See the formatting recommendations in Part III, Section A.

The Project Narrative must respond to each sub-criterion below.

# **Technical Merit and Need**

1. Describe the facility including food products produced and the function the affected equipment or systems serve in the facility.
2. What technology(ies) will be implemented?
3. Describe how the technology(ies) will reduce GHG emissions, energy reductions, and provide grid support in each plant identified in your application.
4. Justify why the proposed technology(ies) meets all the following:
* Commercially available.
* Energy efficient equipment that is drop-in replacement or addition to current systems.
* Result in greater GHG emission reductions, energy efficiency, and/or grid support than current best practices or industry-standard equipment.
* Provide a clear and concise description of the technological or scientific knowledge advancement, and/or innovation that will overcome barriers to achieving the State’s statutory energy goals.

**OR**

* Commercially available cutting-edge emerging technology, not widely used in California, not drop in ready replacement equipment or addition, and how it will lead to technological advancement.
* **Has a minimum technology readiness level 8 or higher that has been commercially proven elsewhere in similar food processing facilities with documented results of continued performance of at least 12 months.**
* Result in greater GHG emission reductions, energy efficiency, and/or grid support than current best practices or industry-standard equipment.
* Provide a clear and concise description of the technological or scientific knowledge advancement, and/or innovation that will overcome barriers to achieving the State’s statutory energy goals.

# **Technical Approach**

1. Describe the technique, approach, and methods to be used in performing all work.
2. Summarize the key tasks from the scope of work and discuss how past experiences will lead to the successful implementation of the project.
3. Identify and discuss the factors critical for success including:
* Risks, barriers, environmental permitting requirements, CEQA, food processing scheduling, funding, and other limitations and how these will be mitigated to complete the project within the grant term. Discuss any outstanding permitting issues (e.g., local air district), local community issues, or equipment performance tests to be completed prior to equipment installation at the facility(ies) and how and when these matters will be resolved.
* How the facility(ies) can handle and deal with events such as COVID-19, include impact on energy use, operating schedule and budgets, staffing, volume, and type of products produced, and any other impacts that could affect the successful implementation of the proposed project. Discuss how these impacts have been handled in the past or will be mitigated to improve the chance of project success
* How the facility(ies) will overcome potential equipment supply chain, lack of availability of equipment installers, increasing equipment cost and other project impacts.
1. What is the M&V plan for determining how GHG emission reductions, energy savings, grid support, and other benefits will be determined and verified once the funded equipment or systems are installed? Include a discussion of the minimum M&V duration needed to justify emission/energy reductions and how this would be accommodated during processing periods.
2. Provide team qualifications, capabilities, and resources.
	* Explain the team structure and how various tasks will be managed and coordinated. Include all prime and subcontractor key personnel along with M&V key members.
	* Describe the facility(ies) infrastructure and resources available that directly support the project.
	* If the applicant is the operator of the food processing facility(ies) but not the building owner, explain the relationship to the building owner and the disposition of any grant funded equipment.
	* Note: Evaluations of ongoing or previous CEC-funded projects, including project performance by applicant and team members, will be considered in scoring this criterion.
3. **Impacts and Benefits**
4. For each plant, provide all calculations and assumptions for the following:
* Quantitative estimates of GHG emissions emitted by existing equipment or systems to be affected or replaced due to your grant application.
* Quantitative estimates of annual electricity usage, energy costs, and peak loads by existing equipment or systems to be affected or replaced due to your grant application.
* Quantitative estimates of the annual GHG emission reductions in metric tons of CO2 reduced (CO2e) as a result of the technologies being implemented.
* Quantitative reduction estimates of electricity usage (kWh), energy costs, and peak load and /or shifting (kW) as a result of the technologies being implemented. Ensure to include any infrastructure reliability and resiliency benefits as well.
* Quantitative estimates of other potential benefits, such as fossil fuel and thermal savings (kWh, Btus, therms), other quantifiable air emission reductions (e.g., criteria pollutants such as NOx), water savings, system resiliency, safety increases, and any other quantifiable co-benefits[[1]](#footnote-2).
* Provide justification for all assumptions and why they are reasonable.
* Summarize information in item 3a by completing the FPIP Benefits Calculator (Attachment 8) – the latest FPIP Benefits Calculator Tool is available for download at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cci-resources>.
1. What is the ratio of dollars spent to potential GHG emission reductions for facility(ies)? This ratio should be the grant request amount (excluding match funds) from Attachment 1 divided by the estimates of GHG emissions. Show all assumptions and calculations.
2. What is the timeframe, assumptions, and calculations for the estimated benefits, and explain why you believe they are reasonable. Provide all calculations and summarize results in Attachment 8.
3. **If required in the technology description column in Section II.B.2, provide the requested information, such as, an economics/costs plan with the required detail.**
4. **Market Potential and Information Sharing**
5. What are the other industrial sectors/facilities in California that can use the technology(ies) being funded, including size and penetration or deployment rates, and underlying assumptions, timeline and assumptions used to support the estimates of market potential?
6. Explain how the knowledge gained from the project will be shared with others. Discuss how the facility has previously shared information on energy projects implemented with food processors, such as at meetings and workshops.
7. **California-Based Vendors**
8. Discuss whether the equipment listed in Attachment 5 will be purchased from a California-based vendor, including the following:
* Estimated equipment cost from California-based vendors
* Total equipment cost (California and non-California-based vendors)

