

RFP 6041 – Port Infrastructure Frequently Asked Questions

Question 1: Will the grant cover items that are not Eligible Expenses?

Answer 1: No, Grant Funding can only be used to reimburse Eligible Expenses as defined in the RFP and the Funding Agreement.

Question 2: Will the owners of awarded Projects need to enter into labor peace agreements with labor organizations as a condition of the award, given the requirements of Public Service Law section 66-r?

Answer 2: No, the owners of awarded Projects are not required to enter into labor peace agreements as a condition of award in this solicitation. The provisions of Public Service Law section 66-r related to labor peace agreements apply only if and when a covered project enters into a renewable energy credits agreement with a public entity

Question 3: Are there any restrictions on the types of entities that may apply, or is any entity that otherwise meets the program requirements eligible?

Answer 3: All entities (including, but not limited to local government agencies, corporations, organizations, institutions, etc.) that meet the requirements listed in section 2.2 of the RFP are eligible to apply. Please also note section 2.1 denoting eligible projects.

Question 4: If part of the project scope includes maintenance of the surrounding site, such as repairing sinkholes, repainting, trimming vegetation, etc. would these be considered eligible costs for NYSERDA?

Answer 4: Those expenses that are directly associated with preparing the construction site for the Project may be considered “Eligible Expenses” that are eligible for reimbursement pursuant to the Funding Agreement. Please see the definition of Eligible Expenses included in the RFP below. Additionally, please note that costs not considered Eligible Expenses may still be included in Total Project Cost and therefore eligible to count towards the 25% match requirement if they are necessary to complete the scope of the Project.

Eligible Expenses: *As defined in the Funding Agreement, Eligible Expenses are expenses incurred as part of the Project that are directly associated with physical construction or tangible assets. Expenses for planning, design, engineering, permits, legal fees, administrative overhead, and other non-construction activities are not Eligible Expenses.*

Question 5: If the project scope includes heavy-duty vehicles to handle, lift and stack/store containers and equipment, would these be eligible to be covered by NYSERDA?

Answer 5: Please see Answer 4.

Question 6: If the project scope includes specialized structures to stack and/or store equipment or goods, would these be eligible to be covered by NYSERDA?

Answer 6: Please see Answer 4.

Question 7: If the project scope includes heavy-duty vehicles comprised of steel to handle, lift and stack/store containers and equipment, or if it includes specialized structures comprised of steel to stack and/or store equipment or goods, would they be eligible as structural steel in regard to US Iron and Steel commitments?

Answer 7: Proposers may specify additional formational elements to be considered Structural Iron and Steel beyond the 13 formational elements listed in the RFP, but they must align with the definition of Structural Iron and Steel in the RFP. Please refer to Section 6.4 of the RFP (relevant excerpt provided below) for further information.

For purposes of this solicitation, Structural Iron and Steel are formational elements permanently incorporated into the Project which are load bearing, necessary to create the structure of the Project, and comprised of steel or iron. The following formational elements constitute Structural Iron and Steel when permanently incorporated into the Project: (1) Rebar (2) Plate Steel (3) Sheet Pile (4) Pipe Piles (6) Tie Rods (7) Capping Beams (8) Fasteners (9) Railings/Gratings (10) Roof Bracings (11) Main Frame Rafters (12) Flange Braces and (13) Wall Bracings. Proposers may specify additional formational elements to be considered Structural Iron and Steel in the Proposal. NYSERDA reserves the right to accept or reject such proposed additional formational elements as Structural Iron and Steel. The Proposer must include them in the relevant section of the Data Form and NYSERDA will confirm whether they meet the definition of Structural Iron and Steel. As it pertains to Structural Iron and Steel, “permanently incorporated” shall mean an iron or steel product that is required to remain in place at the end of the project contract, in a fixed location, affixed to the specified site infrastructure to which it was incorporated. Any iron and steel components or equipment primarily considered core to the efficient movement and/or manufacture of goods will not be considered Structural Iron and Steel. Examples of components or equipment that do not meet the definition of Structural Iron and Steel include but are not limited to: (1) Cranes (2) Forklifts, (3) Fabrication equipment and (4) Rigging equipment.

Question 8: Could you please confirm whether RFP 6041 is currently accepting applications?

Answer 8: RFP 6041 is currently accepting applications

Question 9: Could you please confirm whether NYSERDA expects a subsequent round or other pathway for consideration beyond round 1 of RFP 6041?

Answer 9: Round 1 of RFP 6041 remains open, with the submission deadline noted in the RFP of April 2, 2026 at 3PM ET. Additional rounds beyond round 1 are subject to availability of funds.

Question 10: Does receipt of a grant under RFP 6041 require ASHRAE 90.1 Appendix G modeling to document projected energy savings?

Answer 10: No, that is not a specific requirement of the grant.

Question 11: Are WUFI Passive model results acceptable for any building energy modeling?

