The Project Narrative must include a table of contents (which will not count towards the page limitations, if any) and a detailed description of the proposed project, its operational goals and objectives, and an explanation of how these will be implemented through the tasks described in the Scope of Work. Applicants must address each of the scoring criteria described in this solicitation by providing sufficient, unambiguous detail so that the evaluation team will be able to evaluate the application against each scoring criterion.

The narrative should be written in straightforward language and be formatted using 11-point Arial font and 1” margins. Please scale your proposal narrative to the complexity of your project. Proposals should avoid the use of technical or discipline-specific jargon. Spell out any acronyms that are not universally understood.

The Project Narrative must include information on the amount of change (decrease or increase) of greenhouse gas or criteria air pollutant emissions expected to result from the project.

The Project Narrative must respond directly to each criterion with the headings as titled below, and must include the following information:

**1. Statement of Financial Need**

The application identifies, documents, and justifies the degree to which DEBA funding is essential to address market and financial barriers that hinder project development in the absence of state assistance from the DEBA Program, due to factors such as:

* Existing and anticipated revenue streams, including Resource Adequacy contracts, and the timelines for qualifying for these.
* Ability to access feasible project financing.

**2**. **Contribution to Reliability**

The application will be evaluated on:

1. The additional capacity (in MW) the project can deliver.
2. The number of hours generally and during peak load hours (between the hours of 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.) that the project would be capable of operating.
3. The degree to which:
4. The project will support grid reliability during peak load.
5. The project will (1) restore capacity to offset ambient derates due to high ambient temperature, (2) increase nameplate capacity or power output from the facility, or (3) both.
6. The project will leverage the existing interconnection to integrate the incremental power resulting from the project (please describe the existing interconnection for the facility).
7. The incremental capacity incentivized by DEBA will be committed to the Resource Adequacy (or other similar) market and on what timeline.
8. The incremental capacity incentivized by DEBA will be able to serve load through the bulk transmission grid without substantially impacting other reliability assets under net peak load.
9. Successful performance during emergency events may be impacted by any reasonable limitations or exceptions.
10. **Project Readiness and Workplan**

The application will be evaluated on:

1. The estimated date by which the project will be complete and fully operational.
2. The degree to which the proposal justifies this timeline.
3. Each of the following aspects of the workplan:
4. A reasonable approach to performing the work by the estimated project completion date with a clear description of all project tasks and subtasks, with identified outcomes and deliverables.
5. The location of the project, including whether the project is located on the site of an existing power generator and site control has been obtained.
6. Any required ministerial or discretionary permits or other entitlements for use and associated CEQA studies (e.g., exemption, initial study, negative declaration, environmental impact report) for the project, including a permitting schedule that ensures successful project completion within the timeframes specified in the project workplan and timeline.
7. Any utility or balancing authority interconnection studies or approvals, or both, that must be completed for the project to begin operations, including a schedule that ensures successful project completion within the timeframes specified in the project workplan and timeline.
8. Any additional factors that may impact project completion within the timeframes specified in the project workplan and timeline, including, but not limited to: risks, barriers, supply chain issues, schedules for operations, climate or weather considerations, financing, and other limitations, and how these will be addressed to successfully complete the project within the estimated project timeline.
9. **Climate and Air Quality Requirements**

The application will be evaluated on the degree to which:

1. The application describes any existing required greenhouse gas or other emissions reporting requirements that apply to the facility.
2. The installation and operation of the project (1) will result in a net decrease in greenhouse gas or criteria air pollutant emissions; or (2) will not result in an increase in greenhouse gas or criteria air pollutant emissions in California.
3. The completion of the project will result in any required modifications of air permits.

**Project Budget and Cost Effectiveness**

The application will be evaluated on the degree to which:

1. The proposed project’s budget minimizes DEBA funding per MW of the proposed incremental rated capacity.
2. The proposed match funding is documented, already secured, reasonable, available, and verifiable.
3. The financial ability of the Applicant and key project partners to successfully implement the proposed project and continue operations for the duration of the DEBA contract term and beyond.
4. The financial plan identifies project risks and effective strategies to manage and mitigate those risks.
5. The budget is reasonable, and the budget forms are filled out completely and accurately.

**Reporting and Measurement and Verification Plan**

The application will be evaluated on the degree to which:

1. The performance of the project during an emergency event will be demonstrable through a clear and reasonable reporting and measurement and verification plan (such as dates and times power is bid into the market and the amount of additional power generated), including metering, documentation, and CEC’s ability to verify.
2. The timeline required for obtaining and reporting the relevant emergency performance data to the CEC for verification is timely (by January 1st of the following calendar year) and reasonable.