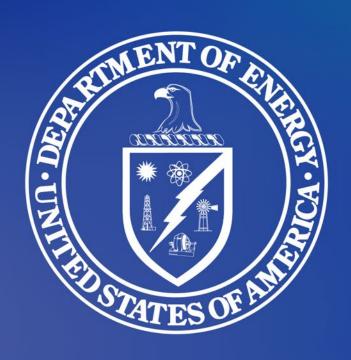
### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF Technology Transitions



# DE-LC-000L107 FY24 Spring Energy I-Corps Lab Call

Informational Webinar September 26, 2023, 12 p.m. ET

#### Housekeeping

- ➤ All applicants are strongly encouraged to read the entire lab call and adhere to the stated submission requirements.
- This presentation summarizes the contents of the lab call. If there are any inconsistencies between the lab call and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the lab call is the controlling document and applicants should rely on the lab call language and seek clarification from Office of Technology Transitions (OTT) at <a href="mailto:energyicorps@hq.doe.gov">energyicorps@hq.doe.gov</a>.
- This webinar is being recorded.
- Everyone has been placed on mute.
- ➤ Please provide your questions through the chat feature. All questions will go into the formal Q&A log and will be answered and publicly posted to Exchange.
- This Informational Webinar slides will be posted to Exchange

#### **Webinar Purpose**

The purpose of today's webinar is to:

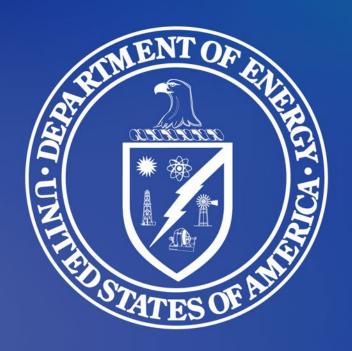
- 1. Provide an overview of the lab call
- 2. Highlight specific areas in the lab call that are **new for FY24** 
  - i. Topic 1 collaboration
  - ii. Topic 3 eligibility
  - iii. Community Benefits
  - iv. Appendices



- 1. Background
- 2. Lab Call at a Glance
- 3. Topic 1: Pipeline Development
- 4. Topic 2: EIC Cohort Training (Cohort 18)
- 5. Topic 3: Post Energy I-Corps
- 6. Community Benefits
- 7. Appendices

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## **BACKGROUND**

#### **Background**

- Established in 2015, inspired by the NSF I-Corps™ program
- DOE's OTT is the program administrator

#### **Goals for Energy I-Corps**

- ➤ Increase the number of DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site-developed technologies that are transferred into commercial development or industry agreements
- Train DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site researchers to better understand the commercialization process and private sector needs
- Promote DOE National Laboratories and DOE plants and sites to value commercialization and entrepreneurial activities



**Program Structure** 

#### **Topic 1: EIC Pipeline Development**

Program to fund projects and programming that have the potential to *directly* increase participation in EIC Training Cohorts (Topic 2) in subsequent EIC lab calls.



Participation in Topic 1 is not required to participate in Topic 2

#### **Topic 2: EIC Training Cohort**

2-month training program to investigate the market potential and accelerate the commercialization of DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site technology.



Previous participation in Topic 2 <u>is</u> required to participate in Topic 3

#### **Topic 3: Post EIC**

Program to fund EIC Training Cohort (Topic 2) graduates and U.S. National Science Foundation full I-Corps™ graduates with DOE technology to advance towards their next step in technology commercialization



