

FOA #EN-12152010
Biomass Feasibility Study – Request for Proposal

Please see below for answers to all questions regarding the EECBG program received by the Mississippi Development Authority – Energy Division (MDA-ED) through December 3, 2010.

NOTE: All Applicants must read and follow the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) and complete the Application in full to be considered. This is a highly competitive program and not all Applicants will receive funding. The FOA and Application are available at www.stimulus.mississippi.org.

1. QUESTION

Would it be possible to move the submission date for proposals back by 2 days, i.e. from December 15th to December 17th?

ANSWER

Due to the timeliness requirement of the American Recover and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), MDA-ED has a non-negotiable deadline of Wednesday, December 15, 2010 by 3:00pm Central Time for all proposals.

2. QUESTION

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS: The RFP document calls for an original and five copies of the proposal. Will the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) also require a digital submittal of the proposal?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AMENDMENTS: Are there any changes or amendments to the RFP dates November 23, 2010, or does MDA anticipate making any changes or amendments prior to the submittal deadline? If so, how can Company XYZ receive a copy of the amendment?

ANSWER

To the question: The RFP document calls for an original and five copies of the proposal. Will the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) also require a digital submittal of the proposal?

A digital submittal of the proposal is not a requirement of the Request for Proposal.

To the question: Are there any changes or amendments to the RFP dated November 23, 2010, or does MDA anticipate making any changes or amendments prior to the submittal deadline? If so, how can Company XYZ receive a copy of the amendment?

As of December 8, 2010, there have been no changes or amendments made to the Biomass Feasibility Study RFP. Please check the MDA Funding Opportunities and Announcement weblink for any announcements and/or amendments to the current RFPs.

<http://www.mississippi.org/index.php?id=718>

Additionally, you may sign up for email alerts on the MDA Stimulus site and will be informed of any changes to the RFP schedule. Again, there no anticipated changes to the RFP.

3. QUESTION

In the list of required services on page 1 of the RFP, #3 states, “Comprehensive assessment of existing physical assets that can be re-engineered or re-purposed to accommodate the conversion of feedstocks to energy sources.” What are some examples of the types of physical assets mentioned here?

ANSWER

“Physical assets that can be re-engineered or re-purposed to accommodate the conversion of feedstocks to energy sources” include, but are by no means limited to, the following: chip, pulp, paper, plywood, and other mothballed plants that could be used in the woody biomass supply chain; equipment that could be converted to biomass energy production; significant CO₂ producers that could feed algae production; and catfish ponds that could be used for algae. The successful bidder will be expected to work with stakeholders around the state to produce a more comprehensive assessment of physical assets that could serve the state’s growing biomass sector.

4. QUESTION

In regards to Section III Evaluation of Proposals

“MDA-ED will review each proposal to determine if the Proposer has the capacity in place to successfully develop the Biomass Feasibility Study for the State of Mississippi.”

Please tell us more about the objective review process and determination system MDA-ED will be using to evaluate the proposer’s qualification. (I.e. Will MDA-ED use a panel of external reviewers? What will be the scoring criteria for the specific “Evaluation Factor”?)

ANSWER

To the question: Will MDA-ED use a panel of external reviewers?

MDA-ED will appoint a review committee of subject matter experts that will review and evaluate proposals.

To the question: What will be the scoring criteria for the specific “Evaluation Factor”

Per Page 6 of the RFP, the “Evaluation of proposals shall be based on the following specific factors:

Evaluation Factor	Importance
The Proposer's ability to provide the required services as reflected/evidenced by organizational experience (education, experience, etc.)	Critical
A record of past performance of similar work	Critical
The overall quality of the proposed plan for performing the required service.	Critical
Understanding of the project and its objectives.	Very Important
The degree of completeness of response to the specific requirements of the RFP.	Very Important
The personnel, equipment, facilities and financial resources to perform the services currently available or demonstrated to be made available at the time of contracting.	Important
Pricing	Important

5. QUESTION

Can resumes be submitted in an attachment accompanying the proposal so as not to impact the 20-page number count?

ANSWER

Per Page 4 of the RFP, "The narrative should not exceed 20 pages and must be submitted using Times New Roman, 12 point font. Attachments do not count toward the 20 page limit."
