

**Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP)
Advanced Technology Demonstration Project:
Advanced Aftertreatment Technologies for use on Existing Locomotives
Applicant Workshop, April 27, 2010**

Stakeholder Question and Air Resources Board (ARB) Staff Responses

Clarifying Questions on the Solicitation

Could the match funding requirement in the solicitation be explained?

If the total proposed project budget were \$1,600,000, the minimum financial commitment from the Grantee/Technology Demonstrator would consist of \$160,000 in cash and an in-kind contribution of \$640,000. In this scenario the maximum AQIP demonstration project funding for this proposed project would be \$800,000.

What is the goal of the minimum 10% cash stipulation of the project match requirement?

The goal of the 10% cash requirement is to demonstrate a level of vetting from the Grantee/Technology Demonstrator and confidence in the success of the project.

What does the term “design-only projects” mean, as used on page 4 of the solicitation?

A design-only project would not yield a physical device at the projects conclusion.

Eligible Project Questions

Does this solicitation allow for funding and demonstration of a locomotive bonnet system?

The intent of this solicitation is to demonstrate an advanced aftertreatment device that is attached directly to the engine, reducing emissions from the locomotive while the locomotive is in-use.

Would a fuel borne catalyst qualify as an eligible project?

If a fuel borne catalyst is a component of a larger diesel emission control strategy that includes an aftertreatment device that is directly bolted onto the engine then fuel borne catalyst system may be an eligible project.

Is this solicitation limited to the main engine or can other engines located on the locomotive be eligible?

The solicitation defines the horsepower ranges that are eligible for the demonstration, and consequently only the main engine can meet these horsepower range requirements. Therefore, retrofits on smaller horsepower engines installed on the locomotive will not be considered as an eligible project for this solicitation.

Would the ARB consider a proposal for retrofit of a main engine in addition to another engine on-board the same locomotive?

Yes. However, the non-main engine portion of the proposal may not be eligible for demonstration funding. The project that is being proposed for AQIP demonstration funding may be part of a larger project that has elements that are outside the scope of the solicitation.

Is it acceptable to include an idle limit device as part of the proposal to optimize aftertreatment?

No, an idle limit device can not be included as an eligible expense as part of the proposal.

Do the engine horsepower ranges listed in the solicitation comprise the only eligible project horsepower ranges?

Yes, the horsepower ranges listed in the solicitation are the only ranges that define an eligible project's horsepower.

Do genset engines with diesel particulate filters qualify for this solicitation and the next locomotive solicitation?

An eligible project demonstrates an advanced aftertreatment technology for use on existing medium-horsepower locomotives. Further, the next AQIP Advanced Technology Demonstration Projects locomotive solicitation, for the demonstration of new engines that meet Low Emission Levels (4.0 g/bhp-hr NOx and 0.01 g/bhp/hr PM), is currently scheduled for Board consideration on June 24, 2010 as part of the Fiscal Year 2010-11 AQIP Funding Plan.

Since, the current solicitation is directed at existing engines and the proposed second locomotive project is directed at new engines, both projects could not be simultaneously eligible at the same time.

Does the diesel particulate filter need to be ARB verified to be included in an eligible project?

No, for this demonstration project a diesel particulate filter does not need to be ARB verified to be included as part of an eligible project application.

Can an eligible project use an aftertreatment device that has been ARB verified for use on stationary engines?

Yes. Over the past few years, ARB staff has received numerous applications for verification of aftertreatment retrofits onto existing locomotives. To date, none of these applications have been verified. This lack of success has largely been due to the unique operating environments in locomotives which can include extreme levels of vibration, stress, and thermal variances. However, staff believes that the use of an ARB verified aftertreatment device for stationary and other mobile sources is probably one of the most effective starting points and paths in ultimately developing successful aftertreatment technology for locomotives.

Can a proposed eligible project be an augmentation to an existing project funded with federal dollars to do more than one locomotive or to expand an existing demonstration project?

Yes, AQIP demonstration project funds can be combined with other non-AQIP sources.

Is an eligible project just the aftertreatment device only or can the proposed project also include the purchase of a locomotive engine?

This solicitation is for the demonstration of aftertreatment on an existing locomotive engine. If a locomotive engine needs to be purchased for this demonstration then a reasonable and justifiable cost for the use of that engine is an eligible expense. For the purpose of this solicitation an exiting locomotive is one that is currently in-use.

How many locomotives are required to be retrofitted with an aftertreatment device to be considered an eligible project?

At least one locomotive engine needs to be retrofitted with an advanced aftertreatment device to be considered an eligible project.

Clarifying Questions on the Application

Are we considering just PM10 in the cost effectiveness calculation?

NOx, PM and ROG or NMHC should be considered in the same format as found in the Carl Moyer cost effectiveness methodology, included as Appendix C of the solicitation.

Can one specific air district/public agency earn more points than another as the grantee?

No all California air districts are considered equally capable of acting as the Grantee under this solicitation, but the project will be scored higher if the demonstration takes place in an Environmental Justice area.

Does an applicant need to disclose other sources of funding that may be pending for the same project that has been submitted in response to this solicitation?

It needs to be disclosed in the application packet if that project has also been submitted for funding under some other funding opportunity.

Can confidential information be included in the project application?

Yes, the process for including confidential information is included in the solicitation. It is strongly suggested that confidential information be provided only where necessary to support the requirements of the proposal. For clarification on what types of information can be kept confidential and the procedure, please see Title 17, California Code of Regulations, section 91000 et. seq.

Does the Project Narrative also include the Work Plan in its ten-page limitation?

No, the Work Plan can be considered separate from the Project Narrative in regards to the ten-page limitation.

Questions on the Grantee

Does the air district or other public entity requesting funds need to reside in the state of California?

The solicitation specifies local air districts and that would imply only California air districts.

Other public entities are eligible to apply regardless of their location, however, there is a requirement that the public agency acting as the grant administrator provides oversight and administration. ARB believes that these duties can best be accomplished by a California based agency for a California based demonstration project.

Can the Technology Demonstrator work with multiple air districts/public agencies to submit multiple applications?

Theoretically yes, but such a practice would not provide any advantage in scoring the proposals.

Questions on the Award Process

How many air districts/public agencies will be selected as a grantee for a demonstration project?

The solicitation allows for up to four projects to be selected for funding.

If four projects are selected for funding will they all equally split the available funds?

No, the highest scoring project is given priority. If additional funds remain after the highest scoring project is selected, there is the option for negotiation with the next highest scoring project to determine if a feasible project can be funded with the remaining funds.

If the winning proposal requested all the available funds under this demonstration project will all the available funds be awarded?

Yes, the winning proposal will be awarded all the funds requested in their proposal up to the maximum amount of funds available under this solicitation.

