ONR BAA Announcement Number 10-001

Date: 18 Sep 2009 Revision: 29 Mar 2010



LONG RANGE BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (BAA) FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORP SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

INTRODUCTION:

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2) and 35.106, the Department of Defense Grants and Agreements Regulations (DoDGARS) 22.315(a), and DoD's Other Transaction Guide for Prototypes Projects, USD(AT&L), OT Guide, 21 Dec 2000. A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), other solicitation, or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued.

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) will not issue paper copies of this announcement. The ONR reserves the right to fund all, some or none of the proposals received under this BAA. ONR provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs. Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this BAA will not be returned. It is the policy of ONR to treat all proposals as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

This announcement will remain open for approximately one (1) year from the date of publication or until replaced by a successor BAA. Proposals may be submitted at any time during this period. This announcement replaces ONR BAA #09-001 dated 23 Sep 2008.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Agency Name -

Office of Naval Research

2. Research Opportunity Title -

Long Range Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for Navy and Marine Corps Science & Technology

3. Program Name -

Not Applicable (N/A)

4. Research Opportunity Number -

BAA 10-001

5. Response Date -

This announcement will remain open until 30 September 2010 or until replaced by a successor BAA, whichever first occurs. Proposals may be submitted at any time during this period.

6. Research Opportunity Description -

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) is interested in receiving proposals for Long-Range Science and Technology (S&T) Projects which offer potential for advancement and improvement of Navy and Marine Corps operations. Readers should note that this is an announcement to declare ONR's broad role in competitive funding of meritorious research across a spectrum of science and engineering disciplines.

Prior to preparing proposals, potential offerors are strongly encouraged to contact the ONR point of contact (POC) whose program best matches the offeror's field of interest. For information on POCs, refer to the ONR "Science and Technology Departments" as listed in the Science and Technology section of the ONR Home Page accessible through the World Wide Web at http://www.onr.navy.mil/en/Science-Technology/Contacts.aspx and for ONR's International Agent located on the ONR Global Homepage at http://www.onr.navy.mil/Science-Technology/ONR-Global.aspx. A list of the Department Codes can be found at http://www.onr.navy.mil.

Work funded under a BAA may include basic research, applied research and some advanced technology development (ATD). With regard to any restrictions on the conduct or outcome of work funded under this BAA, ONR will follow the guidance on and definition of "contracted fundamental research" as provided in the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Memorandum of 26 June 2008. As defined therein the definition of "contracted fundamental research", in a DoD contractual context, includes [research performed under] grants and contracts that are (a) funded by Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Budget Activity 1 (Basic Research), whether performed by universities or industry or (b) funded by Budget Activity 2 (Applied Research) and performed on campus at a university or by industry. ATD is funded through Budget Activity 3. In conformance with the USD(AT&L) guidance and National Security Decision Directive 189, ONR will place no restriction on the conduct

or reporting of unclassified fundamental research, except as otherwise required by statute, regulation or Executive Order. Normally, fundamental research is awarded under grants with universities and under contracts with industry. ATD is normally awarded under contracts and may require restrictions during the conduct of the research and DoD prepublication review of research results due to subject matter sensitivity. Potential offerors should consult with the appropriate ONR POCs to determine whether the proposed effort would constitute basic research, applied research or ATD.

7. Point(s) of Contact –

Questions of a technical nature should be submitted to the ONR POC whose program best matches the offeror's field of interest as listed in the Science and Technology section of the ONR Home Page specified above. Through the ONR POC, prospective offerors will be connected to the cognizant ONR Program Officer.

Questions of a business nature should be submitted to:

Lynnette Desorcie **Contracting Officer** Office of Naval Research Acquisition Department, Code BD254 One Liberty Center 875 N. Randolph Street Arlington, VA 22203-1995

Email Address: lynnette.desorcie@navy.mil

Questions of a security nature should be submitted to:

Diana Pacheco **Information Security Specialist** Office of Naval Research Security Department, Code 43 One Liberty Center 875 N. Randolph Street Arlington, VA 22203-1995

Email Address: diana.pacheco@navv.mil

Note: All UNCLASSIFIED communications shall be submitted via e-mail. All questions of an UNCLASSIFIED nature to the Technical Point of Contact (POC) shall be sent via e-mail with a copy to the designated Business POC.

CLASSIFIED questions shall be handled through the ONR Security POC. Specifically, any entity wanting to ask a CLASSIFIED question shall send an email to the ONR Security POC with a copy to both the Technical POC and the Business POC stating that the entity would like to ask a CLASSIFIED question. DO NOT EMAIL ANY CLASSIFIED QUESTIONS. The Security POC will contact the entity and arrange for the CLASSIFIED question to be asked through a secure method of communication.

Answers to questions submitted in response to this BAA will be addressed in the form of an Amendment and will be posted to one or more of the following webpages:

- -Federal Business Opportunities (FEDBIZOPPS) Webpage https://www.fbo.gov/
- -Grants.gov Webpage http://www.grants.gov/
- -ONR Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) Webpage -

<u>http://www.onr.navy.mil/en/Contracts-Grants/Funding-Opportunities/Broad-Agency-Announcements.aspx</u>

8. Instrument Type(s) -

Awards may take the form of contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and other transaction agreements, as appropriate.

9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number -

12.300

10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Title -

Department of Defense (DOD) Basic and Applied Scientific Research

11. Other Information -

FAR Part 35 restricts the use of Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs), such as this, to the acquisition of basic and applied research and that portion of advanced technology development not related to the development of a specific system or hardware procurement. Contracts and grants and other assistance agreements made under BAAs are for scientific study and experimentation directed towards advancing the state of the art and increasing knowledge or understanding.

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT <u>IS NOT</u> FOR THE ACQUISITION OF TECHNICAL, ENGINEERING AND OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT SERVICES.

