



# GFO-23-318 Pre-Application Workshop

Welcome!

The Workshop will begin at 9:30 am.





# GFO-23-318 Pre-Application Workshop

BRIDGE 2024: Bringing Rapid Innovation Development to Green Energy

Energy Research and Development Division, California Energy Commission

Presenter: Ayat Osman, Ph.D., Electric Generation System Specialist

Date: August 8, 2024



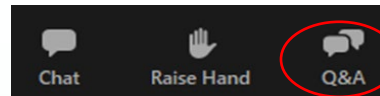
# Agenda

Time	Item
9:30 am	Welcome and Introduction
9:35 – 9: 40 am	Background
9:40 – 10:45 am	BRIDGE 2024 Solicitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Purpose of Solicitation</li><li>• Funding</li><li>• Eligibility Requirements</li><li>• Application Requirements</li><li>• Submission Requirements</li><li>• Application Evaluation</li><li>• Next Steps</li><li>• Key Activities Schedule</li></ul>
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Q&As
12:00 pm	Adjourn



# Virtual Housekeeping

- This workshop will be recorded and posted to the CEC website.
- Attendees will be muted during the presentation. Please chat your question using the Q&A window.



- Updates to solicitation documents will be posted at the Grant Funding Opportunity's webpage:

[GFO-23-318 - BRIDGE 2024: Bringing Rapid Innovation Development to Green Energy \(ca.gov\)](#)





# Commitment to Diversity

- The Energy Commission is committed to diversity.
- The Energy Commission continues to encourage disadvantaged and underrepresented businesses and communities to engage in and benefit from our many programs.
- The Energy Commission staff conducts outreach efforts and activities to:
  - Engage with disadvantaged and underrepresented groups throughout the state.
  - Notify potential new applicants about the Energy Commission's funding opportunities.
  - Assist applicants in understanding how to apply for funding from the Energy Commission's programs.
  - Survey participants to measure progress in diversity outreach efforts.

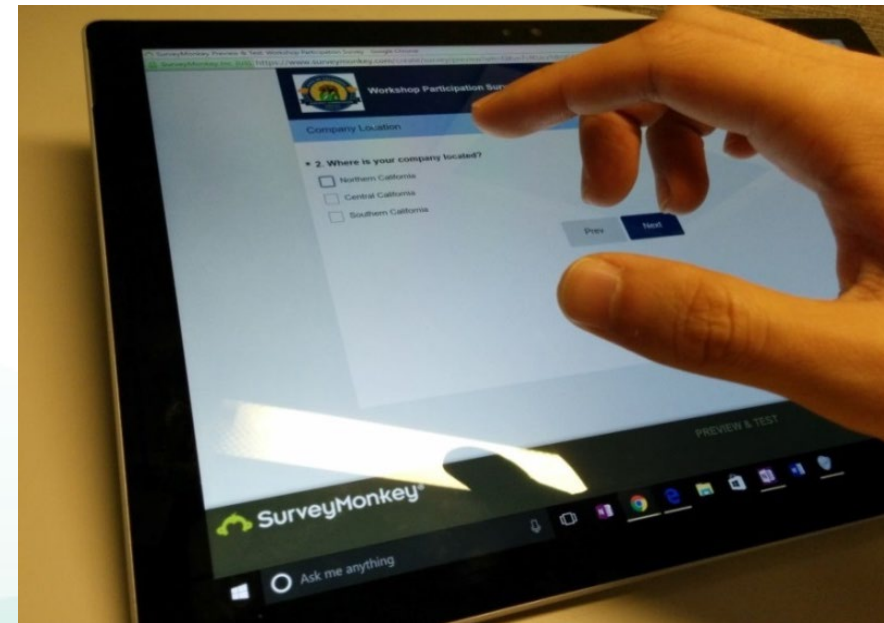


# We Want to Hear From You!

## Participation Survey

- Survey responses will be summarized anonymously to track attendance of underrepresented groups in our workshops for public reporting purposes.
- Online participants, please use this link:  
<https://forms.office.com/g/fFXbR9D0DZ>

Thank You!





# Connect With Us



Here's how to find the CEC on social media:



[Facebook](#)



[TikTok](#)



[X \(Formerly Twitter\)](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[LinkedIn](#)

[Social Media \(ca.gov\)](https://www.ca.gov)

[Blog | California Energy Commission \(calenergyblog.com\)](https://calenergyblog.com)



# Find a Partner on EmpowerInnovation.net

Empower Innovation strives to accelerate your clean tech journey with easy access to funding opportunities from the Energy Commission and other funding providers, curated resources and events, and connections to people and organizations.