#### **Program Impact since 2015**

#### **215** TEAMS | **12** NATIONAL LABORATORIES BRINGING ENERGY INNOVATIONS TO 25.5 Pacific Northwest National Laboratory 23 Argonne National Laboratory Advanced Manufacturing (28.5) Other Technologies (26) **33.5** Idaho National Laboratory **52** National Renewable Energy Laboratory Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory Water Power Technologies (9) Advanced Manufacuring & Materials (3.3) Bioenergy Technologies (23) Wind Energy Technologies (17) TECHNOLOGY 3 National Energy Building Technology Labora Technologies (14) **AREAS** Vehicle Technologies (19.5) Environmental Management (2) Solar Energy Technologies (5.8) Fossil Energy and Office of Technology Transitions (4)-Carbon Management (6.5) Office of Science (3) Geothermal Technologies (4.5) Sandia National Office of Electricity (11) Laboratories (2) Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies (4) National Nuclear Security Lawrence Livermore Administration (15) Oak Ridge National National Association National Laboratory 12 Laboratory for Water Innovation (2) Nuclear Energy (16.8) Lawrence Berkeley 5 Los Alamos National Laboratory National Laboratory **SLAC National**

INVESTMENT TOTAL \$14,345,000 \$150M+ Post Program Funding **13,600**+ Customer Discovery Interviews Licenses Executed

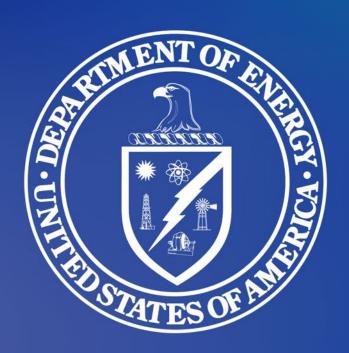
Topic 2 statistics

Accelerator Laboratory



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## LAB CALL AT A GLANCE

#### **Key Dates**

Event or Deadline	Date
Lab Call Issue Date	September 20, 2023
Informational Webinar	September 26, 2023, 12:00 pm (ET)
Topic 2 Application Submission Deadline	Friday, October 27, 2023, 3:00 PM (ET)
Topics 1 & 3 Application Submission Deadline	Friday, November 3, 2023, 3:00 PM (ET)
Expected Date for Selection Notifications	December 13, 2023 – January 8, 2024 (varies by topic)

Note the staggered deadlines for Topic 2 versus Topic 1 & 3 Applications



#### **General Information**

Means of submission for Application	Topic 1: EERE Exchange (DE-LC-000L107) Topic 2: Microsoft Forms (link on page 21 of lab call) Topic 3: EERE Exchange (DE-LC-000L107)
Total Amount to be provided	OTT expects to award at least \$500k across the three topics combined. However, additional funding may be available based on proposals' alignment with partner Program Office goals. DOE may issue one, multiple, or no awards.
Cost Share Requirement	None
Submission of Multiple Proposals	For all three topics, there is no limit on the number of applications each DOE National Laboratory or DOE plant and site can submit.
Questions	All questions and answers will be recorded in a Q&A log and posted on Exchange. RE: EIC Lab Call Solicitation (all topics): <a href="mailto:energyicorps@hq.doe.gov">energyicorps@hq.doe.gov</a> RE: EERE Exchange Technical Support: <a href="mailto:eere-exchangesupport@hq.doe.gov">eere-exchangesupport@hq.doe.gov</a>

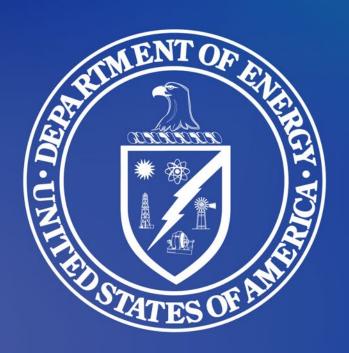
#### **Budget per Topic**

	Topic	Available Budget
	Topic 1: EIC Pipeline Development	Up to \$100k per DOE National Laboratory or DOE plant or site
	Topic 2: EIC Training Cohort	\$80k per team
H	Topic 3: Post EIC	Up to \$100k per project

Cost share is not required for any of the three topics. However, DOE National Laboratories and DOE plants and sites may supplement team budgets with internal funding resources if desired. All funding will be provided to the national laboratory, plant or site as a bill code.

