2026-11-18 Vouchers 1-3 Recipient Informational Webinar 1 Transcript

Christi Pezzone 0:57
All right, let's go ahead and get started. I would like to welcome everybody. My name is Christy Pezzone. I am the Deputy Director of EnergyWerx. I'd like to thank everybody for coming to the Recipient Informational Webinar for Voucher Opportunities 1, 2, and 3. Just a real quick note, no AI bots are permitted, so we are not going to be able to let in any of your note takers. The recording and the transcript will be posted after this session on the website later today. So you are welcome to go check that out again if you have any questions about what you saw here. Next slide.

This will be an information session. There will be some time to address questions after a briefing from the program office on Vouchers 1, 2, and 3. You can see the Slido information on your screen. That is what we would like everyone to use to ask questions. Please refrain from using the chat. That should be reserved only if you have any technical difficulties that you're having during the webinar.
You can either go to the website, I believe the link is in the chat, or scan the QR code. You are going to want to enter event code VOIW1. That's the letter O, not the number. Then you will see a bunch of questions there already. If you want to go ahead and scan those questions and see if you have a similar question, you can go ahead and upvote those questions. That means they will jump up to the top and they will be addressed first by the program office when we get to the Q&A portion of the webinar.

The Q&A will be posted as well, but probably about a week later. So, it will probably be posted either late next week or early the following week due to the holiday. We will be posting answers to any questions that we do not get to and the questions that were asked here today. You will have access to those as well. Next slide, please.

A few upcoming key dates. Applications close on Wednesday, December 16th at 3 o'clock P.m. Eastern Time. There will be a second webinar coming up on December 2nd at 2 o'clock P.m. Eastern Time. We will drop a link to register to that if you want to attend that if you have any more questions. If you have any application issues, please reach out to info@EnergyWerx.org. We will be happy to assist you if
have any issues with Slido. Now we're going to move on to the overview portion of the webinar. I'll be turning it over to Andrew Bray from the Office of Technology Commercialization.

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 3:32
I think I'll actually step in here. Yeah, no problem. So hi, I'm Becca Simkowitz. I'm a program manager at DOE's Office of Technology Commercialization. I am also joined here today by my colleagues, Andrew Bray and Emmanuel Pecora, who's from the

Christi Pezzone 3:33
Oh, Becca, Becca's gonna go first, so I'll turn it over to Becca.

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 3:53
Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations. Still hear from them in just a little bit. But did want to tell you just a bit about my office. As I said, I'm with the Office of Technology Commercialization. Our mission is to accelerate the commercialization of energy, industrial, and manufacturing technologies to drive economic growth, strengthen energy security, and enhance US global leadership.

We do this by stewarding commercialization across the DOE. We work across the entire department and help to drive commercialization by, among many things, making DOE easier to work with and strategically filling gaps. OTC
is the administrator, is the manager of the vouchers program through our capacity as the administrator of the Technology Commercialization Fund. This program is funded by the Technology Commercialization Fund, which states that DOE must provide 0.9% of its research development demonstration and commercial application funding to promote promising energy technologies for commercial purposes, also through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that was passed in 2021. With that, I also want to hand it over for a moment to Emanuele to tell us a little bit about his office.

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 5:33
Thanks.
Thank you, Becca. As Becca said, I'm part of the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations here at DOE. We are very happy to partner with EnergyWerx and the Office of Technology Commercialization on this program. A little bit about us. We are an office that is mostly funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. We cover a variety of technologies, from alternative fuels to industrial demonstrations to rural and remote areas to nuclear, with a specific focus on demonstrating for the first time large-scale projects with the objective of deploying and commercializing more technology, supporting our industrial base and our critical energy infrastructure. Our focus is really on commercialization, and that's why we're very happy to