Answer 11: As it relates to this RFP, there are no specific requirements for building energy modeling.

Question 12: Is used equipment procurement acceptable under this program?

Answer 12: This RFP does not prohibit the procurement of used equipment for use in a Project. If the procurement of used equipment is relevant to any of the required elements of the Proposal, an explanation of the plan to procure used equipment can be included in the Proposal.

Question 13: Can NYSERDA confirm whether specialized equipment integral to the offshore wind Port Activity but not permanently incorporated into the Port infrastructure would qualify as Eligible Expenses (Hard Costs) under this solicitation?

Answer 13: While not permanently affixed to the warehouse or quayside, this equipment constitutes tangible assets essential to the commercial functionality of the Project.

Subject to full review of the proposal, the equipment outlined in your description appears to align with the definition of Eligible Expenses as tangible assets. As noted in Section 4.1(G) of the RFP, the budget submitted in the proposal should provide a detailed breakdown of project elements, and it is highly recommended that the specific equipment and their associated costs be itemized in that budget to facilitate review of whether each item meets the definition of Eligible Expenses.

Question 14: Can NYSERDA confirm whether executed lease agreements are required at the time of submission, or whether a clearly defined site strategy supported by a Memorandum of Understanding and/or Letter of Intent from the relevant Port authority or landowner would be considered sufficient to demonstrate compliant site control?

Answer 14: *As noted in Section 2.2 of the RFP, the proposing entity must have ownership, access rights, or similar, to the identified Port site.*

As noted in Section 4.1(C), information regarding current ownership and operational structure should include the terms of any current leases relevant to the Project and Port Activity and must be verifiable through supporting attachments submitted such as applicable deeds, lease agreements, option agreements, memoranda of understanding, letters of support or other documentation showing the level of site control in place for the Port.

Question 15: In the Project Budget and cost share (i.e., grant and match) calculations, if materials are procured at a discounted price after solicitation release but incorporated into the proposed project, may the difference between fair market value (or industry-standard value) and the Proposer's discounted purchase price be credited toward the Proposer's required match contribution?

Answer 15: As defined in the RFP, Total Project Cost is the total expenses necessary to complete the scope of the Project, including but not limited to the Eligible Expenses and matching funds, but not including costs to operate the Port. As the fair market value is not an expense incurred, only the purchase price may be incorporated in the Total Project Cost.

Question 16: NYSERDA's proposed reimbursement schedule includes a multi-year tail (50% at construction start, 25% at substantial completion, and 5% annually for five years, contingent on commercial operations documentation). If the Proposer uses debt facilities to bridge construction cash flow and the debt amortization term extends beyond NYSERDA's reimbursement timeline, how does NYSERDA prefer that financing-related costs be reflected in the project budget and Data Form? Specifically:

- **Question 16A:** Should capitalized interest, financing fees, and other cost-of-capital items be included as line items in the Total Project Budget, and if so, are they considered eligible or ineligible costs under RFP 6041?
- **Answer 16A:** Yes, financing costs may be considered part of the Total Project Cost – defined in the RFP as “The total expenses necessary to complete the scope of the Project, including but not limited to the Eligible Expenses and matching funds, but not including costs to operate the Port.” However, they would not be eligible for reimbursement, which is limited to Eligible Expenses pursuant to the Funding Agreement. Please see the definition of Eligible Expenses included in the RFP.
 - **Eligible Expenses:** *As defined in the Funding Agreement, Eligible Expenses are expenses incurred as part of the Project that are directly associated with*

physical construction or tangible assets. Expenses for planning, design, engineering, permits, legal fees, administrative overhead, and other non-construction activities are not Eligible Expenses.

- **Question 16B:** If such costs are ineligible, does NYSERDA prefer they be disclosed separately (e.g., as an informational schedule/assumption) to demonstrate overall financing feasibility, without being included in the “Total Project Costs” used for grant and match calculations?
- **Answer 16B:** Total Project Cost, including those that are not Eligible Expenses, should be listed in the data form to the extent that they are necessary to complete the scope of the Project. Cost assumptions should be included in the data form and noted as an assumption in the financial plan.
- **Question 16C:** Does NYSERDA have a preferred approach for expressing financing costs (e.g., capitalized interest during construction only vs. nominal total interest over the full amortization term)?
- **Answer 16C:** The approach is at the discretion of the Proposer, but the Proposer should endeavor to accurately reflect the total costs of the project to the best of their ability.

Question 17: NYSERDA’s proposed reimbursement schedule (50% at construction start, 25% at substantial completion, and 5% annually over five years following commercial operations) introduces additional financing costs associated with bridging construction expenditures prior to full reimbursement.

Does NYSERDA have any guidance on how proposers should present alternative reimbursement structures or funding drawdown recommendations within the proposal narrative or financial documentation?

