## Notice of Intent No. DE-FOA-0002944

# Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0002945

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Industrial Efficiency and Decarbonization Office (IEDO), a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled "Onsite Energy Technical Assistance Partnerships."

EERE's IEDO accelerates the innovation and adoption of cost-effective technologies that eliminate industrial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. IEDO provides planning, management, and direction necessary for a balanced national program of research, development, demonstration, technical assistance, and workforce development to drive energy, materials and production efficiency, and decarbonization across the industrial sector.

Onsite clean energy technologies will play a critical role in advancing the Biden Administration's goals to achieve carbon pollution-free electricity by 2035 and to "deliver an equitable, clean energy future, and put the United States on a path to achieve net-zero emissions, economywide, by no later than 2050. At the same time, industrial sector stakeholders are increasingly seeking technical assistance to identify and deploy onsite technology solutions that can help reach portfolio-wide GHG targets, replace onsite fossil-fueled equipment, and balance resilience requirements. This FOA supports technical assistance for deployment of onsite clean energy technologies, including but not limited to solar photovoltaics, solar thermal, wind power, renewable fuels, geothermal, battery storage, thermal storage, industrial heat pumps, combined heat and power (CHP), district energy, and others.

For nearly two decades, DOE has supported a regional network of technical assistance providers, known as the <u>CHP Technical Assistance Partnerships</u> (CHP TAPs).<sup>1</sup> The CHP TAPs promote and assist in transforming the market for CHP, waste heat to power, and district energy technologies throughout the United States. To meet the evolving needs in the industrial sector, IEDO is initiating a broader TAP program, based on the successful model of the existing CHP TAP program, with the goal of providing similar services for a broader set of technologies through a new Onsite Energy TAP Program.

IEDO conducted <u>initial outreach in August 2022</u> through a Request for Information (RFI) that sought public input on the barriers and pathways to integrating onsite clean energy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/chp/chp-taps

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technologies in the industrial sector.<sup>2</sup> Feedback received through the RFI process helped inform planning for the Onsite Energy TAP Program.

The goal of this FOA is to fund the development and operations of the Onsite Energy TAP Program. The program will build on existing expertise and provide a broad scope of assistance offerings across an extensive solution set that includes renewable energy, storage, and other technologies. The regional Onsite Energy TAPs will replace the existing CHP TAPs with an expanded mission space.

The Onsite Energy TAP Program will operate by providing direct technical services to assist endusers and other stakeholders with identifying technology options for achieving clean energy objectives. Technical services can range from initial site screenings to more advanced analysis to support project installations. The Onsite Energy TAPs will also engage with policymakers, utilities, and other key stakeholders to accelerate pathways for integration of onsite energy technologies. Additional activities will include developing public tools and resources, sharing best practices, and building partnerships that drive decarbonization in the U.S. industrial sector.

It is anticipated that the FOA may include the following topic areas:

### **Topic 1: Regional Onsite Energy TAPs**

The objective of this topic is to fund up to 10 entities to serve as regional Onsite Energy TAPs. Each TAP will represent a multi-state region and serve as the primary technical, market, and policy point of contact for end-users and other state and local stakeholders that engage with the Onsite Energy TAP Program. Responsibilities may include:

- Coordinating activities through the Onsite Energy Technical Analysis and Support Center
- Conducting market and end-user education and engagements
- Developing onsite energy case studies and project profiles
- Contributing to market analysis and technical screenings
- Communicating technical results to end-users
- Identifying and addressing regional barriers to onsite deployment
- Cultivating relationships with regional stakeholders (e.g., policymakers, utilities, etc.)
- Coordinating with IEDO program staff to participate in strategic onsite energy initiatives

#### Multi State Regions

For the purposes of this FOA, EERE will use the same 10 regions as the <u>existing CHP TAP</u> program:

Region 1: VT, NH, ME, MA, RI, CT Region 2: NY, NJ

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.energy.gov/eere/amo/articles/request-information-integration-onsite-clean-energy-technologies-industrial



Region 3: PA, WV, VA DE, MD, DC Region 4: KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS Region 5: MN, WI, MI, IL, IN, OH Region 6: TX, NM, OK, AR, LA Region 7: NE, IA, KS, MO Region 8: UT, CO, WY, MT, ND, SD Region 9: CA, NV, AZ, HI Region 10: WA, OR, ID, AK

## Topic 2: Onsite Energy Technical Analysis and Support Center (TASC)

The objective of this topic is to fund one (1) national entity to serve in the role of Onsite Energy Technical Analysis and Support Center. The TASC will centrally coordinate technical analysis and programmatic activities of the Onsite Energy TAP Program. The TASC will serve as the liaison between the regional Onsite Energy TAPs, the IEDO Program Manager, and national lab experts supporting this program. Responsibilities may include:

- Coordinating regional TAP operations, technical analysis, and program activities
- Conducting initial technology screenings and advanced technical analysis
- Integrating DOE strategic priorities into regional TAP operations
- Providing training and education to regional TAP staff
- Managing onsite program websites and databases
- Contributing to and disseminating informational resources for regional TAP use
- Incorporating workforce development and energy justice priorities into program activities

### Teaming Partner List

IEDO encourages collaboration and diverse partnerships to maximize the impact of work under this FOA. To assist with the formation of project teams demonstrating expertise across a range of technical, market, and policy areas relevant to onsite energy, DOE is compiling a "Teaming Partner List." The Teaming Partner List allows organizations who may wish to participate on an application to express their interest to other applicants and to explore potential partnerships.