In the case of funded proposals for the production and testing of prototypes, ONR may during the contract period add a contract line item or contract option for the provision of advanced component development or for the delivery of additional prototype units. However, such a contract addition shall be subject to the limitations contained in Section 819 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

The amount and period of performance of each selected proposal may vary depending on the research area and the technical approach to be pursued by the selected offeror. Awards may be funded with Fiscal Year 2010 basic research appropriations and may be subject to the reimbursement limit on indirect costs set forth in Section 8101 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-118). Indirect costs for basic research may not exceed 35% of the total funds provided.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

All responsible sources from academia and industry may submit proposals under this BAA. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals. However, no portion of this BAA will be set aside for HBCU and MI participation.

Federally Funded Research & Development Centers (FFRDCs), including Department of Energy National Laboratories, are not eligible to receive awards under this BAA. However, teaming arrangements between FFRDCs and eligible principal bidders are allowed so long as they are permitted under the sponsoring agreement between the Government and the specific FFRDC.

Navy laboratories and warfare centers as well as other Department of Defense and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to receive awards under this BAA and should not directly submit either white papers or full proposals in response to this BAA. If any such organization is interested in one or more of the programs described herein, the organization should contact an appropriate ONR POC to discuss its area of interest. The various scientific divisions of ONR are identified at http://www.onr.navy.mil/. As with FFRDCs, these types of federal organizations may team with other responsible sources from academia and industry that are submitting proposals under this BAA.

Teams are also encouraged and may submit proposals in any and all areas. However, Offerors must be willing to cooperate and exchange software, data and other information in an integrated program with other contractors, as well as with system integrators, selected by ONR.

Some topics cover export controlled technologies. Research in these areas is limited to "U.S. persons" as defined in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) - 22 CFR § 120.1 et seq.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process -

"White Papers" are frequently desired by ONR Program Officers. Offerors should consult the cognizant ONR Program Officer regarding the desirability of "White Paper" submissions. The various scientific divisions of ONR are identified at http://www.onr.navy.mil/en/Science-Technology/Contacts.aspx.

2. Content and Format of White Papers/Full Proposals -

White Papers and Full Proposals submitted under the BAA are expected to be unclassified; however, classified proposals are permitted. If a classified proposal is submitted, the resultant contract will be unclassified.

Unclassified Proposal Instructions:

Unclassified proposals shall be submitted in accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6 of Section IV.

Classified Proposal Instructions:

Classified proposals shall be submitted directly to the attention of ONR's Document Control Unit at the following address and marked in the following manner:

OUTSIDE ENVELOPE (no classification marking):

"Office of Naval Research Attn: Document Control Unit ONR Code 43 875 North Randolph Street Arlington, VA 22203-1995"

The inner wrapper of the classified White Paper and/or Full Proposal should be addressed to the attention of the TPOC, ONR Code XX and marked in the following manner:

INNER ENVELOPE (stamped with the overall classification of the material)

"Program:

Office of Naval Research ATTN: ONR Program Officer Name ONR Code: ONR Program Officer Code

875 North Randolph Street Arlington, VA 22203-1995"

An 'unclassified' Statement of Work (SOW) must accompany any classified proposal.

Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR Subpart 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information.

<u>IMPORTANT NOTE</u>: Titles given to the White Papers/Full Proposals should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this solicitation.

Alternatives to the format and content identified below may be appropriate depending on the scope and nature of the proposed effort. Coordinate any alternative proposal formats and contents relating to white papers and technical proposals (Volume 1 of the full proposal) with the cognizant ONR Program Officer. Alternative formats and content may be directed by the ONR Program Officer or may result from Offerors' suggestions approved by the ONR Program Officer.

a. WHITE PAPERS

White Paper Format

- Paper Size 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins 1 inch
- Spacing –single-spaced
- Font Times New Roman, 12 point
- Copies Electronic (email) submissions should be sent to the attention of the TPOC at: (Email Address of the TPOC, e.g. <u>Jane.Doe@navy.mil</u>). The subject line of the email shall read "ONR BAA 10-001 White Paper Submission". The white paper must be a Microsoft Word 97 or .PDF format attachment to the email.

NOTE: 1) Do not send hardcopies of White Papers (including Facsimiles) as only electronic submissions will be accepted and reviewed; 2) Do not send .ZIP files; 3) Do not send password protected files.

White Paper Content

- <u>Cover Page</u>: The Cover Page shall be labeled "WHITE PAPER" and shall include the BAA number 10-001, proposed title, technical points of contact, telephone number, facsimile number, and e-mail address.
- <u>Technical Concept</u>: A description of the technology innovation and technical risk areas.

For Basic Research

• <u>Future Naval Relevance (where applicable):</u> A description of potential Naval relevance and contributions of the effort to the agency's specific mission.

For Applied Research and Advanced Technology Development

- Operational Naval Concept (where applicable): A description of the project objectives, the concept of operation for the new capabilities to be delivered, and the expected operational performance improvements.
- Operational Utility Assessment Plan (where applicable): A plan for demonstrating and evaluating the operational effectiveness of the Offeror's proposed products or processes in field experiments and/or tests in a simulated environment.

b. FULL PROPOSALS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRACTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND OTHER TRANSACTION AGREEMENTS (Does not include Grants)

Full Proposal Format – Volume 1 - Technical and Volume 2 - Cost Proposal

- Paper Size 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins 1 inch
- Spacing single-spaced
- Font Times New Roman, 12 point
- Discuss the limit on the number of pages for Volume I with the cognizant Program Officer. The cover page, proposal checklist, table of contents, personnel resumes, <u>current and pending project and proposal submissions information</u>, and bibliographies shall not be included in the page limit of Volume 1. There are no page limitations to the Cost Proposal, Volume 2.
- Copies one (1) original, an appropriate number of hard copies as discussed with the cognizant Program Officer, and one electronic copy on a DVD (in Microsoft® Word or Excel 97 compatible format).