Answer 17: Section 5.4 of the RFP states the following - *NYSERDA strongly advises Proposers to review the Funding Agreement, and all associated Exhibits prior to submitting a Proposal to RFP 6041. **NYSERDA does not intend to make any material changes to the Funding Agreement.** Articles, Schedules and Exhibits of the Funding Agreement to which NYSERDA does not intend to entertain any redlines or negotiate edits include, but may not be limited to:*

- *Exhibit C: Standard Terms and Conditions for all NYSERDA Agreements;*
- *Exhibit D: NYSERDA Prompt Payment Policy Statement;*
- *Exhibit I: Form of Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit;*

- *Exhibit J: Form of Acceptable Guaranty.*

*If a Proposer wishes to propose any material change(s) to the Funding Agreement, any such suggested change(s) should be submitted at least **six (6) weeks prior to the applicable Proposal Submission Deadline** for such Round via email to Offshorewind@nyserda.ny.gov using the Standard Form Agreement Comment Template attached hereto as Appendix G. **Any such proposal should indicate why the change would be beneficial to New York State (e.g., it will make it more likely for Projects to be timely completed) rather than merely how it would benefit the Proposer.***

The deadline for proposing material changes to the Funding Agreement has passed.

Proposed material changes to the Funding Agreement can be submitted in subsequent rounds (which are subject to funding availability).

Question 18: Regarding the NYSERDA Port Infrastructure RFP 6041, could you please verify that within the Total Project Costs for the project, soft costs may be included within the required grant match? So, for example, the required minimum 25% match from the Proposer may include soft costs, with the full understanding that only hard costs are eligible for grant funding.

Answer 18: Yes, soft costs should be included in the Total Project Cost – defined in the RFP as “The total expenses necessary to complete the scope of the Project, including but not limited to the Eligible Expenses and matching funds, but not including costs to operate the Port.”

Grant Funding can only be used to reimburse Eligible Expenses as defined in the RFP and the Funding Agreement. However non-Eligible Expenses may still be included in Total Project Cost and count towards the 25% match requirement if they are necessary to complete the scope of the Project.

Question 19: Is Appendix E required for RFP 6041 and, if so, whether it must be completed in its entirety.

Answer 19: Proposers must provide a completed version of the Excel workbook template Appendix E (Data Form), containing worksheets for:

- Timeline Milestones.
- Economic Benefits – include direct economic benefits only, such as Job Creation, In-State expenditures and U.S. Structural Iron & Steel.
- Budget / Source & Uses.

Each Data Form must be submitted as a working Excel file with the file name “Proposal Name_ RFP 6041 Data Form”. If you should have questions with respect to Appendix E, please submit them in writing to offshorewind@nyserda.ny.gov.

Question 20: There are two due dates for the Port Infrastructure (RFP 6041), 11/04/27 and 3/26/26. Please confirm the deadline for Round 1 submissions?

Answer 20: Round 1 of RFP 6041 remains open. The submission deadline has been extended for Round 1 to April 2, 2026 at 3PM ET as noted in the RFP. Additional rounds beyond round 1 are subject to availability of funds.

Question 21: The RFP says that award notification date is “contingent on the negotiation of the Funding Agreement.” Does this mean the award date in the FA may not directly align with the date we receive notice of award?

Answer 21: No, the Award Notification Date, as defined in the RFP, is “the date on which NYSERDA notifies Proposer that it has been selected for an award”. This will not change. The award, as noted in the RFP, will be “contingent on the negotiation of the Funding Agreement.”

Question 22: Does the required “letter of credit” for award security apply to municipalities? In addition to the RFP and Appendix C, is there any guidance you can provide for this requirement?

Answer 22: The requirement for award security applies to all entity types, including municipalities. Awardees may elect to meet the award security requirement with cash in lieu of a letter of credit.

Question 23: The data form solicits precise dollar values for U.S. iron and steel. How responsive are these commitments to new information/data revealed through the design process?

Answer 23: Any U.S. Iron and Steel purchasing commitments for Structural Iron and Steel are at the discretion of the Proposer but will be memorialized in the Funding Agreement.

As stated in Section 1.3 of the RFP, “U.S. Iron and Steel purchasing commitments for Structural Iron and Steel will be addressed in evaluation as noted in Section 3 and memorialized in the Funding Agreement. Failure to meet the Expected Structural U.S. Iron and Steel Dollar commitments can have material impacts on the Grant Funding amount, so proposers are strongly encouraged to only commit to amounts they are confident in their ability to achieve.”

Additionally, as described in Section 6.4 of the RFP, Grant Recipients are required make commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that all Structural Iron and Steel is sourced from the United States.

Please see Section 6.4 of the RFP for further information.

Question 24: What link should be used to apply (create log-in) or log-in to an existing proposal?

Answer 24: Proposers should utilize the following [link](#) to register to create an account or log in to an existing account. This link will direct users to the funding opportunities page for the RFP.