be part of the technology commercialization fund and fund these three virtual opportunities whose goal is really to bring more technology into the market and to support the development of strong domestic industrial base and
critical energy infrastructure. With that, I'll be around for questions later, but I'm going to, give it back to Becca, right?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 7:09
Yes, thank you so much. We're so excited to work with EnergyWerx and OCED as well. I think we can move along and I'll speak a little bit more about this, the voucher program generally. DOE runs this voucher program to help assist industry and our partners with overcoming barriers through sort of targeted support. The voucher opportunity, there's multiple parts of this program. I think the first thing to look at is the Voucher Opportunity. And this defines what it is we're trying to accomplish and the support we're making available through each individual opportunity. This defines the objectives and the scope of what is possible through this Opportunity, through these projects. So who's eligible, the expected funding, the expected funding per voucher, things like that, sort of all of those nuts and bolts kind of details. Once this
process, this is over on December 16th, DOE will coordinate to select voucher providers and recipients. We'll match potential recipients with potential providers in a process we'll go through in a little bit more detail in a bit. Once all of that is complete and everyone's agreed to their match, EnergyWerx will work with you to manage agreements and execute voucher projects. Once that's agreed upon, the Voucher Providers will work with you to execute the scope of work you've agreed on
And so they will directly, they will provide support to you using funding provided by DOE and will report to DOE on how things are going, the project activities, outputs and outcomes. Next slide, please.

We will clicking in just a little bit on how the process works. So you as the company, industry partner, non-traditional recipient has some sort of non-technical issue that they need help overcoming to scale, so maybe you need some TEA analysis support
need to conduct some performance validation, you can apply for support to this program at one of any, one of the pre-selected capabilities available through selected providers.

If successful, you'll be matched with one of these providers. We will have a match of a company and a provider under a specific opportunity area that was identified on the previous slide. You will then move forward with a project where that sort of addresses your needs that you have identified. With that, I think I will hand it over to Andrew Bray to share a little bit more.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR) 10:55

Great. Thank you, Becca. As Becca introduced me, I am a contractor with the IIJA Technology Commercialization Fund Programs at OTC, focusing on this program. I will explain some of the details and specific mechanisms of the program. If we go to the next slide, just starting out here, we want to make sure that to help you determine if this one of these vouchers is right for you and which one is a good fit with the opportunities. We break this down into what type of entity you are. So, first of all, are you a technology developer? This could be some sort of startup or private entity company working on commercializing and developing the technology. Or are you a local authority? This would be authority having jurisdiction, local government, or someone who's working with bringing on new technologies and how to upgrade, permitting and siting processes and help improve those processes.

Then within technology developer, ask yourself if, are you at the stage of leaving the R&D stage, getting ready for demonstration or commercialization? That would lead you into the first voucher opportunity, one of free demonstration commercialization support, helping prepare you for that next stage in your technology's development process? Or are you at the stage of working to commercialize and demonstrate and scale your product or prototype? That lands you into VO2, which is more focused on the performance validation, the modeling, and the certification. They are kind of the proof points of getting you to and through the demonstration stage to demonstrate your technologies. Then for those local authorities having jurisdiction. This would be anyone interested in hosting or facilitating or getting kind of their processes up to speed for to take on new technologies in their areas. That lands you into the VO3, which is project siting, permitting, support.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR)

The last boxes there give you a little flavor of what type of support that is. As we'll talk later, the full list of capabilities is posted and should be read through in detail when you apply. I will let you read the details on the slide.

If we go to the next one, we will dive into the details on each of these Voucher opportunities. In VO1, this specific Opportunity focused on studies and analyses to accelerate commercialization of these advanced energy technologies, preparing them for market integration, preparing them to take on new, broader market challenges and scale up, getting proven technologies to the next stage. Eligibility-wise, this is once again limited to for-profit companies with a prototype ready for pilot scale or large-scale demonstration or just that next

commercialization stage. The capabilities that we are talking about here that you should be looking for are our bankability studies.

What are the possible economics and financing opportunities? This could include insurance assessments. What does the supply chain look like? What are forming TEA analyses, market readiness analyses, QA and QC analyses and documentation or system support, and also accounting or cybersecurity process improvements. As you can see, this is really getting technologies ready for that broader scope of challenges and risks that often come with developing and commercializing the technology. And then the allowable technology areas are listed here. They are listed per capability within this Opportunity, and so make sure to make sure that you are in one of these relevant areas, and you can note that in your submission. We will talk about that later, but field one and field two do have the same technology areas list. Then another note, just to help for your planning purposes, we are expecting to match about 60 projects. This could vary and is subject to what we have and a number of different decisions, but just to give you an idea of how many matches are available.