## **FIND A PARTNER**

Announce your interest in this funding opportunity and message other interested parties to find potential partners.

## **RESOURCES & TOOLS**

Browse the collection of resources for clean tech innovators including Resource Libraries, Funding Sources, Tools, and Databases.

[Empower Innovation](https://www.empowerinnovation.net/en/custom/funding/view/44075)

<https://www.empowerinnovation.net/en/custom/funding/view/44075>





# EmpowerInnovation.net



[Empower Innovation - Introduction video](https://youtu.be/PVBGdV0_MGA) (https://youtu.be/PVBGdV0\_MGA)



# Background





# EPIC Background

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- The Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) was established in 2011.
- EPIC Projects must lead to technological advancement and breakthroughs to overcome barriers that prevent the achievement of the state's statutory energy goals.
- EPIC projects benefit electricity ratepayers of California's three largest electric investor-owned utilities.





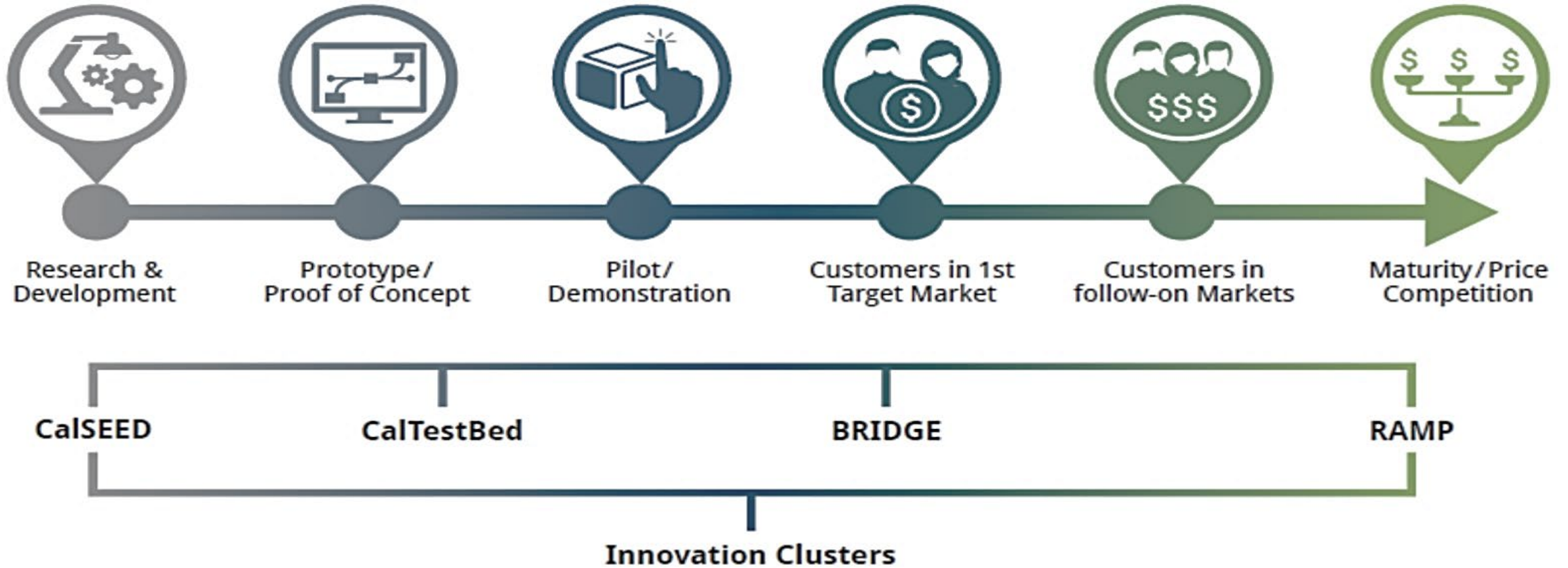
# EPIC Background (Cont.)

EPIC funds clean energy technology projects that meet the guiding principles:

1. Improve safety
2. Increase reliability
3. Increase affordability
4. Improve environmental sustainability
5. Improve equity



# Entrepreneurial Ecosystem





# Purpose of Solicitation





# Purpose of Solicitation

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- Provide follow-on funding for the most promising energy technologies that have previously received funding from an eligible Energy Commission program or United States federal agency.
- BRIDGE 2024 seeks to:
  1. Help companies minimize time between funding rounds.
  2. Mobilize more early-stage capital in the clean energy space by providing matching investments alongside investors and commercial partners.

