Notice of Intent No. DE-FOA-0001103

Notice of Intent to Issue
Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0001098

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Wind & Water Power Technologies Office (WWPTO), a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled “Marine and Hydrokinetic (MHK) Research and Development University Consortium.”

The mission of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Wind and Water Power Technologies Office’s Water Power Program (the Program) is to research, develop, and test innovative technologies capable of generating renewable, environmentally responsible, and cost-effective electricity from U.S. water resources. These include Marine and Hydrokinetic (MHK) technologies that harness the energy from waves and from tidal, river, and ocean currents.

Through a balanced portfolio approach, the Program makes strategic investments in the MHK subprogram, including transformational technology innovations that seek to maximize generation from water power resources and address key market deployment and environmental impact challenges, while compressing technology development timelines of MHK devices in order to reduce the 2011 Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE) costs from 61 - 77 (cents per kilowatt hour) ¢/kWh (wave) and 47 - 53 ¢/kWh (tidal) to local hurdle rates of 12 - 15 ¢/kWh by 2030.

This anticipated FOA is to support a university consortium to leverage existing in-situ Research and Development (R&D) expertise to advance U.S. MHK technology, while developing intellectual capital for a globally-competitive workforce. The individual consortium-defined R&D activities pursued in the overall university consortium project will address strategic opportunities in DOE’s MHK technology development portfolio.

In applying, an eligible university consortium must demonstrate capabilities and expertise in R&D to fill strategic opportunities within the Program’s portfolio including:
• Logistics development for operations and maintenance (O&M) of devices and arrays in energetic marine environments.
• Development and validation of efficient high-fidelity resource characterization and/or modeling techniques.
• Development and techno-economic studies of devices for distributed applications.
• Component technology development necessary for enabling arrays: e.g. moorings and foundations, transmission, and other offshore grid components.
• Array performance testing and evaluation.
• In-water testing and evaluation of new, cost-effective environmental monitoring techniques and instrumentation in energetic marine environments.

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