

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

OSM-HQ - OSM Headquarters

2022

S22AS00002

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A. Program Description

A1. Authority

The Statutory authorities for the Technology Development and Transfer (TDT) Applied Science Program are the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA), Public Law 95-87, and the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977, Public Law 95-224.

15.255

A2. Background, Purpose and Program Requirements

OSMRE is committed to helping States and Tribes achieve state-of-the-art science based regulatory and Abandoned Mine Land (AML) programs. The OSMRE’s National Technology Transfer Team (NTTT), comprised of OSMRE personnel and one representative each from the Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC) and the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML), was established to provide a forum to guide, coordinate, and communicate OSMRE’s national and regional technology development and transfer activities. To accomplish this goal, NTTT in cooperation with technology transfer professionals at all levels throughout OSMRE will:

1. Identify and recommend OSMRE technology development and transfer areas for potential investigation based on issues identified by State or Tribal programs, national or regional needs, and OSMRE Senior Management initiatives.
2. Coordinate national technology development and transfer activities.
3. Ensure that OSMRE’s national technology development and transfer planning initiatives fully address the current and future needs of the Federal, State, and Tribal Regulatory and AML programs and support OSMRE’s missions, goals, and strategic plan.
4. Identify and analyze requirements, projects, and issues.
5. Provide recommendations to OSMRE Senior Management for significant technology development and transfer concerns and activities.
6. Promote a broader understanding of, and support for, technology development and transfer within OSMRE.

The goal of the OSMRE Applied Science Program is to develop and demonstrate improved science-based technologies to address environmental and restoration topics related to the mining of coal and reclamation. The first objective to meet this goal is to develop technical tools to improve the efficiency and accuracy of regulatory and AML authorities in administering their federally approved programs. The second objective is to examine the potential for new technologies that can aid in the protection of the public and the environment during mining and

reclamation. The third objective is to provide opportunities for college and university students to participate in research projects related to coal mining and reclamation issues to build a pool of potential workforce needed for the future implementation of SMCRA.

New mining and reclamation technologies are unlikely to be adopted by industry or the States and Tribes unless they are more efficient and cost effective than the ones that are currently being used. For this reason, OSMRE is seeking applied science projects that address specific current issues identified by the States, Tribes, and OSMRE that have the potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of activities conducted pursuant to SMCRA.

OSMRE is the sponsoring agency that provides funds for the Applied Science Program. Through the OSMRE Management Sponsor of NTTT, OSMRE Senior Management provides executive direction and oversight to NTTT.

National Technology Transfer Team (NTTT)

NTTT is the key element of the Applied Science Program. NTTT is composed of members from OSMRE, and States and Tribes that administer coal mining and reclamation activities.

The members from OSMRE represent: Headquarters; the Technical Innovation and Professional Services (TIPS); the National Technical Training Program (NTTP); and the three OSMRE Regions (DOI Regions 1 & 2, DOI Regions 3, 4, & 6, and DOI Regions 5, 7-11). The States and Tribes are represented by IMCC and NAAML; each of these organizations appoints one member to NTTT. Critical roles and responsibilities of NTTT relative to this solicitation include:

- Approving overall NTTT structure and timetables.
- Providing technical input into developing topics for the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- Employing a NTTT-prescribed scoring system for evaluating proposals.
- Performing a merit-based ranking of proposals based on the prescribed scoring system.
- Making recommendations to OSMRE Senior Management regarding which proposals should be funded based on the merit-based evaluation and, if known, available funds.
- Facilitating communication between the program elements.
- Identifying important national and regional applied science issues for potential investigation.

Potential topics for the Applied Science Program are listed in Section C3-Other.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding

\$1,500,000

B2. Award Amount

Maximum Award

\$200,000

Minimum Award

\$1

OSMRE is soliciting applications for financial assistance for the FY 2022: The following conditions are applicable to OSMRE's Applied Science Program NOFO:

1. The total allocation for this Program is estimated at approximately \$1,500,000. Applicants may request funding of up to \$200,000 per project.
2. The estimated number of awards for FY 2022 will be up to 8 awards.
3. Anticipated start dates will vary.
4. The award will be by cooperative agreement, or Interagency Agreement (if another Federal Agency is involved). Each cooperative agreement will be for a period consistent with the proposal but not to exceed two years from date of award.
5. Each award recipient may apply for non-funded extensions of time as necessary to complete the project.
6. In accordance with 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 200.1 (Definitions), a Cooperative Agreement creates an appropriate legal relationship between OSMRE and the performing organization to carry out a public purpose authorized by a law of the United States [see 31 U.S.C. 6101(3)]. It represents a legal instrument of financial assistance between a Federal awarding agency and a recipient or a pass-through entity and a subrecipient that, consistent with [31 U.S.C. 6302-6305](#):

(1) Is used to enter into a relationship the principal purpose of which is to transfer anything of value to carry out a public purpose authorized by a law of the United States (see [31 U.S.C. 6101\(3\)](#)); and not to acquire property or services for the Federal Government or pass-through entity's direct benefit or use.

