

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

TITLE: GHG Emission Factor Development Project for Selected Sources in the Natural Gas Industry

ACTION: Request for Proposals (RFP)

RFP NO: EPA-OAR-CCD-07-05

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NO: 66.034

SUMMARY: Formal Agency responses to questions regarding the subject RFP

DATE: May 29, 2007

Eligibility of Applicants

Q1: Are private companies eligible to receive this cooperative agreement?

A1: No. Proposals will be accepted from States, local governments, territories, Indian Tribes, possessions of the U.S., including the District of Columbia, international organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories and other public or private non-profit institutions. Proposals submitted by for-profit companies will not be considered.

Q2: Are multilateral organizations eligible for this cooperative agreement?

A2: Yes. As an international organization, multilateral organizations are eligible to submit proposals.

Q3: Are international governments eligible for this cooperative agreement?

A3: Yes. Non-U.S. government entities are eligible to submit proposals. Government entities at the national regional, local and municipal levels are all eligible.

Q4: Are companies that are wholly state-owned and run entities eligible to receive funding under this cooperative agreement?

A4: It depends. If the companies are non-profit, then they would be eligible to receive funding. However, there are many that are for-profit even though they are wholly state-owned. Those companies, because they are for-profit, are ineligible to receive funds under this cooperative agreement.

Eligibility of Proposals

Q5: *Do proposals have to address all emissions sources listed in Table 1 of the solicitation in order to be eligible for funding under this cooperative agreement?*

A5: Yes. This cooperative agreement seeks to develop default methane emission factors for all sources listed in Table 1. Only those proposals that address all of these sources will be considered eligible for funding under this cooperative agreement.

Table 1. Priority List of Emission Sources for the Development of Default Methane Emission Factors

Industry Segment	Emissions Sources	Estimated Timing of Work
Production	Well Clean Ups	2009-2011
	Completion Flaring	2009-2011
	Well Workovers	2009-2011
	Pipeline Leaks	2009-2011
Processing	Recip compressors (fugitive)	2007-2008
	Cent. Compressors (fugitive)	2007-2008
Transmission and Storage	Recip. Compressors (fugitive)	2007-2008
	Pneumatic Devices (vent)	2007-2008
	Cent. Compressor (fugitive)	2007-2008
	Cent. Compress (storage)	2007-2008
Distribution	Meter and Regulating Stations	2007-2008
	Residential customer meters	2009-2011
	Mains-plastic	2009-2011
	Services-plastic	2009-2011

Q6: *Are proposals outlining measurement studies for emissions sources not included in Table 1 eligible for funding? For example, would a study to develop methane emission factors for glycol dehydrators be eligible for funding?*

A6: No. Proposals to conduct measurement studies for emissions sources not included in Table 1 are not eligible for funding. Measurement studies for glycol dehydrators, for example, are outside the scope of this RFP and will not be considered.

Process and Selection

Q7: How many grants will be awarded and how much money is available under this RFP?

A7: EPA anticipates up to approximately three awards ranging in value from approximately \$75,000 to \$175,000, subject to the availability of funds and quality of evaluated proposals.

Q8: What is the largest project budget that will be considered under this RFP?

A8: The awarded cooperative agreements will range from \$75,000 to \$175,000 and will have a project period of one to five years. The total awarded amount from all awards will not exceed \$500,000.

Q9: Can I submit more than one proposal?

A9: Yes. Entities may submit as many project proposals as they want. These proposals will be reviewed separately and based on their own merit though, not as a part of a group of proposals.

Q10: How will the proposals be reviewed and selected?

A10: EPA will convene a review team to evaluate all eligible proposals using the criteria listed in the RFP. Each proposal will be given a numerical score, with a total of 100 points possible. The criteria and possible number of points associated with each criterion are:

REVIEW CRITERIA	MAXIMUM POINT
SCORE	
Project Summary/Approach	50
Past Performance— Programmatic Capability and Reporting on Environmental Results	20
Environmental Results- Outcomes and Outputs	15
Budget/Funds Leveraging	15
TOTAL	100

The proposals will be rank ordered according to their numerical score, and preliminary funding recommendations will be developed based on this ranking. The Approving Official will make final funding decisions.

Q11: Are matching funds required as a part of the proposal?

A11: No. There is no statutory or regulatory match requirement under this RFP. All proposals, regardless of whether matching funds or in-kind resources are included, will be reviewed and evaluated. However, EPA will evaluate whether costs are *reasonable*

and commensurate with activities proposed. Under leveraging, applicants will be evaluated based on the Budget/ Leveraging criterion, as set forth in Section V of the RFP.

Q12: What is the deadline for submitting a proposal?

A12: The closing date for receipt of proposals is **July 16, 2007, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.** All proposals, however transmitted, must be received in the Program Office or through Grants.gov by the closing date and time to receive consideration. No late proposals will be accepted.

Q13: How competitive was the process last year?

A13: This is the first year for the cooperative agreement solicitation process so we do not have historical information regarding the competitiveness of this solicitation.

General Information

Q14: This solicitation seeks to support research and, as appropriate, measurement studies to update selected methane emissions factors from the study, “Methane Emissions from the Natural Gas Industry” (GRI/EPA 1996). Where can I find more information about this 1996 study?

A14: All 15 volumes of the study co-sponsored by the Gas Research Institute (now the Gas Technology Institute) and EPA can be found on EPA’s website at <http://www.epa.gov/gasstar/reports.htm>