

Notice of Intent No. DE-FOA-0001786

Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0001767

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Wind Energy Technologies Office, a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled “U.S. Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium FOA”.

This four year initiative will support and broaden the EERE offshore wind energy research and development (R&D) project portfolio. The U.S. Offshore Wind Consortium Research and Development FOA will solicit an administrator to lead a consortium of stakeholder members committed to collaborative, mutually beneficial R&D focused on addressing U.S.-specific offshore wind technology challenges, including (but not limited to): wind plant technology advancement; wind power resource and physical site characterization; and installation, operations and maintenance, and supply chain technology solutions in order to reduce the cost of offshore wind in the U.S. EERE plans to make a single \$18.5M award with an additional \$2M to be allocated directly from DOE to DOE/NNSA Federally Funded Research and Development Centers to carry out R&D activities prioritized by the consortium.

EERE aims to accelerate the development of offshore wind technologies in the U.S. by supporting fundamental and applied research to reduce the levelized cost of offshore wind energy to successfully compete in regional energy markets. The creation of a cooperative, public-private Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium will maximize the impact of EERE’s research and development funding while addressing the needs of the nascent U.S. offshore wind industry. Through this consortium, EERE will establish shared investment in a portfolio of research projects, ranging from innovative, early-stage conceptual research, to the validation and testing of these innovative concepts. Consequently, EERE is seeking an organization to function as consortium administrator that can:

- Administer competitive solicitations to address the research agenda defined by the consortium members and EERE;
- Attract key industry players as members, with specific focus on attracting offshore wind developers and state entities actively involved in the development of offshore wind;
- Provide strong leadership and establish a robust business model to leverage expertise and external funding; and

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- Serve as a primary point of contact for the consortium, with full accountability to EERE.

The high-level objectives of the Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium include the following:

- Creating a world-leading innovation hub that brings together private and public entities to co-invest in the research, development and validation of innovative offshore wind technologies;
- Attracting a membership body that can develop a prioritized research agenda which will include a diverse portfolio of projects addressing fundamental and applied technology research that is needed to lower the cost of offshore wind energy in the U.S.;
- Maximizing public funds by establishing an industry cost-matching structure, with a minimum ratio of 1-to-1 public to private investment; and
- Ensuring participation in research projects by world-class researchers including those at national laboratories, universities, private industry, not-for-profits, etc., and leveraging relevant existing private and public sector resources and facilities such as industry laboratories, university centers, national laboratories, and other government-supported resources.

EERE also expects the following:

- That the consortium administrator provide the strong leadership necessary to establish a robust business model, and be able to attract research and development membership to participate in the consortium in order to match or exceed federal funding provided;
- In order to maximize federal funding, that the administrative costs of the consortium are kept to a minimum, and capped at no more than 10% of the total consortium funding;
- That the business model employed by the administrator is one that will attract world-class researchers from universities, national laboratories, private industry, etc. for participation in the consortium research agenda and projects.

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

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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 intends to restrict eligibility of prime recipients to non-profit entities, for-profit entities that are incorporated in the U.S., educational institutions, and state and local governments. DOE/NNSA Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) and non-DOE/NNSA FFRDCs will not be allowed to apply as prime recipients, but may participate as consortium members and/or partners.

EERE plans to issue the FOA in December, 2017 via the EERE Exchange website. 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 <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>. This account will allow the user to register for any open EERE FOAs that are currently in EERE Exchange. It is recommended that each organization or business unit, whether acting as a team or a single entity, use only one account as the contact point for each submission.

Questions related to the registration process and use of the EERE Exchange website should be submitted to: EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov

- Obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number (including the plus 4 extension, if applicable) at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>
- Register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov>. 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.
- Register in FedConnect at <https://www.fedconnect.net/>. 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 https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/Marketing/Documents/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf
- Register in Grants.gov to receive automatic updates when Amendments to a FOA are posted. However, please note that applications will not be accepted through Grants.gov. <http://www.grants.gov/>. All applications must be submitted through EERE Exchange.

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