



## **GREEN INNOVATION FUND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ANSWERS TO SUBMITTED QUESTIONS**

1. We are a cooperative but not a nonprofit (although we are organized as one). I was wondering if we would be eligible to apply.
  - a. That shouldn't be an issue.
  
2. Would we be able to apply ourselves or should we look at applying in conjunction with a nonprofit?
  - a. You would be able to apply yourselves.
  
3. Is the scope of this RFP limited to planning and design support for establishing the Green Innovation Fund, or does the scope also include implementation/administration of the Fund once it is established?
  - a. The scope does not include implementation/administration of the fund.
  
4. Is it considered to be a conflict of interest if a bidder has a staff member currently serving on the Green Ribbon Commission?
  - a. WEDC does not consider it a conflict of interest if a Bidder has a staff member (or other similarly situated connection) serving on the Green Ribbon Commission.
  
5. Is there a possibility of state financial support for the Green Innovation Fund in any form?
  - a. Yes.
  
6. Are there any partnerships / investor capital that are not allowed?
  - a. The Green Innovation Fund may accept funding from philanthropic, public, private sources if the terms are acceptable to WEDC. All contributions will be subject to WEDC conflict checks.

**LOOK FORWARD ►**

7. For the deployment of the Green Innovation Fund, are there any specific demographic communities to be targeted beyond what is required by the GGRF?
  - a. Not currently.
  
8. Can you explain more about the conversations WEDA has engaged in with applicants for the three GGRF programs? In the RFP, it was mentioned that WEDA is "talking to" applicants. Will the results of these conversations be available for respondents to review?
  - a. WEDA is not a part of this RFP.
  
9. What is WEDC's budget for this project?
  - a. WEDC has funds to support this project. We want respondents to the RFP to submit a cost proposal that will efficiently and effectively cover the services requested under the RFP.
  
10. The governance structure selected for implementation of the Green Innovation Fund could result in many variables that impact the implementation timeline and resources necessary to complete the project. (e.g., nonprofit incorporation and IRS approval, enabling legislation, etc...) How much of the organizational infrastructure of the Green Innovation Fund does WEDC expect to be in place upon conclusion of the RFP performance period?
  - a. By the end of the performance period (May 2024), we expect the consultant to develop a formal structure and implementation plan for the Green Innovation Fund.
  
11. When does WEDC expect that the Green Innovation Fund will begin making loans?
  - a. The goal is for Green Innovation Fund to become operational by summer of 2024.
  
12. The RFP calls for a compressed timeline with project completion by May of 2024, but also calls for up to a three-year contract. Are you envisioning a 2–5-month engagement for the scope outlined on the second page of the RFP? Or a longer, up to three-year contract?
  - a. We are expecting project completion by May of 2024.

13. Is there any flexibility in the May 2024 timeline for completion of the plan for establishing and administering the Fund?
- a. No
14. Does the statement in section V. c. iv mean that WEDC will provide an initial list of partners and stakeholders to the selected contractor? What type of partners and stakeholders will be included on this list and what type of expertise do they have?
- a. As referred in Section I, Scope, "Such partners may include but are not limited to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, DOA's Division of Energy, Housing, and Community Resources, DOA's Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy, and other Wisconsin state agencies; Wisconsin municipalities and counties to sell bonds; and third-party financial institutions to provide direct lending options, among other partners and responsibilities."
15. Will WEDC provide information about the regulatory constraints within Wisconsin, or are you looking to the selected proposer to provide this analysis?
- a. WEDC will provide initial regulatory constraints for the selected contractor's review. The contractor will be expected to confirm these and identify any additional constraints.
16. Does WEDC have any information on non-public stakeholders that have the abilities and expertise to contribute seed monies to the fund?
- a. Not presently. WEDC envisions capitalizing the Green Innovation Fund with public and private sources of capital.
17. Section VI. Cost Proposal states that "The actual cost shall not exceed the total cost of the services provided under this RFP." Is there a cap on the total cost of services to be provided under this RFP? Are there any restrictions on billing rates for the proposer?
- a. No.