

Review Criteria and Procedure
Laboratory-Directed Research and Development (LDRD)
Proposals in Energy-related Research and Development (R&D)

Review Criteria

All LDRD Proposals will be judged on their merits and appropriateness for funding under the DOE LDRD Guidelines.

The specific criteria and weights to be used for selection are:

- 1.) The intellectual merit of the proposed activity (100 points)
 - a. How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields? To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative and original concepts? Does the proposed activity address a fundamental challenge in energy research? (40 points)
 - b. Are the proponent(s) qualified to conduct the proposed research? (20 points)
 - c. How well-conceived and organized is the proposed activity? (20 points)
 - d. Is there sufficient access to resources? Is the scope of work commensurate with the requested budget? (20 points)

- 2.) The broader impacts of the proposed activity on the energy research agenda of the Laboratory (100 points)
 - a. Does the proposal address a compelling challenge in energy research as outlined in the BNL energy strategy and white papers? (35 points)
 - b. Does the proposal foster cross disciplinary and/or cross Organizational Unit collaborations? (25 points)
 - c. Will the activity lead to new capabilities or competencies at the Laboratory? (20 points)
 - d. Does the proposal appropriately anticipate DOE or other sponsor needs? (20 points)

Selection Committee: The Selection Committee will consist of the Deputy Director for Science and Technology, the Science ALDs (ALD for BES, ALD for NPP, ALD for EENS, ALD for Life Sciences, ALD for Light Sources) and the ALD for Policy and Strategic Planning, plus five members of the Brookhaven Council.

Review Procedure

The process for the review of LDRD proposals received in conjunction with this call will be somewhat different from the open call for proposals.

It is expected that ~12 proposals will ultimately be considered for funding. If the number of proposals submitted exceeds ~12, then the first step will be for the Selection Committee to screen the submitted proposals to determine which of the proposals should be considered for further review. If needed, this step would be essentially the same as the first step in the review of proposals in the open call whereby the LDRD committee will be asked to provide a rating of the LDRD proposals, in this case using the previously stated criteria as a basis for the review. If necessary, an initial meeting of the Selection Committee will then be held to select those LDRDs which would be further considered.

From this point, the process for selecting proposals to be recommended for funding will entail two reviews. The first review will be a written, peer-review by at least two reviewers; typically one external review and one internal review, conducted by mail. The written reviews will be based on the first set of criteria listed under “intellectual merit of the proposed activity”.

The second review will entail oral presentations to the Selection Committee by the principal investigator. The oral presentations will be held after written comments have been received. The Selection Committee will base its scores on the second set of criteria, “the broader impacts of the proposed activity”.

Following the oral presentations, the Committee will meet to discuss both the written reviews and oral presentations and the merits of the proposals. The ALDs will then prepare a rank-ordered list of recommendations for funding to the Director. The Director will review and provide concurrence, as he feels is appropriate. The final list of LDRDs for funding is subject to approval by the DOE-BHSO.