TechWerx EERE CEC4A Office Hours Transcripts
12/4/2024

Shane Hamstra, TWX:

Well, hello, everyone, and welcome to today's Office Hour session. Thank you so much for being here. Just before we get started, we wanted to go over a few logistical announcements.

If you have questions, comments, or need technical assistance today, we encourage you to use the Q&A portal to enter those. You'll be able to see all the questions that are entered, so please feel free to upvote questions that you would like to see most answered. We'll try to do our best to answer as many questions as possible, but we may not get to all of them. The session is being recorded today and will be provided as a link on the website. If you need any technical assistance, again, please let me know in that Q&A portal. If you would like to use the captions or transcription option, you can do so by enabling that using the CC button on your Zoom toolbar, opening that and click selecting show subtitles. So, thank you so much for being here and now I'll hand things over to our moderator to get us started.

Adam Klich, TWX:

All right. Thank you, Shane. Hello, everyone. We're very excited to host our third session for the Clean Energy Careers for All (CEC4A) opportunity. So, this is the office hours number two. And the way that we're going to run it, it's going to be just, you know, very short context setting and then we're going to spend most of the time today on those questions that you have as you prepare for your application. As a reminder, the deadline for the CEC4A opportunity is December 13th at 5 PM, and we do recommend trying to submit your application before 5PM. The system does close exactly at 5, so you know, to avoid any last minute stress with maybe potential technical issues or anything, we recommend trying to submit your application ahead of that.

So, the CEC4A opportunity, as a reminder, is being funded by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the Department of Energy, or EERE. Next slide, please. Very quick intro. My name is Adam Klich. I'm part of the TechWerx team. TechWerx, for those of you who don't know us yet, we're a new DOE innovation Hub managed by RTI International in support of DOE. So, our goal is really to facilitate connections among the federal agency, academia, nonprofits, startups, small businesses across the US. Really trying to connect with those organizations that historically haven't really worked with the federal government. To hear about any new opportunities or any updates on the CEC4A opportunity we recommend following our social media pages on LinkedIn and signing up for our newsletter. The link is on our website. Next slide, please.

Some housekeeping items. Again, we're going to be using the Q&A chat function of zoom. It's going to be on the bottom of your screen for all of the questions that we're going to be addressing them by the number of votes. So, there is a voting function as part of that and please do vote for the questions that you really want to make sure that are answered.

We'll try to get through as many questions as we can today. If there are still questions, you know, and we run out of time, we're not able to address them during the session, we're still going to kind of collect all of the questions and work with the DOE to get them answers for those. And then the questions and the answers for all the ones that we covered during the webinar, and all of those that we cover outside as well, as well as all the ones that comes via email, they're all posted on the FAQ section of the opportunity page on the website. I'm going to do a quick walkthrough to show you where exactly you can find those in in a minute couple of other things.

We do not allow any of any AI bots on the webinar. So, you know other AI or any of those tools. It's a DOE requirement. And you shouldn't need it, because this session is being recorded. It will be posted on our website along with a transcript for the for the webinar as well, and the slides. Last thing, the posting for the webinar and the transcript and slides and everything will be posted to website within two to three days, so you'll see that coming up soon.

I'm going to grab this screen for one second and just to do a quick walkthrough of where you can find the things on the website as soon as I find the page. Here it is, alright, great. So, if you go to our website at tecwerx.org and you scroll to opportunities and you find the CEC4A opportunity. As you scroll through, you see that the first, there's a teaming list. So teaming is, you know, an option for this opportunity. I think we have over 100 organizations that are interested in teaming. So their information and contact information is all captured here. So please do look through. If you're looking for partners, or if you do want to put your name on the list so you can get teamed up with other people.

There's a button right here so you can just fill out the information very quickly, and your name for your organization will be posted here if you scroll down a little bit more. The recordings for the information session as well as the office hours number one are posted here along with the slides and transcripts so you're able to see all of those if you haven't had a chance to do that yet again. This recording will also be posted here in the next couple of days. and if you scroll a little bit more, there's the frequently asked questions section. We have, as you can see, 87 questions and answers that have been posted. They are grouped by topic so you're able to, you know, look through them. There's also the search function, so if you have a specific question, it's based on keywords so you can just type it in and it will search through what's posted there. And if you think that the screen is too small, you know the window on the website. There's a little button right here in the bottom, right? That says, view larger window, and it will open up a new tab on your browser, so it's a little bit easier for you to read through it.