Then if we go into the next voucher opportunity two, this leads us to performance, validation, modeling, and certification support. This is providing services in this area. The eligibility is for, once again, for profit companies, but with a product or prototype that is more ready and trying to demonstrate for pilot or large-scale demonstration for commercialization support. The difference is really around what capabilities are grouped into this Voucher Opportunity.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR)

So, it can include modeling or digitalization. Digital twins are under this testing, proving as a way to work towards certifications, performance validation, whether that be through physical testing or software, real world environment testing, so really demonstrating beyond lab scale that this technology works. This also includes assessment and validation for nuclear regulation certification if there are any companies in that sector, but could also include failure mode, effects analysis and other accelerated lifetime testing. I will let you read through the full capability list. Please read the details on that to see which capabilities make most sense for you. These are often a little bit bigger project sizes, so the number of matches we are expecting to make is 20, and once again, this is subject to a number of different considerations.

Moving to Voucher Opportunity 2. This is for a little bit of a different audience. This is for Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs). Those entities, local, city, county, even state governments who have a say on permitting and siting, but are looking to host or support

advanced energy projects and figure out better ways to do that. That's who it is targeted for. A little bit more details on these capabilities is that often it can be sharing best practices, helping to streamline processes, help with first responders, better being able to respond to possible risks and update their processes and capabilities and any just more siting issues around how to manage stakeholders in communities. The technology list is slightly different in this Voucher Opportunity.
It includes most of the same technologies as the previous two with the inclusion of former, any technologies or projects on former mine lands, also improvements in rural and remote areas just as part of the funding source for this. If you can demonstrate the applicability to those areas, those are included as well. We are expecting to make about 30 matches in this area. So just to give you an idea of the number of matches available.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR)
Moving to the next slide, I will discuss the overall timeline of what's coming up as was mentioned at the start. Submission forms are open currently. We have our two office hours webinars that we are doing at the moment. This one is really to give you an overview of the program and explain some of the details. Then the next one will be more focused on just answering questions. Then the next big date to look for is the **December 16th submission due date** for Recipients. So please get your forms in by then and hopefully that is very doable.

What will happen next is that we will take those requests, those submissions, and take a look at what capabilities we have and match, make matches based on a few different considerations, which we'll talk a little bit more about. Then sometime in later, early next year, Jan, February, we will notify Recipients of those matches and hopefully get projects started right away in early spring. I think this timeline is certainly subject to change. There are a number of processes we have to go through to make this all happen, but we really see a feature of this program as being the expediency of it and being able to get work started and ongoing and really make it as easy as possible for you all to receive these services. We can talk about more details of what needs to happen with the projects on an ongoing basis after that, but also similarly, hopefully it's an efficient process for everyone and easy lift once the projects are started.

Moving on to what you will be submitting in the form, we break it down into three main sections. Overall, we think this form is relatively easy to fill out. We want to get the key information from you but not make it overly burdensome. The goal is to really demonstrate that you have a need or challenge that can be overcome with what would be provided in the capability.

First part is just general information on you, on the entity, what work is being done, points of contact, a few other just basic information pieces. The next section
is the technology and project overview. We want to better understand what has being done, what has been done, what the impact of the technology and project can be. We want to get an overview of what has been happening. Then the bulk of the application is around your preferences and the justification for those preferences. We ask you to list your top five ranked capabilities that you are requesting and a justification of why that makes sense for what you need, where you are at for this moment in time. Those can be different. Sometimes capabilities are the same, or sometimes you might need a couple different things. Please justify each.
each one that you are requesting appropriately and tell why it makes sense.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR)

Then to discuss a little bit more detail on that, going to the next slide is the technology and background itself. Then including the catalytic effects of kind of what could be accomplished with the outcome of this project and of this match. A couple other notes, please do not include any confidential proprietary or privileged information in the submission. Fields will be marked with an asterisk (*), and this is explained in the form, but fields will be marked as to which ones are will be shared, could be shared with the provider or publicly. Please be cognizant of that and what you're putting in the forms. Please just be as specific as possible with all your responses and help with making appropriate matches and justification for those matches. Then, so going to the next slide on kind of the stages of this process, as you take on filling out the form, please review all the capabilities. There is a good amount of detail in what capabilities are offered. See which ones make sense for you and kind of understand what the offerings are. Make a decision on which ones you want and which and ranking those and then come up with why that makes sense and ensure ensuring alignment with those requests. Overall, that is the process to go
through as you're filling out the form and then coming up with the justification.