**Preference Points**

1. **Priority Populations**
2. Explain how the project(s) meet the requirements of Section III.C.2.a in the Solicitation Manual for priority populations. All plants listed in the application must meet the requirements for priority populations in order to get points for this criterion. Complete the following for each plant in your application:
* Step 1: Identify the Priority Population(s). Be located within a census tract identified as a disadvantaged community or low-income community, or directly benefit residents of a low-income household. The following web link provides interactive maps to aid in determining geographic eligibility for disadvantaged and low-income communities: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cci-communityinvestments>
* Step 2: Address a Need. Meaningfully address an important community or household need for the identified priority population(s). The applicant must document the approach for determining community needs and the level of engagement and how community input was considered in the project design. An alternative to direct community engagement is to identify individual factors in CalEnviroScreen that most impact a disadvantaged or low-income community, receive documentation of broad support for a proposed project local community based organizations and residents, or select a need from the list of common needs[[2]](#footnote-3) and document broad support from local community-based organizations and/or residents.
* Step 3: Provide a Benefit. Identify at least one direct, meaningful, and assured benefit that the project provides to priority populations. Projects must meet at least one of the following benefit criteria[[3]](#footnote-4):
1. Project provides energy efficiency upgrades to residents of a disadvantaged or low-income community or a low-income household;
2. Project provides renewable energy and direct energy cost savings to residents of disadvantaged or low-income communities, or low-income households;
3. Project reduces on-site criteria air pollutant or toxic air contaminant emissions through reduction of fossil fuel consumption via efficiency improvements or electrification;
4. Project reinvests energy or fuel cost savings that would otherwise be realized by the funding recipient into the same disadvantaged or low-income community, or to low-income households, to provide direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to residents;
5. Project includes recruitment, agreements, policies, or other approaches that are consistent with federal and state law and result in at least 25 percent of project work hours performed by residents of a disadvantaged or low-income community, or by residents of low-income households;
6. Project includes recruitment, agreements, policies, or other approaches that are consistent with federal and state law and result in at least 10 percent of project work hours performed by residents of a disadvantaged or low-income community, or by residents of low-income households, participating in job training programs which lead to industry-recognized credentials or certifications.

**Note: Priority population benefits criteria are subject to change and can be found on the Priority Population Benefits Criteria Table on the CCI Quantification, Benefits, and Reporting Materials webpage** [**www.arb.ca.gov/cci-quantification**](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cci-quantification)**.**

Preference points will be awarded based on whether all the plants in the application meet all the requirements indicated in CARB guidance which is posted at the following: [www.arb.ca.gov/cci-funding](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cci-funding) guidelines. If all plants in the application meet all three steps, then the proposal will obtain preference points. There will be no proration of points if some plants meet the requirement and others do not.

1. **Electric Grid Benefits**
2. Explain how the project(s) meet the requirements of Section III.C.2.c in the Solicitation Manual to benefit California’s electrical grid. This can be shown by measures to reduce annual electricity (kilowatt-hour) during peak periods, impact energy costs, reduce peak load and/or result in shedding/shifting (demand response) load to off peak periods, improvements to grid infrastructure resiliency, and reliability. State the timeframe, assumptions with sources, and calculations for the estimated benefits, and explain their reasonableness. Include baseline or “business as usual” over timeframe. Be sure to include any specific programs which the technology intends to leverage (e.g., feed-in tariffs, IOU rebates, demand response, storage procurement) and extent to which technology meets program requirement.
* Give the ratio of the total annual energy reduced (kilowatt-hour) and/or generated during the facility’s utility rate peak periods over the facility(ies) total annual electrical usage during the facility’s utility rate peak periods. Additionally, explain whether these reductions are resulting from energy efficiency or load flexibility projects and explain whether the reduction and/or generation are occurring continually or only during peak periods.
1. CARB Co-Benefits [[www.arb.ca.gov/cci-cobenefits](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cci-cobenefits)](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cci-cobenefits) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See Examples of Common Needs of Priority Populations in the Funding Guidelines [www.arb.ca.gov/cci-fundingguidelines](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cci-fundingguidelines) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. See to the Energy Efficiency or Renewable Energy Evaluation Criteria in the Funding Guidelines <https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/auctionproceeds/ccidoc/criteriatable/criteria-table-eere.pdf?_ga=2.156650299.1602708917.1526276473-361977704.1519737075> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)