With that, I'm going to go back. Shane, can you please go back to the slides? Okay. So now I'm gonna pass it over to our team who is running this project with the Office of Energy, Efficiency, and Renewable Energy. We're joined by Terrence Mosley. He's the senior advisor for diversity in STEM for EERE, and he's accompanied by his colleagues, Zachary Quirk and Alexandra Johnson, and they're going to again give very quick context. And then we're going to jump into the Q&A. Terrence.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE

Alright, hey. Thanks Adam, I really appreciate it. And unfortunately, Zach couldn't be with us today, but this will be a shorter session, like I said, since we've had the couple of other sessions and office hours.

Just to very quickly recover, for those of you that may have may not have been able to make the first couple of sessions. We normally just like to review the mission of EERE as far as for those of you that might not be familiar with it. And what it is, is like we're here to really accelerate the R&D, including demonstration and deployment as well of clean energy technologies and solutions, to make sure that we try to transition over to a net 0 greenhouse gas emissions economy wide by 2050. And so, but the last half of it is really what I like to pull people's attention. While creating good paying jobs for the American people, with a particular focus on workers and communities who've been most negatively impacted by the energy transition, when you look at that, it really makes sense for us to do a workforce initiative project like this. And so, we're happy to see the excitement that's been around it, and we're glad that you're on board today to learn a little bit more about it.

So anyway, if we if we go to the next slide, I think we're just covering the basics of the opportunity again. And all of this is on the website. But we'll quickly cover it. You know, the purpose, of course, of this opportunity is really it's aimed at funding new programs or the expansion of current programs that will look to provide future growth of the clean energy workforce sector. And what we're really looking for is effective and unique ways to help broaden participation and engage individuals from many different groups within the STEM space and really do it in ways that promote interest in these careers that support the nation's transition to clean energy.

And so, the details of it is that what we're hoping to do is to designate between somewhere between 7 to 10 awards based on final budgets and those kinds of things. But we're looking to do between 7 to 10 awards of up to $300,000 each during phase one. And these particular projects, and some of this will, you know, based on the project and based on your projections and the and meeting, you know, milestones, we're looking at a minimum of around 9 months in length for this phase one part of this project. It could go a little higher, just based on when we're able to start and you know how quickly we're able to get awards out. But let's just say between 9 to 12 months, you know, at the max where we're looking over the proposals for your phase one proposals, and having those projects be between that 9 to 12 month period, and hopefully be able to start in around the April approximately the April 2025 timeframe. And so, of course, as we've talked about before, the lead entities must be a 501(c)3 or 501(c)6 and then I think Adam already mentioned about the deadline. And so we hope to see a lot of proposals come in before the before the deadline. Anyway, with that said, I think, I believe you go to the next slide. I think that was really it, though we just kind of wanted to cover the overview again and then basically see if there are questions that we need to address, and we can just jump right into it.

So, Adam, I'll go with you however we want to do this.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Yeah, no, it sounds great. I already have a few questions here, so we'll just go through them and see what we can get answered. And Shane, if you want to pull up the next slide it will be there and it will be mainly a reminder for folks that we do ask that at the end of the webinar if you can provide us with a quick post webinar survey, it really helps us make sure that, you know we're improving on these as we move forward for the opportunities.

Alright, I'll start with the first one. Where should the milestone template be included in the submission--with the program description, or with the appendix? And does it count towards the 3-page limit?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Now this one, I really, the milestones, really, and you know and I don't know, I'll even ask Sarah if she wants to chime in, I really think the milestones would be addressed after, you know, after. that would be part of the basic negotiation, or really trying to work out when you're you know, when you're scheduled to do certain things in conjunction with the award itself.

