



Geothermal Technologies Program

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Webcast

June 2009





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Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Overview

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Definitions

- **“Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)”** is a publicly available document by which a Federal agency makes known its intentions to award discretionary grants or cooperative agreements, usually as a result of competition for funds.
- **"Application"** means the documentation submitted in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement.
- **“FedConnect”** refers to the electronic system used by applicants to submit applications to DOE.
- **"Financial Assistance"** means the transfer of money or property to an Applicant or Participant to accomplish a public purpose of support authorized by Federal statute through Grants or Cooperative Agreements and sub-awards.





Process Overview

- The applicant completes necessary registrations to submit an application (see next slide for details).
- The applicant submits Notice of Intent (as applicable) and application by the due date(s) specified in the FOA.
- The application will go through an Initial Review to ensure that it is compliant with the requirements of the FOA. If the application passes the Initial Review, it will be submitted to a panel of experts on the topic for a Technical Merit Review. Those applications that do not pass the Initial Review will be notified in writing.
- Compliant applications will be sent to the Technical Merit Review Committee composed of a panel of experts who will comment on, score, and rank each application according to Merit Review Criteria.
- The consensus comments and scores from the Technical Merit Review will be submitted to a team at DOE Headquarters (HQ) for the Program Policy Factor Review.
- Upon completion of the reviews, all information from each review will be submitted to the Selection Official (SO) at DOE HQ. The SO will select certain applications for negotiation of award. All applicants will be notified in writing regarding the decision of the SO.





Registration Process

- **First, obtain a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number:** If your organization is located in the United States, you can request and register for a DUNS number by calling 1-866-705-5711. If your organization is located outside of the United States, you can request and register for a DUNS number online via [web registration](#) or call your local [Dun & Bradstreet](#) office.
- **Second, register in Central Contract Registration (CCR):** Go to <http://www.ccr.gov> or <http://www.ccr.gov/Start.aspx> and follow the instructions, or contact the CCR Assistance Center at 888-227-2423.
- **Third, register in FedConnect:** Go to <https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/FedConnectReadySetGo.pdf>

Please begin the registration process as soon as possible because this process can take up to 21 days to complete.



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)

- The Recovery Act's purposes are to stimulate the economy and to create and retain jobs. The Act gives preference to activities that can be started and completed expeditiously. Accordingly, special consideration will be given to projects that promote and enhance the objectives of the Act, particularly job creation, preservation and economic recovery, in a timely manner.



General FOA Document Structure

- Part I – Funding Opportunity Description
- Part II – Award Information
- Part III – Eligibility Information
- Part IV – Application and Submission Information
- Part V – Application Review Information
- Part VI – Award Administration Information
- Part VII – Questions/Agency Contacts
- Part VIII – Other Information
- Appendices



Part I – Funding Opportunity Description

- Includes a text description of the type of project(s) that DOE is seeking to fund
- Typically includes DOE goals, statutory authority, project phase descriptions, etc.
- For certain topics, also includes:
 - Critical Initial Review Criteria (right of access, permits, data requirements) that must be included within applications
 - Specific cost share and/or reporting requirements
 - Go/no-go decision points
 - Information regarding specific Merit Review Criteria and/or Program Policy Factors





Part II – Award Information

- *Anticipated* award parameters including:
 - Type of award (e.g., grants and/or cooperative agreements)
 - Total estimated funding for the topic
 - DOE funding ceiling/floor (maximum/minimum)
 - Expected number of awards
 - Period of performance (project period)



Part III – Eligibility Information

- Details eligibility requirements for prime and/or subrecipients of awards for the following:
 - Domestic Entities including Institutions of Higher Education, Non-profit and For-profit private entities, State and Local Governments, Indian tribes, and Tribal Energy Resource Development Organizations or Groups
 - DOE Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), non-DOE FFRDCs, National Laboratories, and Federal agencies
 - Foreign participants
- Recipient Cost Sharing
 - DOE is seeking applications that provide a minimum cost share at the statutory level per the Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) of 2005. However, applications with proposed cost share below that level will be considered, using the Secretary of Energy's authority to reduce cost-share requirements under the Recovery Act. Applicants proposing cost share below the statutory level must provide a justification for their request in the Project Narrative.