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## TOPIC 1: PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT

- Topic 1 seeks proposals from DOE National Laboratories and DOE plants and sites for projects and programming that have the potential to directly increase applications in future Topic 2 - EIC Training Cohorts.
- Successful projects will be able to demonstrate how the funded activity leads to increased EIC Topic 2 - Training Cohort applications.
- Individual projects under Topic 1 will be considered up to a total \$100k per laboratory, plant or site
- DOE strongly encourages efforts that bring together multiple labs to meet the goal of this topic in the most effective manner possible.

**Key Dates for Topic 1: Pipeline Development** 

Event	Date	
Submission deadline	Friday, November 3, 2023, 3:00 PM (ET)	
Expected date for selection notifications	December 22, 2023 – January 8, 2024	
Funding transfer complete	After successful negotiation between OTT & DOE National Laboratory, or DOE plant or site. Targeting February 29, 2024	

#### **Examples of Topic 1 projects include:**

- Funding interns to work directly with PIs to develop EIC applications
- Interviewing EIC alumni, analyzing the chain of events that led alumni to apply to EIC, and running a pilot to try to recreate the experience for other PIs
- Hosting or participating in a low cost, lighter lift entrepreneurial program geared towards recruiting for subsequent EIC training cohorts

#### Examples of activities that would **NOT** be well-suited for Topic 1 include:

- General trainings on a specific component of the commercialization process such as intellectual property protection
- General talks or lunch-and-learns about the commercialization process

#### **Eligibility**

Only DOE National Laboratories and DOE plants and sites are eligible to apply for Topic 1 under this lab call. Topic 1 is an opportunity for DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site technology transfer offices to request FY24 funding and/or propose an adjustment or scope change for using un-costed Topic 1 funds from prior fiscal years. Any proposed adjustment, scope change or new funding request should address the goal to directly increase participation in future Topic 2 - EIC Training Cohorts.

#### **Program Deliverables**

- Negotiated deliverables
- A concise final report at the end of the proposed project.

#### **Period of Performance**

Proposed projects should seek to support EIC goals efficiently and effectively in FY24. However, applications with projects that expand beyond the end of FY24 will be considered.

#### **Submission and Review Information**

All submissions must conform to the following slide's form and content requirements, and must be submitted via <a href="Exchange">Exchange</a>, unless specifically stated otherwise. DOE will not review or consider submissions that are received through means other than Exchange, submitted after the applicable deadline, or incomplete.

## Topic 1: Pipeline Development Application Documents

Addressing all aspects of community benefits is encouraged but, <u>DEIA is required</u>

Document	Format	Description
Detailed narrative	<ul> <li>3-page max</li> <li>8.5"x 11"     pages with     1-inch     margin</li> <li>11-point font</li> <li>PDF file</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Applicants are required to:</li> <li>Describe the proposed project including the leading participants, target participants, resources needed, anticipated level of impact, and overall plan to execute the project.</li> <li>Explicitly state how the proposed project will directly increase future participation in EIC Training Cohorts (Topic 2) from your laboratory, plant or site.</li> <li>Proposals that request adjustment or scope change of uncosted Satellite, Site Lab, or Asynchronous EIC funding must explicitly state how the rescoped funds will directly increase participation in Topic 2.</li> <li>List the barrier(s) to participating in EIC training cohorts (time, effort etc.) unique to your DOE National Laboratory or DOE plant or site that is addressed by your proposed project.</li> <li>Identify any hurdles that may arise when implementing your proposed project and your plans to overcome such hurdles.</li> <li>Describe how community benefit objectives ((1) DEIA; (2) energy equity; and (3) investing in America's workforce) will be incorporated in the proposed project. At minimum, include at least one SMART DEIA milestone supported by metrics to measure the success of the proposed action.</li> <li>Include a timeline for the proposed project.</li> <li>Describe a plan for implementing the idea with a requested amount of funding, but also include what would be possible with 50% of the requested amount.</li> </ul>