Volume 1: Technical Proposal

- <u>Cover Page</u>: This should include the words "Technical Proposal" and the following:
 - 1) BAA number 10-001;
 - 2) Title of Proposal;
 - 3) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable;
 - 4) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
 - 5) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address) and;
 - 6) Proposed period of performance (identify both the base period and any options, if included).
 - 7) Signature of the Authorized Representative
- Proposal Checklist: To assist Offerors in the development and submission of their proposals in response to this BAA, a Proposal Checklist for Contracts, Grants, Cooperative Agreements and Other Transactions has been uploaded as an attachment. Offerors should print and complete the checklist to ensure that all required actions have been taken and information included prior to proposal submission. Inclusion of the completed checklist as the first page of your Volume I, Technical Proposal, will assist in proposal evaluation and may shorten the time it takes to make an award.
- <u>Table of Contents:</u> An alphabetical/numerical listing of the sections within the

proposal, including corresponding page numbers.

• <u>Statement of Work:</u> A Statement of Work (SOW) clearly detailing the scope and objectives of the effort and the technical approach. It is anticipated that the proposed SOW will be incorporated as an attachment to the resultant award instrument. To this end, the proposals must include a severable, self-standing SOW, without any proprietary restrictions, which can be attached to the contract or agreement award. Include a detailed listing of the technical tasks/subtasks organized by year.

Submission of the SOW without restrictive markings is your company's affirmation that the SOW is non-proprietary and releasable in response to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests.

<u>Technical Approach and Justification:</u> The major portion of the proposal should consist of a clear description of the technical approach being proposed. This discussion should provide the technical foundation/justification for pursuing this particular approach/direction and why one could expect it to enable the objectives of the proposal to be met. Offerors should limit the number of pages for this section to 15 pages.

Include for Basic Research, if it applies.

• <u>Future Naval Relevance (where applicable</u>): A description of potential Naval relevance and contributions of the effort to the agency's specific mission.

For Applied Research and Advanced Technology Development, if it applies.

- <u>Operational Naval Concept (where applicable)</u>: A description of the project objectives, the concept of operation for the new capabilities to be delivered, and the expected operational performance improvements.
- Operational Utility Assessment Plan (where applicable): A plan for demonstrating and evaluating the operational effectiveness of the Offeror's proposed products or processes in field experiments and/or tests in a simulated environment.
- <u>Project Schedule and Milestones</u>: A summary of the schedule of events and milestones:
- Assertion of Data Rights and/or Rights in Computer Software: For a contract award an Offeror may provide with its proposal, assertions to restrict use, release or disclosure of data and/or computer software that will be provided in the course of contract performance. The rules governing these assertions are prescribed in Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) clauses 252.227-7013, -7014 and -7017. These clauses may be accessed at the following web address:

http://farsite.hill.af.mil/VFDFARA.HTM

The Government may challenge assertions that are provided in improper format or that do not properly acknowledge earlier federal funding of related research by the Offeror.

If it is determined that data rights are not applicable, indicate no assertions are being made in the proposal submission.

• <u>Deliverables/Reports:</u> A detailed list of reports and any proposed hardware, software or prototypes, inclusive of the timeframe in which they will be delivered.

The following are sample data deliverables that are typically required under a research effort:

Technical and Financial Progress Reports Presentation Materials Final Report

- <u>Management Approach:</u> A discussion of the overall approach to the management of this effort, including brief discussions of the total organization; use of personnel; project/function/subcontractor/subrecipient relationships; government research interfaces; and planning, scheduling and control practice. Identify which personnel and subcontractors/subrecipients (if any) will be involved. Include a description of the facilities that are required for the proposed effort with a description of any Government Furnished Equipment/Hardware/Software/Information required, by version and/or configuration.
- Current and Pending Project and Proposal Submissions: Offerors are required to provide information on all current and pending support for ongoing projects and proposals, including subsequent funding in the case of continuing contracts, grants, and other assistance agreements. Offerors shall provide the following information of any related or complementary proposal submissions from whatever sources (e.g., ONR, Federal, State, local or foreign government agencies, public or private foundations, industrial or other commercial organizations).

The information must be provided for all proposals already submitted or submitted concurrently to other possible sponsors, including ONR. Concurrent submission of a proposal to other organizations will not prejudice its review by ONR:

- 1) Title of Proposal and Summary;
- 2) Source and amount of funding (annual direct costs; provide contract and/or grant numbers for current contracts/grants);
- 3) Percentage effort devoted to each project;
- 4) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable;
- 5) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- 6) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic

mail address);

- 7) Duration of effort (differentiate basic effort);
- 8) The proposed project and all other projects or activities requiring a portion of time of the Principal Investigator and other senior personnel must be included, even if they receive no salary support from the project(s);
- 9) The total award amount for the entire award period covered (including indirect costs) must be shown as well as the number of person-months or labor hours per year to be devoted to the project, regardless of source of support; and
- 10) State how projects are related to the proposed effort and indicate degree of overlap.
- <u>Qualifications:</u> A discussion of the qualifications of the proposed Principal Investigator and any other key personnel. Include resumes for the Principal Investigator and other key personnel and full curricula vitae for Principal Investigators and consultants. The resumes and curricula vitae shall be attached to the proposal and will not count toward the page limitations.

