

Notice of Intent No. DE-FOA-0001104

Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement “Biological and Chemical Upgrading for Advanced Biofuels and Products,” No. DE-FOA-0001085

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO), a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled, “Biological and Chemical Upgrading for Advanced Biofuels and Products.”

This FOA seeks diversification of the BETO portfolio to allow for biological, chemical and hybrid upgrading processes (multi step, chemical and biological) that will broadly encompass pathways found under the BETO Conversion – Biochemical Technology Area. While thermochemical pathways will not be considered, all related new chemical and biological concepts, ideas and approaches will be considered. Allowable biomass feed intermediates for this FOA are cellulosic sugars, lignocellulose derivatives, lignin, cellulosic alcohols, bio-solids and biogases produced through the conversion of organic matter from renewable biomass (excluding syngas).

It is anticipated that the FOA may include the following Areas of Interest:

Area of Interest 1: Process development and optimization of a single unit operation for the upgrading of chemically or biologically derived intermediates to fuels and products. (This topic area will focus on single-step biological or chemical upgrading processes.)

Area of Interest 2: Process development and optimization of multiple unit operations for the upgrading and separations of chemically or biologically derived intermediates to fuels and products. (This topic area will focus on hybrid chemical and biological upgrading processes with the integration of separation steps.)

EERE envisions awarding multiple financial assistance awards in the form of cooperative agreements. The estimated period of performance for each award will be up to 36 months.

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 on or about April 15th, 2014, via the EERE Exchange website (<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>). 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.

This is a Notice of Intent (NOI) only. DOE may issue a FOA as described herein, may issue a FOA that is significantly different than the FOA described herein, or DOE may not issue a FOA at all.

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/PublicPages/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.

This is a Notice of Intent (NOI) only. DOE may issue a FOA as described herein, may issue a FOA that is significantly different than the FOA described herein, or DOE may not issue a FOA at all.