<b>Applied Research and Development</b>	<b>Technology Demonstration and Deployment</b>
TRL 6 or Below as defined by DOE	TRL 7 or 8 as defined by DOE



# Eligible Technology Categories

Eligible projects must fall within one or more of the following technology categories:

- Category 1: Energy Efficiency
- Category 2: End-use Electrification
- Category 3: Energy Storage
- Category 4: Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning/Advanced Sensing
- Category 5: Advanced Power Electronics/Power Conditioning
- Category 6: Zero- and Negative-Carbon Emission Generation (Renewable Generation)



# Funding







# Available Funding

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- Available funding: up to \$25,776,915
- Minimum funding for each project: \$1,000,000
- Maximum funding for each project: \$4,000,000



# Match Funding

- Match funding is required in the amount of at least **25%** of the requested CEC funds.
- “Match funds” includes cash or in-kind (non-cash) contributions provided by the applicant, subrecipients, or other parties.
- Match funding contributors **must** submit match funding **commitment letters** where the combined total of “**match**” meets or exceeds the minimum match requirements.
- Refer to Attachment 9 for details on what must be included in the match funding commitment letters.
- Refer to the Solicitation Manual for more details on match funding.



# Match Funding (Cont.)

- If the application does **NOT** contain sufficient commitment letters to meet or exceed the minimum match requirement, the CEC will allow the applicant at least three (3) business days upon notification by the CEC to provide match commitment letters to confirm the total match amount pledged on the application.
- The CEC's Commission Agreement Officer will communicate in writing to the project manager the deadline by which the applicant must provide the missing materials.
- The obligation is on the applicant to ensure the proper contact(s) are listed and available to respond.





# Match Funding Waiver

- The match funding requirement is waived for **TD&D** projects located in and benefiting a **low-income or disadvantaged community**.
- To **receive** the **MATCH FUNDING WAIVER**, as solely determined by the CEC, the applicant must:
  - State the Match Funding Waiver request within the **Project Narrative Form** (Attachment 2).
  - Provide a **letter(s) of commitment** for the demonstration site(s).
    - Refer to Attachment 9: Commitment and Support Letters Form, for details on what must be included in the commitment letter(s).
  - Provide a demonstration **site(s) address(es)** that are in either a low income or disadvantaged community (site address must be consistent with Energy Commission Agreement Management System (ECAMS) and the CEQA Compliance Form (Attachment 7)).



# Match Funding Waiver (Cont.)

In the **Project Narrative Form** (Attachment 2):

- Provide the required information on the site(s) using the specified online tools:
  - [CalEPA Disadvantaged Communities Map](#)
    - Census Tract Number,
    - CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Percentile number, and
    - Disadvantaged Communities Category description (e.g., CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Top 25%).
  - [California Climate Investments tool](#)
    - Census Tract number, and
    - Indicate whether or not the site(s) is in a “Low-income Community” and/or a “Disadvantaged Community” per CalEnviroScreen 4.0.
- Refer to Section I.D. of the Solicitation Manual for more information.



# Match Funding Waiver Opportunity to Cure

- If the CEC determines that the application does **NOT** qualify for the MATCH FUNDING WAIVER, the CEC will allow the applicant at least three (3) business days upon notification by the CEC to either:
  - [1] Provide the necessary information to qualify for the waiver, or
  - [2] Provide budget updates and commitment letters demonstrating the minimum required match funds.
- The CEC's Commission Agreement Officer will communicate in writing to the project manager the deadline by which the applicant must provide the necessary materials, along with a description of the necessary materials.
- Ensure the proper applicant contact(s) are listed and available to respond.
- Refer to Section IV. E. (Stage One: Application Screening) of the Solicitation Manual for more information.



# Funds Spent in California

- Projects with higher percentages of CEC funds Spent in California (versus total CEC funds) will receive higher scores.

(Refer to Scoring Criteria, Section IV. F. of the Solicitation Manual)

- Only CEC funds may count towards the total funds spent in California.

Total should include any applicable subrecipients, sub-subrecipients and vendors.

- Refer to Section I. L. of the Solicitation Manual for definitions and Section IV.F for Application Scoring.



