

Number	Question	Category	Answer
1	We are ready to submit our proposal. Our project focuses on copper as the critical mineral. Could you please confirm whether copper is eligible under the requirement that “project solutions must address at least one of the commodities listed above within at least one of the six AOI capabilities”? And copper is not listed.	Proposal Topic	We encourage you to review Section 2.0 of the RPP, "Project solutions must address at least one of the commodities listed above" as well as "...they must identify at least one in-scope commodity and one of the AOIs listed above. Project solutions may crossover multiple AOIs and include additional commodities listed or not. For example, co-production of several minerals or addressing multiple AOIs listed above to provide an integrated solution."
2	In order to provide the best solution to the proposal areas of interest, we are looking to confirm if the full integrated nickel sulphate and pCAM plant would be eligible for funding support, or a reduced scope for the nickel sulphate plant in isolation?	Proposal Topic	Quad chart(s) should present prototype solutions for at least one of the AOIs and at least one of the specific commodities listed in the RPP. Solution alignment to AOI(s) is self identified.
3	Is there a lower or upper limit on the budget for quad requests?	Award	ROMs should be commensurate to the prototype project solution being proposed. All awards are based on availability of funding and must provide sufficient information for the Government to determine price reasonableness for the project.
4	Do we propose more than one quad chart, should we be able to cover same priority minerals, but across different AOIs?  If we have more than one capability that may be a candidate for the subject RPP, can we submit more than one quad chart?	Proposal Categories	Organizations are not limited to a single submission. Per Section 2.0 of the RPP, "holistic solutions that offer capabilities across multiple stages of the value chain (e.g., extraction, beneficiation, and processing to oxide; or recycling, metal making, metal refining, and alloying..." Members are able to submit separate Quad Charts addressing different AOI specific capabilities.

5	<p>How should we refer to a prior quad chart or white paper submission to DPA that we have made (re: Ga, 2025)? Do we assume that our current submission will supersede all prior submissions to DPA, and therefore we should update and re-state all key data previously delivered, or should we make a note that a prior submission exists and contains relevant details?</p>	Submission	<p>Only Quad Chart(s) submitted under this RPP will be reviewed IAW this RPP.</p>
6	<p>Do all industry partners also need to be DIBC members?</p>	Eligibility	<p>No. The prime proposer needs to be a member of the DIBC, but there is not a requirement for team members/subcontractors to be members.</p>
7	<p>For RPP-CM-26-01, is the March 20 deadline for Phase I submission (Quad Chart only), or is the full application including Phase II due at that time? If it is only for Phase I, what is the anticipated timeline for submitting the Phase II full proposal?</p>	Submission	<p>Only the quad chart is due by March 20. If the Government selects you to move to Phase 2, a timeline will be provided for Phase 2 documents.</p>
8	<p>The Quad Chart template downloaded from DIBC appears to be a one-page presentation slide. However, in the RPP document, Section 3.7 (page 6) indicates that the page limit for the Quad Chart is N/A. Additionally, Section 3.7.1 (page 7) states that templates must be used as provided with no changes to the syntax or format, except for converting the final document to PDF. Could the consortium please confirm whether the Quad Chart submission is strictly limited to the single page provided in the template, or if offerors may include additional presentation slides with supporting content, while keeping the original one-page slide as the summary?</p>	Submission	<p>The quad chart is limited to one slide. No other supporting information can be accepted as part of the submission.</p>