Volume 2: Cost Proposal

The following information is provided to assist contractors in preparing and submitting an adequate and compliant cost proposal. The purpose of the submission of cost or pricing data is to enable Government personnel to perform cost or price analysis and ultimately negotiate a fair and reasonable cost. Offerors are reminded that the responsibility for providing adequate supporting data and attachments lies solely with the offeror. Further, the offeror must also bear the burden of proof in establishing reasonableness of proposed costs; therefore, it is in the contractor's best interest to submit a fully supportable and well-prepared cost proposal. The basis and rationale for all proposed costs should be provided as part of the proposal so that Government personnel can place reliance on the information as current, complete and accurate. Further, FAR 15.403-4 sets forth those circumstances in which offerors are required to submit certified cost or pricing data.

Although not required and provided for informational purposes only, using the cost proposal format spreadsheet (spreadsheet.xls) that is an attachment to this document and the accompanying instructions (spreadsheetinstructions.doc) as the basis of the cost proposal may **significantly decrease** the time required to review and award proposals submitted in response to this announcement.

Options: Any proposed options that are identified in either Volume 1 or 2 but are not fully priced out, will not be included in any resulting contract or other transaction. If proposing options, they must be separately priced and separate spreadsheets should be provided for the base period and each option period.

For pricing purposes, assume that performance will start <u>no earlier than</u> six (6) months after submission of the cost proposal.

The proposal should include a statement that the company has (or has not) done business with the Government before. If the company has done business with the Government before, the statement should include the date that the accounting system was determined to be adequate. If this will be the company's first Government contract, please download the Defense Contract Audit Agency's (DCAA) "Information for Contractors" pamphlet, which can be found a www.dcaa.mil and become familiar with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31.205 to ensure that a successful accounting system review can be completed prior to contract award.

The Cost Proposal shall consist of a cover page and two parts, Part 1 will provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs by cost category by calendar or Contractor fiscal year, and Part 2 will provide a cost breakdown by Government fiscal year and task/subtask corresponding to the task numbers in the proposed Statement of Work.

<u>Cover Page:</u> The use of the SF 1411 (Contract Pricing Proposal Cover Sheet) is optional. The words "Cost Proposal" should appear on the cover page in addition to the following information:

- BAA number 10-001
- Title of Proposal
- Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable
- Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address) and
- Proposed period of performance (identify both the base period and any options, if included).

<u>Part 1</u>: Detailed breakdown of all costs by cost category by calendar or Contractor fiscal year:

- <u>Direct Labor</u> Individual labor categories or persons, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates. Provide escalation rates for out years.
- <u>Indirect Costs</u> Fringe Benefits, Overhead, G&A, COM, etc. and their applicable allocation bases. If composite rates are used, provide the calculations used in deriving the composite rates.
- <u>Travel</u> The proposed travel cost should include the following for each trip: the purpose of the trip, origin and destination if known, approximate duration, the number of travelers, and the estimated cost per trip must be justified based on the organizations historical average cost per trip or other reasonable basis for estimation. Such estimates and the resultant costs claimed must conform to the applicable Federal cost principals.
- <u>Subcontracts/Interorganizational Transfers</u> A cost proposal as detailed as the Offeror's cost proposal will be required to be submitted by all

proposed subcontractors and for all interorganizational transfers. For subcontracts or interorganizational transfers over \$100,000, the subcontract proposal, along with supporting documentation, must be provided either in a sealed envelope with the prime's proposal or via email directly to both the Program Officer and the Business Point of Contact at the same time the prime proposal is submitted. The e-mail should identify the proposal title, the prime Offeror and that the attached proposal is a subcontract, and should include a description of the effort to be performed by the subcontractor. A proposal and supporting documentation must be received and reviewed before the Government can complete its cost analysis of the proposal and enter negotiations. The prime contractor should perform and provide a cost/price analysis of each subcontractor's cost proposal.* Offerors are required to obtain competition to the maximum extent practicable when selecting subcontractors or interorganizational transfers; if the offeror has obtained competitive quotes, copies should be provided. If the Offeror has selected other than the low bid for inclusion in their proposal or intends to award the subcontract/interorganizational transfer on a sole-source basis, the offeror should provide rationale for their decision. Certified cost or pricing data may be required for subcontractor proposals over \$650,000. *Note: Federal Acquisition Regulation provision 52.215-22 is incorporated into this solicitation by reference. The offeror is to exclude excessive pass-through charges from subcontractors. The offeror must identify in its proposal the percentage of effort it intends to perform and the percentage to be performed by each of its proposed subcontractors. If more than 70 percent of the total effort will be performed through subcontractors, the offeror must include the additional information required by the above-cited clause.

- Consultants Provide a breakdown of the consultant's hours, the hourly rate proposed, any other proposed consultant costs, a copy of the signed Consulting Agreement or other documentation supporting the proposed consultant rate/cost, and a copy of the consultant's proposed statement of work if it is not already separately identified in the prime contractor's proposal.
- Materials & Supplies Provide an itemized list of all proposed materials and supplies for each year including quantities, unit prices, proposed vendors (if known), and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists). If the total cost for materials and supplies exceeds \$100,000 per year, then select a sample of the items proposed and provide catalog price lists/quotes/prior purchase orders to support the price for the items in the sample. All items with a unit price over \$10,000, regardless of the total cost for materials and supplies, must be supported with a copy of catalog price lists/quotes/prior purchase orders.
- <u>Contractor Acquired Equipment or Facilities</u> Equipment and/or facilities are normally furnished by the Contractor. If acquisition of equipment and/or facilities is proposed, a justification for the purchase of the items

must be provided including: 1) a very specific description of any equipment/hardware that it needs to acquire to perform the work, 2) whether or not each particular piece of equipment/hardware will be included as part of a deliverable item under the resulting award, and 3) the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists). The description should identify the component, nomenclature, and configuration of the equipment/hardware that it proposes to purchase for this effort. The purchase on a direct reimbursement basis of equipment that is not included in a deliverable item will be evaluated for allowability on a case-by-case basis. Maximum use of Government integration, test, and experiment facilities is encouraged in each of the Offeror's proposals.