## **Topic 1: Pipeline Development Selection Criteria**

**Criterion 1: Impact (80%)** This criterion considers the following factors:

Potential to Increase EIC Training Cohort Participation	Long-Term Viability	Access to Resources	DEIA
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**Criterion 2: Quality of Proposed Project (20%)** This criterion considers the following factors:

Well-Defined Goals Challenge	Reasonable Assumptions & Timeline	Reasonable Budget
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These criteria are described in detail starting page 13 of the lab call

#### **Project Administration and Reporting**

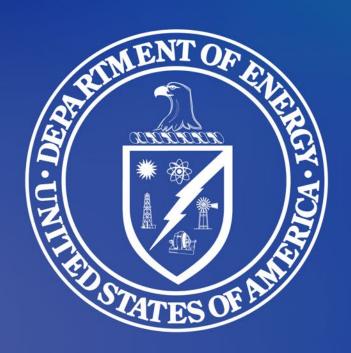
Projects selected for award are managed by DOE in accordance with DOE requisite policies and procedures. OTT will provide all required project oversight and engagement with EIC project participants. DOE Program Offices that decide to participate in EIC can also engage with EIC participants.

OTT will establish a regular cadence of required meetings with DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site technology transfer offices ranging from every one to three months to meet with OTT and supporting DOE program offices to discuss project progress and budget updates. Additionally, DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site technology transfer offices are required to provide progress reporting and budget reporting, in addition to program-specific deliverables.

#### Questions?

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## TOPIC 2: EIC COHORT TRAINING (COHORT 18)

#### **Topic 2: Cohort Training (C18)**

This topic seeks team applications to participate in EIC Training Cohort 18. Selected teams of researchers and industry mentors will participate in an intensive curriculum-based program to understand market awareness and learn about market pathways for their technology. Over the course of 2 months, selected teams attend in-person and virtual sessions, participate in weekly webinars, and learn from one-on-ones with instructors to systematically identify the most appropriate market application and commercialization pathway for their technology. Participation requires a considerable amount of time spent outside of the classroom conducting 75 stakeholder discovery interviews.

Each selected team will be provided \$80k to support their participation in EIC Training Cohort 18. Historically, DOE program offices have primarily funded Topic 2 teams

**Appendix A** of the lab call lists DOE program office and partner agency technology research areas. These are research areas of interest only and do not mandate applications to fall under the listed research areas.

## Topic 2: Cohort Training (C18) Eligibility

Only DOE National Laboratories and DOE plants and sites are eligible to apply for EIC Training Cohort 18. Teams from any technology area will be considered. Technologies submitted for consideration should be at a stage in development that allows the team to identify potential partners within a target market.

To ensure fairness and maximum reach, DOE is restricting applications to DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site <u>researchers who have not already gone through the EIC Topic 2</u>. Researchers who have already gone through any previous Cohort of EIC successfully will only be considered if they are applying with **both** a different technology **and** a different team role than they previously held.

Teams do not need to have previously participated in entrepreneurial training programs or activities, including EIC Topic 1, to apply for this topic.

#### **Topic 2: Cohort Training (C18)**

EIC Training Cohort 18 consists of three key elements, summarized below:

- 1. Lead Lab (aka the Node): The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) serves as the Node for this program. The Node is responsible for developing and delivering the training, as well as providing program guidance to participating labs, plants, and sites.
- 2. Participating DOE Labs and DOE plants and sites (aka sites): Sites recruit, assemble, and send teams to the Node for training. Sites also support teams both during and after the program. Support might include assistance in identifying entrepreneurial leads (ELs) and industry mentors (IMs) during the application period, as well as technology transfer/technology deployment/business development support for potential market pathways identified by the team during training. Each site will also assist with metrics collection during and after their team's participation in the program.
- 3. Teams: Applicants apply to EIC as a team, composed of a Principal Investigator with a commercially relevant technology, an EL, and an IM. The time commitment to this program is significant for both the PI and the EL, and teams should do their best to organize their workload during the training period accordingly.

