

## Strategic Partnership Projects (SPP) Guidelines

As per **DOE SPP Order O 481.1E** [Strategic Partnership Projects \[Formerly Known as Work for Others \(Non-Department of Energy Funded Work\)\] — DOE Directives, Guidance, and Delegations](#) Strategic Partnership Projects (SPP) [formerly known as “Work for Others” (WFO)] is work performed for non-Department of Energy (DOE) entities by DOE/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) personnel and/or their respective DOE/NNSA Site/Facility Management Contractor personnel, or the use of DOE/NNSA facilities for work that is not directly funded by DOE/NNSA appropriations.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of an SPP is to provide assistance to Federal agencies and non-Federal customers in accomplishing goals that may not otherwise be unattainable by providing access to highly specialized or unique facilities, services, equipment, or technical expertise unavailable elsewhere.

### RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

SPP mechanisms have the following objectives:

- a. Provide assistance to Federal agencies and non-Federal entities in accomplishing goals that may be otherwise unattainable and to avoid duplication of effort at Federal facilities.
- b. Provide access to DOE/NNSA highly specialized or unique facilities, services, or technical expertise to non-DOE/non-NNSA entities when private sector facilities are inadequate.
- c. Increase research and development interactions between DOE/NNSA facilities and industry to provide opportunities for transferring technology originating at DOE/NNSA facilities to industry for further development or commercialization.
- d. Assist in maintaining core competencies and enhancing the science and technology base at DOE/NNSA facilities.

Note that DOE recognizes that individual projects may not meet all the listed objectives.

Projects aligning with SPP objectives can include:

**Advanced Manufacturing:** Projects focused on advancing manufacturing processes and technologies to enhance energy efficiency, reduce waste, and improve the production of energy-related materials and components.

**Nuclear Energy:** Research efforts related to nuclear energy, including advanced reactor design, nuclear fuel development, waste management, and nuclear safety technologies.

**Energy Efficiency:** Projects aimed at improving the efficiency of energy use in various sectors, such as buildings, transportation, and industrial processes. This can involve the development of energy-efficient technologies, systems, and practices.

**Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS):** Research initiatives focused on capturing carbon dioxide emissions from industrial processes and power plants, as well as developing methods for utilizing or storing captured CO<sub>2</sub> to mitigate its impact on climate change.

**Grid Modernization:** Projects related to enhancing the resilience, reliability, and flexibility of the electrical grid, integrating renewable energy sources, and developing smart grid technologies.

**Environmental Remediation:** Research efforts aimed at addressing environmental challenges, such as cleaning up contaminated sites, managing radioactive waste, and restoring ecosystems impacted by energy production activities.

**Advanced Materials:** Projects focused on the development of novel materials with applications in energy production, storage, and distribution. This could include materials for high-performance batteries, catalysts for fuel cells, and materials for advanced sensors.

**Cybersecurity for Energy Systems:** Research initiatives aimed at protecting critical energy infrastructure from cyber threats and developing resilient cybersecurity solutions for energy systems.

**Energy Policy and Analysis:** Research projects that involve policy analysis, energy modeling, and scenario analysis to inform decision-making and guide the development of energy-related policies.

**Workforce Development:** Initiatives designed to train and educate the next generation of scientists, engineers, and researchers in fields relevant to the DOE's mission.

It is important to note that the suitability of a research project for DOE Strategic Partnership Projects will depend on the priorities set by the DOE at any given time. Principal Investigators should carefully review the proposed project to ensure that it aligns with the agency's objectives and priorities.

#### **BENEFITS DISTINCT TO AN SPP MECHANISM**

- **Access:** Provides access to unique BNL/DOE facilities, services, or technical expertise.
- **Inventions:** Intellectual Property (IP) is subject to project parameters.
- **Confidentiality:** Generated information is treated as proprietary when marked; protecting the (Private) partner's proprietary information. For Federal funding, generated information is treated in accordance with a government funded agreement.
- **U.S. Preference Requirement:** Partners agree that there will be no exclusive third-party license to protect generated IP unless manufactured substantially in the United States.

The **Proposal to Project** home page can be referenced at: [BNL | Proposal to Project | Home](#)

The DOE rationale for establishing the SPP program can be referenced at: [LP Strategic Partnership Project... | U.S. DOE Office of Science \(SC\) \(osti.gov\)](#)

**Working with Non-Federal Sponsors – Strategic Partnership Projects (SPP) Contracting Process**

<b>Step 1</b>	Non-Federal sponsor requests services from Brookhaven Science Associates, LLC (BSA), the M&O Contractor for Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), in response to a formal proposal submission
<b>Step 2</b>	BSA follows internal process for reviews and concurrence: e.g., Risk Assessment and Proposal Information Questionnaire (PIQ) approval in the Proposal Information Management System (PIMS)  A Joint Work Statement (JWS) must be included for all CRADA agreements.
<b>Step 3</b>	Department of Energy (DOE) Brookhaven Site Office (BHSO) approves PIQ or Joint Work Statement
<b>Step 4</b>	The Research Partnerships office initiates the formal DOE contract mechanism (SPP/CRADA). This mechanism should include the Statement of Work (SOW), budget and Appendix C terms and conditions where applicable.
<b>Step 5</b>	The Research Partnerships office transmits the unsigned standard agreement to the Non-Federal Sponsor via DocuSign.
<b>Step 6</b>	After receipt, the Non-Federal Sponsor can either communicate exceptions to the contractual language (through the Research Partnerships Office) or accept as is.
<b>Step 7</b>	Upon agreement of terms, the Non-Federal Sponsor will sign and send the contract back to the Research Partnerships office for <b>countersignature</b> via DocuSign. The PI <u>should not</u> initiate any program activity until the fully signed and <b>executed</b> contract is received and the Budget office has created a project number.
<b>Step 8</b>	Research Partnership Office uploads the contract into BSA's financial database (PeopleSoft).
<b>Step 9</b>	The Budget Office will create a project number which will be assigned to this mechanism. This project number is required to assign against work on the project.
<b>Step 10</b>	The Budget Office will review and approve the agreement in PeopleSoft. If any issues are found, they will notify the Research Partnerships Office to rectify accordingly.
<b>Step 11</b>	Once Budget Office approval is in place, the Research Partnerships Office will send an email out to DOE (and all applicable internal parties) which will include copy of the fully executed agreement.
<b>Step 12</b>	The PI can now initiate work on the project.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

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