Office of Technology Commercialization

DE-LC-000L130 FY26&FY27 Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF) Base CLIMR Technology Specific Topics Lab Call

Informational Webinar

October 15, 2026, 3 p.m. ET

Housekeeping

- All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the entire lab call and adhere to the stated submission requirements.
- This presentation summarizes the contents of the lab call. If there are any inconsistencies between the lab call and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, **the lab call is the controlling document, and applicants should rely on the lab call language and seek clarification from OTC at TCF@hq.doe.gov.**
- Please remain on mute till the end of the presentation.
- Please save all questions till the end of the presentation. Please submit questions in the chat function.
- All questions will go into the formal Q&A log and will be answered and publicly posted to Exchange.
- The Informational Webinar slides will be posted to Exchange.

Agenda

- Key Dates
- Background
- General Information
- Budget per Project and Estimated Funding
- Eligibility
- Cost-Share
- Topics
- Lab and External Partnerships
- Concept Paper Stage
- Full Application Stage
- Applying in Exchange
- Questions

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Background

Key Dates

KEY DATES	
Lab call release date	September 24th, 2026
PROPOSAL DEADLINE AND DECISION DATES	
Submission deadline* for concept papers (see Section V.ii)	November 3rd, 2026, 3 PM ET
Encourage/Discourage decisions on concept papers back to labs	January 14th, 2027
Submission deadline* for full applications (see Section V.iii)	March 1st, 2027, 3 PM ET
Anticipated date for selection notifications	Q4 FY27

Background

The Department of Energy Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF) was established by Congress through the Energy Policy Act of 2005[1] and reauthorized by the recent Energy Act of 2020[2] to "promote promising energy technologies for commercial purposes."

Within DOE, the Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) is charged with leading policy and programs related to technology commercialization, including TCF.

This lab call represents the combined effort of five distinct DOE programs and OTC.

- Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response
- Office of Electricity
- Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office
- Office of Nuclear Energy
- Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation

1. Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109–58, 109th Cong. (August 8, 2005), *Improved technology transfer of energy technologies*, 42 U.S. Code § 16391 (a).
2. Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116–260, 116th Cong. (December 27, 2020), 134 Stat. 2597, Sec. 9003. https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ260/PLAW-116publ260.pdf.

General Information

Means of Submission for Applications	Exchange (DE-LC-000L130) DOE will not review or consider proposals submitted through other means.
Total Amount to be Provided	DOE estimates to make available approximately $33 – $41 million of Federal funding for award under this lab call, subject to the availability of appropriated FY27 funds. DOE may issue one, multiple, or no awards.
Estimated Number of Projects: **Estimated Project Duration:**	30–50 1–3 years
Scope and Eligibility	Only National Lab technologies relevant to the stated Program Office AOI's should apply. Technology should be a minimum TRL 4 unless stated otherwise in Section IV of the lab call. Open to All U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories, Plants, and Sites.
Cost Share	DOE prefers all funded projects to meet 50% of the total project cost-share fund requirement; however, less than 50% cost share allowed if certain criteria are met. Cost share amount can impact the overall score of the project proposal.
Submission of Multiple Proposals	There are no limits on the number of full applications each National Laboratory can submit for the CLIMR Technology Specific Topics Lab Call.
Questions	TCF lab call: TCF@hq.doe.gov Using the online application portal: exchangehelp@hq.doe.gov

Budget per Project and Estimated Funding

- Proposals should not request funding that is greater than the available program office(s) budget. Budgets should be reasonable and budget amount will be taken into consideration during review and selection.
- The number of selections and the total budget will depend on the number of meritorious proposals and the availability of congressionally appropriated funds in DOE program offices participating in this lab call.

Program Office	Estimated DOE funding range*
CMEI	$13 million – 16 million
CESER	$0.6 million – 0.75 million
HGEO	$6 million – $7.4 million
NE	$11 million – $14 million
OE	$2.2 million – $2.8 million

At the time of this lab call release the FY27 full DOE budget has not been approved and released. Therefore, the total budget is subject to FY27 Congressional appropriations

Eligibility

Only DOE National Laboratories, plants, and sites (hereafter referred to as 'labs') are eligible to receive funding from this lab call.