The team is the core unit of each EIC Training Cohort. Each complete team consists of a PI, an EL, and at least one IM. Teams are expected to fully participate in the training program and together, they are expected to meet the requirements set by the Node.

#### **Topic 2: Cohort Training (C18)**

<u>PI:</u> The PI is the technical lead and project manager based at the DOE National Laboratory or DOE plant or site, responsible for overall team management. The PI should have a laboratory, plant or site technology or other form of IP identified, that the team believes has a potential market application. The PI is required to attend the entire opening and closing week in person. During the core training period, <u>at least 20 hours per week of the PI's time should be committed to EIC (excludes opening and closing sessions, which require full time). Prior experience is not required. However, the PI should be committed to pursuing potential market pathways.</u>

<u>EL:</u> The EL may come from inside or outside of the lab. Eligible candidates include, but are not limited to, laboratory staff (beyond the PI), serial entrepreneurs, postdoctoral scholars, or graduate students. The EL is required to attend the entire opening and closing weeks in person. During the core training period, the EL is expected to commit <u>at least 30 hours per week</u> of their time to EIC (excludes opening and closing sessions, which require full time). The EL is expected to lead the team in coordinating stakeholder interviews, delivering team presentations, and developing the business model canvas.

<u>IM:</u> Ideally, the IM is an experienced industry representative or entrepreneur, from outside the laboratory, plant or site, with substantial expertise in a relevant sector. The IM is responsible for providing mentorship to the EL and PI for the duration of the EIC. IMs are not required to but are highly encouraged to attend the in-person opening week and closing week sessions. The IM is expected to commit <u>up to 6 hours per week</u> of their time during the core training period and to meet with the team on a weekly basis. To ensure unbiased mentorship, the IM should be a <u>volunteer</u> and <u>not have a direct interest in the team's technology or IP.</u> The IM's participation and lack of conflict of interest should be cleared with the lab, plant or site's POC and Tech Transfer or Business Development Office.

#### **Topic 2: EIC Cohort Training (C18)**

#### Period of Performance – 8 to 10 weeks

#### **Key Dates for EIC Cohort 18**

Event	Date
Submission deadline for team proposals	Friday, October 27, 2023, 3:00 p.m. (ET)
Expected date for team selection notifications	Between December 13 - 22, 2023
Funding transfers begin	Wednesday, December 13, 2023
Funding transfer complete	Wednesday, January 31, 2024
PI and EL are required to attend all program events including the in-person opening and closing weeks	Orientation webinars –February 29 & March 7, 2024 Opening week* – March 11-15, 2024 Curriculum webinars – March 21, 28, 2024 Curriculum webinars – April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024 Curriculum webinars – May 2, 9, 2024 Closing week* – May 13 - 17, 2024

#### **Topic 2: EIC Cohort Training (C18)**

#### **Submission Information**

To be considered for EIC Training Cohort 18, applicants must complete and submit the single document (Microsoft Form) in Table 6 (page 21) of the Lab Call. All submissions must be submitted via Microsoft Forms. DOE will not review or consider submissions that are received through means other than Microsoft Forms, submitted after the applicable deadline, or incomplete.

Form Link: <a href="https://forms.microsoft.com/g/FJWyzQstwc">https://forms.microsoft.com/g/FJWyzQstwc</a>

For Topic 2 applicants, no documents or submissions are required to be uploaded through Exchange.

## Topic 2: Cohort Training (C18) Selection Criteria

Addressing all aspects of community benefits is encouraged but, <u>DEIA</u> is required

**Criterion 1: Impact (60%)** This criterion considers the following factors:

Commercial Potential	Challenges Mitigated	Fit with DOE Program Offices
Learning Impact	Reasonable Budget Plan	Community Benefits

**Criterion 2: Project Team (40%)** This criterion considers the following factors:

Collaboration & Capability	Availability	DEIA
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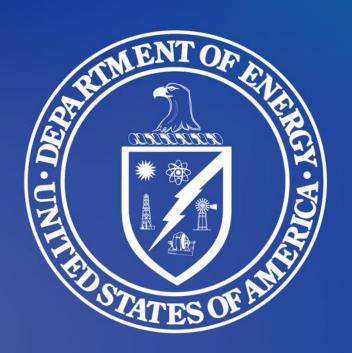
These criteria are described in detail on page 22 of the lab call

#### **Topic 2: Cohort Training (C18)**

Questions?

