

DEP CPRG / RISE PA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS

Reducing Industrial Sector Emissions in Pennsylvania (RISE PA) is a \$396 million statewide industrial decarbonization grant program funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grants under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. The purpose of this program is to offer grants for small-, medium-, and large-scale decarbonization projects at industrial facilities to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) and co-pollutant emissions. RISE PA is focused on reducing emissions from Pennsylvania’s industrial sector, which is the highest-emitting sector statewide and accounts for just over 30% of Pennsylvania’s total GHG emissions.

<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/programs-and-services/energy-programs-office/rise-pa.html>

Catalyst Connection is requesting proposals from qualified firms or individuals to complete technical assessments of small and medium manufacturers to identify emission reduction opportunities for potential funding under the RISE PA grant.

The results of these assessments and the corresponding documentation will be required inputs to the process for review and approval of applications for RISE PA funding to support remediation projects.

Proposals may be submitted **between January 13, 2025, and September 30, 2028.**

Attn: Whit Little, CFO
4501 Lytle Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
wlittle@catalystconnection.org

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Catalyst Connection is a private nonprofit economic development organization that provides technical consulting services and assistance to small- and mid-sized manufacturing companies in the twelve counties of southwestern Pennsylvania. Its mission is to advance the performance of manufacturing companies in southwestern Pennsylvania by accelerating their growth and productivity improvements. Catalyst Connection is part of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) national network that supports small and medium manufacturers (SMMs).

2. INTENT

The intent of this RFP is to contract with one or more individual(s) or organization(s) to complete energy assessments to support SMMs in their efforts to reduce emissions in their operations. Assessments shall provide all necessary information to prepare the SMM to apply for RISE PA funding to support emission reduction projects.

3. TERM

The term of the agreement may start on or after January 13, 2025, and may continue until September 30, 2029.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

Catalyst Connection is seeking an external resource(s) to assist with the following:

- Complete between one (1) and thirty-two (32) Technical Assessments per year, between January 2025 and September 2029.
- Complete and submit to Catalyst Connection a Technical Assessment Report for each Assessment performed.
 - Technical Assessments and corresponding Technical Assessment Reports shall meet all applicable requirements as specified in **Appendix E** and **Section 5.2.2.1, Technical Assessment Report**, of PennTAP's RISE PA SAT Program Guidance: <https://penntap.psu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/PennTAP-RISE-PA-SAT-Program-Guidance-V2202502.pdf>
 - Technical Assessments and Reports shall be completed by a Qualified Assessor as specified in **Appendix E** of PennTAP's RISE PA SAT Program Guidance.
- Complete and submit to Catalyst Connection a Measuring, Monitoring, and Verification (MMV) narrative for each Assessment performed.
 - The MMV narrative shall meet all applicable requirements specified in **Appendix E** and **Section 7.6, Measurement, Monitoring, and Verification**, of PennTAP's RISE PA SAT Program Guidance.
- All companies to be assessed will be located in Pennsylvania.

5. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposals must include the following to be considered:

- Complete description of the technical approach to be used to ensure Technical Assessments and the corresponding Technical Assessment Reports will meet all applicable criteria specified in **Appendix E** of PennTAP's RISE PA SAT Program Guidance
- Firm, fixed price for each Assessment.
- Number of Assessments per year that are proposed (between 1 and 32)
- Limitations on the location of the SMM, if the submission is **not** valid for all locations in Pennsylvania.
- Narrative describing the organization's experience and expertise in conducting energy assessments.
- Name(s) of the Assessor(s) who are proposed to perform the Assessments, and statement of qualifications for each proposed Assessor.



- A statement certifying that the organization is **not** under suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any governmental entity, instrumentality, or authority.
- A statement certifying that the organization is **not** debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment by the Federal Government.
- A Completed Catalyst Connection Third Party Application
- Catalyst Connection will accept responses (MS Word, Adobe PDF, or other suitable format) between January 20, 2025, and September 30, 2028.

6. QUALIFICATIONS

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria, listed in order of their relative priority.

- Technical approach proposed, including completeness and flexibility.
- Demonstrated expertise in conducting energy assessments.
- Assessor qualifications.
- Cost

7. OTHER

- Catalyst Connection reserves the right to conduct discussions, to accept revisions of proposals, to negotiate pricing, and to reject any or all proposals or any part thereof.

8. ATTACHMENTS

Awardees shall comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the **specified sections** of the following attachments to this agreement:

- PennTAP's RISE PA SAT Program Guidance
 - **Section 5.2.2.1, Technical Assessment Report**
 - **Section 7.6, Measurement, Monitoring, and Verification**
 - **Appendix E, SAT Applicant's Technical Assessment Report**
- Commonwealth Standard Terms and Conditions, Grant Version
 - **Section 3: NONDISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT**
 - **Section 4: GRANTEE INTEGRITY**
 - **Section 5: CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY**



- Catalyst Connection's RISE PA Quality Assurance Program Plan
 - **Appendix A: Awardee Requirements**
- Catalyst Connection's Terms and Conditions