A very important note, there are logistical pieces to be aware of with these matches, so pay attention to location. It is noted if there's limitations on the Provider's geography or technologies or inputs that they would need or what stage they are best able to support. Please pay attention to those details to help us with the matching in order to make sure we get projects that run smoothly and make sense with the Provider.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR)

Then the next slide details a little bit more of what we are going to be looking for with your submission. We're looking for innovation or impact. Is there a catalytic?
factor happening that can accelerate your technology? Are you being specific so that we can best understand what your needs are and what the potential match can be? We want to understand the credibility of your organization or entity and that you're ready for the capability being offered and the resources make sense. Then just the timing, is this the right capability for your stage at the time? All those pieces really line up and that we can see that.

In addition to these factors going on to the next slide, we are do consider a number of larger kind of portfolio policy factors, and those are listed here as well as
each opportunities page. For VO1 and VO2, areas of particular focus and consideration are if there's work being done to support critical mineral technology development or the development of the larger supply chain and ecosystem to improve the robustness of those supply chains that is of importance. That's something we'll be prioritizing. Another one is of note is whether you have received previous DOE support through R&D, prioritizing the pathway from R&D to of these technologies to through their full commercialization process and that those technologies are supported to get them to the next level. Then whether previous support has been had from the program. This one is about trying to support new entities. It does not disqualify you, but it is just an additional factor that is considered. We are trying to have this program support a broader range of entities and organizations.

Then for VO3, that point is repeated again, whether you've received previous support. But another policy factor is whether the size of the jurisdiction and whether it qualifies as rural and remote. So, this is defined as a city, town, or unincorporated area with no more than 10,000 inhabitants. Application applicant receiving support must be domestic and able to able to receive that support and you will have to certify that you are not owned, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a government or country of risk. That will be one of the fields that you will have to provide certification on. There's more information on this and other eligibility requirements in the opportunity pages themselves and the form.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR)

Just a few other tips. Please do read all the instructions and text in detail when you are applying. We try to lay out all the details and even at times repeat. Hopefully that's not too daunting, but that helps make sure everything is aligned and that you have the best chances. Do be as specific as possible in helping us understand your technology, your organization,

your needs. That will help us match you with the most appropriate Provider and capability. You will be able to save a draft, so if you start working on it, make sure to save your draft to not lose information. As I said before, fields marked with two asterisks (**), maybe shared with Providers, and maybe made public when we are sharing out the communications for this program. Also, once again, please don't include any confidential, proprietary, or privileged information in your submission.

Then a last note on our selection and matching process. We will try to match you with your top choices, but this depends on availability. This depends on Provider approval that they agree that that match makes sense and possibly a number of other considerations such as the geography or other fit pieces I mentioned earlier.
Then ultimately, the next stage in the process is that if matched, you will be notified and you will also have the opportunity to agree to that match. You will know who you got matched with and what the capability was, and you will be able to review that to make sure it makes sense.

An administrative or logistical note, you will not enter into an agreement with the DOE. You will enter into an MOU memorandum of understanding with EnergyWerx. From there, a lot of this is being able to work with the Provider, and so you can figure out some of those details of what needs to be taken into account or what needs to be provided with discussions with the Provider. So, you know, the idea with this program is to have it be flexible and streamlined enough that really supports the work and accomplishing whatever the capability might be in a way that the Provider and Recipients can get on the same page and work through some of those details
themselves.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR)

That's all we have. We can finish up with the last slide and work through some of the questions. I will ask EnergyWerx to join and we as DOE will attempt to answer some of the questions.

Christi Pezzone 37:35
Perfect. Thank you so much. Julia, you've got this right up. I just wanted to say quick before we get started, we will not be able to answer any questions regarding a specific project's eligibility here today. If we do get those questions, unfortunately, that's not something that DOE or EnergyWerx can answer. We will have to skip through those questions and move on

to the next one. I just wanted to give everybody a heads up before we go get started. All right, Julia, I know we have 78 questions, so let's see how many we can get through.

Julia Prudhoe 38:06
Thank you so much. So the first question is,

We were a Recipient of the EnergyWerx Voucher 2 2024 award. Are we eligible to receive funding again through the same Voucher?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 38:18
I think the answer to this one is no, you would need to reapply.

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 38:25
To clarify, same Voucher Opportunity is fine, not for the same activity or for the same technology. So, you can reapply to the same Voucher Opportunity, but it should be either a different capability or a different technology.

Julia Prudhoe 38:41
Thank you.

Can a company receive an EnergyWerx Voucher and a DOE SBIR Phase 1 award for complementary activities within the same broader technology development project, provided the scopes, deliverables, and costs are clearly separated?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 39:02
Yes.
I don't, the SBIR is for R&D and this Voucher is for commercialization, so the overlap is very limited. It shouldn't be much overlap, but the two are independent.

