KY Academic Institution Microgrid Project
Questions and Answers

1. Is the design and/or construction of a physical microgrid compulsory for a competitive application, or would a project focused on feasibility analysis, hazard mapping, AI-based modeling, and site identification also be considered responsive?

   A: This funding is for the development and deployment of a microgrid. Projects selected for funded should ensure that the scope of work includes the following elements.

   - Projects selected for funded should ensure that the scope of work includes the following elements.
   - Microgrid feasibility study –Assessing energy needs, infrastructure, and potential for microgrid deployment.
   - Design & engineering analysis– Developing system architecture, technical design, and regulatory compliance assessment.
   - Microgrid construction & deployment – Implementing and integrating microgrid components.
   - Integration of battery storage for resilience – Supporting backup power and energy management.
   - Fossil and Renewable energy generation (solar, wind) within microgrid design – Enhancing sustainability and energy security.
   - Infrastructure upgrades for microgrid operation – Ensuring compatibility with existing systems.

2. The webinar mentioned one $2 million award. What is the ideal project duration expected for such an award — would a 3-year, 4-year, or 5-year timeline be most appropriate?

   A: The microgrid must be installed and project complete by April 30, 2028.

3. The program adopts a phased approach, allowing institutions to progress from feasibility studies to full implementation with funding eligibility at each stage.

   A: PHASE 1- Feasibility Study

   PHASE 2 - Design and Engineering

   PHASE 3 - Implementation and Construction

PHASE 4 - System Integration & Optimization

4. Does $2 million cover just a study from phase 1 with additional funding for Phases 2 - 4? Any buildout of a microgrid would require significantly more $$.

   A: The total grant is for 2million. If the cost exceeds this amount, the university would have to commit to the difference.

   Budget and Leveraged funding (50 Points)
   - Justification for each expense category shall be provided in the Detail Budget Narrative. Project budget will be evaluated and scored for reasonableness by comparing cost vs. benefits of the overall application.
   - Funding leveraged to secure additional funding to complete the project.

5. The webinar presentation (https://utexas.box.com/s/hs24sqhiz3e9mush618udr0cxfsfdl79) said that the proposal should have "University Benefits and Impacts" that carries 50 points. Does this mean that the microgrid should be planned in a university or the benefits to a university in terms of learning and student experience doing such a project?

   A: University Benefits and Impact (50 Points)
   - Contributions to resilience, sustainability, cost savings and student safety.
   - Support from university leadership and partnerships with industry experts.
   - Cybersecurity considerations.
   - Includes metrics for tracking project success and benefits.

6. The microgrid installation has to be within the university or can it be at another location as well? We are planning to have BGMU/TVA partner in this and as discussed if the budget goes above $2 million we could explore some funds from them. If the university can only contribute $ which might be additionally required, the university might have an interest in getting the microgrid set up in the campus.

   A: The microgrid needs to be installed for critical facilities on a college or university campus. (please elaborate on, "another location")

   OEP does not determine where the additional funds come from, if it is required to procure and install a microgrid system, outside of the 2 million.