

Quick Reference

Feasibility Studies in Energy Research

Call type: Invitation for proposals

Closing date: 16.00 on 05 January 2017

How to apply: A Statement of Intent followed by a full application.

Assessment Process: Proposals will be considered by EPSRC's Energy team for remit requirements before being assessed by an expert panel.

Key Dates:

Activity	Date
Statement of Intent	08 December 2016
Deadline for Full Proposals	05 January 2017
Expert Panel	10 February 2017

Additional information:

- Those who do not register with a Statement of Intent will have their applications rejected.
- A maximum of £200k is available for each feasibility study proposal submitted.

Contacts:

- Louise Anderson (louise.anderson@epsrc.ac.uk) - Nuclear Fission, Whole Energy Systems.
- Kate Bowman (kate.bowman@epsrc.ac.uk) - Energy Networks, Nuclear Fission.
- Glenn Goodall (glenn.goodall@epsrc.ac.uk) - End Use Energy Demand, Marine, Wave & Tidal.
- Andrew Macdonell (andrew.macdonell@epsrc.ac.uk) - Energy Storage, Hydrogen & Fuel Cells.
- Celia Yeung (celia.yeung@epsrc.ac.uk) - Carbon Capture & Storage, Bioenergy, Fossil Fuel Power Generation, Solar Technologies.

- Energy Team inbox (energyteam@epsrc.ac.uk)

Feasibility Studies in Energy Research

Call type: Invitation for proposals

Closing date: 16.00 on 05 January 2017

Related themes: Energy

Summary

The EPSRC Energy theme is inviting eligible UK academics to submit proposals for speculative feasibility studies to carry out underpinning science and engineering energy research. Up to £3M is available for this Call, with a maximum of £200k (80% FEC) for each feasibility study submitted.

Proposers should examine a topic within EPSRC's Energy remit, review past and current activity, and identify key research challenges that need to be addressed. The proposed research must be novel, innovative, have the potential to lead to high impact outcomes and strengthen the UK's position in within the international energy community.

The proposals will be **assessed using an expert panel** which will include key academic and industrial researchers who work, and have an understanding, of the Energy space.

All proposals must be received by **16:00 on 05 January 2017** via the Research Councils' Joint electronic System (Je-S).

Applicants must submit a Statement of Intent to EPSRC via the online questionnaire found on the Call webpage, <https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/energyresfeasibilitystudy17/>. Applicants that do not register with their intent before **16.00 on 08 December 2016** will have their applications rejected.

Background

EPSRC's Energy theme focuses on energy research to address and solve some of the most pertinent Energy challenges facing the UK. To continue to support research excellence in the field, EPSRC are looking to invest in adventurous engineering and physical sciences concepts that are in line with UK Energy strategy outlined by groups such as the RCUK Energy Programme's Supergen Hubs, the End Use Energy Demand Centres, UK Energy Research Centre, the Energy Technologies Institute (ETI), the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

For more information about EPSRC's portfolio and strategies, and EPSRC's Energy remit, please see:

- <https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/>
- <https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/energy/>

Further information regarding the ETI, BEIS and LCICG (respectively) can be found at:

- <http://www.energytechnologies.co.uk/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy>

Equipment

Equipment section should not be completed as such expenses are not applicable under this call.

Eligibility

For information on the eligibility of organisations and individuals to receive EPSRC funding, see the EPSRC Funding Guide:

<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/>

As this Call is a targeted funding opportunity provided by EPSRC, higher education institutions, and some research council institutes and independent research organisations are eligible to apply. A list of eligible organisations to apply to EPSRC is provided at: <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/eligibilityforrcs/>

How to apply

Submitting an application

You should prepare and submit your proposal using the Research Councils' Joint electronic Submission (Je-S) System (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/>).

When adding a new proposal, you should select:

- Council 'EPSRC'.
- Document type 'Standard Proposal'.
- Scheme 'Standard'.
- Call 'Feasibility Studies in Energy Research 2017'.

Please note that, applicants will be asked to add three reviewers; as proposals will not go through postal peer review, applicants are kindly asked to select any three reviewers in this section to ensure the form can be completed and submitted.

The selected reviewers will not be asked to review applications, submitted documents will only be reviewed by the expert panel.

Note that clicking 'submit document' on your proposal form in Je-S initially submits the proposal to your host organisation's administration, not to EPSRC. Please allow sufficient time for your organisation's submission process between

submitting your proposal to them and the Call closing date. EPSRC must receive your application by **16:00 on the 5th of January 2017**.

Guidance on the types of support that may be sought and advice on the completion of the research proposal forms are given on the EPSRC website (<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/>) which should be consulted when preparing all proposals.

Guidance on writing an application

The proposal should follow the standard EPSRC proposal structure, with some additions:

- **Case for Support** (up to nine pages), to include:
 - A track record (up to two sides of A4) detailing the relevant expertise that the investigator/team will bring to the research programme.
 - A description of the proposed research and its context (up to six sides of A4).
 - Management description covering management structure, details of external advice streams including potential users of the technology (up to one side of A4).
- **Pathways to Impact** (up to two pages), applicants should look to explore ideas that have the potential to generate maximum impact within the energy research and development community.
- **Work Plan** (one side of A4), a brief plan including details of when important decisions on the direction will be taken.
- **Justification of Resources** (up to two sides of A4), this should be a narrative description of the need for the resources requested.
- **CVs** (up to two sides of A4 for each named researcher, visiting researcher and researcher co-investigators, where applicable).
- **Statement of support from named project partners** (where applicable, no page limit).

