

- 1) What is the anticipated start date for the project period?
The project start date will follow acceptance of the award by the successful applicant. Only an Award Official is authorized to bind the Government to the expenditure of funds; selection does not guarantee an award will be made. The award notice, signed by an EPA Award Official, is the authorizing document and will be provided through electronic or postal mail. The successful applicant may need to prepare and submit additional documents and forms (e.g., work plan), which must be approved by EPA, before the cooperative agreement can officially be awarded. The time between notification of selection and award of a cooperative agreement can take up to 90 days or longer.

- 2) How many rounds of subawards are expected? I see that subawards are anticipated to have 3-4 year long projects, and with a 6 year project period for the prime, are we to assume this would allow for two competitive rounds of subawards under this agreement? Is there a desired/expected number of subaward rounds?
If the subawards funded under the cooperative agreement are anticipated to have project periods ranging from three to four years, then it could be two or three subaward competitions. The subawards must be completed prior to the end of the cooperative agreement project period. The subaward projects must be completed in sufficient time to allow the recipient, to, for example, aggregate results and ensure that subawardees have been reimbursed for eligible incurred costs. The applicant may also describe alternative project periods for the subawards within the six year project period and explain why they chose a different project period.

- 3) Since this is a 6 year project, do you want to see a breakdown of the budget by fiscal year, or only the total budget for the 6 years combined?
The applicant should provide a detailed budget and estimated funding amounts for each workplan component/task for each of the 6 years. Total costs must include separate breakdowns for federal and required cost share/matching (non-federal) components. For each cost category, indicate what portion of the cost will be paid by EPA and what portion of the cost will be covered by the minimum non-federal 25 percent cost share/match.

- 4) Where will the answers to questions be posted? The RFA gives this link:
Questions and Answers will be posted on this website: www.epa.gov/nep. There will be a link you can click on for the Questions and Answers.