All applications must either be submitted to DOE

1. From each lab's respective Office of Research and Technology Application (ORTA) Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs), OR
2. Must include a letter of support from the TTO if submitted by someone outside of the TTO.

- **Labs are highly encouraged to partner on proposals.**
- Labs are eligible for multiple awards.

Cost-Share Requirements

Cost-share partners can be any nonfederal entity, including private companies, state or local governments (or entities created by a state or local government), colleges, universities, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations and foundations, or private funders. Non-DOE Federal laboratories and entities may partner with a DOE lab; however, they are not eligible to receive TCF funding or contribute cost-share.

As an example, a proposal with 20% cost-share commits to a nonfederal cost-share of 20% of the total budget; if the total project budget is $1M, the cost-share from the nonfederal partner is $200K and the federal funds requested is $800K. For additional information on cost-share see Appendix A of the Lab Call.

If you have multiple partners on your project and any partner is NOT eligible for subtopic b, the proposal is classified as a subtopic a and requires 50% cost share. Some cost-share is required for commercial application and demonstration projects.

DOE recommends having a consistent cost-share percentage over the life of the project.

Subtopic	Cost-share	Eligibility
a	50% or more	All applicants are eligible.
b	Less than 50%	To be eligible for this subtopic, National Labs must be partnered with only the following: small business as defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration; domestic institution of higher education; domestic nonprofit entities; U.S. state, local, or tribal government entities; or/and an early-stage startup company from the Lab Embedded Entrepreneurship Program (LEEP).

Technology Specific Topics Lab Call

- For FY26 and FY27 OTC will be releasing a Technology Specifics lab Call utilizing funds from these years. (50% FY26 and 100% FY27 funds)
- These topics invite National Labs to propose projects that advance commercialization of energy-related lab-developed technologies, including software and data, at higher TRLs to attract private sector interest.
- Projects must focus on commercialization, with work plans that include tasks supporting both commercialization and further R&D. Proposals should show clear commercial potential, combining technology maturation with market demand influences.
- Applications must specify how the project will advance the technology's readiness for commercialization, how the technology fills a market need, detailing current and target ARL and TRL. A minimum TRL 4 is required unless stated in Section IV of the Lab Call.
- Applicants must address one or more technology areas listed in the lab call, consult relevant program mission statements, and are encouraged to submit crosscutting applications to multiple AOIs when appropriate.

See Section IV of the lab call for more information

Technology Specific Topics

- i: Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation (CMEI)
- ii: Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER)
- iii: Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGEO)
- iv: Office of Electricity (OE)
- v: Office of Nuclear Energy (NE)

Each Topic has specific Areas of Interest summarizing core technical objectives. See Section IV of the lab call for more information

Partnerships

- DOE strongly encourages proposals that bring together multiple National Labs and industrial partners to meet the strategic goals of this lab call, leveraging multiple lab capabilities and scaling commercialization throughout the National Lab complex.
- DOE expects each project to have a partner working to enhance the market pull or other aspects of commercialization into the R&D tasks. Industry partners must agree to engage in activities that focus on commercializing or deploying technologies in the marketplace and are highly encouraged to provide cost-share.
- All partnerships between the labs and outside partners **must comply with individual lab requirements under their management and operating (M&O) contracts**.
- Partners may be found through prior connections, utilizing the Teaming Partner List on Exchange, or working with your labs Technology Transfer Office.
- To facilitate external partnerships, Appendix B includes all National Lab Technology Transfer Office (TTO) points of contact (POCs) for TCF.

See Section III.iii for more information on partnerships

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Application Process

Concept Papers

Applicants are required to submit the concept paper in Exchange no later than November 3rd, 2026, at 3 PM ET.