Applicants should use the Ethical Information section on the Je-S form to demonstrate to the expert panel that they have fully considered any ethical issues concerning the material they intend to use, the nature and choice, current public perceptions and attitudes towards the subject matter or research area. EPSRC will not fund a project if it believes that there are ethical concerns that have been overlooked or not appropriately accounted for. All relevant parts of the Ethical Information section must be completed. If the research will involve human participation or the use of animals covered by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 it is recommended that applicants pay particular attention to the guidance highlighted below. EPSRC reserves the right to reject applications prior to peer review if the Ethical Information sections are not completed correctly.

Further guidance on completing the Je-S form can be found at <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/pages/GuidanceonCompletingaStandardG/EthicalInformation.htm>. Other relevant guidance includes: EPSRC's policy on animal use in research (<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/about/standards/animalresearchpolicy/>) and the Responsible Innovation Framework (<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/framework/>).

Please note that on submission to EPSRC **all** non-PDF documents uploaded onto Je-S are converted to PDF, the use of non-standard fonts may result in errors or font conversion, which could affect the overall length of the document.

In addition, where non-standard fonts are present, and even though the converted PDF document may look unaffected in the Je-S System, when it is imported into the Research Councils Grants System some information may be removed. We therefore recommend that where a document contains any non-standard fonts (scientific notation, diagrams etc), the document is converted to PDF prior to attaching it to the proposal.

For advice on writing proposals see:

<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/>

Assessment

Assessment process

EPSRC reserve the right to reject proposals which are considered to be outside of the Energy remit without reference to peer review.

The speculative feasibility studies will be assessed by a panel of experts only and will not undergo postal peer review. Funding decisions will be made at the expert panel date on 10 February 2017.

Successful applicants will be expected to attend an Energy Workshop to explore the application of new science and engineering concepts within the Energy space. Invitations will be extended to a broad range of Energy academics.

Assessment criteria

Proposals that fit the remit of this Call will be judged based on the following criteria:

Quality

- The novelty, relationship to the context and timeliness.
- The ambition, adventure, and transformative aspects identified.
- The appropriateness of the proposed methodology.

Importance

- National importance of this research on a 10-50 year timescale.
- Contribution to other research areas, societal challenges, success of the UK economy, emerging industries.

Impact

- On the Project Details page you should select the 'Feasibility Studies in Energy Research 2017' Call.
- The relevance and appropriateness of beneficiaries identified and collaborators proposed.

Applicants' ability to deliver the proposed research

- Balance of skills of the proposed project team.

Resources and management

- The effectiveness of the proposed planning and management, including management of risk.
- Appropriateness of the estimated resources to be requested.

Fit to the call

- The level of adventure and novelty (the proposed research must be speculative and in the form of a feasibility study).
- Demonstrate meaningful application of new research expertise from the wider engineering and physical sciences into energy research.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the broader context surrounding the proposed research.
- Evidence of dissemination routes.

Feedback

Information about the panel can be viewed on Grants on the Web within one month of the meeting date: <http://gow.epsrc.ac.uk/>.

Feedback from the panel will be available upon request.

Moving forward

Submissions to this call will count towards the Repeatedly Unsuccessful Applicants Policy. Further information about the policy can be found at: <https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/basics/resubpol/rua/>

Key dates

Activity	Date
Intention to Submit closing date	08 December 2016
Call closing date	05 January 2017
Expert panel	10 February 2017

Contacts

Any enquiries related to this Call should be directed to:

- Dr Celia Yeung
E: celia.yeung@epsrc.ac.uk
T: 01793 444 426

Any queries regarding the submission of proposals through Je-S should be directed to:

- The Je-S helpdesk
E: JeSHelp@rcuk.ac.uk
T: 01793 444164

Change log

Name	Date	Version	Change
Celia Yeung	30/09/2016	1	Initial version
Celia Yeung	13/10/2016	2	Changes made to contacts. Additional information in "Submitting an Application" section included.

Je-S attachments Check List

Standard:

Attachment Type	Maximum Page length	Mandatory/Optional	Extra Guidance
Case for Support	9 pages	M	Comprising up to two A4 sides for a track record, six A4 sides describing proposed research and its context, and up to one page describing management structure.
Pathways to Impact	2 pages	M	
Work Plan	1 page	M	
Justification for Resources	2 pages	M	
CVs	2 pages each	As Required	For named and visiting researchers, and researcher co-

			investigators only.
Project Partner Letters of Support	No page limits	As Required	Must be included from all named project partners. Must be on headed paper, and be signed and dated within six months of the proposal submission date.
Other attachment	No page limit	As required	This can be used for a document that does not fit under any of the headings above. This attachment type is not seen by reviewers or panel members.

Please ensure you adhere to the above attachment requirements when submitting your proposal. Any missing, over length or unnecessary attachments may result in your proposal being rejected.