

STATE WIND ENERGY SUPPORT – WIND AND WATER: DE-PS26-05NT42396-08B

ESTIMATED FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$150 k

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 2-3

FUNDING CEILING: \$50-\$75k

COST SHARE: 25% minimum is required.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES: The Wind and Hydropower Technologies Program recognizes that states are critical partners in the nationwide effort to advance the use of wind energy. An emerging issue that both affects states and could increase wind project development is the use of wind technology to address water resource issues. This is particularly important given continuing drought conditions in the Western, Southwestern, Mountain, and Plains States, and increasing public and private sector demands on surface and underground water resources. Coastal and Barrier Island areas also have limited freshwater resources. Some drivers related to wind and water issues include water use in traditional power generation and irrigation, power needs for water treatment and pumping, contamination of coastal freshwater resources by saltwater intrusion, and multiple policy drivers affecting hydropower generation.

PROJECTS REQUESTED/TECHNICAL AREA OF INTEREST: The Department seeks proposals aimed at identifying opportunities for wind applications in the treatment, movement, and use of water resources. Statewide and/or regional consortia are invited to form appropriate stakeholder groups and settings to stimulate applicable discussions. They are encouraged to provide insight on potential wind/water applications, identify major issues and opportunities, and develop roadmaps and prepare/submit a report to the Program on findings and recommendations. The report should contain a state or regional-based economic evaluation of the application based on local energy prices and utility tariffs. Proposals are sought in areas with suitable resources for large or small wind energy systems. The Program will give special consideration to proposals that are multi-state/regional in nature.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. Expected project contribution to improve understanding of wind energy and water resource issues and opportunities to overcome barriers to wind development. **(Weight 30)**
2. Technical quality of proposed work plan for the project. **(Weight 30)**
3. Capabilities and experience of the project team for completing proposed work plan. **(Weight 20)**
4. Cost of the proposed project accurately reflects anticipated project benefits; degree to which proposed cost share exceeds the minimum required. **(Weight 20)**