(2) Is distinguished from a grant in that it provides for substantial involvement of the Federal awarding agency in carrying out the activity contemplated by the Federal award. OSMRE reserves the right to remain substantially involved during the course of the approved study.

7. Funding for the program is contingent upon availability of appropriations. In no event will OSMRE be responsible for application preparation cost if this program fails to receive funding or is cancelled because of agency priorities. Publication of this NOFO does not obligate OSMRE or the Department of Interior to award.
8. Renewal or supplementation of existing projects are not eligible to compete with applications for new Federal awards.
9. There are no pre-applications with this NOFO.

B3. Anticipated Award Funding and Dates

Anticipated Award Date

March 20, 2023

B4. Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards

8

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

CA - Cooperative Agreement

OSMRE's substantial involvement may include, but will not be limited to one or more of the following areas:

- a. Approval of the recipient's proposal;
- b. Review and approval of the recipient's progress reports;
- c. Approval of specified key personnel; and
- d. Concurrence in the substantive provisions of subawards.

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

00 – State governments

01 – County governments

06 – Public and State controlled institutions of higher education

07 – Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

12 – Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

20 – Private institutions of higher education

22 – For profit organization other than small businesses

23 – Small businesses

25 – Others (see text field entitled “Additional Information on Eligibility” for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility

DOI's Minority Serving Institutions are encouraged to apply for Applied Science project funding. Applied Science projects contribute to the goal of improving the quality of science and technology instruction in institutions that serve high concentrations of minority students who historically have been underrepresented in higher education.

Documentation must be submitted to support an eligibility determination (e.g., proof of non-profit IRS 501(c) (3) status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service or an authorizing tribal resolution).

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

No

C3. Other

Proposals must specifically address least one of the identified eligible topics outlined in this section. Renewal of currently ongoing studies via this NOFO are not eligible. Potential topics for Applied Science funding are as follows:

1. Long-Term Considerations for Treatment of Abandoned and Post-Mining Discharges:

There are many acid mine drainage discharges that are currently being treated by state agencies and OSMRE. In uncertain economic times, it is anticipated that the governmental responsibility to treat these discharges may be on the rise, and resources will be stretched even further than they currently are. A wealth of data exists, covering types of treatment, water quality and flowrates, operational, maintenance, and replacement cost, and histories from individual sites. A significant amount of information is available for review in documentation from the original site assessments conducted as part of the permitting process. By compiling these data for systems across the country, it will be possible to ascertain with real world data the effectiveness and economy of different treatment methods being used, and this information could help increase the efficiency of both government and industry water treatment efforts.

2. Validation of Current Water Treatment Chemical Model Assumptions:

New models for water quality prediction have been developed, and additional models will continue to be developed in the future. In order to perform accurate cost estimates and determine optimal methods for mine drainage treatment, it is imperative that the assumptions for these models be validated with real-world data collected at existing mine drainage treatment sites or via pilot test sites run in real-world conditions. Projects that validate those assumptions and disseminate the results will lead to better decision making by public and private water treatment professionals.

3. Evaluation of the Potential for Economical and Environmentally Friendly Extraction of Rare Earth Elements from Coal Mine Waste or Impacted Water Discharges:

Rare earth elements are known to be present in coal, with the higher percentages being found in low quality coals and in the shales within, and immediately above the seams. Even higher concentrations have been discovered to be present in mining impacted water discharges, and in sludge that results from treating these discharges. Viable concentrations have also been noted in coal combustion residues. Although extraction of rare earth elements has traditionally required an energy intensive process, recent research indicates it is possible to extract them from coal mine waste using a solvent based Ion exchange process.

4. Applications of Imagery and Remote Sensing in the Mining/Reclamation Context:
Use of satellite or aerial imagery to monitor progress of any mining related time variable parameters such as, but not limited to, preferential vs invasive species, and other mining impacts identifiable in current reclamation or from previous mining such as sinkholes, seeps, vents, and unknown underground domains (to include submerged features) and machine learning to aid in tracking changes.

5. Geoengineering and design-based concepts for reforming mine lands to maximize potential for agricultural and food-centric post-mining land use:

Many former mine sites could potentially lend themselves to agricultural post mining land uses. Agricultural applications of mine sites are more obvious in the Midwest than in other parts of the country but the possibility of orchards, vineyards, livestock or, and many other agricultural endeavors may well exist, with specific uses tailored to those prevalent in the vicinities of the mine sites. Proposals under this topic would be pilot study scale investigations of these possibilities.

6. Advances in Mining or Reclamation Methods that Provide for more Effective, Efficient, or Lower Impact Extraction of Coal:

Technological advances/improvements hold the possibility of enabling extraction of coal that was previously considered un-mineable, make extraction more cost effective, or minimize adverse impacts of mining. These could be related to improvements in equipment, methods, or reclamation techniques; or better ways of addressing impacts such as mining impacted water discharges or subsidence. This topic could also include exploration of new materials, or new uses of currently available materials.