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## **TOPIC 3: POST EIC**

#### **Topic Description**

**New:** Teams or individuals that have successfully completed the NSF national I-Corps<sup>™</sup> training with a DOE technology are eligible to apply

Topic 3 intends to support a small subset of the most promising EIC Training Cohort (Topic 2) graduates or teams and individuals who have completed the NSF national I-Corps™ training with a DOE technology with a high likelihood of commercializing their technology. The funds are not meant to support the teams' full commercialization effort. Instead, the funds are intended to cover costs of the next actionable step in technology commercialization and facilitate the teams in reaching their next source of more substantive support to continue their commercialization journey.

#### **Key Dates for Topic 3: Post EIC**

Event	Date	
Submission deadline	Friday, November 3, 2023, 3:00 PM (ET)	
Expected date for selection notifications	December 22, 2023 – January 8, 2024	
Funding transfer complete	After successful negotiation between OTT & DOE National Laboratory, or DOE plant or site. Targeting February 29, 2024	

New: Teams or individuals that have successfully completed the NSF national I-Corps™ training with a DOE technology are eligible to apply

#### **Eligibility**

Only teams or individuals who a) have successfully completed an EIC Training Cohort (Topic 2) or the NSF national I-Corps™ training with DOE technology and b) are pursuing the commercialization of the same technology they went through Topic 2 or NSF I-Corps™ (inclusive of technical pivots) are eligible to apply to this topic.

#### **Program Deliverables**

- Negotiated deliverables
- A final report at the end of the proposed project.

#### **Period of Performance**

Proposed projects should seek to support EIC goals efficiently in FY24. However, applications with projects that expand beyond the end of FY24 will be considered.

#### **Submission and Review Information**

All submissions must conform to the following slide's form and content requirements, including maximum page lengths and must be submitted via <a href="Exchange">Exchange</a>, unless specifically stated otherwise. DOE will not review or consider submissions that are received through means other than Exchange, submitted after the applicable deadline, or incomplete.

Should applicants experience technical problems with Exchange prior to the deadline, the applicant should contact the EERE Exchange helpdesk for assistance (EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov).

## **Topic 3: Post Energy I-Corps Application Documents**

Document Cover Page	<ul> <li>1 page max</li> <li>8.5"x 11"     pages with 1-     inch margin</li> <li>11-point font</li> <li>PDF file</li> </ul>	National Science Foundation's Inno	nembers involved. It team members previously participated in or year that the team participated in the nnovation Corps program.	
Detailed narrative	<ul> <li>* 3-page max</li> <li>* 8.5"x 11" pages with 1-inch margin</li> <li>* 11-point font</li> <li>* PDF file</li> <li>* Explain how the successful implementation of the proposed project will continue the commercialization process.</li> <li>* State any roadblocks that may arise when implementing your proposal.</li> <li>* Answer the following questions: What is the best possible outcome for complete? How should project success be measured? What are the continue how the project will support or implement the lab-wide DEIA pl metrics to measure the success of the proposed action.</li> <li>* Briefly indicate specific experiences or outcomes from EIC Topic 2 participation.</li> <li>* Describe the proposed project: the clear, discrete next step to commercial achieve this step.</li> <li>* Describe an overview of the technology (including the status of its commercial plan to execute the project.</li> <li>* Explain how the successful implementation of the proposed project will continue the commercialization process.</li> <li>* State any roadblocks that may arise when implementing your proposal.</li> <li>* Answer the following questions: What is the best possible outcome for complete? How should project success be measured? What are the continue the steps and timeframe needed for full technology commercial.</li> <li>* Describe how community benefit objectives ((1) DEIA; (2) energy equity include how the project will support or implement the lab-wide DEIA plants are proposed action.</li> <li>* Briefly indicate specific experiences or outcomes from EIC Topic 2 participation.</li> <li>* Describe steps taken to commercialize the technology since participation.</li> <li>* Include a timeline for the proposed project.</li> </ul>		mmercialize your technology, and explain how receiving this funding will help you is commercialization), the leading participants for the proposed project and their roles, ect will unlock the potential for much larger public or private funding sources to apposal and your plans to overcome such barriers. The for this project? What are the project team's goals after this project is the conditions that would make this project not worth continuing? The ercialization after this proposed project, assuming the proposal is funded. The equity; and (3) investing in America's workforce) will be incorporated in the project. DEIA plan. At a minimum, include at least one SMART DEIA milestone supported by	
Copy of NSF I-Corps™ final project report and project outcomes	project report  project outcomes rt (Only required SF I-Corps™ final project report and project outcomes Corps™ program.		eining graduate instead of an EIC Topic 2 graduate, submit a copy of the eport that was submitted when successfully completing the full NSF I-	
report (Only required for NSF I-Corps™ graduates)		Corps <sup>····</sup> program.		Addressing all aspects of community benefits is encouraged but, <u>DEIA is required</u>

