

Questions and Answers for RFP for Technical Assistance Providers for Alaska Small Cities EECBG

Answers Provided on 7/29/10

Original Question and Answer provided on 7/23/10

Question 17: Is it possible to get AEA/DOE approval to proceed at the start of the project to allow for an efficient methodology of conducting energy efficiency upgrades on the same community visit as the site assessment visit where expensive equipment with high shipping charges such as a blower door could be used for assessing and immediate efficiency measures such as air sealing and post testing all in the same week? If not, how long do you anticipate work being on hold waiting for DOE approval of work plans once the request is submitted?

Answer 17: AEA will be unable to get prior approval from DOE. Projects must stay within the scope provided in the RFP.

These include, but are not limited to:

- Efficiency improvements to the building thermal envelope
- Efficiency improvements to the building heating, air conditioning and/or ventilation system
- Efficiency improvements to building lighting systems and controls, both indoor and outdoor
- Efficiency improvements to the building's electrical load, including motors, pumps, water heaters, heat trace, control equipment (such as timers or occupancy sensors), exit signs, refrigeration, appliances, and other electric loads.

Past experience has shown to take 3-4 weeks. AEA continues to look for ways to streamline the process.

Additional information provided on 7/29/2010:

The federal representative said we do not have to have the scopes of work approved by DOE before projects can be implemented. However, if any measures are implemented that do not fit under the eligible activities and categorically excluded NEPA bounded categories, the provider/community will not be reimbursed for the measure. AEA's RFP limits the Technical Assistant Service Providers (TASP) to the eligible activities, but it would be a good idea for Service Providers to provide their Request to Proceed form describing the full project plans at the earliest possible opportunity to avoid the risk of not being reimbursed for non-eligible activities.

Question 22: SUMMARIZED QUESTION: How often can fund reimbursement be requested? For some villages, it makes more sense for them to use force account for labor for the projects. What is the anticipated time that it will take from reimbursement request until payment will be made/received.

Answer 22: Reimbursement requests can be made monthly. Financial reports are due quarterly for projects that have little or no activity. Payment can take up to 30 days. Please see also Appendix C of the RFA.