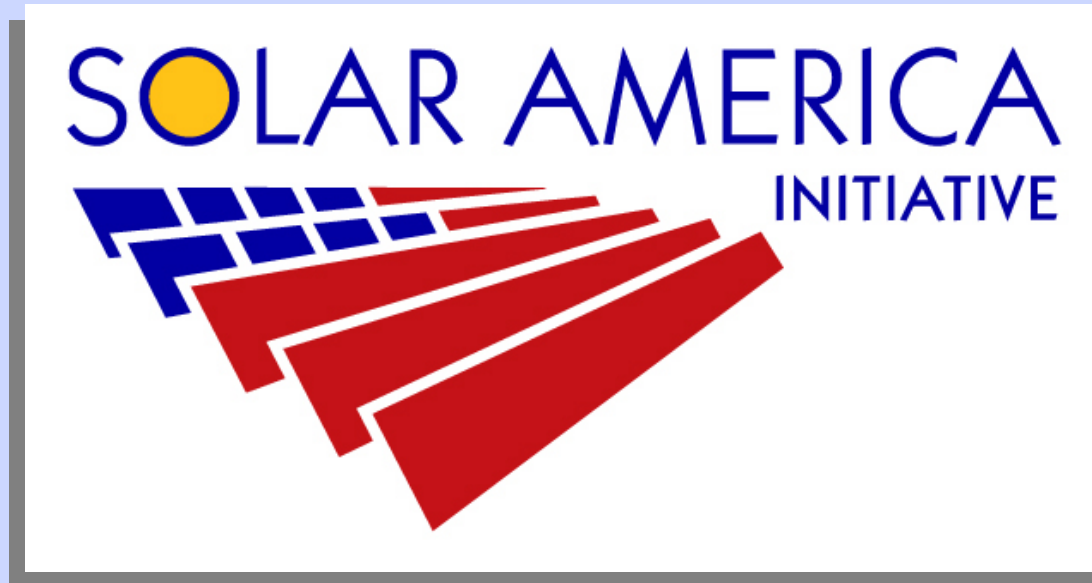




U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Solar America Initiative

Financial Assistance Overview





SAI Financial Assistance Overview

- The SAI Technology Acceptance (TA) funding opportunities will be administered by the DOE's Project Management Center at the Golden Field Office
- These will take the form of Funding Opportunity Announcements (**FOA**)
- In this construct, proposals are referred to as **Applications**
- Awards are expected to take the form of **Cooperative Agreements (as opposed to contracts)**
- **Successful Applicants are called Recipients**