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

Yeah, I think they're talking about the budget template. And I don't know, Adam, if you guys have a specific place where you want that uploaded in the application.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yeah, cause I wasn't sure if they were referring to like the milestones that we're talking about for afterwards, when you're actually awarded, or if they're talking about a basic budget.

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

Yeah, I think the I think they're talking about the budget template. I think there's a place where you upload that within the application itself. Adam, I don't know if you have any more.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Yeah, I think you're correct. If it's if it's the budget milestone template, then there's a place for it. That's where it should be. But we'll double check if there are templates in there. So.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

But yeah, but I think that's correct, though. But yeah, we can double check that and see.

Adam Klich, TWX:

So, question number two. Review criteria calls for anticipated program milestones and evaluation metrics, but the milestone template does not have a line for evaluation metrics. Can you clarify a bit what you're looking for in terms of evaluation metrics?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

You know, for the phase one, I would tell you as basic as you can make it. You know what we're what we're trying to do, because we realize in in phase one like that you're not necessarily gonna have, like a full on you know, evaluation of results afterwards. But what we are looking for is to see basic metrics, as far as how many how many people that you're looking at, touching with your particular program. You know, maybe the backgrounds, or you know, categories of different participants. You know what your audience is. If it's, you know, veterans, if it's, you know, reentry, if it's you know K through 12, if it's you know, university, whatever it might be, I think we're really just trying to get a feel for basically, if you're looking at setting up something, whether it's regionally or nationally, we're really just trying to get a really good feel for how many how many people that your project is touching.

So really basic data that you can show to maybe show you know how you came to decide to work with the group that you're working with or targeting. And then you know the numbers of people that you're looking to affect, and then hopefully, if you have an end result, you know, if you're looking at plugging people into industry of some sort or different things like that, I mean, whatever the basic metrics of what you're proposing is really what we're looking for at this point. When we would move on to like a potential second phase, then, of course, then, we could look for a little bit more in depth metrics, after you know, after you get your proof of concept done in the first phase.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Thank you, and I did confirm, I went back for the first question around the milestone template the document that we have on the website. That would be part of the appendix. So, the appendix is where the per milestones would go. So.

Okay, is a partnership or coalition required or encouraged? Or is it fine to apply as a single applicant?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

No, it is allowed to apply as a single applicant, I think. really, you know your organization. And so there are some groups that are set up, as you know, that are nationwide in scope, and so they may not, you know need or require, or, you know, want any other partners. But sometimes the best way to build a more effective partnership is to, you know, build a coalition, maybe work with others. So, it's really up to you, you know. I think you know, each organization should know kind of what they're shooting for. You know, we would love to see programs that really are ambitious, and, and, you know, larger in scope and really touch a lot of people. But you know, if you're one organization, and you have a really strong idea for what you're trying to do, and the people that you're trying to affect to gear them towards the energy workforce, then there's nothing wrong with that as well. So yeah, so you're perfectly fine.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Next question, can we provide the detailed budget or the sum per task, including the milestones, will be the focus of reviewer and program managers?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

What now? Let's ask that one more time. Let me make sure I heard the first part.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Yeah, they're asking whether they need to provide a detailed budget, or if the reviewers and program managers are only going to be focused on this sum per task.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Well, no, the budget is important. I mean just to be able to see is it realistic what you're proposing for a reviewer, you know, to make sure that. That it looks you know, from a realistic perspective that you can get done what you're saying you're going to do, you know, from a from a budget standpoint. So yes, it’s definitely part of, you know, what would be considered important to make sure that you're you know, realistically able to do what you what you say, that you're going to try to do.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Ready. Okay, can funding be used for training stipends to trainees and our apprentices?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yes, yes, there's no limitations on that. You know, I think that's one of the good things about this this particular, you know, opportunity and funding mechanism is that you know we're not trying to dictate how you use the funds. We just want to make sure that they're used effectively to try to reach the end goal. So yes, you would be fine to do that. And I think we even mentioned that in the opportunity that if you, if you need some of the funding particularly, for you know, wraparound services, other things like that, that will help participants, you know participate in the training of some sort or apprentice programs, or fully within the bounds of the of the rules.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Is there a metric level in terms of participants reached or trained that you hope to see, and we should strive to reach?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Well, I mean, I think once again, it really depends on what you're shooting for. Is it a, you know, one state effort? Is it a regional effort? Is it a national effort? I mean the larger in scope that it that it really attempts to be, we would hope to see you know, larger metrics of participants take part and hopefully, you know, go towards potential careers in the energy workforce. But there is no minimum level or something, you know. So yeah, so I think it's really based on the scope of your project and really what you're trying to get done. So, it's really just making sure that it's an effective proposal, and that what you're what you're putting forth is realistic for you to handle.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Does the CEC4A milestone template document serve as a three-page document for data, milestones and etc.?