- Other Direct Costs Provide an itemized list of all other proposed other direct costs and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).
- <u>Fee/Profit</u> (Contract Proposals Only) Profit or fee is not allowed on direct costs for facilities or in cost-sharing contracts.

Note: Indicate if you have an approved Purchasing/Estimating System and/or describe the process used to determine the basis of reasonableness (e.g., competition, market research, best value analysis) for subcontractors, consultants, materials, supplies, equipment/facilities, and other direct costs.

<u>Part 2</u>: Cost breakdown by Government fiscal year and task/sub-task corresponding to the same task breakdown in the proposed Statement of Work. When options are contemplated, options must be separately identified and priced by task/subtask.

<u>INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRANTS</u> (Does not include contracts, cooperative agreements and other transaction agreements)

The offeror **must** use the Grants.Gov forms from the application package template associated with the BAA on the Grants.Gov web site located at http://www.grants.gov/. The following information must be completed as follows in the SF 424 to ensure that the application is directed to the correct individual for review: Block 4a, Federal Identifier: Enter the previous ONR award number, or N00014 if the application is not a renewal or expansion of an existing award; Block 4b, Agency Routing Number, Enter the three (3) digit Program Office Code (i.e., 331) and the Program Officer's name, last name first, in brackets (i.e., [Shifler, David]).

Full Proposal Format - Volume 1 - Technical and Volume 2 - Cost Proposal

- Paper Size 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins 1 inch
- Spacing single-spaced
- Font Times New Roman, 12 point

- Discuss the limit on the number of pages for Volume I with the cognizant Program Officer. There are no page limitations to the Cost Proposal, Volume 2.
- Copies the full proposal should be submitted electronically at http://www.grants.gov/ as delineated in paragraph 5 below.

Volume 1: Technical Proposal

- Cover Page: This should include the words "Technical Proposal" and the following:
 - 1) BAA number 10-001;
 - 2) Title of Proposal;
 - 3) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subawards, if applicable;
 - 4) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
 - 5) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address) and;
 - 6) Proposed period of performance (identify both the base period and any options, if included).
- <u>Table of Contents:</u> An alphabetical/numerical listing of the sections within the proposal, including corresponding page numbers.
- <u>Proposal Checklist:</u> To assist Offerors in the development and submission of their proposals in response to this BAA, a <u>Proposal Checklist for Contracts, Grants, Cooperative Agreements and Other Transactions</u> has been uploaded as an attachment. Offerors should print and complete the checklist to ensure that all required actions have been taken and information included prior to proposal submission. Inclusion of the completed checklist as the first page of your Volume I, Technical Proposal, will assist in proposal evaluation and may shorten the time it takes to make an award.

<u>Technical Approach and Justification:</u> The major portion of the proposal should consist of a clear description of the technical approach being proposed. This discussion should provide the technical foundation/justification for pursuing this particular approach/direction and why one could expect it to enable the objectives of the proposal to be met. Offerors should limit the number of pages for this section to 15 pages.

Include for Basic Research, if it applies.

• <u>Future Naval Relevance (where applicable</u>): A description of potential Naval relevance and contributions of the effort to the agency's specific mission.

For Applied Research and Advanced Technology Development, if it applies.

• <u>Operational Naval Concept (where applicable)</u>: A description of the project objectives, the concept of operation for the new capabilities to be delivered, and the expected operational performance improvements.

- Operational Utility Assessment Plan (where applicable): A plan for demonstrating and evaluating the operational effectiveness of the Offeror's proposed products or processes in field experiments and/or tests in a simulated environment.
- <u>Project Schedule and Milestones</u>: A summary of the schedule of events and milestones:

• Reports:

The following are sample data deliverables that are typically required under a research effort:

Technical and Financial Progress Reports Final Report

Grants and other agreements do not include the delivery of software, prototypes, and other hardware deliverables.

- <u>Management Approach:</u> Identify which personnel and subcontractors/subrecipients (if any) will be involved. Include a description of the facilities that are required for the proposed effort, along with a description of any Government Furnished Equipment/Hardware/ Software/Information required, by version and/or configuration.
- <u>Current and Pending Project and Proposal Submissions:</u> Offerors are required to provide information on all current and pending support for ongoing projects and proposals, including subsequent funding in the case of continuing contracts, grants, and other assistance agreements. Offerors shall provide the following information of any related or complementary proposal submissions from whatever sources (e.g., ONR, Federal, State, local or foreign government agencies, public or private foundations, industrial or other commercial organizations).

The information must be provided for all proposals already submitted or submitted concurrently to other possible sponsors, including ONR. Concurrent submission of a proposal to other organizations will not prejudice its review by ONR:

- 1) Title of Proposal and Summary;
- 2) Source and amount of funding (annual direct costs; provide contract and/or grant numbers for current contracts/grants);
- 3) Percentage effort devoted to each project;
- 4) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable;
- 5) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- 6) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address);

- 7) Period of performance (differentiate basic effort);
- 8) The proposed project and all other projects or activities requiring a portion of time of the Principal Investigator and other senior personnel must be included, even if they receive no salary support from the project(s);
- 9) The total award amount for the entire award period covered (including indirect costs) must be shown as well as the number of person-months or labor hours per year to be devoted to the project, regardless of source of support; and
- 10) State how projects are related to the proposed effort and indicate degree of overlap.
- <u>Qualifications:</u> A discussion of the qualifications of the proposed Principal Investigator and any other key personnel. Include resumes for the Principal Investigator and other key personnel and full curricula vitae for Principal Investigators and consultants. The resumes and curricula vitae shall be attached to the proposal and will not count toward the page limitations.