9	<p>We would like to propose solutions that target multiple critical elements covered by this call. Some of them can utilize the same process architecture while others may use slightly different approach. Should we submit one Quad Chart for all of this or should we submit multiple Quad Charts? If the latter, is there a preference on how to group projects? By process flowsheet or by Element on the list?</p>	Submission	<p>Organizations are not limited to a single submission. Per Section 2.0 of the RPP, "holistic solutions that offer capabilities across multiple stages of the value chain (e.g., extraction, beneficiation, and processing to oxide; or recycling, metal making, metal refining, and alloying..." Members are able to submit separate Quad Charts addressing different AOI specific capabilities.</p>
10	<p>Both the RPP and the QC template reference "resource sharing." I am not familiar with this term, so could you please explain? Is it like cost share?</p>	Proposal Topic	<p>Cost sharing is commonly defined as the portion of project or program costs that are not paid by the federal funding agency.</p>
11	<p>We would like to propose solutions that target multiple critical elements covered by this call. Some of them can utilize the same process architecture while others may use slightly different approach. Should we submit one Quad Chart for all of this or should we submit multiple Quad Charts? If the latter, is there a preference on how to group projects? By process flowsheet or by Element on the list?</p>	Submission	<p>See Question 4 response.</p>
12	<p>Both the RPP and the QC template reference "resource sharing." I am not familiar with this term, so could you please explain? Is it like cost share?</p>	Proposal Topic	<p>Cost sharing is commonly defined as the portion of project or program costs that are not paid by the federal funding agency.</p>
13	<p>For this solicitation, is there interest in alternatives to critical minerals (e.g., domestically sourced non-critical mineral materials for applications like IR transparency) or is this solicitation only interested in using these critical minerals?</p>	Proposal Topic	<p>See Question 1 response.</p>
14	<p>Are the solicitations looking for an already-existing product/process, or is there appetite for innovation?</p>	Proposal Topic	<p>See Question 2 response.</p>

15	Is this solicitation looking for projects with a minimum request of \$100 million? Under section 4.1.3.1, it discuss criteria for the review process and lists criteria for values of \$100M to \$500M and Over \$500M. No specific discussion regarding reviews for values less than \$100M.	Award	See Question 3 response. There is no specified funding levels for this RPP. The values in question are specific to the review process for Phase 2 Submisisons in determining price reasonableness.
16	Am I correct in understanding that only the Quad Chart (Phase I) is due March 20th? The additional proposal items will be due a a later date should there be interest from DIBC based on the Quad Chart submission.	Submission	Correct.
17	The BIDS submission portal references a pitch presentation, which does not appear as a required or optional deliverable in the solicitation. Could you clarify what this refers to and whether it is applicable to this RPP?	Submission	A pitch presentation is not applicable to this RPP. The BIDS site has been updated to reflect this information.
18	What is the anticipated timeframe for Phase 1 review? Specifically, how long after the March 20 deadline should submitters expect to hear whether they have been selected for Phase 2?	Evaluations	There is no timeline for Phase 1 review. Per section 4.1.2.1 of the RPP: Consortium Member(s) are advised that the Government may not provide feedback for Phase 1. By submitting a response to this RPP, the Consortium Member acknowledges that it may not receive feedback on its submission(s). See section 5 for additional information.
19	My company is developing a laser-driven architecture for precision extraction of critical minerals. We are planning on submitting a quad chart for the Critical Minerals RPP but were wondering if you had a target TRLs (or MRLs) for this solicitation? In other words, are you looking for technologies that are approaching commercialization in the near term, or are earlier-stage proposals ok too?	Proposal Topic	The RPP does not specify target TRLs or MRLs. The government seeks to advance emerging technologies to provide significant demonstrable progress towardsestablishing and securing critical mineral supply chains.
20	I have a question regarding the graphite proposal. Is there a specific scale of facility is preferred for this program? For example, we have options at 2,000 and 10,000 MT per year, which correlates to approximately 2 GWh and 10 GWh of battery production.	Proposal Topic	The RPP does not specify preferred scale. Submitters are welcome to specify different scale options with Rough Order Magnitude (ROM) costs for each to allow the government maximum flexibility in evaluating desired capabilities.

21	Can AOI 3 or 4 be used for graphite, which is the only non-metallic commodity in the RPP? AOI 3 & 4 specifically refers to metals, but seem applicable to the midstream processing targeted here.	Proposal Topic	While AOI 3 and 4 are specific to metallic commodities, the Government encourages holistic solutions that offer capabilities across multiple stages of the value chain for the commodities provided in the RPP. Provide an innovative solution that aligns with one or more AOIs with one or more listed commodities.
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