

Question and Answer Guide – Heat Recovery Program

Heat Recovery Project Development PON 5547

Program links:

- [Heat Recovery Project Development PON 5547 solicitation](#)
- [Heat Recovery Solutions RFQL 5217 solicitation](#)
- [Heat Recovery Program Webpage](#)

Incentives

1. **For Category 2 Heat Recovery Design, is the funding only for schematic drawings or can it subsidize all the way to 100% construction documents (up to \$80,000)?**

The Heat Recovery program aims to support the development of designs for feasible heat recovery solutions. Proposals for Category 2 must at least progress to final schematic designs, but additional progress up to 100% construction documents is eligible.

2. **For Category 2 Heat Recovery Design, how early in the process of design are you required to apply for the program? I.e. if we have begun the site visits for design can we still apply?**

While applications will be considered for projects at various points in the design process, generally earlier in the process is better. Work that has been completed before the application is submitted is not eligible for reimbursement. Additionally, the Design Charrette acting as the first payment milestone will be more productive if it occurs earlier in the design process.

3. **Would the NYSERDA funding be paid directly to the consultant or would the customer have to file for a reimbursement?**

The applicant will receive reimbursement through the program. Either the customer, consultant, or other member of the program team may act as the applicant.

Consultant Eligibility

4. **Is there a specific list of consultants required to conduct the Category 1 Opportunity assessment or Category 2 Project Design?**

No, there is not a specific list of consultants required to conduct services within the Heat Recovery Program. Building owners or project teams in need of a consultant may reference the [FlexTech consultant list as a resource](#).

Project Eligibility

5. Is there a minimum scale project this can be applied to?

No, there is no scale requirement for participation in the Heat Recovery Program.

6. Are there limits to the project type?

The Heat Recovery Program is open to multiple types of heat recovery. A [partial list of solution sets is available here](#) [PDF], but email HeatRecovery@nysERDA.ny.gov if you are not sure your solution is eligible.

7. Are projects utilizing waste heat from the municipal sewer system eligible?

No. While projects recovering heat from a building's wastewater *before* the municipal sewer system are eligible, projects utilizing the municipal sewer as a heat source are not.

8. Are projects utilizing campus wastewater eligible, i.e. recovering heat from 1-3 buildings (but not municipal)?

Yes, projects recovering heat from a building's wastewater *before* the municipal sewer system are eligible.

9. Is this program open to projects including adjacent buildings that can recover each other's loads? Or would that then be considered a thermal energy network?

The boundary of a project under this Program may pertain to either a single building or multiple buildings that share energy services. Generally, buildings that either 1) are owned by different parties or 2) would cross a right of way to share energy are not eligible to participate as a single project in the Heat Recovery Program.

10. Would retrofitting a building's existing heating system with combined heat & power be eligible?

The Program does not fund implementation of new fossil fuel burning equipment. However, we will consider projects on a case-by-case basis that are looking to recover otherwise rejected heat from an existing fossil fuel equipment, such as flue exhaust from a steam boiler or improving the heat recovery capability of an existing CHP system. System designs should result in an overall reduction of fossil fuel consumption and where possible electric alternatives should be considered and noted with the application package.

11. Is thermal or ice storage eligible?

Yes, thermal storage and ice storage are eligible, and consideration for the inclusion of thermal storage is encouraged in Category 2 Heat Recovery Project Designs.

12. Is there a time limit on heat recovery, i.e. is storing summer heat for use in winter eligible.

No, there is no time limit on heat recovery through the Heat Recovery Program. However, geothermal projects are not considered heat recovery solutions within the Heat Recovery Program. Geothermal systems can be used as the thermal storage component that helps enhance a heat recovery system.

13. I understand that currently, only SBC-paying entities are eligible. Are there any exceptions for industrial customers served by a municipal electric utility, now or expected in the future.

While there are no current exceptions available for industrial customers served by municipal electric utilities, the Heat Recovery Program would like to connect with interested industrial customers to better understand their opportunity.

14. Is process heat to process heat recovery allowed under this program?

Yes, process heat to process heat recovery is allowed under the Heat Recovery Program.

15. What defines project economic success?

A project's definition for project economic success depends upon the customer's goals for the project. The Heat Recovery Program aims to support opportunity assessments and schematic designs that represent a compelling route for building owners to meet their energy, climate, and financial goals.

Application

16. Are there guidelines for what affordable buildings must document to "demonstrate availability of capital and/or financing to fund Project implementation" and receive 100% funding?

In the Scope of Work Templates for [Categories 1 and 2 \[DOCX\]](#), instructions request that projects in multifamily affordable housing requesting >75% cost-share include in their introduction a description of how the project would fund the implementation of any heat recovery measures. This may include available capital, financing, or upcoming capital events. Email heatrecovery@nyscrda.ny.gov to request to provide documentation in another format.

17. If we have multiple heat recovery opportunities in one "Bid," can we apply for each opportunity or will it count as one project? i.e. multiple ERVs for multiple floors, AWHPs, and waste heat recovery are all within one bid of design documents?

As a general rule, heat recovery solutions being planned within a single building would be considered as one project. However, email heatrecovery@nyscrda.ny.gov with an explanation of scope to be considered as multiple projects, on a case-by-case basis.

RFQL 5217 Questions

18. International manufacturers allowed?

Yes, international Manufacturers are both allowed and encouraged. Working with NYSERDA through RFQL 5217 will help qualified solution providers access the New York market, receive support for technology transfer and participate in exchanges with key market stakeholders.

19. If my organization represents multiple manufacturers of ERV+DOAS, should I submit one application or multiple?

Please submit an application for each Manufacturer, to learn more about RFQL5217 and prepare for the online application please read through the [Heat Recovery Solutions RFQL 5217 Summary](#) document.

If you have additional questions, please email heatrecovery@nyserda.ny.gov.