See the formatting recommendations in Part III, Section A.

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 advancement, scientific knowledge advancement, and/or innovation that will overcome barriers to achieving the State’s statutory energy goals.
2. Describes the competitive advantages of the proposed project over alternative project locations (e.g., efficiency, emissions, durability, cost).
3. Provides the current site readiness and technical capabilities and describe how the project will advance readiness and capabilities by the end of the project.
4. Describes at what scale the technologies necessary (e.g., wharfs, docks, cranes, etc.) for the project being planned for, that have been successfully demonstrated, including size or capacity, number of previous installations, location and duration, results, etc.
5. Describes how the proposed project will lead to deployment of floating offshore wind technology in California, specifically the 5 areas under lease from BOEM and awarded in the PACW-1 lease sale.
6. Provides information described in Section I.C.

**Technical Approach**

1. The application 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. The application identifies the reliability that the project 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 site control, key subrecipient, future funding, permitting). 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. Provides a clear and plausible measurement and verification plan that describes how benefits specified in the application will be determined and measured.
7. Provides information documenting progress towards achieving compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by addressing the areas in Section I.I
8. Describes the approach to addressing how the Project Activities for the applicable project category as described in Section I.C.2 will be carried out, with specific reference to the proposed Scope of Work.
9. Provides information described in Section I.C

**Impacts and Benefits for California**

Explains how the proposed project would create benefits in California and provides clear, plausible, and justifiable (quantitative preferred) potential benefits. Provide and explain non-energy benefits including: greenhouse gas emission reductions, air emission reductions (e.g., criteria pollutant emissions), job creation and quality, workforce development, economic development, increased public safety, equity, and greater resiliency, among others.

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. Explains the project development strategy including near-term (e.g. 15 percent design), mid-term, and long-term steps necessary to develop the project, how it will meet requirements for floating offshore wind, and underlying assumptions.
3. Identifies the expected financial performance (e.g. payback period, ROI) of the project when developed at scale.
4. Identifies the specific opportunities which the project intends to leverage to reach full-scale (e.g. fully developed project).
5. Demonstrates how the project will minimize or eliminate any negative impact on surrounding communities’ exposure to pollutants and the adverse environmental conditions caused by pollution with the goal of promoting better health and equity.
6. Describes how the project would benefit and impact geographic areas of the state, including Disadvantaged Communities, Low-Income Communities, and Under-resourced Communities.
7. Describes the specific stakeholders, tribes, and organizations already engaged by the applicant, as well as those the applicant intends to engage in the project.
8. Describes how the proposed Project Activities as required in Section I.C.2. will be carried out to address impacts and create benefits.
9. Demonstrates the need for state funding for the proposed project and how state funding can increase the ability to leverage private and public capital.
10. Estimates of when the project would support additional electrical generation (i.e. offshore wind) to be made available at net peak hours or during critical grid conditions.
11. Estimates of onsite reductions of the emissions of greenhouse gases and criteria air pollutants that will occur as a direct result of CEC funds.

**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.

1. Identifies credentials of applicant and any subrecipient and sub-subrecipient key personnel, including the project manager, principal investigator, and technology transfer lead *(include this information in the Project Team Form Attachment).*
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*

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.

**Budget and Cost Effectiveness**

1. Budget forms are complete for the applicant and all subrecipients, as described in the Budget instructions, including as applicable, budgeted funds for Project Activities described in Section I.C.2.
2. Justifies the reasonableness of the requested funds relative to the project goals, objectives, and tasks.
3. Justifies the reasonableness of direct costs (e.g., labor, fringe benefits, equipment, materials & misc. travel, and subrecipients).
4. Justifies the reasonableness of indirect costs (e.g., overhead, facility charges (e.g., rent, utilities), burdens, subrecipient profit, and other like costs).

***Preference Points***

Applications seeking preference points must respond in the Project Narrative to describe how the proposed application responds to the criterion.

**Match Funds**

Additional points will be awarded to applications that include cash match and in-kind match. Additional points will be awarded based on the percentage of total match (cash + in-kind) to the amount of CEC funds requested as included on the Proposal Budget. The Project Narrative should include any supporting descriptions of proposed cash match and in-kind match being proposed in the application.

**Cost Share for Federal Award**

Additional points for applications proposing projects in which CEC funds are providing cost share funding to an eligible applicant that receives a federal award for purposes consistent with Category I or Category II activities as described in Section I.C.1.

1. The application identifies the amount and source of federal funds, including documentation demonstrating the federal commitment.
2. The application describes how the federal award is consistent with Category I or Category II activities.
3. The application describes risks associated with losing the federal award and explains how CEC funds will be used to complement the federal award.