

MCEC RFI: Using Private and Public Funds to Leverage Federal Loans for Clean Energy in Maryland
Questions and Answers – March 12, 2024



1. Reference: RFI– General

Question: “Is there any requirement from either MCEC or the LPO for a Justice40 approach?”

Answer: We are certainly interested in seeing proposals that serve the disadvantaged communities, but there is no specific requirement for Justice40 because the potential use of this funding is very broad. However, all DOE LPO applications require a community benefits plan, and the LPO will connect applicants with community resources and partners.

2. Reference: RFI – General

Question: “It strikes me that there should be a tremendous outreach to private sector financiers and investors about this. Are there any explicit efforts currently underway in that direction?”

Answer: Absolutely! This RFI was circulated to all MCEC subscribers, MEA circulated it to their entire mailing list, LPO posted it on their blog, and the Coalition for Green Capital circulated it to their mailing list as well. However, raising awareness of LPO partnership opportunities is challenging for the DOE, and it may be necessary to “recruit the players” in the private sector who may benefit substantially from LPO financing.

3. Reference: RFI – General

Question: “Did you say there are teaming partners available to facilitate project deployment?”

Answer: Yes, we can make the list of vendors under MSA for Infrastructure as a Service, as well as Owner’s Representative Services, available to you. Please note that you are not limited to that list.

4. Reference: RFI – General

Question: “What is LPO’s timeline?”

Answer: The process typically takes about one year from when you submit your first document to initial commitment. There are 3 phases to the application process. Please refer to Appendix 1 of the RFI.

5. Reference: RFI – General

Question: “With this funding, have you considered availing funds for public agencies to engage Owner’s Representative firms to augment their staff and help them get to the point of financing on these unique financing mechanisms like IaaS?”

Answer: Please submit as a response to the RFI.

6. Reference: RFI– General

Question: “Where can we find referenced resources?”

Answer: Links to resources are provided in the RFI, and in addition, here are some additional resources and background information;

- **Maryland's Climate Goals:** [Climate Pollution Reduction Plan. See Chapter 5, page 77:](#)
- **Maryland’s Proposed Climate Plan Funding:** [More info on the proposed \\$90 million downpayment on climate plan funding that was announced recently by Governor Moore.](#) -
- **US DOE Loan Program Office:** [TITLE 17 Clean Energy Financing | Department of Energy link to various DOE LPO resources](#)
- **Maryland Energy Administration (MEA):** A summary of MEA FY24 (July 1 to June 30) can be found here: [MEA FY2024 Summary](#). We are working with stakeholders to develop FY25 programs including many federal efforts.
- **Contact Information:** US Department of Energy; Loan Programs Office
 - Hans Riemer: hans.riemer@hq.doe.gov,
 - Elizabeth.wolfe@hq.doe.gov.
 - Thomas.hucker@hq.doe.gov