7. Investigation of Ways of Minimizing Impacts from Invasive Species in the Mining/Reclamation Context:

Nonnative invasive species are often present, and sometimes even dominate, reclaimed mined land. The establishment of nonnative invasive species results in a loss of ecological services of that land and a loss of potential revenue for the landowner and may affect post-mining land use. The establishment of nonnative and even native invasive species also pose problems for land reclaimed to agricultural production. Many of these species invaded the reclaimed area and some were even planted during reclamation. Methods should be developed, including emerging or developing technologies to identify, prevent and eradicate, or at least minimize invasive species that existed prior to mining, became established during reclamation either through colonization or planting and/or invaded after reclamation.

8. Ground truthing of subsidence models to improve model performance or development of better new models:

Questions remain as to the effectiveness of existing subsidence prediction models. Under this topic, proposals could consist of evaluation of correlations between actual subsidence and that predicted using existing models for past mining or proposed new models. Proposals could also cover side-by-side comparison of existing models to evaluate relative strengths and weaknesses.

9. Evaluating the temporal scale of surface mine reclamation on sage-grouse populations:

Populations of greater sage-grouse, a sagebrush ecosystem indicator species, are negatively affected by the development of energy resources that remove and fragment important sagebrush habitats. Decades of widespread loss, fragmentation, and degradation of sagebrush ecosystems has led to concurrent declines of sage-grouse resulting in the species being considered for threatened or endangered status at state and federal levels. Currently, the effectiveness and time-scale of coal mine reclamation activities for sage-grouse population recovery are unknown. Information regarding the seasonal use of restored habitats is needed to inform decisions and to determine success of reclamation.

10. Evaluation of native fish passage in relation to drainage structures in streams:

Native fishes are negatively affected by energy developments that fragment and alter stream reaches. The ability to navigate barriers such as drainage structures is critical for migration and recolonization. Information about how changes in gradient and velocity as well as impacts of culvert and stream length on small-bodied fishes in the intermittent and perennial streams is needed to inform decisions.

Examples of Previously Funded Projects:

In FY 2020, the Applied Science program funded eight projects that focused on geomorphic impoundment reclamation, improving surface and water quality in mined areas, re-vegetation and use of reclaimed mine sites by threatened or endangered species, reclamation of AML coal mine waste sites, and potential uses of residues produced by treatment of mining impacted water. In late FY 2021, a NOFO for Applied Science program was announced focusing on similar topics covered in FY 2020 with the addition of evaluation and extraction of Rare Earth Elements (REE). The final award determination and announcement is in progress.

Excluded Parties: OSMRE conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award. OSMRE cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

D. Application and Submission Information

D1. Address to Request Application Package

N/A. Please submit applications electronically via Grants.gov.

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

1. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

Applicants must submit the appropriate Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. Individuals applying as a private citizen (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own or operate in your name), must complete the SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance-Individual form. All other applicants must complete the standard SF-424,

Application for Federal Assistance. The required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. The SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance must be complete, signed, and dated. Do not include any proprietary or personally identifiable information. Please note: Enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in the “Federal” funding box on the SF-424 Application form. Include any other Federal sources of funding in the “Other” box and provide details on those Federal source(s) and funding amount(s) in the required Budget Narrative (see the “Budget Narrative” section below).

Any applicant organization that has not completed the financial assistance certifications and representations within their SAM.gov registration must submit the appropriate signed and dated Assurances form. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov.

Project Narrative

Principal Investigators must provide a complete history of projects funded through the OSMRE Applied Science program including their status in terms of their stage of completion.

1. Project Description (no more than 20 pages) including:

- a. Objectives - list the specific objectives of the project including a summary statement addressing the value of the proposal to OSMRE and the coal mining State(s) and Tribe(s).
- b. Hypotheses to be tested, as appropriate.
- c. Background - provide a comprehensive description of the relevance of the project.
- d. Describe how the project is original and innovative.
- e. Describe how the project is cost effective.
- f. Preliminary Studies (if applicable) - describe any precursory research that applies to the project topic and what was determined from those preliminary results.
- g. Experimental Procedures/Methodologies - describe any laboratory or field testing to be performed and reference analytical methods to be used.
- h. Significance of the project to the OSMRE Applied Science Program - give a description of the need for this project, its technical merits, and how the project will be of significance to the priority issues identified in this solicitation. Provide a plan for technology transfer of the project results. Also, describe the extent of involvement in the project by the ultimate end users of the technology. Description of resources (i.e., laboratory facilities) - describe the laboratory facilities, testing equipment, field sites, etc. available for conducting the tasks associated with this project. Provide evidence of legal right of entry and landowner consent for any project involving field work. Literature Cited - list all sources used.

