See the formatting recommendations in Part III, Section A.

Solicitation Managers should select the sub-criteria below which are relevant most relevant to the solicitation. The sub-criteria have been categorized by solicitation type – Applied Research and Development, Technology Demonstration and Deployment, and Non-Technology Development. Solicitation managers should also ensure the sub-criteria here, including any changes to the sub-criteria, match the scoring criteria in the solicitation manual.

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

**Technical Merit**

1. The proposed project provides a clear and concise description of the technological, scientific knowledge advancement, and/or innovation that will overcome barriers to achieving the State’s statutory energy goals.
2. Provides the proposed technical specifications and describe how the project will meet or exceed the technical specifications by the end of the project.
3. Describe how the proposed field experiments or pilot testing will be used by key stakeholders (e.g. policy-makers, project developers, other researchers, etc.).
4. Describes the advantage of the proposed study over that currently being used by key stakeholders.

**Technical Approach**

1. Proposal describes the technique, approach, and methods to be used in performing the work described in the Scope of Work.
2. The Scope of Work identifies goals, objectives, and deliverables, details the work to be performed, and aligns with the information presented in Project Narrative.
3. Proposal identifies the reliability that the project and site recommendations as described will be carried out if funds are awarded.
4. Identifies and discusses factors critical for success, in addition to risks, barriers, and limitations (e.g. loss of demonstration site, key subrecipients). Provides a plan to address them.
5. Discusses the degree to which the proposed work is technically feasible and achievable within the proposed Project Schedule and the key activities schedule in Section I.E.
6. Describes the knowledge transfer plan, including how key stakeholders and potential users will be engaged, and the plan to disseminate knowledge of the project’s results to those stakeholders and users.
7. Provides information documenting progress towards achieving compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by addressing the areas in Section I.I and Section III.D.3., and Section III.D.8
8. Provides information described in Section I.C.

**Impacts and Benefits to California IOU Ratepayers**

1. Explains how the proposed project will benefit California Gas Investor-Owned Utility (Gas IOU) ratepayers and provides clear, plausible, and justifiable (quantitative preferred) potential benefits. Estimates the energy benefits including:
	* energy affordability and reliability during periods of peak winter demand.
	* hydrogen price stability during fluctuating production and use.
	* enabling decarbonization of hard-to-decarbonize end uses.

 **In addition, estimates the non-energy benefits including:**

* greenhouse gas emission reductions, air emission reductions (e.g. NOx), and/or increased safety.
1. States the timeframe, assumptions with sources, and calculations for the estimated benefits, and explains their reasonableness. Include baseline or “business as usual” over timeframe.
2. Identifies how outputs of the study will benefit key stakeholders (e.g., streamline planning, help eliminate barriers, stimulate growth of applicable market sectors).

**Team Qualifications, Capabilities and Resources**

1. Identifies credentials of prime and any subcontractor core personnel, including the project manager and principal investigator *(include this information in 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.

*Include an organization chart similar to the one below*

 **Figure X: Organization Chart**

1. Describes the facilities, infrastructure, and resources available that directly support the project.
2. Describes the team’s history of successfully completing projects in the past 10 years including subsequent deployments and commercialization.

**Budget and Cost Effectiveness**

1. Budget forms are complete for the applicant and all subcontractors, as instructed in Budget Attachment.

*Provide a budget by tasks, such as:*

**Table X: Task Budget**

| **Task (by major task)** | **Energy Commission Funds** | **Match Share** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Task 1: General Project Tasks |  |  |  |
| Task 2: |  |  |  |
| Task [TBD-1]: Evaluation of Project Benefits |  |  |  |
| Task [TBD-2]: Technology/ Knowledge Transfer Activities \* |  |  |  |

\* **Requires at least 5% of total CEC funds**

1. Justifies the reasonableness of the requested funds relative to the project goals, objectives, and tasks.
2. Justifies the reasonableness of direct costs (e.g., labor, fringe benefits, equipment, materials & misc. travel, and subcontractors).
3. Justifies the reasonableness of indirect costs (e.g., overhead, facility charges (e.g., rent, utilities), burdens, subcontractor profit, and other like costs).

**CEC Funds Spent in California**

This project proposes to spend $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Energy Commission funds in California.

**Funds Spent on California Based Entities**

This project proposes to spend $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Energy Commission funds on California Based Entities.

**Disadvantaged Communities**

1. Identifies economic impact on low-income and disadvantaged communities including customer bill savings, job creation, partnering and contracting with micro- and small-businesses, and economic development.
2. Describes how the project will increase access to clean energy or sustainability technologies within disadvantaged or low-income communities and how the development will benefit the communities.
3. Applicants have letters of support from technology partners, community based organizations, environmental justice organizations, or other partners that demonstrate equity, feasibility, and commercial viability in low-income and disadvantaged communities.