Julia Prudhoe 39:22
Thank you.

How does an engineering design company apply for and get listed as a potential Voucher Provider?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 39:35
I can take this one. For this opportunity, there's not an opportunity to apply to be a voucher provider, but keep your, you know, please follow us for potential future opportunities.

Julia Prudhoe 39:55
Thank you.

Can a company that develops new technology and also performs engineering consulting be both a Voucher Recipient and a Voucher Provider, but not on the same Voucher project award, of course?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 40:11
Can I ask EnergyWerx to answer this? I think it is more you.

Christi Pezzone 40:14
Yes, we have allowed that before. Like you said, you cannot be the Recipient if you are also the Provider, but you can be the Provider for a capability and also be the Recipient of a separate capability.

Julia Prudhoe 40:31
Thank you.

We applied for a similar DOE Voucher initiative in the past. Prior to selection, we were informed that funding was withdrawn. Has this Voucher initiative actually been fully funded?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 40:47
EnergyWerx can respond or we can.

Christi Pezzone 40:48
Yep, sure. The funding for this opportunity has been obligated.

Julia Prudhoe 40:56
Thank you.

If a Voucher Provider performs engineering analysis or modeling using a Recipient's proprietary technology and operational data, who owns the resulting models, reports, improvements, and newly developed intellectual property?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 41:12

Christi, I don't want to put you on the spot, but there is a Memorandum of Understanding required between the Provider and Recipient. Maybe you can speak to that.

Christi Pezzone 41:20
Yep. The Provider will sign an agreement with EnergyWerx and the Recipient will sign an MOU with EnergyWerx. That basically means you will participate in the project. Any agreements between the provider and the recipient are on the Provider and the Recipient to determine and decide what is necessary. Ufortunately, EnergyWerx and DOE cannot provide any legal advice on what those should be.

Julia Prudhoe 41:50
Thank you.

Could we apply for multiple Vouchers and could we win multiple Vouchers?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 42:01
You're able to submit multiple requests for Vouchers.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR) 42:08
Yeah, and maybe to be clear, you can submit one request within an Opportunity area, which would include your five capability requests, and then you can submit in another Opportunity area. You may or may not be matched in those different Opportunity areas depending on number of different factors.

Julia Prudhoe 42:37
Thank you.

Can the Voucher be used to continue past work on a DOE SBIR phase one where a phase two was not awarded? Can it be used to expand work on an ongoing or completed phase two award?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 42:55
Maybe I'm a little bit confused here because just to clarify again, that's what we discussed. SBIR is typically for R&D work, research and development work. This is for commercialization. So being a previous DOE SBIR recipient, receiving funding from an agency is not a negative. It's not anything negative. You're more than welcome. Actually, we do want to support commercialization of technologies developed by previous programs, but it is not going to be

for a follow-up on phase one. It is a different type of work. Rebecca, Andrew, maybe you can help me understand if I am getting this correct.

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 43:41
I think that is a good point. The whole nature of the scope would be different.

Julia Prudhoe 43:54
Thank you.

Is there an EnergyWerx definition for industrial technologies?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 44:00
Maybe I can take this more than EnergyWerx. The definition is pretty broad, is any technology that can be integrated into energy intensive industries that are part of the domestic industrial base could be aluminum, metal, cement, concrete, chemicals, refining, food, beverage, iron, steel, process heat, pulp and paper. It's a variety of industries and technologies that can be integrated in those industries.

Julia Prudhoe 44:37
Thank you.

Can you only use one Provider and spend all the money with them, or can you split funds between more than one? Does any of the money go towards the Recipient's personnel wages?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 44:51
It's a good point to clarify that Recipient doesn't get any funding. The Recipient gets the work, the services from the Provider, from a single Provider, but the Recipient doesn't get any funding from DOE or from EnergyWerx or from the Provider, from anyone.

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 44:52
Correct.

Julia Prudhoe 45:11
Thank you. This person has three questions.

So is a Sam.gov or UEI registration required for voucher recipients?

Okay, we can pause there. Then I'll read the other two.

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 45:28
Christi, take that.

Christi Pezzone 45:29
So it's not required, but if you are selected, I believe you do have to apply and we will be asking for your UEI.

