Recommend the response be **10** pages. See the formatting recommendations in Section III.A.

1. **Technical Merit and Need**
2. Describes the competitive advantages of the proposed approach/strategy/technology over that currently being used by other researchers or stakeholders (e.g., efficiency, emissions, durability, cost, equity).
3. Describes how the project will meet or exceed the technical specifications set by the federal funding opportunity.
4. Describes the technology readiness level (TRL) and scale the proposed technology has achieved and the expected results by the end of the project (for projects proposing use of advanced technologies).
5. Describes path to market and how the proposed approach/strategy/technology will lead to its increased adoption by key stakeholders in California (e.g. policy-makers, project developers, other researchers, etc.).
6. **Technical Approach**
7. Describes the approach and methods to be used in performing the work described in the Scope of Work, adequacy of time, funds, and other resources.
8. Provides a clear and concise description of the metrics to assess project performance, baseline and target values of these metrics. Identifies potential technical risks and mitigation strategies.
9. Describes how measurements and verification will be carried out, data that will be gathered and shared with stakeholders and the public.
10. Provides information documenting permitting required and progress towards achieving compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by addressing the areas in Section I.H and Section III.C.5. Provides information documenting federal permitting required and progress towards achieving compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
11. Demonstrates availability of test/host sites, if applicable.
12. Describes local community and labor engagement and impacts consistent with federal funding opportunity requirements.
13. **Impacts and Benefits for California**

Explains how the proposed project will benefit California and provides clear, plausible, and justifiable (quantitative preferred) potential benefits. Estimates the benefits (by the end of project term and when deployed at scale) compared to other approaches/strategies/ technologies including:

* Energy consumption: estimate kWh/metric ton or Btu/metric ton for captured carbon
* Electricity load shifting/peak load reduction
* Financial performance (e.g., net present value, payback period, ROI)
* Zero carbon fuel use
* Carbon dioxide capture efficiency
* Criteria pollutant reductions
* Water use, including use of non-potable water
* Carbon dioxide conversion to useful products
* Safety
* Under resourced communities
* Permitting and CEQA

1. **Team Qualifications, Capabilities, and Resources**

Evaluations of ongoing or previous projects including project performance by applicant and team members will be used in scoring for this criterion. This can include contacting references.

1. Identifies credentials of prime and any subcontractor key personnel, including the project manager, principal investigator and technology and knowledge transfer lead (include this information in the Project Team Form).
2. Demonstrates that the project team has appropriate qualifications, experience, financial stability and capability to complete the project.
3. Explains the team structure and how various tasks will be managed and coordinated.
4. Describes the facilities, infrastructure, and resources available that directly support the project.
5. Describes the team’s history of successfully completing projects in the past 10 years including subsequent deployments and commercialization.
6. **Budget and Cost-Effectiveness**
7. Budget forms are complete as instructed in Section III.
8. Justifies the reasonableness of the requested funds relative to the project goals, objectives, and tasks.
9. Justifies the reasonableness of direct costs (e.g., labor, fringe benefits, equipment, materials & misc. travel, and subcontractors).
10. Justifies the reasonableness of indirect costs (e.g., overhead, facility charges (e.g., rent, utilities), burdens, subcontractor profit, and other like costs).
11. Explains how the applicant will maximize funds for technical tasks necessary to achieve the milestones described in the Project Narrative and minimize expenditure of funds for program administration and overhead.
12. **State and Federal Funds Spent in California**

Points for this criterion will be assigned based on the formula and table in the Section IV of the solicitation manual.

1. **Disadvantaged/Low-Income Communities and/or Tribes**
   1. Describes community benefits plan that demonstrates societal benefits and measures to mitigate negative impacts and is supported by Workforce and Community Agreements as described in the federal funding opportunity.
   2. Includes analysis and engagement with local communities to address their concerns. Provide letters of support from community based organizations and communities.
   3. Demonstrates integration of the community benefits plan, project schedule, and other key documents.
   4. Demonstrates that community-based organizations, disadvantaged/low-income community(ies) and/or Tribe(s) are included as core partners of the project and affirm support.