



COUNTY OF INYO

Water Department

135 S. JACKSON ST • INDEPENDENCE, CALIFORNIA 93526

TELEPHONE (760) 878-0001

InyoCAPP11@inyocounty.us

Clean Air Projects Program

a joint project of Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District
and Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Clean Air Projects Program II (CAPP II) Request for Proposals (RFP) *Frequently Asked Questions and Answers*

The following answers to some commonly asked questions may assist you as you consider and prepare your CAPP II project proposal:

Q. Will you consider any extensions to the June 30, 2025 project completion deadline?

A. No

Q. Can I apply for CAPP II funds to help pay for a related project that was recently installed?

A. No. CAPP II is not funding projects already installed or implemented, no matter how recent.

Q. On page 9 – of the Request for Proposals, it appears to say that CAPP II funds won't be paid to the grantees until June 30, 2025. Is this correct?

A. No. The statement of concern in the noted timeline, "CAPP II projects complete and funds dispersed: June 30 2025" is meant to state that all funds must be dispersed and paid out BY June 30, 2025, not that June 30, 2025 is when they will be paid out.

Q. What happens if we can't complete the project or spend all of the allocated funds by June 30, 2025?

A. All grantees will be required to enter into a binding contract with CAPP II that ties the grantees to their proposed timeline. If a project falls behind and cannot be completed by June 30, 2025 for whatever reason, all awarded funds not yet spent must be returned to CAPP II.

Q. Can I apply for CAPP II funds to help me upgrade my old diesel engine machinery?

A. Engines for which DPFs (diesel particulate filters) are currently required by CA Air Resources Board law do not qualify. The program is for reduction of air pollution beyond legally required reductions. However, if you replace/upgrade the DPF before the mandatory deadline, you will require for partial funding. The problem with reductions made just before the mandated



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reduction deadline (say one year early) is that the cost-benefit analysis is low because all the cost would be allocated to that single year of non-required reductions. If you propose to install a required DPF before the CARB deadline, it will result in an incremental reduction in air emissions. For example, if the filter has a 10-year life and is installed on year before the legal mandated deadline, you might qualify for 10 percent of the overall cost.

Q. How can I calculate my old truck's diesel engine emissions?

A. Please go the following website for help calculating your diesel engine emissions:

<http://arb.ca.gov/msprog/bus/manualcalc.htm>

Q. We're proposing a project that involves several partners. Do each of us need to submit a proposal?

A. No. A single proposal should be submitted by whoever is financially responsible and liable for the project's implementation, however, all project partners should be listed in the proposal's project description, as well as noted in the appendix along with a statement of cost-sharing support if relevant.

Q. Do we need to secure several competitive bids for project materials?

A. You won't be disqualified for not having competitive bids, but it would benefit your proposal if you do in demonstration that you have researched the costs and intend to use the funds wisely.

Q. Can I apply for multiple projects in one proposal?

A. Yes, but remember, you only have up to ten pages for your project description, no matter how many projects you include. If, for convenience sake, you choose to list several projects in one proposal, list them separately, along with their specific costs, allowing the selection panel to review each on its own merits. In this manner, if one project is stronger than another, CAPP II administration will exercise a "line item veto power" to select the strongest one(s) for funding, and decline the weaker project(s).

Q. Can I apply for CAPP II funds to install a renewable energy system to replace a traditional energy?

A. Yes, but it likely won't be a strong proposal if the new system isn't replacing electric power as this won't significantly reduce local air emissions given our local energy generation source (almost entirely from non-polluting geothermal and hydro-generated power). Remember, CAPP II is looking for cost effective projects and requires a cost/benefit analysis to quantify and



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compare the amount of local air emissions reduced against the project cost. Most renewable energy systems will not rate high in this analysis.

Q. What is meant by “CAPP II-funded administrative costs should not exceed 15 percent of the total requested amount”?

A. CAPP II funds are intended to pay for actual project costs, not ongoing and overhead administrative costs, such as utilities, rent, office supplies, payroll, benefits, etc. Up to 15 percent of such costs that are arguably tied to the CAPP II project can be applied for, but must be detailed in your project budget.

Q. Will the CAPP II pay for personnel costs in addition to administrative costs?

A. Yes, if the personnel hourly costs are directly tied to the project as part of an effort to directly or indirectly reduce local air pollution. For example, an education program about air pollution could indirectly reduce future air pollution through increased knowledge and behavior modifications. Therefore, the cost of an educator would qualify and would not be counted toward administrative costs. However, since this program is so limited in time and scope, personnel benefits, such as insurance and retirement, are not allowable for proposal inclusion as they don't have any direct effect on air emission reductions.

Q. Does volunteer labor count towards cost sharing in our project's overall budget?

A. Yes. If any labor that is required to complete the project is provided by unpaid volunteers, include it in your overall project budget as cost sharing. While the Federal Government currently values volunteer labor at \$28.54 per hour, according to the *Independent Sector*, a leadership network for nonprofits, foundations, and corporate giving programs) (<http://independentsector.org>), volunteer labor in California is currently valued at \$33.61 per hour. Please use this hourly rate in your budget computations for volunteer labor.

Q. Our office is not located within the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District. Can we still apply for CAPP II funds?

A. Regardless of where your office is located, if your project is implemented within the OVPA, and reduces District air emissions, it qualifies for CAPP II funding.