Julia Prudhoe 45:39
For question number 2, how does capability matching work when a Recipient wants a specific National Lab?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 45:48
So you need to select from the capabilities that are currently listed. So, if the capability you're looking for is there, those are the only available Providers at this point.

Julia Prudhoe 46:03
Thank you. For the third question,

What is a realistic timeline from the December 16th submission to a launched Voucher engagement?

Christi Pezzone 46:12
So I believe this was covered during the briefing, that there was the review of the timeline.

Julia Prudhoe 46:23
We already answered this question, but I'll just read it for the purpose of the transcript.

Can you apply for more than one Voucher opportunity, for example, Voucher 2 and Voucher 3?

You can submit one application per voucher opportunity.

If a company has an approved indirect rate, does that improve their chances of getting an award?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 46:49

Absolutely nothing to do with this. Again, the Recipient is not getting any funding. We are not looking at indirect rate or anything because the Recipient is going to receive the service provided by the Provider. So, the indirect rate doesn't apply.

Julia Prudhoe 47:07
Thank you for this question.

When will applicants receive responses?

We also covered the timeline earlier in the webinar, and I believe the slide stated that all dates are subject to change. So, there is an attempted timeline, but there is no guarantee of a timeline because dates are subject to change.

We have an existing relationship with one of the Voucher Providers which we would like to apply for. Does this disqualify us?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 47:44
No, but Christi, do you require any disclosure? I don't think so. No, it doesn't disqualify at all.

Christi Pezzone 47:51
No, we will ask, I believe the application asks for like additional information of what you would be providing and everything like that. You can disclose it. It is not going to help you get selected. It is also not going to prevent you from getting selected.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR) 48:09
Yes, we actually do have a very specific question on that to describe previous relationships and mostly just in support of what kind of match is there. So, it doesn't prevent or necessarily help but demonstrates what the match can be.

Julia Prudhoe 48:40
I will read this for the transcript, but I believe we answered a similar question.

So, technology performance demonstrations are often a part of SBIR phase two projects. Can Voucher 2 funding be used for an additional site demonstration separate from planned phase two efforts?

And I believe the answer we previously provided applies here as well.

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 49:00
Yes, we answered that. I would add that's a perfect example where the Voucher is specifically for a third-party demonstration of the technology. For example, in this specific case, while usually in an SBIR, you do work, the small business does work to validate and demonstrate the technology. So again, it's very different, the nature. One is conducting research and development work, and one is in this case getting a commercialization service.

Julia Prudhoe 49:33
Thank you.

Would A pre-revenue company with an existing functional prototype and a second system preparing for independent validation qualify for Voucher Opportunities 1 or 2 or most both technologies already demonstrate pilot scale readiness?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 49:54
Not sure I followed that question, sorry.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR) 49:57
I would say we will not answer too specific questions, but it is ultimately up to you to demonstrate that you are the right fit both stage and technology-wise with what we are describing in each Voucher Opportunity area.

Julia Prudhoe 50:17
Thank you.

If an applicant has completed engineering design but needs fabrication or assembly of an additional prototype units before independent testing, can those activities be included in an approved Voucher scope?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 50:35
The scope is defined by the capability. When you select a capability that is the scope. So if you find a capability that meets your needs, we should, we definitely encourage you to apply, but we will not modify or customize scope. Whatever outcome deliverable from the recipient, the company is more than is encouraged and more than welcome to use that to further your business.

Julia Prudhoe 51:30
Thank you.

For independent prototype validation, does the Voucher 2 opportunity provide access to qualified laboratories or engineering organizations capable of conducting independent electrical performance measurements, energy balance assessments, thermal testing, and extended duration operational validation?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 51:59
I'm not sure I followed it completely, but I think we have answered similarly before that if the capabilities and resources that are the Providers and resources that are listed in our capabilities are the providers and resources that are accessible.

Julia Prudhoe 52:21
Yes, so please review the capability tool and see which ones fit your needs.

If a Recipient and a Provider previously matched, can that pair be matched again for a different statement of work? Can they be matched for an extension of a previous EnergyWerx statement of work?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 52:44
I think this maybe, maybe EnergyWerx could address this one.

Barcia, Felipe 52:49
I can.

Christi Pezzone 52:50
Go ahead, Felipe.

Barcia, Felipe 52:50
It can be matched for a different capability and different scope of work, but they cannot be an extension of existing capability. Each capability is bound within a specific scope of work time frame. We cannot continue work beyond what was already approved, and we won't give a subsequent award to the same work.