2. Statement of Work (3-5 pages) consisting of:

- a. Issue Identification - identify and briefly describe the issue(s) this project is addressing.
- b. Work Tasks - organize the project into specific work tasks and describe each work task individually.
- c. Time Allocation - describe how much time (by months) is to be allotted for each work task and when each task is to begin and end.
- d. Resource Allocation - for each work task, list the personnel who will be working on that task and specifically what each person will be doing.
- e. Quality Assurance/Quality Control - list measures planned to ensure that high quality results are achieved, e.g., descriptions of statistics to be used to evaluate data and comparing data to controls.
- f. Determination of Goals - identify the means to be used to determine that project goals are met.
- g. Deliverables must include:
 - An electronic version of the final report, including an Executive Summary, that is in compliance with Section 508 of the United States Workforce Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and that follows Final Report Template posted at the OSMRE Applied Science program website: <https://www.osmre.gov/programs/applied-science/projects>
 - A written summary (fact sheet) following the required format as noted in Appendix M of the SOP.
 - A power point presentation at an appropriate technical event mutually agreed upon by the Principal Investigator and the OSMRE regional technology transfer team lead for the region in which the study was conducted.
 - Electronic copies of any peer reviewed article submitted for publication in a technical or other publication, and;
 - A plan for additional technology transfer efforts including identification of planned peer reviewed publications and

professional conferences where results are to be presented.

- h. Public access to data - a statement is required that all data collected as part of this program must be accessible to the public including the number of undergraduate and graduate students who worked on the project.

SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form and Budget Narrative. For non-construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A, "Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs" form. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200.

Principal Investigators must provide a complete history of projects funded through the OSMRE Applied Science program including their status in terms of their stage of completion.

Project Description (no more than 20 pages) including:

- a. Objectives - list the specific objectives of the project including a summary statement addressing the value of the proposal to OSMRE and the coal mining State(s) and Tribe(s).
- b. Hypotheses to be tested, as appropriate.
- c. Background - provide a comprehensive description of the relevance of the project.
- d. Describe how the project is original and innovative.
- e. Describe how the project is cost effective.
- f. Preliminary Studies (if applicable) - describe any precursory research that applies to the project topic and what was determined from those preliminary results.
- g. Experimental Procedures/Methodologies - describe any laboratory or field testing to be performed and reference analytical methods to be used.
- h. Significance of the project to the OSMRE Applied Science Program - give a description of the need for this project, its technical merits, and how the project will be of significance to the priority issues identified in this solicitation.
- i. Provide a plan for technology transfer of the project results. Also, describe the extent of involvement in the project by the ultimate end users of the technology. \
- j. Description of resources (i.e., laboratory facilities) - describe the laboratory facilities, testing equipment, field sites, etc. available for conducting the tasks associated with this project.
- k. Provide evidence of legal right of entry and landowner consent for any project involving field work.
- l. Literature Cited - list all sources used.

Statement of Work (3-5 pages) consisting of:

- a. Issue Identification - identify and briefly describe the issue(s) this project is addressing.

- b. Work Tasks - organize the project into specific work tasks and describe each work task individually.
- c. Time Allocation - describe how much time (by months) is to be allotted for each work task and when each task is to begin and end.
- d. Resource Allocation - for each work task, list the personnel who will be working on that task and specifically what each person will be doing.
- e. Quality Assurance/Quality Control - list measures planned to ensure that high quality results are achieved, e.g., descriptions of statistics to be used to evaluate data and comparing data to controls.
- f. Determination of Goals - identify the means to be used to determine that project goals are met.

g. Deliverables must include

- An electronic version of the final report, including an Executive Summary, that is in compliance with Section 508 of the United States Workforce Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and that follows Final Report Template posted at the OSMRE Applied Science program website: <https://www.osmre.gov/programs/applied-science/projects>.
- A written summary (fact sheet) following the required format as noted in Appendix M of the SOP.
- A power point presentation at an appropriate technical event mutually agreed upon by the Principal Investigator and the OSMRE regional technology transfer team lead for the region in which the study was conducted.
- Electronic copies of any peer reviewed article submitted for publication in a technical or other publication, and;
- A plan for additional technology transfer efforts including identification of planned peer reviewed publications and professional conferences where results are to be presented.

h. Public access to data - a statement is required that all data collected as part of this program must be accessible to the public including the number of undergraduate and graduate students who worked on the project.

Detailed Budget Narrative

The project budget shall include detailed information on all cost categories and must clearly identify all estimated project costs. Unit costs shall be provided for all budget items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors or sub-recipients. In addition, applicants shall include a narrative description of the items included in the project budget, including the value of in-kind contributions of goods and services provided to complete the project when cost share is identified to be included (reference section C of this announcement). Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, those costs items included on the SF424A or SF424C.

The project budget shall include detailed information on all cost categories and must clearly identify all estimated project costs. Unit costs shall be provided for all budget items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors or sub-recipients. In addition, applicants shall include a narrative description of the items included in the project budget, including the value of in-kind

contributions of goods and services provided to complete the project when cost share is identified to be included (reference section C of this announcement). Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, those costs items included on the SF424A or SF424C.