I'll say yes, that is part of it on the application document. There are three pages that you can use for as an appendix. That will include the data charts, anything that you want to include, and the milestone template is part of that. It doesn't need to be three pages of milestones, but it's in the three page appendix allotment, where you would include the milestone templates.

I don't know if you want to add anything, Terrence.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

No, no, no, no! That is dead on.

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

One thing I wanted to add on the budget in general. Essentially, we're not looking for like detailed line by line, explanations of how you're spending all of the money. We're just basically saying that if you're going to put, you know a third of the budget towards task one, you kind of need to justify. Why task one is going to take up that much of that budget, if that makes sense. So, it's just a justification for why you're assigning different values to different tasks. And you can put that within the description of the milestone as well.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Exactly. And that just comes back to like, you know, realistically like, what do you need to do what your plans are? And you know, is that really realistic for that section of work? And you know, just kind of really, just in in general, just making sure that the budget fits what you're what you're trying to do.

Adam Klich, TWX:

What is expected to be shown in the budget column of the milestone chart. Just a dollar amount or more?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Well, I think it's I think it's pretty much like Sarah just said I mean. Basically trying to break down if you know that you have, I don't know two or three main sections of work that you're trying to do you know. And you're assigning a certain amount to you know, like one of the last questions, as far as like, you know training programs or you know, funds, for you know, apprentices or some kinds of programs or something you just want to be able to assign, you know, figures so that so that the reviewers feel that you know what you're doing and that you're organized in your efforts on what's going to what to make the to make the project work.

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

Yeah. And so that description goes in that sort of task column. And then the dollar amount goes in that budget column.

Adam Klich, TWX:

You next question. Okay, this is three questions in one. So, we'll go one at a time.

First one, how should project costs and budget info be shared?

I think we already covered this one. I understand there is no line item, breakdown, but is there any level of info besides request that would strengthen our application? I think we just covered this one, you're justifying what you're including in there.

Second question, can you share what if any shifts may have occurred since the election, given the original structure of this as an initial 9-month request?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

No, I mean it. It's the same as it was when we first released it. So, I mean, yeah, I wouldn't make any changes or significant changes in in what you're trying to do. I mean, you know, workforce programs that's not really changing with, you know any. any, any, any new administration. So, I would say, stick to your guns, and you know, put forth what you're what you're proposing.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Yeah, nothing has changed on this opportunity. Question three: must the grant support a new project, or can it support a new partnership or other program strengthening elements?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Absolutely. And I think we said that on the first page of the opportunity, as far as you know it can be to initiate a new program, or it can be to expand a current program, or like the question says here, or a new partnership of some sort. It's any of the above.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Next question. Does the FOA require the proposal to be partnered with industry or academia? Or can the relationship be established by getting support commitment?

I'll start just to clarify. This is not a FOA, this is an opportunity through the partnership intermediary program. So, it's different.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yeah, I just, I wanted to let you finish with that. But yeah, I was going to say the same thing that it's not a FOA. But I know people are so used to, you know, DOE and FOA. So anyway, yeah, different funding mechanism here. But I'll put it this way. It’s not required, but I would say that you know you want to be able to show, you know, a connection. You want to be able to have an end point to say that this is where this is what we're doing through our project to, you know, to try to generate more workforce in this particular space of the clean energy space. And so, while it's not necessarily required it, I guess it would just depend on the proposal. You know, we'd have to see what it what it was. But you know, I can't say that it's like a requirement that you have to have that we just need to be able to see what you're what you're proposing and how it connects with driving workforce in the in the industry.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Is the kickoff meeting with DOE in person or online? What is a typical number of participants for the Kickoff meeting if it is in person?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Well, few steps before we get to kickoff meeting, I guess you know, and Sarah, this might be one where I don't know if you wanna talk about the like kind of how the arrangement are made, how the agreement is come to, or that process, because that's kind of after the fact. But you know, if you want to speak to it, you can.

