

Notice of Intent No. DE-FOA-0002773**Notice of Intent to Issue****Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0002731****Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0002800****Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0002802**

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Water Power Technologies Office, three Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) entitled “*Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Section 41006. Water Power Projects: Innovative Technologies to Enable Low Impact Hydropower and Pumped Storage Hydropower Growth*”, “*Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Section 41006. Water Power Projects: Stakeholder Insight into Hydropower R&D Issues*”, and “*Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Section 40334. Pumped Storage Hydropower Wind and Solar Integration and System Reliability Initiative*”.

DE- FOA-0002731, *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Section 41006. Water Power Projects: Innovative Technologies to Enable Low Impact Hydropower and Pumped Storage Hydropower Growth*, will further the sustainable development of hydropower and pumped storage hydropower (PSH) to support power system decarbonization.

It is anticipated that the FOA may include the following Topic Areas:

- **Topic Area 1 – Hydropower Retrofits for Non-Powered Dams**
This topic area will explore innovative solutions to retrofit Non-Powered Dams (NPDs) with environmentally sustainable hydropower at a reasonable cost through technology development and testing. The goal will be to address current challenges with NPDs including, but not limited to, high development costs, permitting challenges, grid connection, and utilizing the full range of flow and head fluctuations that occur for dams that were built for purposes other than power generation.
- **Topic Area 2 – Innovative Pumped Storage Hydropower Concepts**
This topic area will develop and test technologies that mitigate challenges to PSH deployment, including development costs; long development timelines; permitting challenges; construction risks; and environmental impacts. The FOA team will seek applications that accelerate the deployment of PSH through improved components, alternative PSH configurations, and/or construction processes that reduce cost and/or improve value.

This is a Notice of Intent (NOI) only. EERE may issue a FOA as described herein, may issue a FOA that is significantly different than the FOA described herein, or EERE may not issue a FOA at all.

- **Topic Area 3 – Hydropower Research and Development by Emerging Organizations**
This topic area seeks research and development (R&D) projects from institutions that have not engaged with WPTO through significant research projects and have limited familiarity with WPTO programs and research support mechanisms. WPTO recognizes that this lack of familiarity can be a barrier to participation in WPTO research activities and application to WPTO funding opportunities. This topic area is designed to encourage disadvantaged organizations to support hydropower development.

EERE envisions awarding multiple financial assistance awards in the form of cooperative agreements. The estimated period of performance for each award will vary between topic areas but will be approximately 1 to 3 years in duration. The non-federal cost share requirement for this FOA is anticipated to be 20% of total project costs.

DE- FOA-0002800, *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Section 41006. Water Power Projects: Stakeholder Insight into Hydropower R&D Issues*, seeks to support the efforts of a diverse group of participants working together to discuss and address issues surrounding the improvement of hydropower systems and their impact on the environment.

It is anticipated that the FOA may include the following Topic Areas:

- **Topic Area 1 - Stakeholder Insight into Hydropower R&D Issues**
Potential applicants will deeply engage with a broad array of stakeholders to understand community-level issues affecting hydropower technologies and hydropower improvements. These efforts will enhance and inform the current and future needs of research and development for hydropower technologies and environmental improvements. Applicants are encouraged to directly engage and involve Tribal, environmental, and other nonprofit communities more closely with the hydropower community to determine common research and analysis objectives.

EERE envisions awarding a single financial assistance award in the form of a grant. The estimated period of performance for this award will be approximately 2 to 3 years in duration. The non-federal cost share requirement for this FOA is anticipated to be 20% of total project costs.

DE-FOA-0002802, *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Section 40334. Pumped Storage Hydropower Wind and Solar Integration and System Reliability Initiative*, supports the development of PSH by providing critical long-duration energy storage, increased integration of variable renewable energy such as wind and solar, and power system decarbonization.

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*Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change.

It is anticipated that the FOA may include the following Topic Areas:

- Topic Area 1 – PSH Development Studies

Based on BIL statutory language, this FOA and Topic Area will provide funding to undertake studies on project design, transmission, power market assessments, and permitting to support pumped storage hydropower project development, and to facilitate the long-duration storage of intermittent renewable electricity. Projects shall provide not less than 1,000MW of capacity, be able to provide energy and capacity in more than 1 organized electricity market, store electricity generated by intermittent renewable electricity projects located on Tribal land; and have received a preliminary permit from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

EERE envisions awarding a single financial assistance award in the form of a cooperative agreement. The estimated period of performance for this award will be up to 5 years in duration. The non-federal cost share requirement for this FOA is anticipated to be 20% of total project costs.

This Notice is issued so that interested parties are aware of the EERE's intention to issue these FOAs in the near term. All of the information contained in this Notice is subject to change. EERE will not respond to questions concerning this Notice. Once these FOAs have been released, EERE will provide an avenue for potential Applicants to submit questions.

EERE plans to issue these FOAs in or about September 2022 via the EERE eXCHANGE website <https://eere-eXCHANGE.energy.gov>. If Applicants wish to receive official notifications and information from EERE regarding this FOA, they should register in EERE eXCHANGE. When the FOA is released, applications will be accepted only through EERE eXCHANGE.

- Register and create an account in EERE eXCHANGE at <https://eere-eXCHANGE.energy.gov>. This account will allow the user to apply to any open EERE FOAs that are currently in EERE eXCHANGE.

eXCHANGE has recently been updated to integrate with Login.gov. As of October 1, 2022*, potential applicants will be required to have a Login.gov account to access EERE eXCHANGE. As part of the eXCHANGE registration process, new users will be directed to create an account in [Login.gov](https://login.gov). Please note that the email address associated with Login.gov must match the email address associated with the eXCHANGE account. For more information, refer to the eXCHANGE Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) Quick Guide in the [Manuals section](#) of eXCHANGE.

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It is recommended that each organization or business unit, whether acting as a team or a single entity, use only one account as the contact point for each submission. Questions related to the registration process and use of the EERE eXCHANGE website should be submitted to: EERE-eXCHANGESupport@hq.doe.gov

- Register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov>. Designating an Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an MPIN are important steps in SAM registration. Please update your SAM registration annually. Upon registration, SAM will automatically assign a Unique Entity ID (UEI).
- Register in FedConnect at <https://www.fedconnect.net/>. To create an organization account, your organization's SAM MPIN is required. For more information about the SAM MPIN or other registration requirements, review the FedConnect Ready, Set, Go! Guide at https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/Marketing/Documents/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf
- Register in Grants.gov to receive automatic updates when Amendments to a FOA are posted. However, please note that applications will not be accepted through Grants.gov. <http://www.grants.gov/>. All applications must be submitted through EERE eXCHANGE.

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