Concept Papers must contain the following information

- Title Page (1 page maximum)
- Project Description (3 pages maximum)
- Team and Required Resources (2 pages maximum)
- Addendum (No page limit)

DOE will review the concept paper, and applicants will receive an official determination, 'encourage' or 'discourage'. The intent is to help the National Labs focus their efforts on the concepts with the highest potential under this lab call. **Only labs that receive an 'encourage' determination on the concept paper phase will be eligible submit a full application.**

See Section V.ii for more information.

Concept Papers

Concept papers are evaluated based on consideration of the following factors. All sub-criteria are of equal weight.

Concept Paper Criterion: Overall Lab Call Responsiveness and Viability of the Project (Weight: 100%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

- The applicant clearly describes the project in enough detail that it may be evaluated for its innovation, impact, commercialization potential, and relevance to meeting the lab call objectives.
- The applicant clearly describes relevant background information that helps demonstrate the need for this project, including the problem statement or major challenges and barriers being overcome through the project (both technical and commercialization related), and the approach to solving the problem.
- The applicant clearly identifies the topic(s), AOI(s), and subtopic for which they are applying and how they meet the required elements of the subtopic and topic(s)/ AOI(s) when applicable.
- The applicant has shown the impact that DOE TCF funding and the proposed project would have on the relevant field and application.
- The applicant has the qualifications, experience, capabilities, and other resources necessary to complete the proposed project.

Full Applications

Only labs that receive an 'encourage' determination on the concept paper phase will be eligible to submit a full application. Applicants are required to submit the full application materials in Exchange no later than March 1st, 2027, at 3 PM ET.

Each full application shall be limited to a single concept. Unrelated concepts shall not be consolidated in a single full application.

Full applications must conform to the requirements in section V.iii and contain a:

- Technical Volume
  - Technical Volumes should be no more than 12 single-spaced pages total. The Title Page and the Addendum of the Technical Volume do not contribute toward the 12-page limit. No supplementary information in the Addendum is allowed
- Budget Spreadsheet
  - DOE requires that all applicants provide a low, optimal, and high-budget level with the associated tasks and scope outlined at each proposed budget level in order to expedite project awardee negotiations.
- Public Facing Summary Slide
  - Labs and partners, project financials, and summarization of project. This must conform to a wide screen format (16:9)

Full Application Scoring Criteria

- **Criterion 1: Innovation and Impact (40%):** How innovative and impactful is the project, assuming the stated outcomes can be achieved as written?

Innovative	**Accelerates Speed of Commercialization**	**Impactful**
Long-Term Viability	**Scalable**	**Commercialization Outcomes**
Cost-Share Commitment	**Evidence of Commercial Potential**	**Differentiated**
Relevancy		

- **Criterion 2: Quality and Likelihood of Completion of Stated Goals (35%):** Are the stated goals of the project SMART, and are they likely to be accomplished within the scope of this project? Is there a likelihood of success for the proposed project?

Measurable	**Risks Mitigated**	**Validated**
Reasonable Assumptions	**Reasonable Budget**	

- **Criterion 3: Collaboration and Capability of the Applicant and Project Team (25%):** Is the team well-qualified and positioned to successfully complete this project?

Collaboration	**Capable**	**Participation**
Team Quality	**Past Performance**	**Access**

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Applying in Exchange

Exchange Instructions

OTC is using the DOE Exchange system to formally announce the FY26 + FY27 CLIMR Technology Specific Topics Lab Call and receive submissions for both the concept paper and full applications. All required submission documents are listed within the lab call document and should be uploaded into DOE Exchange. However, the DOE Exchange system has additional fields that must be completed as part of the submission process. Many of the fields are NOT applicable to your submission. Please follow the Exchange Instructions, located in the documents section of the Lab Call in Exchange, for completing a concept paper or full application submission on the DOE Exchange System.

Using this link DOE: eXCHANGE: Announcement Details, Exchange Instructions are in a file under Documents.

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Questions?

Specific questions about this lab call should be submitted via e-mail to TCF@hq.doe.gov.

To ensure fairness across all labs, individual DOE staff cannot answer questions while the lab call remains open.

OTC will post all questions and answers on Exchange.

Questions about Exchange: **DOE: eXCHANGE:**

FAQs

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