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

Yeah. So, at this point we're not anticipating an in-person kickoff meeting, but all of those, any required meetings as part of this award will be negotiated during the statement of effort negotiation process. So as your applications are being reviewed, that's part of why we ask for those milestones, because that can help us inform that statement of effort as we're drafting the partnership agreement contracts between you and TechWerx. So essentially, the answer to this question is to be determined. But this is all negotiated after the award has been decided.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Right. And that's why I said, it's kind of a after the fact, you know, after the original reviews are done and stuff. We kind of get into those kind of questions afterwards for the awardees, yeah.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Question. I see two upload slots only for the proposal in letters of support. No budget template upload slot for milestones.

So, the project milestones with the budget template that we have would be part of that proposal. It would be on the 3 additional pages, that may be appendix. So that's where you would include that documentation, as one document that you upload for the proposal.

Alright. Next question, please describe what should be included for the cover page.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

I think they’re submitting in the in the template, right? I mean, it's I don't know that there's a cover page format. You know, Adam on the system, right? Or on the on the application?

Adam Klich, TWX:

There isn't. No.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

I guess if you include it in the, you just you just talked about it, Adam, the appendix, I guess if you're wanting to do that in the appendix, as far as like the name of your group, and you know the name of your effort, that kind of thing. There's no there's no real template, though.

Adam Klich, TWX:

It's whatever you want to include on the cover page.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yes, basically, just, you know, as informative as you can make it. I'll put it that way.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Okay. Next question, should we include in the proposal how we may intend to use phase two funding down the road?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

I would say there's nothing wrong with that if you want to try to give a little bit more kind of long term, or you know, sustainability type of information. If you have strong ideas on how you how you wanna see it continuing.

There's nothing wrong with that. It's not required. Because, like I said at this point, we really just want to get the best ideas going for phase one. But if you kinda have that long term or longer-term idea in mind then, yeah, there's nothing wrong with that. Like we always say, is, more information is, you know better than less, you know, when it comes to just like getting a getting an idea of what you're trying to do.

Adam Klich, TWX:

This question: can non-table or graph visuals be uploaded into the grant application? And if so, how?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Non, okay, what? Non time table or graph visuals? I guess they maybe mean graphics of some sort or pictures or something like that, or is that? Is that the way you take that.

Adam Klich, TWX:

I imagine so. Yes.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yeah, I think it would be the same. You know, the same download process right?

Adam Klich, TWX:

Yeah, I'll say, would be within the constraints of the three page appendix if your data is usually being included.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Right. I think that's the only thing I would say to be careful of is probably, you know, make sure that you have enough room, you know. Make sure you have enough space within the within the appendix. If you're going to add on, you know, pictures of some sort or something else. Just make sure that you still have room for your necessary appendix information or data.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Okay. Is there value in including the CV of the proposed grant program manager?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

I would say so, once again, if there's room in the, you know, just making sure that you have your pertinent information in the in the in the appendix. I'm sure it could probably help if it's going to be the lead person that's really going to be kind of in charge of you know pulling partners together, leading the project. In a sense, then yes, I'm sure that would that would be that would be informative for reviewers.

Adam Klich, TWX:

With the clarification that you're still bound by the one page for your cover, three pages for program description, and the three pages for the appendix, so.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Exactly. Just making sure that you once again that you have room for all of your pertinent information there and yes.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Is potential quantifiable impact critical to the selection criteria, or can evaluation and assessment of the project be deferred to the post grant phase?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

I would say, for phase one, it probably is really important for us to see that potential, you know, quantifiable impact. Because once again, you know, this phase one is really about the idea, and the merit of you know of your particular idea. And that's where we would want to see assessment follow up in the in the next phase, you know. Like I said, we're not expecting you to be able to do a full on assessment after you know 9 to 12 months or something. You know, we really know that that'll be kind of the startup phase unless you're expanding a current program and maybe you have more data ready to present.