Julia Prudhoe 53:16
Thank you.

For commercialization and validation sequencing, can a company apply for both commercial assistance under Voucher 1 and independent technical validation under Voucher 2, either concurrently or sequentially, provided the requested activities are distinct and do not duplicate federally supported work?

We answered a similar question before. Yes, applicants can submit one application per voucher opportunity.

Christi Pezzone 53:46
It is expected that the work will kick off once all agreements are in place. That is the first milestone. The expectation is that once all agreements are in place, the work will kick off. It should not be paused while other work is being completed to wait for the next work to kick off. They should run at the same time.

Julia Prudhoe 54:08
Thank you.

Can an application be made by a consortium of companies working together?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 54:19
Andrew, I don't think so. Becca, if you guys can correct me.

Barcia, Felipe 54:21
I can jump in. The agreement has to be between two separate entities, the Provider and the Recipient, and the MOU between the Recipient and EnergyWerx. It can't be a consortium of other organizations or parties associated with those documents.

Julia Prudhoe 54:41
Thank you.

Are all projects $250,000? Will recipients know the budget once matched with a provider?

Christi Pezzone 54:53
I was just going to say, we covered this already. The recipients will not be receiving any funding and they will not receive any information about the value of the service that they are receiving.

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 55:08
Right, that's between EnergyWerx and the Provider, and honestly, it doesn't matter to the Recipient who is receiving the agreed upon deliverables.

Julia Prudhoe 55:18
Thank you.

What are the most common reasons that Voucher 2 applications are not selected?

Pecora, Emanuele (CONTR) 55:29
That's not an easy question.

Christi Pezzone 55:29
I don't think that that's really a topic for the webinar. The eligibility criteria is listed on the webpage, and I would suggest reviewing that and ensuring that you are in line with that criteria before applying.

Julia Prudhoe 55:46
Thank you.

Where is the Round 3 capability list published?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 55:53
I think there's a link in the chat, right?

Christi Pezzone 55:55
Yes, we just dropped that link to the Capability list here.

Julia Prudhoe 56:00
Thank you.

Are previous Round 1 and 2 Provider and Recipient matches given preference?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 56:11
The answer, I think, is no.

Julia Prudhoe 56:15
Thank you.

Do Chinese-made battery cells affect the country of risk certification?

Barcia, Felipe 56:35
I was going to say, I don't believe so.
That will be on a case-by-case basis if there is specific IP that is a concern that is related to the project. If it is just part of the bill of materials is a Chinese battery cell, that's not a concern. It is more if there is work being conducted outside of the US or foreign nationals as part of the product is the main thing that we want to be aware of.

Julia Prudhoe 56:59
Thank you.

What are the criteria for prioritizing projects?

And we already discussed the eligibility and review criteria, so we would highly encourage you to review those on the opportunity page and see if you are eligible and that your application addresses those review criteria.

Christi Pezzone 57:22
It is up to you to prioritize the projects in your application. We cannot provide any guidance on doing that. It should be which ones you think are the best fit for what you're looking for.

I'm going to jump in right here because we are almost out of time. I wanted to thank everybody for participating in the webinar today. As a reminder, there is another webinar scheduled on December 2nd, 2026. The link is there. I believe it's also posted in the chat or you can scan the QR code.

Please remember that submissions are due no later than **Wednesday, December 16th, 2026 at 3 o'clock PM.** In the chat, you'll find links to the upcoming webinar.
our e-mail address if you have any additional questions, a link to the opportunity page, the link for the capability tool, and links to join our ecosystem and follow us on social media. After today, we will place a recording of today's webinar on our website, as well as a copy of the slides briefed and the transcript.

Again, probably in the next week or so, given the number of questions we didn't get through, I'm guessing it will be the week after Thanksgiving, we will be publishing the answers to the remaining questions. If you have any questions before the next webinar, please reach out to info@EnergyWerx.org.

Thank you, DOE, for your time today. We really appreciate it. EnergyWerx team, thank you for your support. DOE, did you have anything you wanted to add before we wrapped up?

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 58:58
Thank you all for your time.

Bray, Andrew (CONTR) 59:01
Yeah, thank you EnergyWerx for managing the program and thank you everyone for attending.

Christi Pezzone 59:07
Perfect. Thanks so much. Everybody have a great rest of your week.

Szymkowicz, Rebecca 59:12
Have a good afternoon.