1. The Budget Narrative must provide a detailed breakdown of each of the object class categories as reflected on the SF-424 C, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (This does not count toward the page limit of the Technical proposal). The budget justification must address all budget categories for which Federal funds are requested. The written justification must include the necessity and the basis for the cost. Proposed funding levels must be consistent with the study scope, and only allowable costs should be included in the budget. Information on allowable cost is available in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 CFR part 200.
2. Administrative and Legal Expenses: At a minimum, the budget justification for all personnel should include the following: name, job title, commitment of effort on the proposed study in terms of average number of hours per week or percentage of time, salary rate, total direct charges on the proposed study, description of the role of the individual on the proposed study and the work to be performed.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement: If indirect costs are included in the proposed budget, provide a copy of the approved negotiated agreement if this rate was negotiated with a cognizant Federal audit agency. If the rate was not established by a cognizant Federal audit agency, provide a statement to this effect. OSMRE doesn't negotiate indirect cost agreements. Alternatively, in accordance with 2 CFR 200 § 414(f) applicants that have never received a negotiated indirect cost rate may elect to charge indirect to an award pursuant to a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct cost (MTDC), in which case a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement is not required. Indirect agreements will not be negotiated by OSMRE. Applicants proposing a 10 percent de minimis rate pursuant to 2 CFR 200 § 414(f) should note this election as part of the budget and budget narrative portion of the application.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.112](#), applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

(a) Applicability.

(1) This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.

(2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR 200.318 apply.

(b) Notification.

(1) Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR 200.112.

(2) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by subrecipients.

(c) *Restrictions on lobbying.* Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR part 18 and 31 U.S.C. 1352.

(d) *Review procedures.* The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.

(e) *Enforcement.* Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR part 180).

Single Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System](#). U.S. state, local government, federally recognized Indian tribal government, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) website.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in [43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying](#). If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants and recipients must not use any federally appropriated funds (annually appropriated or continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a Federal award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any U.S. agency, a Member of the U.S. Congress, an officer or employee of the U.S. Congress, or an employee of a Member of the U.S. Congress connection with the award. Applicants and recipients must complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" form if the Federal share of the proposal or award is more than \$100,000 and the applicant or recipient has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the application or award. The SF-LLL form is available with this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 and 31 USC 1352 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

Applicants must provide a statement indicating if there is any overlap between this Federal application and any other Federal application, or funded project, in regards to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, “There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects, including in regards to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel”. If any such overlap exists, provide a complete description of overlaps or duplications between this proposal and any other federally funded project or application in regards to activities, costs, and time commitment of key personnel, as applicable. Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that proposal was submitted, to whom (entity name and program), and when you anticipate being notified of their funding decision. The statement and the description of overlap or duplication, when applicable, may be provided within the proposal or as a separate attachment to the application. If at any time a proposal is awarded funds that would be overlapping or duplicative of the funding requested from OSMRE, the applicant must immediately notify the OSMRE point of contact. Any overlap or duplication of funding between the proposed project and other active or anticipated projects may impact selection and/or funding amount.

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration: This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#) which replaces the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet in April 2022. A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s).

Register with the System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicants can register on the [SAM.gov](#) website. The “Help” tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov “[Register with SAM](#)” page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities will be assigned a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity’s IRS information. There is no cost to register with SAM.gov. There are third-party vendors who will charge a fee in exchange for registering entities with SAM.gov; please be aware you can register and request help for free. If

applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications

09/20/2022

Application Due Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

D5. Intergovernmental Review

Prior to application submission, U.S. state and local government applicants should visit the [OMB Office of Federal Financial Management website](#) and view the “State Point of Contact (SPOC) List” to determine whether their application is subject to the state intergovernmental review process under Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 “Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.” States not on the list do not participate in the intergovernmental review process, and therefore do not have a SPOC. If you are located within a State that does not have a SPOC, you may send application materials directly to a Federal awarding agency. If your state is on the list, contact the designated entity for more information on the state’s prior review requirements for Federal assistance applications.

D6. Funding Restrictions

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your organization’s cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the Interior Business Center by phone 916-930-3803 or using the [IBC Email Submission Form](#). See the [IBC Website](#) for more information.

Organizations must have an active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award. Recipients must have prior written approval from OSMRE to use amounts budgeted for direct costs to satisfy cost-share or match requirements or to cover unallowable indirect costs. Recipients shall not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted with Application

All organizations must include the applicable statement from the following list in their application, and attach to their application any documentation identified in the applicable statement:

We are:

- A U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding each year with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. Attached is a copy of our most recently approved rate agreement/certification.
- A U.S. state or local government entity receiving less than \$35 million in direct Federal funding with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We have prepared and will retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and related documentation.
- A [insert your organization type; U.S. states and local governments, do not use this statement] that has previously negotiated or currently has an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. [Insert either: “Attached is a copy of our most recently approved but expired rate agreement. In the event an award is made, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award is made.” *or* “Attached is a copy of our current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement.”]
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date.
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is lower than 10%. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate; must be lower than 10%]. However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award. We request as a condition of award to charge a flat indirect cost rate of [insert rate; must be lower than 10%] against [insert a clear description of the direct cost base against which your rate is charged (e.g., salaries; salaries and fringe benefits; or modified total direct costs). However, please note that your organization cannot charge indirect costs in excess of the indirect costs that would be recovered if applied against modified total direct costs as defined in [§2 CFR 200.68](#)]. We understand that we must notify OSMRE in writing if we establish an approved rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period.
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is 10% or higher. Our indirect cost rate is [insert your organization’s indirect rate; must be 10% or higher]. However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award. We request as a condition of award to charge a flat *de minimis* indirect cost rate of 10% to be charged against modified total direct project costs as defined in [2 CFR §200.68](#). We understand that we must notify OSMRE in writing if we establish a negotiated rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs during the project period and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by OSMRE.
- A [insert your organization type] that is submitting this proposal for consideration under the “Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network”, which has a Department of the