Adam Klich, TWX:

From a budgeting perspective, how will milestone payments be initiated upon completion of each milestone or to fund each milestone so the work can be done?

I can take this one. The way that it's going to work once, you know, the contracts are in place, is that work will be paid after the milestone is reached. So, as part of the invoice for your agreement, you're going to have to submit proof of your milestone completion, so the work is not going to be funding ahead of the milestone. It's going to be funding once each milestone is reached. Terrence, Sarah. Anything else to add.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

No, no, I thought that was like definitely I wanted to let you and Sarah elaborate on that one.

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

Yeah and that's part of why we have in the milestone template that task one is that kickoff meeting. So, having an early easy to meet milestone that you can assign some amount of like seed funding to and then continue with the rest of the project.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yeah and I think that's the really good part about having, you know tech works and OTT to work with as you get kicked off to really work through those milestones together.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Is the second round of funding threatened due to the incoming administration?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

No, I'll keep it simple.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Very easy.

Okay is reach local, regional or national, more important, for the first 9-month grant period? Would our program still be considered national if we're using a regional program in the first 9 months to pilot what will be rolled out at the end of the award?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Well, I think what you could do, and this is part of like the description, this is a good question, because I think I mentioned proof of concept, you know, earlier. I mean, and I think this is part of what you want to do during phase one is that if you know at the beginning that you are aiming to take it national, make sure to make that clear in your description of the project that you know we're doing this particular project regionally but with a full intent if we're awarded to, you know, to continue this to scale it up to a national scale. And I think that's, you know, very relevant for the reviewers to know.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Okay, next one. Our CBO provides workforce development. As far as eligibility could our CBO be counted for both CBO and workforce development?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Now, I probably would need a little more information there as far as eligibility. Could our CBO be counted for both CBO and workforce development? I mean, once again, it really comes back to the type of organization. You know how you're classified. That's probably the best that I can answer right now without a little more detail. So, I mean, if you if you know, as we covered at the beginning, the types of organizations that we have to lead projects. I'll probably just leave it at that for right now, and if you want to send some more detail or something to the team, you can email it to the team. And we could try to answer that in a little more detail, for you.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Could you clarify the goal for national impact of the program?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Well, it's really, you know, pretty simple or pretty plain English. There's nothing tricky about it, that's why there aren't any numeric goals like that, you know. I mentioned that in one of the questions earlier. There's not a minimum or maximum. So, you know, when we're talking about national, we're really saying that if you're able to be national in scale, if your organization or your coalition if you have partners and are able to implement a program that you know that that that affects participants on a national scale, that's really what we're talking about. So you know, technically, if you think about it, you could have a regional program that might touch more constituents or more participants than a national program just depending on maybe you have a lot of partners within that region. So really, there's no numeric goal. But it's just the goal to be able to say that, you know, if we can find some programs that that are either at a national scale or that can be scaled up to be national, you know fairly easily, that would be ideal. Hopefully that answers that for you, though.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Following up on the cover page question, is it okay for this to be structured like a one page summary or overview?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yeah, no, I think that's perfectly fine. And that's kind of what I meant when I said, you know as informative as you can make it. If you do, you know, have the title and name of the group, or what have you, and maybe like a synopsis, I'm sure that would be helpful for reviewers. So yes, I would definitely say even though we didn't have necessarily like a format for it, that that sounds perfectly fine to me.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Last question that we have. So at the moment, can funding be used to pilot technologies that will strengthen the project?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

That one. I guess I maybe would need a little more detail here as well. because, you know, once again, we're not tying your hands on how you could use the funding. But I guess yeah, I'd have to know a little bit more about that, because it's it almost sounds like the person is like, I don't know, maybe there's a group that is you know, trying to pilot up and coming technology or something and trying to help establish workforce in it. If it's connected, perhaps, but we would just have to know a little bit more detail before I could probably answer that any better. I hope that helps.