# Change in Funding Amounts

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The CEC reserves the right to:

- Increase or decrease the available funding and the minimum/maximum grant award amounts.
- Allocate any additional or unawarded funds to passing applications, in rank order.
- Reduce funding to an appropriate amount if the budgeted funds do not provide full funding for agreements.





# Eligibility Requirements



# Solicitation Requirements

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This solicitation has special requirements, including:

- Applicant Eligibility (related to commercialization potential)
- Prior Funding Requirement
- Demonstrated Success
- Proof of Recent Private Investment Requirement



# Applicant Eligibility

- The prime applicant must be a **private** entity with rights to the intellectual property being advanced under the proposed project.
  - Applicants must provide responses in the Technical Merit section of the Project Narrative Form (Attachment 2) to the project focus questions 9 and 10. Refer to Section I.C. of the Solicitation Manual.
- Ineligible **prime** applicants:
  - Public and private universities
  - National Labs
  - Utilities
  - Private non-profit research organizations
  - End-use customers of the proposed technology.



# Applicant Eligibility (Cont.)

- Applicants must accept the EPIC Terms and Conditions (T&Cs).  
Standard T&Cs available online:  
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/funding-resources>
- Applicants are encouraged to register with the California Secretary of State, as all recipients must be registered and in good standing to enter into an agreement with the Energy Commission  
<http://www.sos.ca.gov>

## Research and Development Funding Information

### RESEARCH FUNDING INFORMATION

- Electric Program Investment Charge Program – EPIC
- Funding Opportunities for Energy Research & Development
- Intro to R&D Funding Opportunities - YouTube
- Introduction to Research Funding - PDF
- How to Apply for EPIC Grant Funding Opportunities - PDF

### PIER CONTRACTORS' GENERAL INFORMATION

- PIER Royalties Worksheets
- ETAP Royalties Worksheets
- PIER Project Style Manual

### EPIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- **Contract:**
  - Standard
  - University UC/CSU
- **Grant:**
  - Standard
  - University of California
  - Department of Energy (DOE)
  - Tribal



# Prior Funding Requirement

- Projects must have previously received a funding award from the CEC or an eligible U.S. federal agency within **five years** of the application due date.
- Applicants are required to complete and submit the Reference and Work Product Form (Attachment 8) to provide information on their prior projects.
- Refer to Section II.A.1 of the Solicitation Manual for the list of CEC or eligible U.S. federal agencies.





# Demonstrated Success

- Applicants must provide documentation that they met key technical performance targets under their previous publicly funded award.
- Applicants are required to submit a Previous Project Evaluation Form (Attachment 14).
- Applicants may be disqualified due to severe past performance issues.

(Refer to Screening Criteria Section IV. E. of the Solicitation Manual).



# Proof of Recent Private Investment Requirement

- Applicants must provide proof, in the form of a **commitment letter (Attachment 9)**, that they have received private investment of at least **25%** of the requested grant funds from an eligible entity.
- Eligible funding sources:
  - Angel Investment
  - Corporate Strategic Investment
  - Foundation Investment
  - Venture Capital Investment
  - Loan from a Financial Institution
- The private investment must have been made within **24 months** of the solicitation release date.



# Proof of Recent Private Investment Requirement (Cont.)

- The applicant must furnish proof of receipt of the private investment **before** an award is approved at a Business Meeting.
  - Private investment funding contingent upon receiving the BRIDGE 2024 award is allowable.
- Applicants may count private investment as match funding if the private investment is **not contingent** on receiving a BRIDGE 2024 award and the funds are available to be spent during the term of the agreement.
  - The private funding would count toward both the 25% match requirement and the 25% private investment requirement.



# Application Requirements





# Application Package

## Each Applicant must complete and include the following:

1. Executive Summary Form (.docx)	8. References and Work Product Form (.docx, .pdf)
2. Project Narrative Form (.docx)	9. Commitment and Support Letters Form (.pdf)
3. Project Team Form (.docx, .pdf)	10. Project Performance Metrics (.docx)
4. Scope of Work (.docx)	11. Applicant Declaration (.pdf)
5. Project Schedule for Scope of Work (.xlsx)	12. <b>[OPTIONAL]</b> References for Calculating Energy End-Use and GHG Emissions (.xlsx)
6. Budget Form (.xlsx)	13. Market Readiness Calculator (.xlsx)
7. CEQA Compliance Form (.docx)	14. Previous Project Evaluation Form (.docx, .pdf)
















# Attachment Templates

## Purpose

The purpose of this solicitation is to fund “Applied Research and Development” (AR&D) and “Technology Demonstration and Deployment” (TD&D) projects that enable successful clean energy entrepreneurship across California by competitively awarding funding for the most promising energy technologies that have previously received an award from an eligible California Energy Commission (CEC) program or United States federal agency.