Part III – Eligibility Information (continued)

- Recipient Cost Sharing Detail by Topic (based on Total Project Costs):
 - **Statutory Cost Share: 50% / Reduced Cost Share (with justification): 25%**
 - Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) Demonstrations
 - Validation of Innovative Exploration Technologies (Exploration Slimhole Drilling)
 - Geothermal Energy Production from (A) Low Temperature Resources, (B) Coproduced Fluids from Oil and Gas Wells, and (C) Geopressured Resources
 - Ground Source Heat Pumps, Topic Area 1: Technology Demonstration Projects
 - **Statutory Cost Share: 20% / Reduced Cost Share (with justification): 10%**
 - Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) Component Research and Development/Analysis
 - Ground Source Heat Pumps, Topic Area 2: Data Gathering and Analysis Research Papers
 - **Statutory Cost Share: 0% / Reduced Cost Share (with justification): N/A**
 - Geothermal Data Development, Collection, and Maintenance
 - Ground Source Heat Pumps, Topic Area 3: National Certification Standard



Part IV – Application and Submission Information

- Several application forms are required; please reference the “Summary of Required Forms/Files” table included in Part IV.D of each FOA for details by topic.
- The Project Narrative should include the following within the specified page limit:
 - Statement of Project Objectives (SOPO) to address how the project objectives will be met
 - Merit Review Criterion Discussion to address each criterion in Part V.A of the FOA. **Be sure to demonstrate adherence to each criterion in a clearly formatted manner to help the Technical Merit Review experts judge your application**
 - ARRA information to address how the project will promote and enhance the objectives of the Recovery Act
 - Justification, *if applicable*, for a reduced recipient cost share request





Part V – Application Review Information

- Initial Review Criteria to determine:
 - (1) the applicant is eligible for an award;
 - (2) the information required by the announcement has been submitted;
 - (3) all mandatory requirements are satisfied (**including specific requirements mentioned in the Project Description of the FOA, as applicable**); and
 - (4) the proposed project is responsive to the objectives of the funding opportunity announcement.
- Merit Review Criteria will be used by the Technical Merit Reviewers to objectively comment on, score, and rank applications. Criteria typically address the technical merit of the project, the soundness of the project management plan, and capability of the proposed team and facilities to execute the project.
- Other Selection Factors (Program Policy Factors) may be considered by the Selection Official (SO) following completion of all reviews prior to selection for negotiation of award.

Again, be sure to address all Initial and Merit Review Criteria in addition to the Program Policy Factors in a clearly formatted manner to assist in application evaluation.



Subsequent Portions of the FOA Document

- Part VI – Award Administration Information
 - Details on Notice of Selection, Notice of Award, and Electronic Authorization of Award Documents
- Part VII – Questions/Agency Contacts
 - Details on Special Terms and Conditions of awards, general Intellectual Property (IP) Provisions, Statement of Substantial Involvement for Cooperative Agreements, and Reporting Requirements for awards
- Part VIII – Other Information
 - Details on Proprietary Application Information
 - IP information including Patent Rights, Rights in Technical Data, and Notice of Right to Request Patent Waiver. Specific requirements regarding these items vary from topic to topic. Class and/or individual waivers may be utilized.
- Appendices
 - Definitions, Personally Identifiable Information (PII), and Cost Share Information



Searching for Geothermal FOAs in FedConnect

- Link to <https://www.fedconnect.net/Fedconnect/>
- Click on "Search Public Opportunities" on the right side of the web page
- In the search option box, enter one or more keywords from the FOA title, preceded by the "%" sign, and press the "Search" button. Do not hit "Return" on your keyboard. For example, entering "%geothermal" or "%heat pumps" will take you to a listing of related public opportunities.
- Click on the appropriate link after search results are displayed
- On the right side of the screen, click on "BODY" under the "Solicitation" or "Amendment" folder. If multiple FOA amendments exist, click on "BODY" under the most recent award amendment (as an example, Amendment #2 is more recent than Amendment #1)

Instructions (with screen shots) are also available at http://www1.eere.energy.gov/geothermal/fedconnect_instructions.html. If you are having problems with FedConnect, please call the support desk at 1-800 899-6665 or email support@FedConnect.net.





The DOE Geothermal
Technologies Program thanks you
for your interest.