Interior-approved indirect cost rate cap of 17.5%. If we have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must apply this reduced rate against the same direct cost base as identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement per [2 CFR §1402.414](#). If we do not have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must charge indirect costs against the modified total direct cost base defined in 2 CFR §200.68 “Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)”. We understand that we must request prior approval from OSMRE to use the 2 CFR 200 MTDC base instead of the base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement. We understand that OSMRE approval of such a request will be based on: 1) a determination that our approved base is only a subset of the MTDC (such as salaries and wages); and 2) that use of the MTDC base will still result in a reduction of the total indirect costs to be charged to the award. In accordance with 2 CFR §200.405, we understand that indirect costs not recovered due to a voluntary reduction to our federally negotiated rate are not allowable for recovery via any other means.

- A [insert your organization type] that will charge all costs directly.

If indirect costs are included in the proposed budget, provide a copy of the approved negotiated agreement if this rate was negotiated with a cognizant Federal audit agency. If the rate was not established by a cognizant Federal audit agency, provide a statement to this effect. OSMRE doesn't negotiate indirect cost agreements. Alternatively, in accordance with 2 CFR 200 § 414(f) applicants that have never received a negotiated indirect cost rate may elect to charge indirect to an award pursuant to a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct cost (MTDC), in which case a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement is not required. Indirect agreements will not be negotiated by OSMRE. Applicants proposing a 10 percent de minimis rate pursuant to 2 CFR 200 § 414(f) should note this election as part of the budget and budget narrative portion of the application

D7. Other Submission Requirements

Project Abstract: The project abstract must include sections containing all of the following information: Project Title, Project Purpose, Activities to be Performed, Expected Deliverables or Outcomes, Intended Beneficiaries, and Subrecipient Activities, if applicable.

Identification of Proprietary Information: Technical data or other data (i.e., trade secrets, confidential financial or commercial information), or other privileged information which the applicant prefers to withhold from public disclosure or use by OSMRE for any purpose except for proposal evaluation may be included in this application. To protect confidential data, each page must be specifically identified indicating each paragraph or line that contains confidential data the applicant wishes to protect.

Trade Secret Information: In order to explain properly the proposed work, it may be necessary to disclose within the proposal document trade secret information. If such is disclosed, the OSMRE wishes to take steps to keep such information confidential. However, it must be aware that such information does or does not exist within a given proposal. Therefore, please complete the following:

_____ There is NO trade secret information contained in this proposal package.
_____ There IS trade secret information contained in this proposal package. Such information is noted on pages _____.

NOTE: Please REDACT those pages which contain trade secret information. In other words, conspicuously highlight or mark those passages, diagrams, drawings, etc. that contain trade secret information.

Resumes of each senior investigator: Please limit resumes to projects that focus on relevant training and experience to the proposal. Senior investigators include the Principal Investigator and any other faculty or senior-level personnel involved in the project.

Notification of Results: Please provide the e-mail address of the Principal Investigator and others you want to receive notice of the results of the selection process using the key contact's form.

Information that Successful Applicants must Submit after Notification of Intent to Make a Federal Award, but Prior to a Federal Award:

A requirement of a cooperative agreement is that the Federal awarding agency exercise Substantial Federal Involvement in the funded project. Prior to the award being made, the applicant's Principal Investigator and OSMRE's grants specialist and Project Technical Representative will develop a written understanding of what activities will represent Substantial Federal Involvement for the project. This understanding will become a part of the cooperative agreement.

Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM):

Unless the applicant is an individual or Federal awarding agency that is exempt from the requirements under 2 CFR 25.11(b) or (c) or has an exception approved by the Federal awarding agency under 2 CFR 25.110(d) it is are required to (I) be registered in SAM before submitting its application;(II) provide a valid unique entity identifier number (formerly DUNS) in its application; and (III) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an allocation or plan under consideration by the Federal awarding agency.

OSMRE will not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier (formerly DUNS) and SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal ward to another applicant.

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

Criterion 1: Technical Merit

Maximum Points: 40

Description	
<p>Criterion 1: Technical merit refers to multiple aspects of the proposal; does it have the potential to advance the science in mining or reclamation area, are research facilities described adequate, and have all aspects of the subject been considered to the extent that success is likely, does it address issues that are known to result in impacts to the environment or public safety?</p>	<p>Specific Details:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the results of the proposed study be a valuable addition to the science? 2. Does the proposed study present new or innovative techniques that are relevant to coal mining and/or coal mine reclamation? 3. Are the project description and statement of work thoroughly discussed, detailed, and logically sequenced? 4. Does the proposal address all technical variables that could reasonably be expected to impact success? 5. Does the proposal indicate the investigators have access to adequate facilities to conduct the proposed work? 6. Is the proposed timeframe appropriate for the stated scope of work? 7. If the proposed study involves field activities, has access to the needed site(s) been obtained? 8. Will the results of the proposed study provide on-the-ground benefits rather than lead to subsequent research?

