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Renewable Energy for Agriculture Program (REAP) Staff Draft Guidelines

Renewable Energy Division



Geoffrey Dodson
June 20, 2018
California Energy Commission





REAP Draft Guidelines

Renewable Energy Division **DRAFT STAFF REPORT**

Renewable Energy for Agriculture Program DRAFT Guidelines Draft Guidelines provide information on:

- Program structure
- Eligible projects and technologies
- Criteria used in application scoring



California Energy Commission Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor



Renewable Energy for Agriculture Program (REAP)

- Established under the Budget Act of 2017, AB 109
 - "...shall be used to support renewable energy projects in the agriculture sector."
- \$5.7 million from California Climate Investments (Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund)
- Draft guidelines developed with input from:
 - Public workshops and comments in February and March of 2018
 - Public comments received in REAP docket
 - Meetings with State agencies and industry associations
 - CARB Funding Guidelines



Program Goals

- Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Install renewable energy technologies to serve agriculture operations
- Reduce demand for fossil fuels and grid electricity
- Provide additional co-benefits
- Benefit disadvantaged communities*



Quantification Methodology

- CARB must develop guidance on a quantification methodology to estimate GHG emission reductions and other co-benefits from REAP projects
 - Based on available science, experts, academic consultants
- REAP Methodology is under development.
- When complete, will be available for public comment at: www.arb.ca.gov/cci-quantification

Agricultural Operations Definition

Agricultural operations means:

- (1) the growing or harvesting of crops from soil, and the raising of plants at wholesale nurseries, but not retail nurseries, or the raising of fowl or animals for the primary purpose of making a profit, providing a livelihood, or conducting agricultural research or instruction by an educational institution, or
- (2) agricultural crop preparation services such as packinghouses, cotton gins, nut hullers and processors, dehydrators, and feed and grain mills. Agricultural crop preparation services include only the first processing after harvest, not subsequent processing, canning, or other similar activities.



Eligibility for REAP

- Applicant must own or operate agricultural operations that is/are site of project
 - If submitted by an operator, owner must provide written support
- Project must reduce GHG emissions using renewable energy
- Any project proposing installation of energy battery storage or electric vehicle charging must pair the storage or charging equipment with renewable energy generation



Funding Levels

- Maximum total funding: \$5.7 million
 - Additional funding cycles or increased total funding for this cycle if additional funds become available
- Minimum single award: \$50,000
- Maximum single award: \$250,000
 - Maximum is increased to \$300,000 if installation of a new electric vehicle charger paired with renewable energy generation is an element of proposed project.
- Applicant must disclose all sources of GGRF funding in application



Eligible Projects

- Eligible renewable technologies include:
 - Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems
 - Wind turbines
 - Other proven and commercially available renewable energy technologies
- A project may also include:
 - Removal/replacement of diesel agricultural pump for electrical pump
 - Retrofits, upgrades, replacements of equipment
 - Battery storage paired with renewables
 - Electric vehicle or equipment charging

Key Funding Deadlines

- All funds allocated in FY 17/18 budget cycle must be encumbered by June 30, 2019
- All awarded funds from FY 17/18 budget cycle must be liquidated by June 30, 2023



Solicitation Process

- Solicitation documents will be posted on the Energy Commission website
- All requirements for submitting a proposal will be described in the grant solicitation
- Energy Commission Staff will conduct a preapplication workshop
 - Following the workshop, parties can submit written questions
 - Written responses to all questions will be posted to the solicitation webpage



Solicitation Process

- Proposal must pass administrative screening
- All proposals that pass screening will be scored based on technical criteria
- Applications are ranked by final score
- NOPA is published on the Energy Commission website

Proposed Selection Criteria

- Application Screening: pass/fail
- Technical Scoring Criteria:
 - Applicant and project eligibility
 - Technical merit and need project justification
 - Technical approach factors for success
 - Impacts and Benefits GHG emission reduction
 - Preference considerations
 - Priority population considerations



Priority Populations

- Minimum 50% of funds to projects located within and benefitting disadvantaged communities (CalEnviroscreen 3.0 model) http://calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/GHGInvest/
- Minimum 10% of funds to projects within and benefitting AB 1550 low-income communities (at or below 80% statewide median income)
- Minimum 5% of funds to projects located within and benefiting AB 1550 low-income communities within a halfmile of a disadvantaged community



Funding Awards

- Funding will be awarded based on final score starting with the highest score and proceeding until all funds are expended
- Final agreements must be approved at an Energy Commission Business Meeting.
- No work can be completed prior to a fully executed agreement



Estimated Timeline

Approximate Timeline	Solicitation/Project Item
August 2018	Solicitation release
August 2018	Pre-application workshop
August 2018	Deadline for written questions
August 2018	Post questions, answers, and addenda to website
September 2018	Deadline to submit applications
October 2018	Anticipated Notice of Proposed Awards
Ongoing	Anticipated Business Meeting date for approval
June 30, 2019	Award agreements must be finalized by
June 30, 2023	Latest termination date for all agreements



Questions and Comments



Public Comments

- Written Comments
 - Due June 29, 2018 by 5:00pm
 - Submit electronically at:
 https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.as
 px?docketnumber=18-MISC-03
 - Submit by mail at address identified in workshop notice



REAP Contact

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- REAP Main webpage: http://energy.ca.gov/renewables/18-
 MISC-03/
- REAP workshop documents: http://energy.ca.gov/renewables/18-MISC-03/documents/
- REAP dockets log: <u>https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnum</u> ber=18-MISC-03

Thank you