Volume 2: Cost Proposal

The offeror must use the Grants.gov forms from the application package template associated with the BAA on the Grants.gov web Site located at http://www.grants.gov/. If options are proposed, the cost proposal must provide the pricing information for the option periods; failure to include the proposed costs for the option periods will result in the options not being included in the award. Assume that performance will start no earlier than three (3) months after the date the cost proposal is submitted. A separate Adobe .pdf document should be included in the application that provides appropriate justification and/or supporting documentation for each element of cost proposed.

Part 1: The itemized budget must include the following

• <u>Direct Labor</u> – Individual labor categories or persons, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates. Provide escalation rates for out years.

Administrative and clerical labor – Salaries of administrative and clerical staff are normally indirect costs (and included in an indirect cost rate). Direct charging of these costs may be appropriate when a major project requires an extensive amount of administrative or clerical support significantly greater than normal and routine levels of support. Budgets proposing direct charging of administrative or clerical salaries must be supported with a budget justification which adequately describes the major project and the administrative and/or clerical work to be performed.

- Fringe Benefits and Indirect Costs (i.e., F&A, Overhead, G&A, etc) The proposal should show the rates and calculation of the costs for each rate category. If the rates have been approved/negotiated by a Government agency, provide a copy of the memorandum/agreement. If the rates have not been approved/negotiated, provide sufficient detail to enable a determination of allowability, allocability and reasonableness of the allocation bases, and how the rates are calculated. Additional information may be requested, if needed. If composite rates are used, provide the calculations used in deriving the composite rates.
- <u>Travel</u> The proposed travel cost should include the following for each trip: the purpose of the trip, origin and destination if known, approximate duration, the number of travelers, and the estimated cost per trip must be justified based on the organizations historical average cost per trip or other reasonable basis for estimation. Such estimates and the resultant costs claimed must conform to the applicable Federal cost principals.
- <u>Subawards</u> Provide a description of the work to be performed by the subrecipients. For each subaward, a detailed cost proposal is required to be submitted by the subrecipient(s). Fee/profit is unallowable. The subawardee's or subrecipient's cost proposal can be provided in a sealed envelope with the recipient's cost proposal or via e-mail directly to both the Program Officer and the business point of contact at the same time the prime proposal is submitted. The e-mail should identify the proposal title, the prime Offeror and that the attached proposal is a subcontract. A proposal and supporting documentation must be received and reviewed before the Government can complete its cost analysis of the proposal and enter negotiations.
- <u>Consultants</u> Provide a breakdown of the consultant's hours, the hourly rate proposed, any other proposed consultant costs, a copy of the signed Consulting Agreement or other documentation supporting the proposed consultant rate/cost, and a copy of the consultant's proposed statement of work if it is not already separately identified in the prime contractor's proposal.
- Materials & Supplies Provide an itemized list of all proposed materials and supplies including quantities, unit prices, proposed vendors (if known), and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).
- Recipient Acquired Equipment or Facilities Equipment and/or facilities are normally furnished by the Recipient. If acquisition of equipment and/or facilities is proposed, a justification for the purchase of the items must be provided. Provide an itemized list of all equipment and/or facilities costs and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists). Allowable items normally would be limited to research equipment not already available for the project. General purpose equipment (i.e., equipment not used exclusively for research, scientific or other technical activities, such as personal computers, office equipment and furnishings, etc.) should not be requested unless they will be used

- primarily or exclusively for the project. For computer/laptop purchases and other general purpose equipment, if proposed, include a statement indicating how each item of equipment will be integrated into the program or used as an integral part of the research effort.
- Other Direct Costs Provide an itemized list of all other proposed other direct costs such as Graduate Assistant tuition, laboratory fees, report and publication costs, and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).
 - <u>NOTE:</u> If the grant proposal is for a conference, workshop, or symposium, the proposal should include the following statement: "The funds provided by ONR will not be used for food or beverages."
- <u>Fee/Profit</u> Fee/profit is unallowable.

<u>Part 2</u>: Cost breakdown by Government fiscal year and task/sub-task corresponding to the same task breakdown in the proposed Statement of Work. When options are contemplated, options must be separately identified and priced by task/subtask.

3. Significant Dates and Times –

This announcement will remain open until 30 September 2010 or until replaced by a successor BAA, whichever occurs first. Proposals may be submitted any time during this period.

4. Submission of Late Proposals –

Not applicable (N/A)

5. Submission of Grant Proposals through Grants.gov

(NOT APPLICABLE TO PROPOSALS FOR CONTRACTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND OTHER TRANSACTION AGREEMENTS)

The offeror must use the Grants.gov forms from the application package template associated with the BAA on the Grants.gov web site. To be considered for award, Applicants must fill out Block 4 of the SF 424 R&R as follows: Block 4a, Federal Identifier, for new awards, enter N00014; if the application is a renewal or expansion of an existing award, enter the previous ONR award number; Block 4b, Agency Routing Number, Enter the three (3) digit Program Office Code (i.e., 331) and, if known, the Program Officer's name, last name first, in brackets (i.e., [Shifler, David]). Applicants who fail to provide a Department code identifier may receive a notice that their proposal will be rejected.

Detailed instructions entitled "Grants.Gov Electronic Application and Submission Information" on how to submit a Grant proposal through Grants.gov are under the Acquisition Department — Submitting a Proposal section of the website at

http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/submit-proposal/grants-proposal/grants-gov.aspx.

White Papers should not be submitted through the Grants.gov Apply process but rather should be sent directly to ONR. White paper submissions should be e-mailed directly to the appropriate ONR Program Officer/Program Manager. White paper format requirements are found in Section IV, item 2a above.

