

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

s/ PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERAL FAQs SECTION OF ARPA-E'S WEBSITE (<http://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=faq/general-questions>) FOR ANSWERS TO MANY GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT ARPA-E AND ARPA-E'S FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS FOA ONLY ARE INCLUDED BELOW. PLEASE REVIEW ALL EXISTING GENERAL FAQs AND FOA-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BEFORE SUBMITTING NEW QUESTIONS TO ARPA-E.

### I. Full Application Phase Questions:

**Q1. [D]o you include photosynthesis and subsequent soil carbon sequestration in the "Direct Removal of Carbon Dioxide from Ambient Air?"**

**ANSWER:** Section 2 of Appendix P (page 165) states, "In comparison to negative emissions strategies that use biomass, DAC systems do not compete with agriculture for land." Section 2.B of Appendix P (page 166) states, "Direct air capture may be done using solvents, sorbents, and/or membranes."

Thus, photosynthesis and soil carbon sequestration are not considered direct air capture as defined in this FOA, and ARPA-E will not consider concepts that rely on photosynthesis and soil carbon sequestration for selection under this FOA.

**Q2. I am interested to submit a proposal on using [description omitted]. The question is whether such novel application will qualify for ARPA-E funding?**

**ANSWER:** ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicant's proposal. Prospective applicants must review the technical requirements of the FOA and independently determine whether their proposed concept warrants a submission.

**Q3. ... I have a quick question about DE-FOA-0001953 – are subawards for foreign collaborators allowed, e.g. if processed through a domestic university ... ?**

**ANSWER:** Refer to FOA Section III.A.3 and, in particular, the text on p.18 addressing the requirement for a foreign work waiver.

**Q4 . I have two quick questions for Topic P of DAC. First, for a proof of concept demonstration project, what would be a reasonable demonstration period for a 2-year project after a proposed system is stabilized? Second, what would be a recommended air flow rate range for such a proof of concept project?**

**ANSWER:** Refer to STINPA Topic P FAQ 2.

**Q5. Does an applicant need to submit a proposal to one of the three Technical Area of Interest starting from p.165 or across multiple areas? On p.165 [Appendix P, Section 2.B], the FOA states that "ARPA-E seeks to catalyze technology discoveries by supporting projects focused on one or more of the following areas:" ...**

**ANSWER:** As set forth in the text: ... *projects focused on one or more (emphasis added) of the following areas ...*

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**Q6. In regards to the solicitation for Direct Removal of Carbon Dioxide from Ambient Air, does emission measurements qualify as an appropriate response to the solicitation?**

**ANSWER:** No.

**Q7. What do the “embodied emissions (as % of lifecycle captured emissions)” mean in the table [in Appendix P, Section 2.A]?**

**ANSWER:** Embodied emissions are greenhouse gas emissions associated with the direct air capture system, such as emissions resulting from construction, operation, maintenance, etc. of the system.

**Q8. I am trying to understand how the funding will be provided, should our proposal be selected for award negotiation. Our Project Team is composed of a FFRDC as the lead organization, and a large business that will perform no more than 20% of the work and provide the reduced cost share of 10%. Page 15 of the FOA [Section II.C.3] states:**

*When a FFRDC/DOE Lab (including the National Energy Technology Laboratory or NETL) is the lead organization for a Project Team, ARPA-E executes a funding agreement directly with the FFRDC/DOE Lab and a single, separate Cooperative Agreement with the rest of the Project Team.*

**Does this mean that the funding for the large business will be provided directly to them from ARPA-E, or will the funding still need to be routed through [the] FFRDC? ...**

**ANSWER:** Any monies awarded to the large business will be provided by separate agreement. Also be aware that FOA Section III.B.3 states: ... *any entity (such as a large business) receiving patent rights under a class waiver, or other patent waiver, that is part of a Project Team receiving this reduction must continue to meet the statutory minimum cost share requirement (20%) for its portion of the Total Project Cost.*

**Q9. What date is anticipated for the the awarded project expected to start?**

**ANSWER:** Approximately 100 calendar days following selection for award negotiations (i.e., February 2021), depending upon the result of award negotiations.