Criterion 2: Value to The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA)

Maximum Points: 30

Description	
<p>Criterion 2: Will the results of the proposed study provide a benefit to OSMRE and its ability to enforce SMCRA?</p>	<p>Specific Details:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the results of the proposed study be directly applicable to improving mining or reclamation practices, from an environmental perspective? 2. Will the study be an investigation of practical application of accepted theory? 3. Will results of the study have the potential to improve quality of life for residents of mining communities? 4. Does the proposed project plan to employ students during the study? 5. Will results of the study have the potential to provide long term post mining or reclamation benefits? 6. Can the proposed study be directly associated with one or more SMCRA based regulations or directives? Must include the citation(s).

Criterion 3: TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER POTENTIAL

Maximum Points: 30

Description	
<p>Criterion 3: Does the</p>	<p>Specific Details</p>

<p>proposal include a plan for technology transfer? Is there a specific plan for training, workshops, forums, or publications to transfer results?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the proposal include a technology transfer plan? 2. Does the proposal indicate a technology transfer plan will be implemented? 3. Will the results be presented at an OSMRE Technology Transfer Team call or Meeting? 4. Will the results be posted on the Principal Investigator’s institution website? 5. Will the results will be posted on a website other than OSMRE’s or the Principal Investigator’s institution website? 6. Is there a specific plan for training, workshops, forums, or publications to transfer results? 7. Will the results will be presented at a multi-themed or national conference? 8. Will the results will be published in a peer-reviewed publication with national distribution?
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Criterion 4: Risk Assessment Factors **Maximum Points: 0**

Description	
<p>Criterion 4: Deduct five (5) points if the proposing institution is not current with project deliverables and/or performance measures on a previously funded technical investigation or applied science project.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Specific Details</p> <p>Five (5) points will be deducted from the total obtained from criteria 1, 2, and 3 if the proposing institution is not current with project deliverables and/or performance measures on a previously funded technical investigation or applied science project as determined by NTTT.</p>

E2. Review and Selection Process

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the Bureau may choose not to fund the selected project.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR 200.205. Programs document applicant risk evaluations using the Bureau’s “Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment” form. Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in

excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the Bureau is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The Bureau will consider this information when completing the risk review. The Bureau uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR 200.207 should be applied the award.

- a. Initial Screening: All applications received in response to this NOFO will be reviewed to determine whether they are eligible, complete, and responsive to the requirements of the NOFO, and all required documents/forms have been submitted.
- b. Applications determined to be ineligible, incomplete, and/or non-responsive based on the initial screening will be eliminated from further review. However, OSMRE, in its sole discretion, may continue the review process for an application that is missing non-substantive information that can easily be rectified or cured.
- c. All applications that are determined to be eligible, complete, and responsive, will proceed for full reviews in accordance with the review and selection processes set forth below.
- d. OSMRE reserves the right to negotiate the budget costs with the applicants that have been selected to receive awards, which may include requesting that the applicant remove certain costs.
- e. OSMRE may request that the applicant modify objectives or work plans and provide supplemental information.
OSMRE also reserves the right to reject an application where information is uncovered that raises a reasonable doubt as to the responsibility of the applicant. OSMRE may select some, all, or none of the applications, or part(s) of any application. In some cases, OSMRE may ask applicants to consider combining projects.

Evaluation, Review, Ranking, and Recommendation:

- a. At least three (3) objective reviewers knowledgeable in the subject matter of this NOFO and its objectives will evaluate each application based on the evaluation criteria (Section E, Part 1).
- b. While every application will have at least three (3) reviews, applications may have differing numbers of reviews if specialized expertise is needed to evaluate the application. The reviewers may discuss the applications with each other, but scores will be determined on an individual basis, not as a consensus.
- c. Each reviewer will assign individual scores to each criterion for each application.
- d. The scores provided by each reviewer for each application will then be combined to form a composite score for each application, which serves as the basis for the relative ordering or ranking of applications.
- e. OSMRE may select one or none of the applications, or part(s) of any application.

