

Clean Energy Vehicle Advanced Research and Commercialization (ARC) Program

ARC-2018-1 RFEOI

Question and Answer Series No. 2

Issued October 12, 2018

The following questions and answers are issued in response to the questions of prospective applicants:

Question 1: What is the definition of a “vehicle” for the purposes of this RFEOI? Are rail or marine vehicles included?

For the purposes of this Request for Expression of Interest (RFEOI), a vehicle is inclusive of all modes of transportation (including rail and marine vehicles), however does not include bicycles.

Question 2: How do I need to interpret point 5.1 (b) of the RFEOI? What rights to project results does ARC Management retain?

Sub-section 5.1 (b) of the RFEOI relates to the sharing of project results by ARC Management. The intention of this sub-section is to allow ARC Management to share high-level results of the individual projects funded through the ARC Program. Information released to the public or interested parties may include:

- The name of the successful proponent.
- The total project budget and amount of funding provided by the ARC Program.
- A description of the project.
- Achievement of expected benefits, such as
 - Access to new markets.
 - Partnerships with related companies, organizations or academic institutions.
 - Development of supplier relationships.
 - Demonstration of commercial viability.
 - Improvements in technology readiness level (TRL).
 - Development of clean energy vehicle supply chain in BC.

Further details with respect to project reporting requirements will be provided in the Project Grant Agreement that will be signed between ARC Management and successful proponents.

Question 3: With respect to universities partnering with companies in response to the RFEOI, does this partnership have to be formalized (e.g. by incorporating a joint venture company) or would it be sufficient to have a memorandum of understanding or partnership agreement with the company, expressing its support for the project and intention to leverage the results of the research?

A formalized partnership agreement is not necessary. The proponent could demonstrate that it has Project Partners through a Memorandum of Understanding or could provide letters of support from companies in the clean energy vehicle sector that see value in the research.

Question 4: The RFEOI indicates that a total of \$675,000 in funding is available under the current funding call. Is there a minimum or maximum amount of funding per project, or an expectation on the number of projects that will receive funding?

There are no guidelines with respect to a minimum or maximum funding amount per project, nor is there an expectation of the total number of projects that will receive funding. ARC Management anticipates that at least two projects would be funded under the call, however the allocation of available funds will be determined by the ARC Review Panel.

As the funding call is taking place through a two-stage Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI) and Request for Proposals (RFP) process, there may be an opportunity for applicants to revise the scope of the proposed project in order to fit within the funds allocated. Alternatively, project proponents that submit a favourable application, but whose project could not be funded under the first call, may be invited to apply under the next funding call.

Question 5: Would the ARC Program affect funding received through IRAP or other federal government programs?

The ARC Program encourages grant stacking with funding from other levels of government (i.e. federal and municipal). To determine whether receipt of funding through the ARC Program would affect funding from federal government programs, proponents would need to inquire with those programs directly.