

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

Nuclear Energy Development Grant Program Administration

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to define the process and responsibilities for the administration of the Kentucky Nuclear Energy Development Grant Program by the grant administration subcommittee, as established in KRS 164.2803. This program aims to support the entire nuclear energy ecosystem in the Commonwealth of Kentucky through strategic grant funding.

2.0 Responsibilities

The Nuclear Energy Development Grant Administration Subcommittee is responsible for the following core duties:

- Developing and implementing all necessary grant application materials.
- Defining and enforcing grant applicant eligibility requirements.
- Creating and applying objective scoring criteria for all grant applications.
- Making final determinations on grant eligibility and funding, and awarding grants.

3.0 Procedure

3.1 Subcommittee Selection and Quorum

1. The Kentucky Nuclear Energy Development Authority shall select five (5) of its voting members to serve on the nuclear energy development grant administration subcommittee.
2. A meeting of the subcommittee requires a majority of its members to be present to constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business.

3.2 Grant Application Creation

1. The subcommittee shall design and create comprehensive grant applications for potential applicants.
2. The applications shall gather all necessary information to allow the subcommittee to evaluate the project against the established criteria.

3.3 Eligibility Requirements

1. The subcommittee shall establish clear and specific eligibility requirements that all grant applicants must meet to be considered for funding, which will include project safety, sustainability, and avoidance of unacceptable risks. Projects which use or create radioactive isotopes must provide a plan detailing risk management, decommissioning, and financial assurance thereof.

3.4 Objective Scoring Criteria

1. The subcommittee shall establish objective scoring criteria to evaluate all submitted grant applications. This criteria shall include, but is not limited to, the following factors:
 - **Project Impact:** The likelihood that the proposed project will lead to further investment in the nuclear energy ecosystem, which includes the nuclear fuel cycle, reactor design, component manufacturing, facility siting, radioisotope production, operation and maintenance, decommissioning, and end uses of nuclear energy.
 - **Economic Benefit:** The projected economic impact of the grant funding on the specific community and region where the proposed project will be located.
 - **Community Readiness:** The readiness of the community to host nuclear-related investments, including whether the community has been awarded a "nuclear-ready community designation" under KRS 164.2804.
 - **Matching Investment:** The amount of additional investment that the grant applicant and other sources would contribute to the proposed project.

3.5 Grant Determination and Award

1. The subcommittee shall review all applications that meet the eligibility requirements, evaluating them against the objective scoring criteria.
2. Based on the evaluation, the subcommittee shall make final determinations on grant eligibility and funding.
3. The subcommittee shall formally make grant awards, with a strict limitation that no single award shall exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000).