By completing Block 17 of the SF 424 R&R the Grant Applicant is providing the certification on lobbying required by 32 CFR Part 28. Refer to Section VI, 'Award Administration Information' entitled "Certifications" for further information.

For electronic submission of grant full proposals, there are several one-time actions that must be completed in order to submit an application through Grants.gov. These include obtaining a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, registering with the Central Contract Registry (CCR), registering with the credential provider, and registering with Grants.gov. See www.grants.gov, specifically www.grants.gov/GetStarted.

Use the Grants.gov Organization Registration Checklist at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/register_your_organization.jsp which will provide guidance through the process. Designating an E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) and obtaining a special password called 'MPIN' are important steps in the CCR registration process. Applicants who are not registered with CCR and Grants.gov should allow at least 21 days to complete these requirements. The process should be started as soon as possible. Any questions relating to the registration process, system requirements, how an application form works, or the submittal process must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

Special Notices Relative to Grant Applications to be submitted through Grants.Gov:

All attachments to grant applications submitted through Grants.Gov must be in Adobe Portable Document Format. Proposals with attachments submitted in word processing, spreadsheet, or any format other than Adobe Portable Document Format will not be considered for award.

Special Notice for Waiver:

Process to Obtain a Waiver from the Use of Grants.gov for Submission of Full Grant Proposals: If a prospective grantee is unable to comply with the requirement to use Grants.gov "APPLY" for submission of a grant application under this BAA or finds it would be an excessive burden to comply with this requirement, a waiver request may be submitted. Such request should be submitted by the Electronic Business Point of Contact listed in the CCR for the organization and should contain the Organization/Individual's name, address, telephone number, and email address. The request should state the reason for the request in sufficient detail so a decision can be made. The Waiver Request should be submitted to the ONR Acquisition Department point of contact listed in Section I,

Item 7 above. Such request can be sent by registered mail or email. A decision and response will be issued within 14 calendar days of receipt of the request by ONR. Foreign Grantees who are not registered in CCR may request a waiver on that basis since CCR registration is integral to the Grants.gov application process.

6. Address for the Submission of White Papers and Full Proposals for Contracts, Cooperative Agreements, and Other Transaction Agreements.

Hard copies of White Papers (Contracts, Grants, Cooperative Agreements and Other Transaction Agreements), if requested, and Full Proposals for Contracts, Cooperative Agreements, and Other Transaction Agreements should be sent to the Office of Naval Research at the following address:

Office of Naval Research
Attn*:____
ONR Department Code**:____
875 North Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995

*Cognizant ONR Program Officer/Point of Contact (POC)
**Cognizant ONR POC's Code

A list describing each of the ONR Department Codes can be found at http://www.onr.navy.mil/ on the right side of the screen.

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria –

Award decisions will be based on a competitive selection of proposals resulting from a scientific and cost review. Evaluations will be conducted using the following evaluation criteria:

- 1) Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal;
- 2) Potential Naval relevance and contributions of the effort to the agency's specific mission;
- 3) The offeror's capabilities, related experience, facilities, techniques or unique combinations of these which are integral factors for achieving the proposal objectives;
- 4) The qualifications, capabilities and experience of the proposed Principal Investigator (PI), team leader and key personnel who are critical in achieving the proposal objects; and
- 5) The realism of the proposed costs and availability of funds.

Overall, the technical factors (1-4 above) are significantly more important than the cost factor (5), with the technical factors all being of equal value.

The degree of importance of cost will increase with the degree of equality of the proposals in relation to the other factors on which selection is to be based, or when the cost is so significantly high as to diminish the value of the proposal's technical superiority to the Government.

For proposed awards to be made as contracts to other than small businesses, the socio-economic merits of each proposal will be evaluated based on the extent of the Offeror's commitment in providing meaningful subcontracting opportunities for small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, woman-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, service disabled veteran-owned small businesses, historically black colleges and universities, and minority institutions.

The Government will evaluate options for award purposes by adding the total cost for all options to the total cost for the basic requirement. Evaluation of options will not obligate the Government to exercise the options during contract performance.

2. Evaluation Panel -

Technical and cost proposals submitted under this BAA will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 3.104-4 and 15.207. The cognizant Program Officer and other Government scientific experts will perform the evaluation of technical proposals. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, one or more support contractors may be utilized as subject-matter-expert technical consultants. Similarly, support contractors may be utilized to evaluate cost proposals. However, proposal selection and award decisions are solely the responsibility of Government personnel. Each support contractor's employee having access to technical and cost proposals submitted in response to this BAA will be required to sign a non-disclosure statement prior to receipt of any proposal submissions.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Administrative Requirements –

- The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code The NAICS code for this announcement is "541712" with a small business size standard of "500 employees".
- Central Contractor Registry (CCR) Successful Offerors not already registered in the CCR will be required to register in CCR prior to award of any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement. Information on CCR registration is available at https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default,aspx.

• Subcontracting Plans - Successful contract proposals that exceed \$550,000, submitted by **all** but small business concerns, will be required to submit prior to award a Small Business Subcontracting Plan in accordance with FAR 52.219-9.

• Certifications -

Contracts and Section 845 Other Transaction Agreement Proposals:

For contracts, in accordance with FAR 4.1201, prospective contractors shall complete and submit electronic annual representations and certifications at https://orca.bpn.gov. In addition to completing the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), proposals must be accompanied with a completed DFARS and contract specific representations and certifications. These "DFARS and Contract Specific Representations and Certifications", i.e., Section K, may be accessed under the Contracts and Grants Section of the ONR Home Page at http://www.onr.navy.mil/en/Contracts-Grants/submit-proposal/~/media/DEBFC3AD40D54FCBA3312A380D3795A7.ashx. This certification requirement is also applicable for Other Transaction Agreement proposals involving prototypes (Section 845 agreements).

