

Request for Information (RFI): Draft Marine and Hydrokinetic Program Strategy

DATE: December 21, 2016
SUBJECT: Request for Information (RFI) DE-FOA-0001721

Description

The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Water Power Technologies Office (WPTO) is seeking input from stakeholders on a draft Marine and Hydrokinetic (MHK) Program strategy.

Background

DOE's WPTO is developing an MHK Program strategy that looks ahead from the present through the near, mid and long-term. The strategy will guide EERE's efforts to effectively address barriers to commercialization and accelerate the deployment of promising MHK technologies. Stakeholder input received during a public meeting on April 27, 2016 and an earlier RFI (DE-FOA-0001570) were used to refine WPTO's MHK Program strategy, which can be found as a supporting document to this RFI uploaded on EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>. EERE is requesting additional feedback on this topic, as WPTO moves to finalize the MHK Program strategy.

Purpose

The purpose of this RFI is to solicit feedback from industry, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and other stakeholders on how to improve the draft MHK Program strategy so that it can be most impactful for the nation. The draft MHK Program strategy can be found as a supporting document to this RFI uploaded on EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>. EERE is specifically interested in information on core challenges for the industry and the approaches, strategic goals, and ongoing and future phases WPTO has proposed to support MHK commercialization in the United States. This is solely a request for information and not a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). EERE is not accepting applications.

Disclaimer and Important Notes

This RFI is not a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA); therefore, EERE is not accepting applications at this time. EERE may issue a FOA in the future based on or related to the content

This is a Request for Information (RFI) only. EERE will not pay for information provided under this RFI and no project will be supported as a result of this RFI. This RFI is not accepting applications for financial assistance or financial incentives. EERE may or may not issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) based on consideration of the input received from this RFI.

and responses to this RFI; however, EERE may also elect not to issue a FOA. There is no guarantee that a FOA will be issued as a result of this RFI. Responding to this RFI does not provide any advantage or disadvantage to potential applicants if EERE chooses to issue a FOA regarding the subject matter. Final details, including the anticipated award size, quantity, and timing of EERE funded awards, will be subject to Congressional appropriations and direction.

Any information obtained as a result of this RFI is intended to be used by the Government on a non-attribution basis for planning and strategy development; this RFI does not constitute a formal solicitation for proposals or abstracts. Your response to this notice will be treated as information only. EERE will review and consider all responses in its formulation of program strategies for the identified materials of interest that are the subject of this request. EERE will not provide reimbursement for costs incurred in responding to this RFI. Respondents are advised that EERE is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted under this RFI. Responses to this RFI do not bind EERE to any further actions related to this topic.

Proprietary Information

Because information received in response to this RFI may be used to structure future programs and FOAs and/or otherwise be made available to the public, **respondents are strongly advised to NOT include any information in their responses that might be considered business sensitive, proprietary, or otherwise confidential.** If, however, a respondent chooses to submit business sensitive, proprietary, or otherwise confidential information, it must be clearly and conspicuously marked as such in the response.

Responses containing confidential, proprietary, or privileged information must be conspicuously marked as described below. Failure to comply with these marking requirements may result in the disclosure of the unmarked information under the Freedom of Information Act or otherwise. The U.S. Federal Government is not liable for the disclosure or use of unmarked information, and may use or disclose such information for any purpose.

If your response contains confidential, proprietary, or privileged information, you must include a cover sheet marked as follows identifying the specific pages containing confidential, proprietary, or privileged information:

Notice of Restriction on Disclosure and Use of Data:

Pages [List Applicable Pages] of this response may contain confidential, proprietary, or privileged information that is exempt from public disclosure. Such information shall be used or disclosed only for the purposes described in this RFI [Enter RFI Number]. The

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Government may use or disclose any information that is not appropriately marked or otherwise restricted, regardless of source.

In addition, (1) the header and footer of every page that contains confidential, proprietary, or privileged information must be marked as follows: “Contains Confidential, Proprietary, or Privileged Information Exempt from Public Disclosure” and (2) every line and paragraph containing proprietary, privileged, or trade secret information must be clearly marked with double brackets or highlighting.

Evaluation and Administration by Federal and Non-Federal Personnel

Federal employees are subject to the non-disclosure requirements of a criminal statute, the Trade Secrets Act, 18 USC 1905. The Government may seek the advice of qualified non-Federal personnel. The Government may also use non-Federal personnel to conduct routine, nondiscretionary administrative activities. The respondents, by submitting their response, consent to EERE providing their response to non-Federal parties. Non-Federal parties given access to responses must be subject to an appropriate obligation of confidentiality prior to being given the access. Submissions may be reviewed by support contractors and private consultants.

Request for Information Questions

Question 1: Are you supportive of the WPTO’s MHK Program strategy, which can be found as a supporting document to this RFI uploaded on EERE Exchange at <https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov/>.

Question 2: What areas of the Program strategy are of particular importance to you? Please provide specifics.

Request for Information Response Guidelines

Responses to this RFI must be submitted electronically to MHKRFI@ee.doe.gov no later than 5:00pm (ET) on February 28, 2017. Responses must be provided as attachments to an email. It is recommended that attachments with file sizes exceeding 25MB be compressed (i.e., zipped) to ensure message delivery. Responses must be provided as a Microsoft Word (.docx) attachment to the email, and no more than 3 pages in length, 12 point font, 1 inch margins. Only electronic responses will be accepted.

Please associate your responses to specific core challenges, approaches, strategic goals, and ongoing and future phases WPTO has proposed to support MHK commercialization in the United States.

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EERE will not respond to individual submissions or publish publicly a compendium of responses. A response to this RFI will not be viewed as a binding commitment to develop or pursue the project or ideas discussed.

Respondents are requested to provide the following information at the start of their response to this RFI:

- Company / institution name;
- Company / institution contact;
- Contact's address, phone number, and e-mail address.

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