Adam Klich, TWX:

So, we've answered all the questions that we had right now we'll give people couple more minutes, so if you still have questions, please go ahead and add them to the Q&A.

We have one more that just came in regarding the cover page. Your answer to this question is confusing, because there are specific directions within the application site on how to format the cover page, and a one page description is not considered.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Oh, now, okay. Now, I haven't looked back at it lately. But, Adam, I'll probably let you handle that one.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Yeah, I'm looking through it right now to see exactly what what's in there. Cause I don't recall that we put a lot of focus on the cover page itself. Okay, I see. Yeah, so we say that the cover page should include the preliminary program title, primary points of contact names of all team member organizations, the program locations and any statements regarding confidentiality.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Okay. So, it was there. Then that's why I say, I haven't looked at that in a minute on that particular formatting. But yeah, if you want to refer people to that, I guess it's there.

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

Yeah, I think just viewing those guidelines as sort of like the minimum that we're looking for in the cover page. But if you want to add other content, you know. Welcome to do that.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yeah. And I think that's part of what we were saying, too, is just to, you know, as informative as you can make it.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Okay, there's a question, what does statements regarding confidentiality mean for the cover page?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Oh, that was part of the format, wasn't it Adam?

Adam Klich, TWX:

It's part of what they can include, yeah, if it's applicable. Usually organizations have standard confidentiality terms when they submit. So if that applies to you, you can include those in the cover page.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Right. And I think that probably refers to any like, maybe programs or any sensitive things that are like, I don't know, maybe a trademark, I mean, or copyrighted within your organization, or something like that. But yeah.

Adam Klich, TWX:

We'll wait a couple of minutes and see if you have any more questions. Please go ahead and type them in.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yeah, time rolls by. It's already almost 50 minutes in so yeah. This is great, though, I think we're getting to the point of hopefully, you know, everybody's got the answers that they need to go forward.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Would we have to be the organization to scale up original project to a national one in phase two, or can we plan that another organization would do that?

Sara Harvey, DOE OTT:

So, we can't make additional awards to other organizations in phase two. They have to be the awarded organization in phase one.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Right, that that's exactly what I was about to say. It couldn't be a major change or shift from the phase one to phase two cause we'd have to judge phase two based off of what was done in phase one. And it's not a new, you know, new competition of any sort.

Alright and like I said, if you want to give it a minute we can, but we can give everybody back 10 min or 12 min here, if nobody has any anything else.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Wait a couple of minutes, and in the meantime just a reminder. Please do scan the QR code and take the post webinar survey to share feedback with us. They're very, very short and we appreciate your input.

Two more questions. Who should we reach out to if we have additional questions leading up to the 13th? There are 2 ways that you can ask questions after the webinar. One is through the form on our website on techwwerx.org the other one is through emailing us directly at info@techwerx.org. So either one of those will be fine, and we'll work to get you and answer if you have any questions between now and then. If you encounter any technical issues with the submission portal, please do reach out to us as well.

Can we apply as two partner organizations?

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Yes, I think that's connected to the last question about the phase two, or what have you. Yes, if you clearly think that the other organization will kind of help to carry it on if you get to that point, as we mentioned, we can't really change it after the phase one. So you know, it's definitely fine for you to partner with others, as you know. Like, I said, that's why we had a partnering list provided as well, so that if you did want to partner with other organizations to make your proposal stronger or more viable or what have you, then we definitely encourage you to do that. But Andrea, thank you as well for bringing up that formatting on the cover page.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Around for another minute if there are any last-minute questions.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

And I think also. Well, just reminder, before people leave too, I think the yeah, she, I think she placed the survey in the chat as well, so please make sure to fill that out before you before you move on to your next meeting. Looks like we're good.

Adam Klich, TWX:

Perfect, again, if you have any questions between now and the deadline, do email us. Otherwise, we hope to see your applications soon. Thank you, everyone.

Terrence Mosley, DOE EERE:

Thank you very much.