

**Answers from November Bidders Question Session
San Francisco Carbon Fund 2009 RFP**

San Francisco Carbon Fund Bidders Meeting Nov 2009

Q: What is the payment schedule?

A: The payment schedule will vary depending on your project type and needs and will be negotiated at the time of project selection between SFE and the bidding party. In the majority of cases payment will be made at the time of project implementation, ideally at the time of delivery of benefits, however we recognize the administrative and cost barriers for small scale projects (see next question below).

Q: Can upfront payments be made to start a project?

A: Yes. This is one of the fundamental differences between the SFCarbon Fund and other voluntary carbon offset projects. We recognize the need for upfront capital financing especially for small scale community projects. We also recognize that by doing so we assume the risk that the project will not deliver its proposed benefits and the Fund will have to find other reductions to fulfill the supply of environmental benefits the Fund makes available.

Q: Should our proposals include costs and staffing for evaluation and monitoring after completion?

A: Yes

Q: Should our proposals include costs and staffing for carbon accounting?

A: Yes

Q: May a proposer submit more than 1 project?

A: Yes.

Q: Should implementation be fully completed in 18 months?

A: Project development and implementation must be completed in 18months, however project benefits will often continue to be delivered beyond that time frame.

Q: Can you provide us information on previous projects?

A: Yes, however, those projects were pilots and any characteristics may be superseded by the criteria listed in this RFP. Please see the website for project methodologies and descriptions.

Q: If multiple projects are proposed, can they be interdependent, meaning one contingent on the funding of the other?

A: No, each proposed project must be able to stand on its own. This does not mean projects cannot utilize multiple sources of funding, in most cases we expect this to be necessary.

Q: Can a project involve a municipal building?

A: Yes, but the project must submit a support letter from the department authorized for the proposed activity in the building.

Q: Must the proposing organization be locally based?

A: Yes

Q: How will energy efficiency projects be counted?

A: In proving additionality issues of double counting must be addressed by the applicant. If PG&E is directly funding the work they have right to claim the resulting credit. However, under the CPUC PG&E is not allowed to use "load" side reductions to meet corresponding GHG mandates. While energy efficiency is not viewed by the California Air Resources Board as a

legitimate source of carbon offsets due to the myriad of issues surrounding double counting, assignment of rights and responsibilities, permanence and a general lack of cost effectiveness, the San Francisco Carbon Fund is accepting energy efficiency projects at this point in time providing the projects are not receiving any sort of financial support from PG&E.

Q: What is meant by 'leakage'?

A: Countervailing activities or actions that occur elsewhere as a result of implementing the project and result in increased carbon dioxide emissions that counter the carbon offset benefit accruing to the project.

Q: Does the MCO apply to portions of a project funded by leveraged funds, not the CF funds? Just the work funded directly by the funds.

Q: How does the 10% benefit for a non-profit proposal work? Must the non-profit be local? Yes the non-profit must be San Francisco based. The applicant, if a registered local non-profit, will get 10 additional preference points in scoring.

Other questions? Contact Calla Rose Ostrander at calla.ostrander@sfgov.org