### SOLICITATION FILES

-  [00\\_GFO-23-318\\_BRIDGE\\_2024\\_Solicitation\\_Manual\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [01\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_01\\_EPIC\\_Executive\\_Summary\\_Form\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [02\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_02\\_EPIC\\_Project\\_Narrative\\_Form\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [03\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_03\\_EPIC\\_Project\\_Team\\_Form\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [04\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_04\\_EPIC\\_Scope-of-Work\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [05\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_05\\_EPIC\\_Project\\_Schedule\\_for\\_Scope\\_of\\_Work\\_ada.xlsx](#)
-  [06\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_06\\_EPIC\\_Budget\\_Form\\_ada.xlsx](#)
-  [07\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_07\\_EPIC\\_CEQA\\_Compliance\\_Form\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [08\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_08\\_EPIC\\_References\\_and\\_Work\\_Product\\_Form\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [09\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_09\\_EPIC\\_Commitment\\_and\\_Support\\_Letters\\_Form\\_ada.docx](#)
-  [10\\_GFO-23-318\\_Att\\_10\\_EPIC\\_Project\\_Performance\\_Metrics\\_ada.docx](#)

- Reference each individual attachment template for instructions and detailed description of the information requested.
- In general, the solicitation attachments must address:
  - All of the screening criteria described in section IV.E., and
  - All of the scoring criteria in Section IV.F. of the Solicitation Manual.

[GFO-23-318 - BRIDGE 2024: Bringing Rapid Innovation Development to Green Energy \(ca.gov\)](#)



# Project Narrative Form (Attachment 2)

- This is your opportunity to explain the entirety of the project. The narrative should explain:
  - Why is your project necessary and important to California?
  - What is your project approach and how will each major task be implemented?
  - How will the project be completed under the proposed budget and term?
  - How will the project outcomes benefit electric ratepayers?
- Respond to all scoring criteria prompts described in Section IV.F of the Solicitation Manual.



# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

## Technical Merit

### **BRIDGE specific questions (Section I.C of the Solicitation Manual)**

1. What market research, including customer discovery, has been conducted to determine if the technology is commercially viable?
2. What are the near-, mid-, and long-term target markets for the innovation? What is the current or anticipated size of each of these target markets in California?
3. What competitive advantages does the proposed technology have over incumbents in each of the target markets? What performance targets need to be reached to realize these competitive advantages?



# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

4. What technical and commercialization milestones have been realized since the technology innovation components of the previous CEC or U.S. federal agency awards were completed? Examples include the following:
  - a. Independent performance testing conducted
  - b. Cost modeling completed
  - c. Acceptance into an incubator or accelerator program
5. What is the commercialization roadmap for the technology? How does the proposed project support the applicant's overall commercialization efforts?
6. What are the upstream feedstocks (materials, subassemblies, fuels, etc.) of the innovation? Please describe any anticipated shifts in upstream feedstock sourcing for the innovation, when compared to incumbent technologies, especially for critical materials or rare earth elements.



# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

7. What steps and actions will the project team take as part of the agreement - or has already taken - to ensure the project aligns with the priorities of the community? (This question is particularly applicable for project proposals that are planning to conduct a real-world demonstration of the technology in a disadvantaged- or low-income community).
8. What technology category or categories does the project fall within? If multiple technology categories are applicable, what is the primary technology category?
9. Is the prime applicant an eligible private entity?  
(As a reminder, per Section II.A., the following entities are not eligible to be prime applicants for this solicitation: Public and private universities, National Labs, Utilities, Private non-profit research organizations, and End-use customers of the proposed technology.)
10. Does the applicant possess the rights to the intellectual property being advanced under the proposed project?



# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

## Impacts and Benefits to California IOU Ratepayers

- Project Narrative Form (Attachment 2) and the “Goals and Objectives” section of the Scope of Work Template (Attachment 4) **must** describe how the project will:
  1. Benefit California IOU electric ratepayers by improving safety, increasing reliability, increasing affordability, improving environmental sustainability, and improving equity, all as related to California's electric system, and
  2. Lead to technological advancement and breakthroughs to overcome barriers to achieving the state’s statutory energy goals.
- Any estimates of energy savings and GHG impacts must be calculated using the References for Calculating Electricity End-Use, Electricity Demand, and GHG Emissions (Attachment 12).





# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

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## Measurement and Verification Plan

- For **Technology Demonstration and Deployment** projects, applicants must include a Measurement and Verification Plan that describes how actual project benefits will be measured and quantified.
- The activities proposed in the Measurement and Verification Plan must be included in the “Technical Tasks” section of the Scope of Work Template (Attachment 4).



# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

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## Technology Transfer Plan

- A minimum of 5 percent of CEC funds requested should go towards technology transfer activities.
- The Budget Forms (Attachment 6) should clearly distinguish funds dedicated for technology transfer activities.



# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

## Technology Transfer Plan

- For Applied Research and Development projects the goal is to conduct activities that will accelerate the commercial adoption of the technology.

### Examples of Eligible activities:

- Scale-up analysis including manufacturing analysis, independent design verification, and process improvement efforts
- Technology verification testing
- Legal services or licensing to secure necessary intellectual property to further develop the technology
- Market research, business plan development, and cost-performance modeling



# Project Narrative Form (Cont.)

## Technology Transfer Case Study

- For Technology Demonstration and Deployment projects the goal is to ensure the technological learning that resulted from the demonstration(s) is captured and disseminated to the range of professions that will be responsible for future deployments of this technology or similar technologies.

### Examples of Eligible Activities:

- All activities outlined for applied research and development

### Examples of Required Activities (Mandatory):

- Conduct and submit a project case study documenting the planning, construction, commissioning, and operation of the technology or system being demonstrated
- Present the case study to the Technical Advisory Committee

Refer to the Scope of Work (Attachment 4) for more details on the Case Study requirements.



# Scope of Work (Attachment 4)

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- The Scope of Work (Attachment 4) should mirror intentions stated in the Project Narrative Form (Attachment 2).
- Each discrete task should have a clear overview goal and result in a deliverable as a verification of progress.
- Include tasks and deliverables identified in the Scope of Work in the Project Schedule (Attachment 5).

**Please be consistent!**



# Budget (Attachment 6)

- Identify how the Energy Commission funds and match funds will be spent to complete the project.
- Subrecipients receiving \$100,000 or more Energy Commission funds must complete a separate budget form.
- Ensure that all rates provided are **maximum** estimated rates for the entire project term and any potential increases are included.
- Rates must be unloaded.
- Travel Restrictions:
- CEC funds should be limited to project task specific in-state travel.
  - Travel to conferences are generally not considered applicable travel for projects and should not use CEC funds.



# Commitment and Support Letter Forms (Attachment 9)

- A **commitment letter** commits an entity or individual to providing the service or funding described in the letter.
- A **support letter** describes a project stakeholder’s interest or involvement in the project.
- All applicants must include at least **one** support letter.
- Limit to two pages per letter, excluding the cover page.

Letter of Commitment/Support # 1 of __ for [Insert Applicant’s Name]	
Type of Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Commitment <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Letter Subject Matter <i>(select one or more as appropriate)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Match Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Private Investment <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot Test/Demonstration/Deployment Site <input type="checkbox"/> Project Partner <input type="checkbox"/> Project Stakeholder
Type of Match Funding <i>(if applicable)</i>	“Cash” match: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash in hand  “In-Kind” match: <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Materials <input type="checkbox"/> Information technology services <input type="checkbox"/> Travel <input type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor costs <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor/project partner in-kind labor costs <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced practice costs





# Commitment and Support Letters (Cont.)

## Commitment Letters

- Match funding
- Private investment of at least 25% of the requested grant funds
- Any project partners that will make contributions to the project (other than match funding or project sites)
- Pilot testing, demonstration or deployment site(s)

## Support Letters

- Demonstrate increased equity and is both feasible and commercially viable in the identified low-income and/or disadvantaged communities
- Demonstrate reduced negative environmental impact



# Submission Requirements





# Submission Requirements

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- Applicants must have or must create a user account to submit a solicitation application.
- To create an account, please see **User Registration Instructions** at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/7893>
  - NOTE: One account manager per organization, but users can be added by account manager.
- Applications must be submitted through the Energy Commission Agreement Management System (ECAMS) at: <https://ecams.energy.ca.gov/>



# Submission Requirements (Cont.)

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- For detailed instructions on application submittal, please see the *Applying for a Solicitation* at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/7956>
- Questions with the ECAMS system should be directed to: [ECAMS.SalesforceSupport@Energy.ca.gov](mailto:ECAMS.SalesforceSupport@Energy.ca.gov)



