

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

RFAs E20-1 and E20-2: Community Exposures Associated with Unconventional Oil and Natural Gas Development

HEI ENERGY

HEI-Energy is a nonprofit affiliate of the Health Effects Institute (HEI), chartered as an independent research organization to provide high-quality and impartial science about potential human exposure and health effects associated with onshore development of oil and natural gas from shale and other unconventional resources (UOGD) in the United States.

THE RFAs

HEI-Energy is seeking to fund research to improve our characterization of potential human exposures originating directly from the onshore development of oil and natural gas from unconventional resources across oil- and natural gas-producing regions in the United States (UOGD). This solicitation includes two Requests for Applications (RFAs) for research that contributes broadly useful knowledge to decision making by communities, policy makers, and other stakeholders to ensure the protection of public health.

RFA E20-1 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE

HEI-Energy seeks to fund studies that apply a combination of approaches to quantify the spatial and temporal variability in community exposures to UOGD-generated chemical concentrations in outdoor air and to noise. Much air quality research has been conducted, but gaps in the understanding of community exposures directly resulting from UOGD operations remain. Studies should be designed to maximize the applicability of results to other geographic regions, UOGD operating conditions, and communities over time, including periods of low and high UOGD activity.

RFA E20-2 WATER QUALITY

HEI-Energy seeks to fund studies that quantify the temporal and spatial variability in community exposures to UOGD-generated chemical concentrations in groundwater or surface water. The studies would involve the synthesis and modeling of existing data, with particular attention to data that have become available since U.S. EPA's 2016 hydraulic fracturing study (https://www.epa.gov/hfstudy). HEI-Energy also will consider funding empirical research involving the collection of original data related to potential UOGD impacts on water quality that augments, rather than repeats, previous work.

THE BUDGET

For RFA E20-1, HEI-Energy would anticipate funding two to four studies of 3 years' duration, each conducted in one or more regions, with a maximum award per study of \$2,500,000. For RFA E20-2, HEI-Energy would anticipate funding (1) two to six studies involving analysis of existing data limited to 1.5 years' duration, with a maximum award per study of \$250,000, and (2) one to two studies involving new empirical research and data collection limited to 1 to 2 years' duration, with a maximum award of \$1,000,000.

DUE DATE

Preliminary Application: September 24, 2020

FULL RFAs AVAILABLE HERE:

https://hei-energy.org/funding-opportunities

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact us at: energy@healtheffects.org Learn more at our website: https://hei-energy.org/

HEI-ENERGY

75 Federal St., Suite 1400 • Boston, MA 02210, USA +1-617-488-2300

SPONSORS:

This program has been supported with joint funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Contract No. 68HERC19D0010 and the oil and natural gas industry. Although the RFAs were produced with partial funding by EPA and industry, they have not been subject to their review, and therefore the RFAs do not necessarily reflect the views of the Agency or the oil and natural gas industry, and no official endorsement by the Agency or the industry should be inferred.

