

Request for Proposals 2009 University-National Park Energy Partnership Program

Purpose. This request for proposals (RFP) supports partnerships among universities and national parks that lead to the implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects at the parks. This RFP is carried out through the University-National Park Energy Partnership Program (UNPEPP).

Background. UNPEPP is a nationwide program working to link universities with national parks to address energy issues at the parks. Through these partnerships, parks gain assistance on energy projects, while students obtain real-world problem-solving experience in the energy field. Since its inception in 1997, UNPEPP has funded numerous partnerships between universities and national parks. Funding is typically in the range of \$15,000-\$20,000 per partnership, and is used to support students, faculty, equipment purchases, and other services.

Proposal Requirements. Proposals should originate from universities and should outline the nature of the proposed university-national park partnership and the type of work that will be conducted. Proposals should contain, but are not limited to, the following sections:

1. **Summary**—a section summarizing the work activities, the partners involved, and the expected results of the project.
2. **Detailed Work Plan**
 - a. **Tasks and Deliverables** – Details about the work to be undertaken and the major milestones and deliverables for this work. Deliverables must include bi-monthly status reports and a final report that summarizes partnership activities, successes, and challenges. This section must also include:
 - i. **Quantification:** Measurement of project’s energy, economic and environmental impacts when appropriate. At a minimum, relevant projects (i.e. energy audits and renewable energy system design and/or installation) should quantify expected annual: energy savings (e.g. kWh/yr), cost savings (e.g. \$/yr), and offset emissions (i.e. tons CO₂/yr).
 - ii. **Implementation Plan:** Steps taken by university partners and park personnel to implement project designs or recommendations (i.e. steps to ensure that recommended energy conservation equipment will be purchased and installed). Proposals should also identify how resulting project recommendations can be integrated into NPS facilities management and budgeting systems.
 - b. **Public Education** – The work plan should also highlight any activities to educate the public about the partnership’s activities.
3. **Budget**—a detailed budget that includes personnel, equipment, travel, and other costs. Indirect costs for this program are limited to 15% of total costs. Matching funds, particularly from private sector parties, are desirable and encouraged, but not required.
4. **Personnel**—a section that provides information about each of the parties that will participate in the project.

5. **Letter of Support**—a letter of support should be included and signed by the National Park Superintendent, endorsing the partnership effort and identifying any resources (in-kind or actual) that the park will provide to the effort.

Evaluation Criteria. Proposals will be evaluated based on how the project addresses three major goals: (1) achieving measurable energy savings and/or implementing renewable energy projects at the park; (2) providing educational opportunities for university students; and, (3) providing opportunities for public education and outreach. Proposals that demonstrate the clear potential for energy efficiency and renewable energy project implementation will be given preference.

Deadline. Proposals must be received by **February 18th, 2009**. Most projects will start by June 2009. The total number of partnerships funded is contingent upon available UNPEPP funding.

Contact. Inquiries may be made to:

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UNPEPP Director
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Sending Proposals. Proposals should be submitted in triplicate to:

Attn: James J. Winebrake, PhD
UNPEPP/RIT 01-1356
92 Lomb Memorial Dr.
Rochester, NY 14623

Additional Information. More information on UNPEPP—including previously funded partnerships, outcomes, and final project reports—can be found at:

<http://www.energypartnerships.org>.