

## Environmental SBIR Topics: NSF / EPA Collaboration

EPA is collaborating with National Science Foundation on their SBIR Solicitation's environmental topics. If it helps anyone interested in applying, see the FactSheet below prepared to show the linkages between EPA topics and NSF topics. The next NSF solicitation closes December 4, 2008, so it is perfect timing for anyone currently interested in submitting an environmental technology proposal to NSF. It is an NSF SBIR proposal, so companies need to make sure they meet all the NSF requirements, and not the EPA SBIR requirements.

### Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Opportunity for Environmental Technology

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) SBIR Phase I Solicitation is now closed and the next SBIR solicitation will open in March 2009. However, there are opportunities NOW for SBIR funding of environmental technologies in the **National Science Foundation (NSF)** SBIR Phase I Solicitation closing on December 4, 2008. Nearly all of EPA's technology needs are eligible under this NSF Solicitation. EPA technology needs are described in the last Phase I Solicitation that is still posted on the EPA SBIR Website. The linkages between the EPA technology needs and NSF's Biotech and Chemical Technologies (BC) topics are summarized below:

#### EPA TECHNOLOGY NEEDS (TOPICS)

Innovation in Manufacturing  
Nanotechnology  
Green Buildings  
Drinking Water  
Water and Wastewater  
Air Pollution  
Vehicle Emissions and Biofuels  
Waste Management  
Monitoring and Remote Sensing  
Homeland Security

#### Corresponding NSF TOPICS

NSF Topics A16, B10, EL  
NSF Topics A3, A5, A6  
NSF Topics A5, A6, A9, B5  
NSF Topics A3, A5, A6  
NSF Topics A1, A3, A5, A6  
NSF Topics A5, A6, B2  
NSF Topics A5, A7, B2  
NSF Topics A1, A9, B5  
NSF Topics A5, A6, EL  
NSF Topics A3, A5, A6

The National Science Foundation SBIR Phase I Solicitation closes on December 4, 2008. Small businesses should carefully read the solicitation and comply with the proposal instructions, electronic application submission procedures, administrative requirements and technical issues. The NSF SBIR Solicitation is not identical with the EPA SBIR Solicitation. Businesses are submitting proposals to NSF and only NSF (not EPA) requirements apply. Note that NSF proposals must have sufficient commercial and technical potential substance to justify review, and NSF projects are expected to have high-risk and high potential commercial payback. Proposals must include at least one letter of technology support.

EPA's next SBIR Phase I Solicitation opens on March 19, 2009 and closes on May 20, 2009. Previous EPA solicitations are available on the EPA SBIR website at <http://www.epa.gov/ncer/sbir>. The Solicitations have different topics and provide detailed descriptions of EPA technology needs. Questions about EPA environmental technologies can be addressed to James Gallup, phone (202) 343-9703 or email: [gallup.james@epa.gov](mailto:gallup.james@epa.gov) or James Gentry, Phone (202) 343-9798 or email:

[gentry.james@epa.gov](mailto:gentry.james@epa.gov) or April Richards, Phone (202) 343-9836 or email: [Richards.april@epa.gov](mailto:Richards.april@epa.gov). The NSF SBIR Phase I Solicitation is NOW available at <http://www.nsf.gov/eng/iip/sbir>

The NSF Program Director for the Biotech and Chemical Technologies (BC) Topic is Thomas Allnutt, telephone (703) 292-7059, email: [tallnutt@nsf.gov](mailto:tallnutt@nsf.gov). The NSF SBIR Phase I Solicitation is available at: <http://www.nsf.gov/eng/iip/sbir>. Companies can talk with the Program Director at any time before the submission deadline but note that communication will become increasingly difficult as the deadline nears. Proposals are due December 4, 2008.

**The linkage between EPA technology needs and NSF topics is summarized below. All NSF topics are in the Biotech and Chemical Technologies (BC) Topic.**

<u>EPA TECHNOLOGY NEEDS (TOPICS)</u>	<u>Corresponding NSF TOPICS</u>
Innovation in Manufacturing	NSF Topics A16, B10, EL
Nanotechnology	NSF Topics A3, A5, A6
Green Buildings	NSF Topics A5, A6, A9, B5
Drinking Water	NSF Topics A3, A5, A6
Water and Wastewater	NSF Topics A1, A3, A5, A6
Air Pollution	NSF Topics A5, A6, B2
Vehicle Emissions and Biofuels	NSF Topics A5, A7, B2
Waste Management	NSF Topics A1, A9, B5
Monitoring and Remote Sensing	NSF Topics A5, A6, EL
Homeland Security	NSF Topics A3, A5, A6

In many cases EPA needs do not correspond exactly to NSF Topics but almost all EPA needs can find a corresponding NSF Topic. NSF Topics are very broad and include the descriptive phrase “technologies include but are not limited to ...” to allow small businesses to submit proposals that stimulate technological innovation. Most environmental technologies are in the NSF Topic, Biotech and Chemical Technologies (BC). There are also environmental technologies in the Electronics, Components and Engineering Systems (EL) topic (e.g., Environmental Sensing, Remote Sensing, Semiconductor/Printed Wiring Board Manufacture). Environmental technologies in the NSF Topic, **BIOTECH AND CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGIES (BC)**, include:

- Topic **A1** -- Agricultural Biotechnology including pathogen and toxin diagnostics.
- Topic **A3** -- Environmental Biotechnology including water and wastewater treatment, runoff and methods to reduce human ecological and environmental impacts.
- Topic **A5** -- Real World Sensors and Biosensors including microbial sensors and tracking of microbial contamination in wastewater treatment.
- Topic **A6** -- Environmental Technologies including technologies related to improvement of the environment, monitoring and decreasing environment impacts of humans on the planet.

Topic **A7** -- Bioenergy Technologies including biomass conversion, biodiesel products

and improvements, processing of biofuels waste streams.

Topic **A9** -- BioBased Materials including chemicals/polymers from biobased feedstock.

Topic **A16** -- Manufacturing Innovation in Biotechnology including environmental products

Topic **B2** -- Energy Transportation and Fuels including reduction of engine emissions and

NOx reduction.

Topic **B5** -- Materials for Sustainability including improved ability to recycle a material

and novel materials from recycled materials.

Topic **B10** -- Manufacturing Innovation in Chemical Technology

**Other Topics:** Topic BC (B6, B7) and Topic EL (A8, A12, M5, M6, O1 and More)

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