

Energy Research Opportunity Grants

Michigan Memorial Phoenix Energy Institute

The Obama Administration has placed a high priority on energy and energy research in his administration and perhaps in the forthcoming economic stimulus package. In an effort to prepare for energy-related research opportunities, MMPEI will offer four grants to faculty groups of up to \$25,000 each, to be used to develop alliances and to position ourselves for the expected increase in funding opportunities.

Basics on how the competition will work:

- \$100,000 will be awarded in four (4) awards of up to \$25,000 each
- Schools and colleges may participate to cost-share and augment this amount as appropriate
- The focus is on developing alliances and preparing to respond to research opportunities
- Funds can be used for:
 - Travel to sites of outside participants or to bring individuals or groups to Ann Arbor
 - Post-doc support to help build a group that can respond to opportunities
 - Any legitimate expense that prepares a group of faculty and collaborators to respond to upcoming opportunities for energy research
- Proposals will consist of:
 1. A brief written proposal of 3-5 pages (Times New Roman, 12 pt, single space, 1" margins) submitted to jgsadler@umich.edu on or before March 2.
 2. A brief 10-15 minute presentation at the UM Energy Workshop: Forging Alliances and Preparing for Research Opportunities
- Proposals will be peer reviewed
- Review criteria
 1. Strength of proposed ideas and completeness of a plan
 2. Potential for external alliances and/or partnerships
 3. Potential for external funding
 4. Existing expertise or ideas for gaining needed expertise to support the plan
- Announcements and awards made by April 1, 2009

Proposals should:

- Outline and justify areas that are presumed integral to the evolving energy landscape.
- Summarize existing expertise or research that will be relevant to the stated opportunity.
- Explain if and how the idea fits into the general areas of emphasis as outlined by MMPEI (transportation systems and fuels; energy storage and efficiency; carbon free electric power generation; energy policy, economics and societal impact). Note that alignment with these areas is not a prerequisite for funding, but if the idea falls within the MMPEI emphasis areas, then the connection should be discussed.
- Proposals are intended to prepare us to take advantage of increased funding in energy in a bigger way than as individual faculty. As such, this program is for support of groups or clusters of faculty.
- External alliances should be considered and are encouraged.
- Proposals should include a task oriented plan (partnering details, initial research etc).