Updates to the Teaming Partner List will be available in the EERE Exchange website. The Teaming Partner List will be regularly updated to reflect new teaming partners who have provided their organization's teaming partner information.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Users will see a new section, "Teaming Partners", within the lefthand navigation in eXCHANGE. This page allows users to view published Teaming Partner Lists and any interested party that would like to be included on this list should submit a request within eXCHANGE to join the teaming partner list. Select the appropriate Teaming Partner List from the dropdown and fill in the following information: Investigator Name, Organization Name, Organization Type, Topic Area, Background and Capabilities, Website, Contact Address,

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Contact Email, and Contact Phone. Additional instructions for "How to Submit Teaming Partner List Entry" are available to download in the "Manuals" section of eXCHANGE.

DISCLAIMER: By submitting a request to be included on the Teaming Partner List, the requesting organization consents to the publication of the above-referenced information. By enabling and publishing the Teaming Partner List, DOE is not endorsing, sponsoring, or otherwise evaluating the qualifications of the individuals and organizations that are self-identifying for placement on this Teaming Partner List. DOE will not pay for the provision of any information, nor will it compensate any applicants or requesting organizations for the development of such information.

EERE envisions awarding multiple financial assistance awards in the form of cooperative agreements. The estimated period of performance for each award will be approximately three years.

This Notice is issued so that interested parties are aware of the EERE's intention to issue this FOA in the near term. All of the information contained in this Notice is subject to change. EERE will not respond to questions concerning this Notice. Once the FOA has been released, EERE will provide an avenue for potential Applicants to submit questions.

EERE plans to issue the FOA in late January 2023 via the EERE eXCHANGE website <u>https://eere-eXCHANGE.energy.gov/</u>. If Applicants wish to receive official notifications and information from EERE regarding this FOA, they should register in EERE eXCHANGE. When the FOA is released, applications will be accepted only through EERE eXCHANGE.

In anticipation of the FOA being released, Applicants are advised to complete the following steps, which are **required** for application submission:

 Register and create an account in EERE eXCHANGE at <u>https://eere-eXCHANGE.energy.gov</u>. This account will allow the user to apply to any open EERE FOAs that are currently in EERE eXCHANGE.

To access EERE eXCHANGE, potential applicants will be required to have a <u>Login.gov</u> account. As part of the eXCHANGE registration process, new users are directed to create an account in <u>Login.gov</u>. Please note that the email address associated with Login.gov must match the email address associated with the eXCHANGE account. For more information, refer to the Exchange Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) Quick Guide in the <u>Manuals</u> <u>section</u> of eXCHANGE.

It is recommended that each organization or business unit, whether acting as a team or a single entity, <u>use only</u> one account as the contact point for each submission. Questions

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related to the registration process and use of the EERE Exchange website should be submitted to: <u>EERE-eXCHANGESupport@hq.doe.gov</u>

 Register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <a href="https://www.sam.gov">https://www.sam.gov</a>. Designating an Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an MPIN are important steps in SAM registration. Please update your SAM registration annually. Upon registration, SAM will automatically assign a Unique Entity ID (UEI).

NOTE: Due to the high demand of UEI requests and SAM registrations, entity legal business name and address validations are taking longer than expected to process. Entities should start the UEI and SAM registration process as soon as possible. If entities have technical difficulties with the UEI validation or SAM registration process they should utilize the HELP feature on SAM.gov. SAM.gov will work entity service tickets in the order in which they are received and asks that entities not create multiple service tickets for the same request or technical issue. Additional entity validation resources can be found here: <u>GSAFSD Tier 0 Knowledge Base - Validating your Entity</u>.

- Register in FedConnect at <u>https://www.fedconnect.net/</u>. To create an organization account, your organization's SAM MPIN is required. For more information about the SAM MPIN or other registration requirements, review the FedConnect Ready, Set, Go! Guide at <u>https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/Marketing/Documents/FedConnect\_Ready\_Set\_Go.pdf</u>
- Register in Grants.gov to receive automatic updates when Amendments to a FOA are posted. However, please note that applications <u>will not</u> be accepted through Grants.gov. <u>http://www.grants.gov/</u>. All applications must be submitted through EERE eXCHANGE.

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