# Submission Requirements (Cont.)

- Under **General Funding Information**, the referenced documents and other ECAMS resources are available at:

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/funding-resources>

## General Funding Information ✕

### GRANT SOLICITATION SYSTEM (GSS) INFORMATION

- Grant Solicitation System (GSS) Login [↗](#)
- How to Apply - PDF

### ENERGY COMMISSION AGREEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ECAMS)

- Energy Commission Agreement Management System (ECAMS) Login [↗](#)
- User Registration - PDF
- Applying for a Solicitation



# Submission Requirements (Cont.)

- Electronic files, other than those requiring signatures, must be consistent with the specific file format provided in the solicitation (Microsoft Word and Excel Office).
- Attachments requiring signatures (Application Form and Support/Commitment Letters) may be signed, scanned, and submitted in PDF format.
- Application documents should meet formatting requirements, and page recommendations as specified in the solicitation manual.



# Submission Warning

## START THE PROCESS EARLY!

- Applications must be fully submitted **BEFORE** the deadline listed in the solicitation manual.
- The ECAMS system will **reject** applications submitted after the deadline.
- Applications in the process of being submitted prior to the deadline will **NOT** be accepted after the deadline.
- ECAMS support is **ONLY** available from **8 am – 5 pm Monday-Friday.**





# Application Reminders

Carefully review your application before submission.

- Verify that you have carefully read and complied with the **Applicant's Admonishment**, section I.H. of the Solicitation Manual, especially with respect to “**carefully reading** the entire solicitation, asking appropriate questions in a timely manner, ensuring that all solicitation requirements are met, submitting all required responses in a complete manner by the required date and time, and carefully rereading the solicitation before submitting an application.”
- Verify that all necessary documents fully respond to or comply with the **Screening and Scoring Criteria** and **Grounds to Reject an Application or Cancel an Award** in Part IV of the Solicitation Manual, and the relevant EPIC Grant terms and conditions located at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/funding-resources>
- Verify that your documents are not marked "confidential," although you may redact confidential portions of your application so that the document is no longer confidential. As a reminder, “**No portion of your application will be considered confidential.**”



# Application Reminders (Cont.)

## Carefully review your application before submission (Cont.)

- Verify that all required documents have been uploaded.
- Verify that all documents uploaded are the accurate version you intend to submit as your final.
- Verify that support and commitment letters are included, as required.
- Verify that your match commitment letters, including any match provided by the prime applicant, accurately reflect the match amounts included in your budgets.
- Verify that amounts entered within the budget(s) on the ECAMS system (if any) concur with information included on the uploaded budget worksheets.



# Application Evaluation





# How will my Application be Evaluated?

## Application Screening

### Administrative Screening Process

- Energy Commission staff screens applications per criteria in Section IV.E.
- Criteria are evaluated on a pass/fail basis.
- Applicants must pass all screening criteria, or the application will be disqualified.

### Some Reasons for Disqualification

- Application is not submitted by the specified due date and time.
- Application does not meet the match funding requirements.
- Application does not meet the proof of private investment requirements.



# How will my Application be Evaluated?

## Application Scoring

- Evaluation Committee applies the scoring scale to the scoring criteria.
- Applications must obtain a minimum passing score of 60 points (80 %) for Criteria 1-4 to continue evaluation.
- Applications must obtain a minimum passing score of 80 points (80%) for Criteria 1-7 to be eligible for an award.
- Review Section IV of the solicitation manual and ensure the application provides a clear and complete response to each scoring criteria.
- Applications must meet all minimum passing scores to be eligible for preference points.

Scoring Criteria	Possible Points
1. Technical Merit	20
2. Technical Approach	20
3. Impacts and Benefits for CA IOU Ratepayers	20
4. Team Qualifications, Capabilities, and Resources	15
<b>Minimum Points to Pass for criteria 1-4</b>	<b>60</b>
5. Budget and Cost-Effectiveness	10
6. CEC Funds Spent in California	10
7. Ratio of Direct Labor Costs to Indirect Costs	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Minimum Points to Pass for criteria 1-7</b>	<b>80</b>



# How will my Application be Evaluated?

## Application Scoring – Preference Points

- Passing applications (score of 80% or more from Criteria 1-7) will be considered for preference points.
- Criteria for preference points include:
  - Disadvantaged & Low-Income Communities
  - Environmental Impacts

Scoring Criteria	Maximum Points
8. Disadvantaged & Low-Income Communities	5
9. Environmental Impacts	5
<b>Total Preference Points</b>	<b>10</b>



# Next Steps







# Next Steps

- Notice of Proposed Award (NOPA)
  - Total proposed funding amounts
  - Rank order of applicants
  - The amount of each proposed award
- Debriefings: Applicants, including those that are not proposed for funding, may request a debriefing after the release of the NOPA by:
  - E-mailing the Commission Agreement Officer listed in Section I.F. of the Solicitation Manual.
  - A request for debriefing must be received no later than 30 calendar days after the NOPA is released.
- Purpose of Debriefings: To provide feedback to applicants to help them improve their future applications.



