



The Ohio Development Services Agency
Office of Energy & Redevelopment

Ohio Coal Demonstration and Pilot Program

Request For Proposals (RFP) Number: DSA-ENERGY #14-01

Questions and Answers

Q1: Does a specific commercial partner need to be identified to apply for pilot scale funds?

A1: Not necessarily if resources are sufficient in-house. Scaling up at Center for Electrochemical Engineering Research facilities is acceptable.

Q2: As an alternate route to the pilot scale funds, can a second round of proof of concept funds be applied for and then pilot scale later on?

A2: Proof-of-concept funds are available if new work is required for the project at this scale, and if additional the new work is justified depending on specific details.

Q3: I am discussing a possibility of evaluating my technology in collaboration with one of the major utility companies burning various coals including high sulfur bituminous and sub-bituminous coals for a proof-of-concept project. The company has a very unique pilot-scale test facility well equipped with instruments required for technology validation next to a coal combustion unit. However, the pilot-scale test facility is located at a unit burning PRB sub-bituminous coal. The facility can add additional SO₂ and HCl gases to meet a typical Ohio coal combustion gas. I am wondering if this test would be acceptable for a proof-of-concept proposal.

A3: It depends. Firstly, since there are few facilities in the U.S. that have coal gasification units and none currently in Ohio, this triggers the requirement that OCDO will only co-fund project expenditures incurred for work actually performed in Ohio. Page 3 of the RFP explains that "Project activities conducted out of Ohio by project participants may be used as cost share, but must be directly related and integral to the completion of the project." OCDO has allowed previous projects to be located in other states, but OCDO funds were required to be used for work conducted in Ohio. Secondly, as far as the testing of non-Ohio coal goes, this is another factor that is outside of our normal process. The Grant Agreement Template, as found in Attachment 7, Section 5 (e) of the RFP states that: "Grantor's funds shall be used to test only Ohio coal and the products remaining from their use or to otherwise advantage Ohio coal. Any testing on non-Ohio coal for comparison purposes may be done with the project cost share funds." This provision has been waived in the past, but doing so requires recommendation of the Coal Technical Advisory Committee and approval of the Director of the Development Services Agency. If the provisions requiring OCDO funds to be used in Ohio can be met and the Coal TAC recommends that non-Ohio coals be allowed to be used for this project, this could be acceptable.

Q4: We are currently trying to secure a letter of commitment from a 3rd party. The proposal will be ready by the required due date, but the cost share letter may not be ready by then. Can you extend the deadline for when cost-share letters be submitted to be beyond the due date of the actual proposal?

A4: OCDO will accept cost-share letters of support after the scheduled last day proposals are accepted (Currently: May 1st, 2014). Letters of support must be received prior to the Ohio CTAC meeting at which the submitted proposal is discussed, or prior to the 45th day after the due date of RFP #14-1 (which would be June 15, 2014), whichever comes first. All other materials must be submitted by the last day proposals are accepted.