

## **Request for Letters of Intent to Participate Electric Vehicle Fleet and Charging Community Partner Project Response deadline April 24, 2020**

### **Background**

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) has issued, on behalf of the Vehicle Technologies Office, a Funding Opportunity Announcement entitled, "Fiscal Year 2020 Advanced Vehicle Technologies Research Funding Opportunity Announcement." The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) anticipates submitting a proposal under **Area of Interest 14 – Electric Vehicle and Charging Community Partner Projects.**

AEA is pursuing an application for Area of Interest 14 to develop robust local and regional partnerships to ease barriers to electric vehicle (EV) adoption. There are two components to AEA's proposed project. The first entails the development of a fast charging corridor along the most travelled highways in Alaska and the installation of Level two chargers in communities throughout the state. For this part of the project, AEA is committing approximately \$1.3 million dollars of Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust funds and is seeking matching funds from the DOE or interested community partners. The second component of the project entails partnering with eligible community members for the purchase of all-electric fleet vehicles to be used as demonstration vehicles. We are seeking partnerships with eligible parties interested in providing up to 50-55 percent cost share for the purchase of all-electric fleet vehicles (e.g., ride hailing vehicles, taxis, shuttle vans, rental vehicles, transit buses, on-road and off-road vehicles at airports and ports) to include in AEA's application to the DOE, which allows for up to 45-50 percent cost share from the DOE for EV fleets.

AEA requests a Letter of Intent to Participate and the required information necessary to complete the grant application, described below, to be delivered to AEA electronically no later than 1 p.m. on April 24, 2020.

### **Eligible Parties**

Eligible parties include state, local, and tribal government entities, for-profit entities, educational institutions, and nonprofits that are incorporated (or otherwise formed) under the laws of a particular State or territory of the U.S. Nonprofit organizations described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that engaged in lobbying activities after December 31, 1995, are not eligible.

## Eligible Vehicles

The following vehicles are eligible:

- ride hailing vehicles, taxis, shuttle vans;
- rental vehicles;
- public or private transit buses; and
- on-road and off-road vehicles at airports and ports

## Specific Requirements of Vehicles

1. EVs must be used 100 percent for the project scope
2. Vehicles must be new, original equipment manufacturer (OEM) factory-produced
3. All vehicles must be certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and/or the California Air Resources Board and meet applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards for on-road use
4. For vehicle leases, the monthly commercial vehicle lease price should be used to determine project costs.

## Cost Share Types and Allowability

Cost share may be provided in the form of cash or in-kind contributions. Cash contributions include, but are not limited to: personnel costs, fringe costs, supply and equipment costs, indirect costs and other direct costs. In-kind contributions are those where a value of the contribution can be readily determined, verified and justified but where no actual cash is transacted in securing the good or service comprising the contribution. Allowable in-kind contributions include, but are not limited to: the donation of volunteer time or the donation of space or use of equipment.

It is very common for deployment/demonstration projects to include third-party equipment where the use of the equipment benefits both the DOE project as well as the third party when they are operating under normal business operations. As a result, when usage fees or usage rates in the form of in-kind contributions from a third party are proposed, DOE will review the benefit calculations and such project costs may be limited to a maximum of 45 percent of the usage rate. The intent of this restriction is to identify an appropriate percentage of the usage rates or usage fees that are allocable to the project. This applies only to vehicles or equipment that are donated to the project, provided as third-party cost share, and are still operating in some capacity under normal business operations.

## Schedule

AEA is requesting Letters of Intent to Participate in AEA's EV Fleet and Charging Community Partner Project and all of the required supporting information for the EERE grant application to be provided no later than 1 p.m. on April 24, 2020.

AEA will compile all of the information received into a single application that will be submitted to EERE April 28, 2020. Submission deadlines and anticipated award dates are below.

<b>Letter of Intent to Participate to AEA:</b>	April 24, 2020 (1 p.m.)
<b>Required EERE application materials to AEA:</b>	April 24, 2020 (1 p.m.)
<b>Submission Deadline for Full Applications to EERE:</b>	April 28, 2020 (1 p.m.)
<b>Anticipated Date for EERE Selection Notifications:</b>	July 2020
<b>Anticipated Timeframe for Award Negotiations:</b>	August 2020

## Submittal

Letters of Intent to Participate and the required EERE application information must be delivered to AEA electronically. This is not a competitive solicitation. Interested parties may contact AEA for assistance in completing the required EERE application information. All submittals and inquiries should be directed to Betsy McGregor at [bmcgregor@akenergyauthority.org](mailto:bmcgregor@akenergyauthority.org).