# Next Steps (Cont.)

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- The CEC reserves the right to:
  - Allocate any additional funds to passing applications, in rank order;
  - Fully fund the highest ranked passing application(s), regardless of category, (if applicable); and
  - Negotiate with successful applicants to modify the project scope, schedule, project team entity that will receive the award, project location and/or level of funding.



## Next Steps (Cont.)

- **Agreement Development:** Proposal documents will be processed into a legal agreement.
- **Failure to Execute:** The Energy Commission reserves the right to cancel the pending award if an agreement cannot be successfully executed with an applicant.
- **Project Start:** Recipients may begin work on the project **only** after the agreement is fully executed (approved at an Energy Commission Business Meeting and signed by the Recipient and the Energy Commission).



# Key Activities Schedule





# Key Activities Schedule

ACTIVITY	DATE
Solicitation Release	July 24, 2024
<b>Pre-Application Workshop</b>	August 8, 2024, 9:30 a.m.
<b>Deadline to Submit Applications</b>	<b>November 22, 2024, 11:59 p.m.</b>
Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting Date	Week of June 23, 2025
Anticipated Energy Commission Business Meeting Date	October 2025
Anticipated Agreement Start Date	November 21, 2025
Anticipated Agreement End Date	August 21, 2028



# Questions/Contacts

Activity	Contact	Deadline
<b>Technical Written Questions*</b>	<a href="mailto:Angela.Hockaday@energy.ca.gov">Angela.Hockaday@energy.ca.gov</a>	<b>August 15, 2024</b> <b>Prior to 5:00 pm</b>
<b>Application Submittal in ECAMS</b>	<a href="mailto:ECAMS.SalesforceSupport@energy.ca.gov">ECAMS.SalesforceSupport@energy.ca.gov</a>	<b>November 22, 2024</b> <b>Prior to 5:00 pm</b>
<b>Non-Technical and Administrative Questions</b> <b>(Not Related to Submission of Applications in ECAMS)</b>	<a href="mailto:Angela.Hockaday@energy.ca.gov">Angela.Hockaday@energy.ca.gov</a>	<b>November 22, 2024</b> <b>Prior to 5:00 pm</b>

\*Anticipated Distribution of Technical Questions and Answers:  
Week of September 23, 2024



# Solicitation Notifications

- To receive notifications from the CEC on solicitations, events, programs, rulemakings and other topics of interest:
  - Visit the CEC’s “Subscriptions” webpage:  
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>
  - Under the “ALL TOPICS AND POWER PLANTS” section click on “All Topics:” <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CNRA/signup/31719> to select the topics for which you wish to receive notifications.
- To receive notifications regarding this GFO, please select the following topic: **“Solicitations, Awards, and Funding Workshops Announcements Only (GFO, RFP, RFQ, IFB, NOPA, NOS)”**





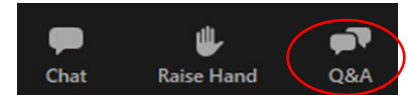
# Questions & Answers





# Questions and Answers

- Three ways to comment
  - Use the “raise hand” feature in Zoom
  - Over the telephone: dial \*9 to “raise hand” and \*6 to mute/unmute your phone line
  - Enter your question/comment in the Q & A window on Zoom
- Please remember to introduce yourself by stating your name and affiliation. (Feature found under the Participants panel)
- Please limit your questions/comments to 2 minutes to allow time for others.
- Note that our official responses will be given in writing and posted on the GFO webpage.





# Written Questions

Please send all questions related to GFO-23-318 to:

**Angela Hockaday**

Commission Agreement Officer

715 P Street, MS-18

Sacramento, CA 95814

[Angela.Hockaday@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Angela.Hockaday@energy.ca.gov)

**Deadline to submit questions:**

**August 15, 2024**

**5:00 PM**

