes but is not limited to (a) general standards development principles of ensuring interoperability (i.e. ensuring there are no conflicts between standards developed for DERs and EVSE); (b) including coordination meetings and/or project time towards peer-learning between subtopic 1 and subtopic 2 awardees.

31	Proposal	Where specific cybersecurity standards for DER type arch do not exist, are there specific guidance and best practices to be used? and if so which ones?	Please see documents referenced in the Lab Call document, including a revision that includes a document released by the White House in May 2023, "The United States Government National Standards Strategy for Critical and Emerging Technology"
32	Proposal	Are concepts due midnight June 4 or midnight June 5?	Concepts will be due by close of business your time on Monday, June 5, 2023. Final proposals will be due by close of business your time on Monday, July 24, 2023.
33	Proposal	On Slide 2 of the Concept Template, what does "funding profile & cost share" refer to specifically?	Cost Share refers to the portion of the total project cost that the federal funding will support. The funding profile is the requested funding on an annual basis. Please also consider any information on subcontracts obligated.
34	Topic 5	On Topic 5, must every proposal consider all year/stage/task or can we submit a proposal that addresses a subset of the years/stages/tasks?	Please standby while we formulate a response.
36	Partners	If another FFRDC is set to get 1/3 of the full funding as a subrecipient, can that 1/3 of funds to that subrecipient FFRDC count toward cost-share?	Please note that cost share as a reflection of non-lab participation is mentioned, but not required, in Merit Review Criterion 3: Team and Resources (which will be applied across all Topics). If a subrecipient receives funds as part of this Lab Call, then no, those funds do not count toward cost-share.
37	Proposal	For the presentation template slides is there a hard page limit? And to confirm, we should be submitting both the concept slides and the one slide summary as two separate submissions by June 5th?	Please use the Template provided for your Concept submission. If you need additional slides, you may include an appendix. There is no difference between submitting one or two files by June 5th, but please include both in your submission.
38	Proposal	Could you please clarify what the lab call principles are and/or send us the URL to the document where they are listed? Are we supposed to refer to the FY16 GMI Lab Call principles, or was this left over from a previous call?	Page 5 of the Lab Call lists the Principles as (a) being connected to the Topic, (b) foundational to the future grid and support research and development efforts, and (c) including at least two national laboratories.
39	Proposal	Will the GDO be offering another solicitation or more funding above the current sub topic area cap of \$1.2M?" This is in response to Q&A Question 4.	Per above, GDO's funding is included in the Lab Call.