

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

TITLE: “Greenhouse Gas Reporting Systems: Outreach to Reporting Facilities and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Opportunities”

ACTION: Request for Proposals (RFP)

RFP Number: EPA-OAR-CCD-10-05

CFDA: 66.034

SUMMARY: Formal Agency responses to questions regarding the subject

DATE: August 4, 2010

Q1: Is there a website that has the announcement of funding?

A1: Yes. The synopsis of the announcement has been posted on Grants.gov. You can view the announcement by searching for the RFP or CFDA numbers at www.grants.gov. You can also follow the direct link at:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=bv1JMqDScGjG0q7djv4hHd1vZTRFGlrX4nCxXrD7cn44dKZX60Y9!1680187280?oppId=55524&mode=VIEW>

And this is the link to the announcement on EPA/OAR's grants' funding page:

http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html

Q2: How many applicants are expected?

A2: This is an open competition; all eligible entities are encouraged to apply.

Q3: How many grants are expected to be awarded?

A3: As stated in Section II (Award Information) of the RFP, EPA anticipates award of up to twenty assistance agreements under this announcement ranging in value from approximately \$50,000 to \$1,000,000, subject to the availability of funds and quality of evaluated proposals. The total estimated funding expected to be available for awards under this competitive opportunity is approximately \$2,000,000.

Q4: Is this the first year the grant has been awarded?

A4: This is the first year this solicitation, “Greenhouse Gas Reporting Systems: Outreach to Reporting Facilities and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Opportunities,” has been competed.

Q5: Can you help me determine whether I should apply for this grant?

A5: To keep this competition fair, we cannot provide you with feedback regarding the appropriateness or merit of your potential proposal. Please see Section I.B (Scope of Work) and Section V (Application Review Information) of the RFP for more information.

Q6: Is it possible to look at similar previous proposals?

A6: No, we cannot share the contents of previous proposals due to the confidential nature of the information within.

Q7: What should I do if I'm having difficulty downloading the application and instructions?

A7: You can email support@grants.gov or call (800) 518-4726 if you're having difficulties with the grants.gov website.

Q8: Can we send you hard copies of related materials to our proposal?

A8: Supporting materials, such as resumes and letters of support, can be submitted either as hard copy or electronic attachments and are not included in the 20-page limit. However, as stated in Section IV.C.4 (Attachments), "up to three past examples of communications materials can be included, not to exceed a total of 15 pages."

Q9: Does my organization (a 501c3 registered not-for-profit) need a Negotiated Indirect Cost Agreement (NICRA) in order to apply for this grant?

A9: REVISED RESPONSE --- If applicants are requesting indirect costs in their proposed budget, they will need to either have a NICRA or be in the process of applying for a NICRA. The NICRA documentation documentation must be included in an applicant's proposal package. The following link contains information on how to apply for a NICRA:
<http://www.epa.gov/ogd/recipient/EPATraineeIndirect.pdf>

Q10: We are planning on partnering with another non-profit who has not yet begun the process of obtaining a NICRA. In terms of subawards, is it necessary they obtain one?

A10: The subawardee would need a NICRA if they plan to request indirect costs.

Q11: What is EPA looking for in the support letters that may be included as attachments to the proposal?

A11: The support letters are letters of recommendation from organizations or individuals who may have worked with you on similar projects in the past.

Q12: Do proposed projects need to serve multiple states, or could a single state propose a project that would serve only affected facilities that state?

A12: A proposed project can serve facilities in one state or in multiple states.

Q13. Can a grant recipient be a subawardee on another grant?

A13. Yes. EPA reviews, evaluates and scores all submitted proposals individually. EPA does not take into account other submitted proposals or the contents in those submitted proposed projects. Therefore any and all proposals that are selected and recommended for award are considered separate and individual projects.

Q14. Can a non-profit be a subawardee on more than one grant?

A14. Yes. EPA reviews, evaluates and scores all submitted proposals individually. EPA does not take into account other submitted proposals or the contents in those submitted proposed projects. Therefore any and all proposals that are selected and recommended for award are considered separate and individual projects.

Q15. If an applicant does not propose indirect costs, do they need a negotiated indirect cost rate?

A15. No

Q16. Do you evaluate proposals to determine whether the project will be a grant or cooperative agreement?

A16. EPA evaluates all proposals based on the Threshold Criteria in Section III and the Evaluation Criteria in Section V. EPA regularly makes awards categorized as grants or cooperative agreements. If selected for award and based on an applicant's proposed project, EPA will determine whether the project will be a grant or cooperative agreement.

Q17. If an awardee were to develop a website as described in the Scope of Work, could EPA use this website?

A17. Yes, EPA may analyze and use the data generated from individual projects. If selected for award, EPA will issue appropriate terms and conditions relating to an applicant's project that are typically included in a grant award document. In order for the project to commence, an applicant will need to review and sign the legally binding grant award document which contains a project's administrative and programmatic terms and conditions.

Additionally, see Section VI. Award Administration Information E. (Exchange Network)

Q18. Will EPA facilitate collaboration between all grant recipient efforts on projects?

A18. No, EPA does not anticipate that it will play this type of role. However, EPA will continue to work with states, territories and tribes to exchange data through the National Environmental Exchange Network, as described in Section VI. Award Administration Information E. (Exchange Network).

Q19: Do I need to submit any of the following forms with my proposal: (1) Assurances Non-Construction Programs Certification; (2) Certification Regarding Lobbying And Sf Lll (Applicable If Epa Funds Are Over \$100,000); or (3) EPA Form 4700-4 Pre-Award Compliance Review Report?

A19: No. The applicant does not need to submit these forms until notified that they have been preliminarily recommended for an award.

Q20: The request for proposals lists “Quality Assurance Narrative Statement” as one of the requested attachments (see section IV.C.4). What does this mean and how do I know if it applies to my proposal?

A20: The Quality Assurance Narrative Statement applies only to selected applicants who propose to collect environmental data. Once an applicant is selected for award, an assigned EPA Project Officer will work with the applicant to develop a Quality Assurance Narrative Statement. If the selected applicant does not propose to collect any data, then he or she is not required to submit this statement.

Q21: Are 501(c)(6) organizations eligible to apply for this funding opportunity?

A21: Yes, 501(c)(6) non-profit organizations are eligible.