**New:** If the applicant is applying as an NSF national I-Corps™

training graduate instead of an EIC Topic 2 graduate, applicant

## **Topic 3: Post Energy I-Corps Selection Criteria**

**Criterion 1: Impact (80%)** This criterion considers the following factors:

Potential of Project Success	Long-Term Viability	Commercial Potential
Access	DEIA	

Criterion 2: Quality of Proposed Project (20%) This criterion considers the following factors:

Well-Defined Goals	Challenges Mitigated	Reasonable Assumptions & Timeline	Reasonable Budget
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These criteria are described in detail beginning on page 26 of the lab call

#### **Topic 3 Selection Notification**

All successful and unsuccessful applicant notifications will be communicated to laboratory, plant, and site POCs. It is the responsibility of the POC to distribute the notification information to their laboratory, plant or site applicants.

#### **Topic 3 Project Administration and Reporting**

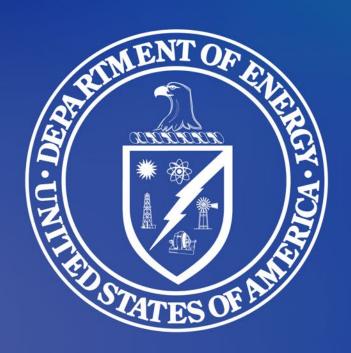
Projects selected for award are managed by DOE in accordance with DOE requisite policies and procedures. OTT will provide all required project oversight and engagement with EIC project participants. DOE program offices that decide to participate in EIC can also engage with EIC participants.

OTT will establish a regular cadence of required meetings ranging from every one to three months for DOE national laboratory and DOE plant and site technology transfer offices to meet with OTT and supporting DOE program offices to discuss project progress and budget updates. Additionally, DOE national laboratory and DOE plant and site technology transfer offices are required to provide progress reporting and budget reporting, in addition to program-specific deliverables.

#### Questions?

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## **COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

#### **Community Benefits**

**New**: Guidance on all community benefit objectives, namely 1. DEIA, 2. energy equity, and 3. investing in America's workforce. See Lab Call Appendix B

DOE is committed to investing in the research, development, and commercialization of DOE National Laboratory and DOE plant and site innovations that deliver benefits to the American public and lead to technologies and products that foster sustainable, resilient, and equitable access to clean energy. Further, DOE is committed to supporting the development of more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible (DEIA) workplaces to help maintain the nation's leadership in science and technology.