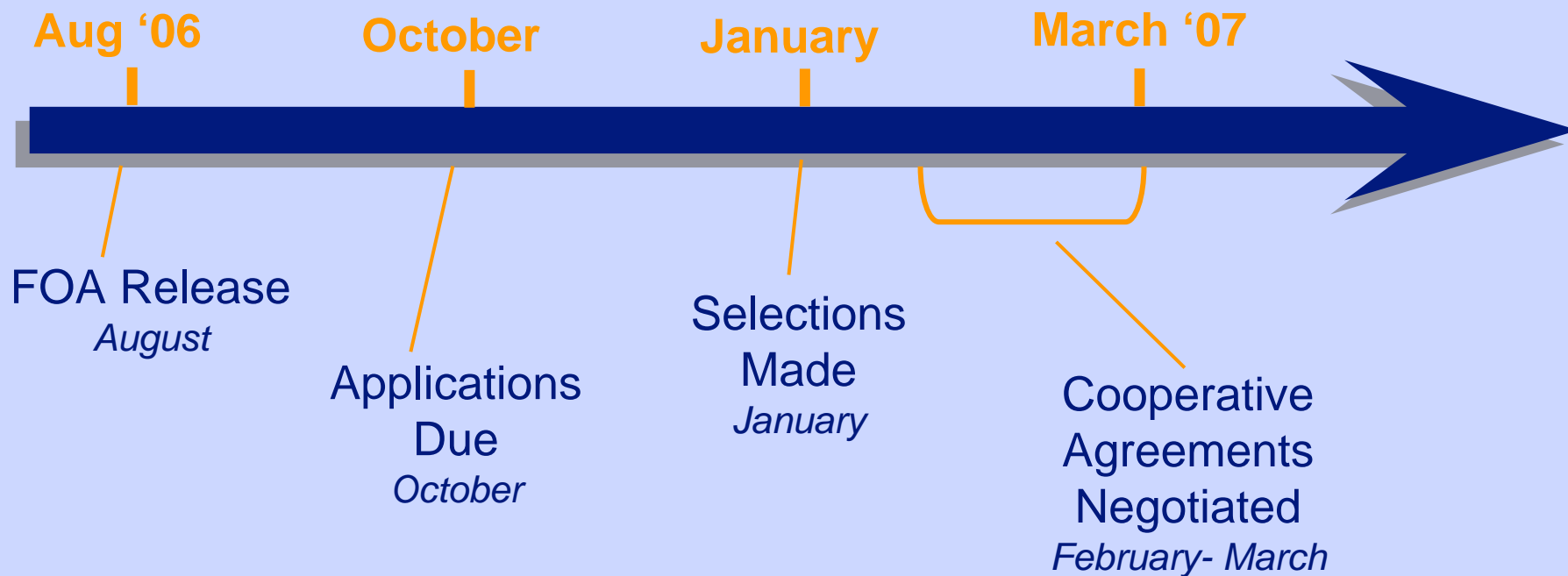


Financial Assistance 101

- Financial Assistance
 - Governed by 10 CFR 600 regulations
 - Not subject to most requirements under the FAR
 - Important differences between Financial Assistance and Acquisition:
 - DOE not purchasing products/services for government.
 - DOE investing government resources in projects to meet SAI programmatic goals to benefit nation and domestic industry.
 - Applicants propose approach to meeting/exceeding SAI programmatic goals. DOE selects best projects to meet those goals.
 - Cooperative Agreements require substantial involvement by DOE. DOE is a partner in projects through actions that include, but are not limited to, technical direction, independent stage-gate reviews, key decision points, technical project monitoring, financial monitoring, and peer reviews.
 - No avenue for protests. Unsuccessful applicants provided written and/or oral de-brief of strengths and weaknesses of their applications.



TA Estimated Timeline





TA Funding Opportunity Announcement

- Results of the Technology Exchange Meetings and comments on RFI to inform:
 - FOA objectives, technical requirements and merit review criteria
 - Topic area definitions
 - Duration of awards
 - Potential DOE funding amounts
 - Minimum cost share requirements
 - Need for restrictions of eligibility
 - Need for phasing of projects



Application Review/Selection Process

- Applications must be submitted by FOA closing date/time to Grants.gov (Must register with Grants.gov at least 14 days prior to submitting an Application)
- Questions regarding all FOA requirements must be submitted through Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS). Responses to all questions through IIPS.
- Applications initially screened for responsiveness to published FOA requirements
- Applications that pass initial screening undergo Merit Review process using evaluation criteria
- Merit Review Committee (MRC) made up of DOE and independent reviewers (may include National Lab reviewers)
- MRC members required to sign COI/non-disclosure statements
- MRC will review and score only against published evaluation criteria
- Selections made on basis of Merit Review scores, program policy factors, and best value in terms of meeting SAI/TA goals



Cooperative Agreements Overview

- Cooperative agreements require substantial involvement by DOE
- Funding subject to annual appropriations
- Award will be with the TA Recipient. Partners will be subrecipients.
- Cost share (from non-Federal sources) calculated against total project costs (DOE funds + non-Federal cost share)
- Project management plans will be required for all projects including schedules, milestones, deliverables
- Stage-gate reviews may be required