Grants, Cooperative Agreements and Normal Other Transaction Agreements (OTAs): Grant and Cooperative Agreement awards greater than \$100,000, as well as OTAs not under Section 845, require a certification of compliance with a national policy mandate concerning lobbying. Grant, Cooperative Agreement and OTA applicants shall provide this certification by electronic submission of SF424 (R&R) as a part of the electronic proposal submitted via Grants.gov (complete Block 17). The following certification applies to each applicant seeking federal assistance funds exceeding \$100,000:

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the applicant shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The applicant shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and

contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S.C. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Grants not through Grants.gov

Proposers seeking grants who have received Grants.gov waiver approval for awards greater than \$100,000 shall complete and submit electronic representations and certifications at the Contracts and Grants Section of the ONR Home Page at http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/submit-proposal/~/media/BDBA1ACF9F534C10BE2A9C9AD9AA7F12.ashx.

VII. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities

Government research facilities and operational military units are available and should be considered as potential government-furnished equipment/facilities. These facilities and resources are of high value and some are in constant demand by multiple programs. It is unlikely that all facilities would be used for any one specific program. The use of these facilities and resources will be negotiated as the program unfolds. Offerors should explain as part of their proposals which of these facilities are critical for the project's success.

2. Security Classification

In order to facilitate intra-program collaboration and technology transfer, the Government will attempt to enable technology developers to work at the unclassified level to the maximum extent possible. If access to classified material will be required at any point during performance, the Offeror must clearly identify such need prominently in its proposal.

Normally, work under a grant does not require access to classified material.

3. Use of Animals and Human Subjects in Research

If animals are to be utilized in the research effort proposed, the Offeror must complete a DoD Animal Use Protocol with supporting documentation (copies of AALAC accreditation and/or NIH assurance, IACUC approval, research literature database searches, and the two most recent USDA inspection reports) prior to award. For

assistance with submission of animal research related documentation, contact the ONR Animal Use Administrator at (703) 696-4046.

Similarly, for any proposal for research involving human subjects, the Offeror must submit or indicate an intention to submit prior to award: documentation of approval from an Institutional Review Board (IRB); IRB-approved research protocol; IRB-approved informed consent form; proof of completed human research training (e.g., training certificate or institutional verification of training); an application for a DoD-Navy Addendum to the Offeror's DHHS-issued Federal wide Assurance (FWA) or the Offeror's DoD-Navy Addendum. In the event that an exemption criterion under 32 CFR.219.101 (b) is claimed, provide documentation of the determination by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) Chair, IRB vice Chair, designated IRB administrator or official of the human research protection program including the category of exemption and short rationale statement. This documentation must be submitted to the ONR Human Research Protection Official (HRPO), by way of the ONR Program Officer. Information about assurance applications and forms can be obtained by contacting ONR 343 contact@navy.mil. If the research is determined by the IRB to be greater than minimal risk, the Offeror also must provide the name and contact information for the independent medical monitor. For assistance with submission of human subject research related documentation, contact the ONR Human Research Protection Official at (703) 696-4046.

For contracts and orders, the award and execution of the contract, order, or modification to an existing contract or order serves as notification from the Contracting Officer to the Contractor that the HRPO has approved the assurance as appropriate for the research under the Statement of Work and also that the HRPO has reviewed the protocol and accepted the IRB approval or exemption determination for compliance with the DoD Component policies. See, DFARS 252.235-7004.

4. Recombinant DNA

Proposal which call for experiments using recombinant DNA must include documentation of compliance with Department of Human and Health Services (DHHS) recombinant DNA regulations, approval of the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), and copies of the DHHS Approval of the IBC letter.

5. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program

The DoD High Performance Computing Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S & T and RDT & E communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of ONR contracts, grants, and other assistance instruments may be eligible to use HPCMP assets in support of their funded activities if ONR Program Officer approval is obtained and if security/screening requirements are favorably completed. Additional information and an application may be found at http://www.hpcmo.hpc.mil/.

6. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

All Offerors and proposed subcontractors must affirm whether they are providing scientific, engineering, and technical assistance (SETA) or similar support to any ONR technical office(s) through an active contract or subcontract. All affirmations must state which office(s) the offeror supports and identify the prime contract numbers. Affirmations shall be furnished at the time of proposal submission. All facts relevant to the existence or potential existence of organizational conflicts of interest (FAR 9.5) must be disclosed. The disclosure shall include a description of the action the offeror has taken or proposes to take to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate such conflict. In accordance with FAR 9.503 and without prior approval, a contractor cannot simultaneously be a SETA and a research and development performer. Proposals that fail to fully disclose potential conflicts of interests or do not have acceptable plans to mitigate identified conflicts will be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award. If a prospective offeror believes that any conflict of interest exists or may exist (whether organizational or otherwise), the offeror should promptly raise the issue with ONR by sending his/her contact information and a summary of the potential conflict by e-mail to the Business Point of Contact in Section I, item 7 above, before time and effort are expended in preparing a proposal and mitigation plan. If, in the sole opinion of the Government after full consideration of the circumstances, any conflict situation cannot be effectively avoided or mitigated, the proposal may be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award under this BAA.

7. Project Meetings and Reviews

Individual program reviews between the ONR sponsor and the performer may be held as necessary. Program status reviews may also be held to provide a forum for reviews of the latest results from experiments and any other incremental progress towards the major demonstrations. These meetings will be held at various sites throughout the country. For costing purposes, offerors should assume that 40% of these meetings will be at or near ONR, Arlington VA and 60% at other contractor or government facilities. Interim meetings are likely, but these will be accomplished via video telephone conferences, telephone conferences, or via web-based collaboration tools.