Questions received from the public with answers provided by EPA.
(updated: August 16, 2019)

Q1. Do references or bibliographies related to the project description count towards the 15-page limit of the project narrative? Can applicants provide a link to a list of publicly available references to previous work of the principal investigator?

A1. See Section IV.C., beginning on page 11 of the RFA. Bibliographies and references would count towards the 15-page limit of the project narrative if the sources are being cited in your project narrative. For instance, any sources that are referenced in your project narrative should be cited and they would count towards the 15-page limit of the project narrative. The only pieces that do not count towards the 15-page limit are the forms listed under Section IV.C.1. on page 11 and the optional attachments listed under Section IV.C.3. on page 13. References and bibliographies that are part of resumes or curriculum vitae do not count towards the 15-page limit.

Applicants can provide links to previous work. This would probably be best to include in the Biographical Sketch optional attachment and would not count towards the 15-page limit.

Q2. Under 2.e. page 13 of RFA Detailed Budget Narrative: “Selected applicant(s) will need to submit a copy of their current indirect cost rate that has been negotiated with a federal cognizant agency prior to the award.” Is this document also part of the 15-page limit? Then on Page 13 Under 3. Attachments, Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement is listed as optional. If pressed for space can we have the indirect cost rate agreement as an attachment?

A2. The Indirect Cost Rate agreement does not count towards the 15-page limit (see Section IV.C.3. on page 13). The statement under 1.e. is just clarifying to applicants that if they are selected for an award, they will have to submit a copy of their indirect cost rate agreement prior to EPA awarding the grant. If an applicant already has an indirect cost rate agreement, they can submit it as an optional attachment as part of their application and it does not count towards the 15-page limit.