To support the goal of building a clean and equitable energy economy, projects funded under this lab call are expected to consider how they can (1) advance DEIA; (2) contribute to energy equity; and (3) invest in America's workforce. All three community benefit objectives (DEIA, energy equity, and workforce) should be considered, but at a minimum, the proposed project should include at least one SMART (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) milestone per budget period supported by DEIA relevant metrics to measure the success of the proposed actions.

#### A SMART milestone clearly answers the following questions:

- · What needs to be accomplished?
- What measures and deliverables will be used to track progress toward accomplishment?
- What evidence suggests that the accomplishment is achievable?
- Why is this milestone significant?
- When will the milestone be reached?



## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA)

Addressing all aspects of community benefits is encouraged but, <u>DEIA</u> is required

Applicants are required to reference, if available, the existing DOE National Laboratory or DOE plant or site DEIA plan and describe how DEIA objectives will be incorporated in the project. Specifically, applicants are required to describe the actions the applicant will take to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment, support people from underrepresented groups in STEM, advance equity, and encourage the inclusion of individuals from these groups in the project, and the extent to which the project activities will be located in or benefit underserved communities.

Proposed projects should include at least one SMART (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic and Time-Related) milestone per budget period supported by DEIA relevant metrics to measure the success of the proposed actions. Because a diverse set of voices at the table in research, design, and execution has an illustrated positive impact on innovation, this implementation strategy for the proposed project will be evaluated as part of the application review process.

#### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA)

The following is a non-exhaustive list of actions that can serve as examples of ways proposed projects could incorporate DEIA elements:

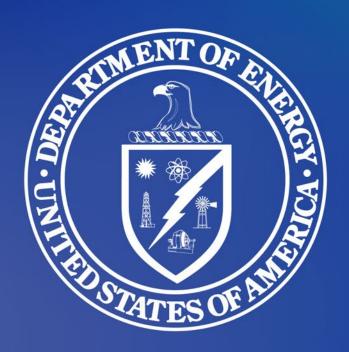
- Include persons from groups underrepresented in STEM as Principal Investigator (PI), Industry Mentor (IM),
   Entrepreneurial Lead (EL) (Section G.ii of lab call) and/or overall project team
- Include faculty or students from Minority Serving Institutions as PI, IM, EL and/or overall project team
- Collaborate with students, researchers, and staff in Minority Serving Institutions as part of customer discovery
- Identify Minority Business Enterprises, Minority Owned Businesses, Woman Owned Businesses, and Veteran Owned Businesses to interview as part of customer discovery.
- Enhance or collaborate with existing diversity programs at your home organization and/or nearby organizations

These examples should not be considered either comprehensive or prescriptive. Applicants may include appropriate actions not covered by these examples.

For additional information on community benefits, please refer to Appendix B of lab call

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## **APPENDICES**



#### **Appendices**



#### **Appendix A: Program Office and Partner Agency Technology Research Areas**

Appendix A of the lab call lists DOE program office and partner agency technology research areas that may be used as reference when completing applications for all lab call topics. These are research areas of interest only and do not mandate applications to fall under the listed research areas.

#### **Appendix B: Community Benefits Guidance**

Appendix B of the lab call is the community benefits guidance. By considering community benefits, applicants can critically think about implications of how the proposed work will benefit the American people and lead to broadly shared prosperity, including for workers and disadvantaged communities. Addressing all aspects of community benefits is encouraged but, <u>DEIA is required.</u>

#### Appendices C & D: Topics 1 & 3 Statement of Work and Spend Plan Template

For topics 1 & 3, selected applicants will go through a negotiations process which will require the development and approval of a statement of work and spend plan. Templates of these documents are included in Appendices C and D and can be used as a resource when completing application documents. They are not required as part of the application.



Specific questions about this lab call should be submitted via email to <a href="mailto:energyicorps@hq.doe.gov">energyicorps@hq.doe.gov</a>.

To ensure fairness across all labs, individual DOE staff cannot answer questions while the lab call remains open.

OTT will post all questions and answers on EERE Exchange.

Questions about Exchange: <a href="mailto:EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov">EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov</a>