

**Questions and Answers for Off-Road Mobile Agricultural Equipment Trade-up
Pilot Project in the San Joaquin Valley (Trade-Up Pilot Project)
Applicant Teleconference Held January 5, 2016; 10:00 a.m. to Noon**

On January 5, 2016, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) held the Off-Road Mobile Agricultural Equipment Trade-up Pilot Project in the San Joaquin Valley (Trade-Up Pilot Project) Applicant Teleconference to answer questions regarding the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16 Grant Solicitation (solicitation). The questions and answers below are grouped by topic area. In the event of any differences, the following written responses take precedence over verbal responses provided at the teleconference.

Equipment Eligibility

1. Please provide a definition for “Mobile Agricultural Equipment”; do products like chain saws, grass trimmers, hedge trimmers, and blowers qualify for funding under this solicitation?

Answer: “Mobile Agricultural Equipment” is defined in Section VII of the Grant Solicitation (see Page 9). The products listed above do not meet all of the criteria under this definition, such as being self-propelled, greater than 25 horsepower, diesel-fueled, and used in “Agricultural Operations”, therefore, they are not eligible for funding under this solicitation.

2. Would urban landscaping equipment (commercial and/or residential) be eligible for funding under this solicitation?

Answer: Most commercial and residential landscaping equipment, like the equipment described in the question above, does not meet the definitions for “Mobile Agricultural Equipment” or “Agricultural Operations,” both of which are requirements for eligibility under this solicitation. These definitions are provided in Section VII of the Grant Solicitation (see Page 9).

3. Can this solicitation fund advanced technology ground support equipment (GSE) or forklifts? If not, is there a grant or program at ARB to support the implementation of this equipment?

Answer: If the equipment meets the definitions for “Mobile Agricultural Equipment” and “Agricultural Operations” it can be eligible; however, eligible equipment types best meeting the project’s stated objectives and overall intent will score higher under the Project Implementation Plan scoring criteria (see Attachment 3 of the Application). The project objectives and intent are stated in the Project Summary and Background Sections of the Grant Solicitation (see Pages 1 and 2).

Regarding other funding sources, under the FY 2015-16 Funding Plan for Low Carbon Transportation Investments and the Air Quality Improvement Program, \$9 million was allocated toward zero-emission off-road freight equipment, which includes forklifts and GSE. Those funds are currently on hold pending legislative action. On January 27, 2016, ARB will hold a public workshop to kick-off the FY 16-17 funding plan process, at which time the public can suggest new fiscal year funding for this equipment category.

Match Requirements

1. Can a participant's out-of-pocket cost toward a new piece of equipment purchased through a Trade-Up transaction be counted toward meeting the Grantee's cash match requirement?

Answer: Yes. Private funding sources used to purchase equipment under the Trade-Up Pilot Project may be used for meeting the Grantee's 25 percent match requirement.

Solicitation Requirements

1. Is the Standard Form (STD.) 204 (Payee Data Record) under Attachment 6 of the Application a requirement for public agencies to submit in order for the application to be deemed complete? The form contains a "Note" stating, "Government entities, federal, State, and local (including school districts), are not required to submit this form."

Answer: A public agency applicant will not be penalized for having an incomplete application if it chooses not to submit an STD. 204. However, the California-based public entity selected as the project Grantee will need a completed STD. 204 on file with ARB prior to execution of the Grant Agreement in order for ARB to facilitate funding disbursements under the grant.

2. Can the Sample Grant Agreement in Appendix B of the Solicitation be modified?

Answer: The General Provisions of the Sample Grant Agreement cannot be modified from their current form. All applicants are encouraged to review the Sample Grant Agreement prior to submitting a grant application.