Selection Factors

- a. The Merit Review Panel Lead will compile a ranked list of applications for award based upon the relative ranking order of the applications.
- b. The Selecting Official must prepare a Recommendation Memorandum for the Approving Officials, which demonstrates that the evaluation and selection process was compliant with the procedures published in the NOFO.
- c. The Approving Officials may approve funding based on the Recommendation Memorandum; however, an application may be awarded out of rank order based on one or more of the following selection factors: the availability of Federal funds and the alignment with program priorities.
- d. If an application is selected out of rank order, there must be a detailed justification relative to the selection.
- e. Notification to Unsuccessful Applicants: Every unsuccessful applicant is entitled to a full explanation of why the application was not funded. The initial notice should provide a complete explanation, when possible. However, a notice may contain limited information regarding the unsuccessful application and indicate that a more detailed explanation will be provided later or upon request.
- f. Retention of Unsuccessful Applications: A copy of each non-selected application will be retained for at least three (3) years for recordkeeping purposes in accordance with 2 CFR 200.333.
- g. Federal Awarding Agency Review of Risk Posed by Applicants: After applications are proposed for funding by the Approving Official and prior to the issuance of an award, the OSMRE Grants Office will assess the risk posed by the applicant in accordance with 2 CFR 200.205. In addition to reviewing repositories of government-wide eligibility, qualification or financial integrity information, the risk assessment conducted by OSMRE will include the following:
 - i. Review of applicant's single audit submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse;
 - ii. Review of applicant's most recent independent audit;
 - iii. Completion of financial capability questionnaire;
 - iv. The financial stability of an applicant;
 - v. Quality of the applicant's management systems;
 - vi. An applicant's history of performance;
 - vii. Previous audit reports and audit findings concerning the applicant; and
 - viii. The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

Upon review of these factors, if appropriate, specific award conditions that correspond to the degree of risk may be applied by the OSMRE Grants Office pursuant to 2 CFR 200. In addition,

OSMRE reserves the right to reject an application in its entirety when information is uncovered that raises a significant risk with respect to the responsibility or suitability of the applicant.

E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

See the OSMRE Award Terms and Conditions for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards. OSMRE will communicate any other program- or project-specific special terms and conditions to recipients in their notices of award.

E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

Review of applications, selection of successful applicants, and award processing is expected to be completed approximately 60 – 120 days after projects are selected for funding. Anticipated start dates will vary.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

Selected applicants will receive an official written cooperative agreement from the OSMRE Grants Office notifying them of the award (Notice of Award). This agreement will provide information pertaining programmatic and financial reporting requirements, in addition to terms and conditions pertaining to managing the agreement. This document will also include, key contacts associated with the award. If the Federal awarding agency determines that a Federal award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the Federal award.

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the “[DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](#)” for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

Data Availability

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.315](#):

(a) All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.

(b) The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a Federal award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, for Federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the SF-425, Federal Financial Report form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a final financial report. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit interim financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. We will describe all financial reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Each award recipient will be required to submit an SF-425 Federal Financial Report on a quarterly basis for the period ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of each year. Reports will be due with 30 days after the end of the reporting period and must be submitted in www.grantsolutions.gov. A final Federal Financial Report is due within 120 days after the end of the project period.

Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit interim financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Each award recipient will be required to submit a Performance Progress Report, on a quarterly basis for the period ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of each year, and all reports must be submitted directly in www.grantsolutions.gov. Reports will be due within 30 days after the end of the reporting period.

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit interim financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Bureau in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions

that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify OSMRE in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Recipients must notify the program immediately in writing of any conflict of interest that arise during the life of their Federal award, including those reported to them by any subrecipient under the award. Recipients must notify the program in writing if any employees, including subrecipient and contractor personnel, are related to, married to, or have a close personal relationship with any Federal employee in the Federal funding program or who otherwise may have been involved in the review and selection of the award. The term employee means any individual engaged in the performance of work pursuant to the Federal award. Recipients may not have a former Federal employee as a key project official, or in any other substantial role related to their award, whose participation put them out of compliance with the legal authorities addressing post-Government employment restrictions. See the [U.S. Office of Government Ethics website](#) for more information on these restrictions. OSMRE will examine each conflict of interest disclosure based on its particular facts and the nature of the project and will determine if a significant potential conflict exists. If it does, OSMRE will work with the recipient to determine an appropriate resolution. Failure to disclose and resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies OSMRE may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 Remedies for Noncompliance, including termination of the award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First Name:

Kwang "Min"

Last Name:

Kim

Address:

Technical Services Branch Interior Regions 3,4, & 6 501 Belle St., Suite 216 Alton, IL 62002

Telephone:

(618) 463-6463 x-5151

Email:

kkim@osmre.gov

G2. Program Administration Contact

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First Name:

Kwang "Min"

Last Name:

Kim

Address:

Technical Services Branch Interior Regions 3,4, & 6 501 Belle St., Suite 216 Alton, IL 62002

Telephone:

618-463-6463 ext. 5151

Email:

kkim@osmre.gov

Cecil Slaughter

Hydrologist, Headquarters

PSD, Division of Regulatory Support

(202) 208-2866

cslaughter@osmre.gov

Jeff Ream

Civil Engineer, DOI Regions 1 and 2

Engineering and Mine Map Services Branch

(814) 562-0222

Email: jream@osmre.gov@osmre.gov

G3. Application System Technical Support

For **Grants.gov** technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages, contact:

Name:

Grants.gov Customer Support

Telephone:

1-800-518-4726

Email:

Support@grants.gov

H. Other Information

Payments

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by the OSMRE program. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT). The Bureau will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.