

Questions and Answers – Tuesday 15 July 2008

Question: Is the designated form on the website the only accepted way submissions can be made?

Answer: Applications **must** be submitted using the Partnership Proposal Form which is downloadable from the Enterprise Connect website.

Questions: Is it possible to attach additional information to a submission?

Answer: Applicants may attach additional information to their application if they believe it will strengthen their application.

Question: Can more than one organisation be identified when making a submission?

Answer: Proposals are welcome from individual organisations as well as consortia and may be from either the private or public sectors, including higher education institutions. Consortia must identify the lead organisation with which the Australian Government will contract. The organisation making the proposal, or in the case of consortia, the lead organisation, must possess an Australian Business Number or an Australian Company Number.

Question: Can a list of bodies supporting the submission be included?

Answer: Applicants may include in the body of the application, or as an attachment, a list of bodies supporting their application.

Question: In relation to question 13, can you provide any additional information about what is meant by complementary services and how they might be distinguished from core services.

Answer: Complementary services are specific to the clean energy sector. The extent and exact nature of these services will be negotiated with the successful organisation(s). The Commonwealth will co-fund and deliver the services in partnership with the successful partner organisation(s). The partner organisation will be responsible for appointing staff to deliver the complementary services, with input from the Australian Government.

Core services are common throughout the overarching Enterprise Connect network. They will be funded by the Commonwealth and include a national network of Business Advisers to assist with the provision of business improvement services to target firms. The

Department of Innovation will be responsible for appointing staff to deliver the core services.

Refer to page 4 of the Background Information document for further information, and examples, of the core services and complementary services.

Question: There does not appear to be a question 4.

Answer: The omission of a question 4 was an error identified after the Call for Applications had been launched, therefore the numbering cannot be corrected.

Question: Will the same general eligibility financial criteria as apply to the Enterprise Connect manufacturing centres apply to clients of the Clean Energy Innovation Centre. Specifically a turnover range of \$2 million - \$100 million?

Answer: Eligibility criteria will be based on the existing criteria for the Enterprise Connect Manufacturing Centres, however specific criteria for the Clean Energy Innovation Centre has not been finalised.

Question: Is it intended that eligibility criteria will be changed to allow more early stage clean energy research projects to qualify?

Answer: Eligibility to receive services through the Clean Energy Innovation Centre will be determined by the size of the company, not the size of the project.

Question: Is it intended that "Researchers in Business Grants" will be offered through the Clean Energy Innovation Centre?

Answer: Yes, Researchers in Business grants will be offered through the Clean Energy Innovation Centre.

Question: Will individual organisations be able to offer local service delivery without applying to be national coordinator?

Answer: There will be only one Clean Energy Innovation Centre which will provide services nationally through their developed networks and the Enterprise Connect network. Please note that Enterprise Connect will arrange for Business Advisers to deliver core services nationally. Recruitment of Business Advisers will take place at a later date.

Question: Can the submission for the CEIC come from two agencies who are equal partners in a joint venture to run the CEIC? If so, must the agencies already be involved in a joint venture prior to making the submission or can the joint venture be established after the submission process is complete?

Answer: The Department welcomes submissions from consortia. It is not necessary for the consortia to be registered at the time of application, however if successful it would need to be registered immediately. For the purposes of submitting a proposal there must be lead organisation that has responsibility for the proposal. This organisation must have a registered Australian Business Number.

Question: Due to unforeseen circumstances we will not be able to attend the briefing on Friday, 4 July 2008. Does this preclude us from submitting a proposal? Will a presentation or other information summarising the briefing be available for consideration?

Answer: Not being able to attend the briefing session does not exclude you from submitting a proposal. For all of those unable to attend the information briefing, a copy of the presentation will be available on the Enterprise Connect website, as will a copy of the Questions and Answers raised at the session. These should be available on the website by COB Monday, 7 July 2008 (if not before).

Question: Is any first cut analysis of data you have done regarding SME locations via ANZSIC codes we can access to assist us with our response?

Answer: Enterprise Connect has not conducted any analysis (via ANZSIC or other) on the geographic spread of SMEs in the Clean Energy sector. We understand that this data is very difficult to access which may cause some concern with answering Question 13, however Enterprise Connect is looking for a response based on your company's experience. We do not expect you to engage the market or undertake market research to answer this, or any other question in the Partnership Proposal Form.