

**Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (§48C)**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**  
*Updated on October 10, 2024 (version 12)*

**Posted on October 10, 2024**

**1. Is there a specific template or data that must be included in the cash flow model?**

Cash flow models should be submitted as a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and must include calculation formulas and assumptions. It is recommended that applicants include the following items in their cash flow model: latest total project cost, feedstock forecasts, feedstock agreements, revenue forecasts, revenue agreements, cost forecasts, schedule, operating costs and operating revenues, timing and impact of operational, investing, and financing cash flows (including tax credits as applicable) over the project lifespan, expected return (e.g., internal rate of return) over the project lifespan, and a scenario manager or dynamic assumptions with a base case indicating the most likely performance scenario based on projected technical parameters that are consistent with submitted deliverables (e.g., TPC estimate, initial design as applicable).

**2. Can I receive additional information on the Levelized Cost Information section?**

- In determining which qualifying advanced energy projects to certify under 48C, the statutory language requires the Secretary of Treasury to take into consideration which projects have the lowest levelized cost of generated or stored energy, or of measured reduction in energy consumption or greenhouse gas emission (based on costs of the full supply chain).
- The list of eligible technologies for the 48C program spans a diverse set of clean energy technologies and their components. The 48C guidance adopts a similarly broad scope for the submission requirements associated with the levelized cost of energy (LCOE) or the levelized cost of emissions abatement (LCEA). We ask applicants to estimate the average net present cost of advanced energy property over its deployed lifetime, based on the final clean energy installation that the facility's product would be incorporated into.
- LCOE and LCEA are metrics that are highly sensitive to the scope and assumptions incorporated into the underlying calculation. As a result, DOE has offered a simplified approach in the 48C Data Sheet, tab "2. Commercial Viability (a)." Applicants have the option to select a down-down option for LCOE or LCEA that most closely aligns with their facility's product. This selection will automatically populate values that reflect a reasonable range of end-use technologies, and it will satisfy requirements in IRS Notice 2024-36, Appendix B, Section 2.6.1.1.
- Alternatively, applicants may calculate and provide their own calculated LCOE/LCEA value, which should assume that the facility's products are part of a final clean energy installation. In this case, we provide a list of suggested LCOE tools, including:
  - I. The System Advisor Model (<https://sam.nrel.gov>) evaluates several types of financing (from residential to utility-scale) and a variety of technology-specific cost models for several technologies, including solar photovoltaics, concentrated

solar power, solar water heating, wind, geothermal, battery storage, and marine energy.

- II. The Simple Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE) Calculator (<https://www.nrel.gov/analysis/tech-lcoe.html>) allows the comparison of capital costs, operations and maintenance, performance, and fuel costs.
- III. The Hydrogen Financial Analysis Scenario Tool (<https://www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/h2fast.html>) provides a quick and convenient in-depth financial analysis for hydrogen and nonhydrogen systems and services, including annual projections of income statements, 90 cash flow statements, and balance sheets.

- 3. In 2.5.2.1 and 2.5.2.2 Appendix A-B requests applicants to “report emissions levels using facility-specific, material/product-specific cradle-to-gate Type III (third-party verified) Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs).” In 2.6.2 this is described more fully as a “life cycle assessment showing at least a 30% reduction in the carbon intensity of the product compared to the industry standard, using facility-specific, material/product-specific cradle-to-gate Type III (third-party verified) Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), in line with the specifications found in EPA’s interim determination for the Buy Clean initiative for those relevant products.” Can you confirm that the requirement is to use an EPD for an industry standard product as the basis for comparison to which applicants may compare their own 48C-project’s product LCAs?**

Applicants can use EPD for an industry standard product, when available. When an EPD with facility-specific data is not available, for this interim determination, EPDs consistent with (i) Product Category Rule (PCR) for the applicable product category that was active when the EPD was issued, and (ii) conforms with ISO 14025 and ISO 21930 but not using facility-specific data are sufficient. For this interim decision, LCA methodologies consistent with the specifications used for EPDs of comparable products are sufficient. Applicants are encouraged to use the best available data possible to justify GHG impacts through LCAs, including projections for facility data, as well as preliminary results and data. Please refer to 2022.12.22 Interim Determination on Low Carbon Materials under IRA 60503 and 60506 ([epa.gov](https://www.epa.gov)) for additional details.

- 4. Can a company still apply for 48C if application is not submitted before the deadline while funds are still available?**

Round 2 48C full application submissions are due by 11:59 p.m. EST on October 18, 2024. Applications for Round 2 allocations will not be considered by DOE unless a Round 2 concept paper submission was received from the applicant by the specified deadline of June 21, 2024. See Appendix A & B of IRS Notice 2024 –36 for more information.

- 5. To qualify, what is the timeline of start and end of the construction of the project to qualify for 48C?**

As answered in #13 of DOE FAQs, posted June 10, 2024, and described in Notice 2024-36, The timeline begins when a taxpayer receives an Allocation Letter. Note that eligible property placed in service prior to being awarded an allocation of the § 48C credits under the § 48C(e) program is not eligible to receive such an allocation. Within 2 years of receiving the Allocation Letter, a taxpayer must notify DOE that the requirements for certification have been met by submitting the required information through the 48C(e) Portal. A taxpayer who has successfully met the

requirements for certification will receive a Certification Letter. Within 2 years of receiving the Certification Letter, the taxpayer must notify the DOE that the § 48C(e) Facility has been placed in service by submitting such information through the 48C(e) Portal. See Notice 2023-18, section 5, and Appendix B of Notice 2024-36 for additional information. If the taxpayer has not placed the § 48C(e) Facility in service and notified the DOE that the § 48C(e) Facility has been placed in service within the required 2-year period, then the § 48C(e) credit allocated to the taxpayer's § 48C(e) Facility will be forfeited.

- 6. If related taxpayers have submitted concept papers for separate facilities in a larger energy project, and both concept papers have been encouraged, will it hurt the taxpayers to both submit an application, or worded differently, will both be analyzed on their own merit or will a determination of credit award for one hurt the chances of the other of receiving an award?**

It is the applicant's responsibility to determine what is the most appropriate approach for their qualifying advanced energy project(s). All applications will be reviewed and evaluated based on four technical review criteria by the DOE. See Appendix A & B of IRS Notice 2024-36 for more information.

- 7. Are the Clean Energy Manufacturing data sheets missing about 10 tabs, including the "technology-specific tab" mentioned in the Facility Level Emissions tab?**

The "technology-specific tabs" were part of Round 1 old Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling and Critical Materials projects datasheets. Datasheets are streamlined for Round 2. All technology specific data tabs have been removed in the Round 2 application datasheets and are not required. This language has been removed in the updated datasheets to reduce confusion. The 48C portal features the latest and most up to date datasheets.

- 8. Is there a forum to submit questions on the applications?**

If you have questions related to the 48C program, please contact the Support Desk at 48CQuestions@hq.doe.gov or via phone at 202-586-9786. The Support Desk hours of operation are 8 AM to 5 PM Eastern, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Emails received outside of those hours will be processed the following business day

- 9. Is the submission of all the attachments listed in the Guidance document mandatory or optional?**

The full list of required files for § 48C(e) application submission is illustrated in Table 4, Table 4: *Files Required for § 48C(e) Application Submission*, Appendix B, section 2.51., *Application Submission Requirements*.

- 10. Where do I find the concept paper encouraged/discouraged feedback letter within 48C portal?**

Navigate to the 48C Credit Application on the 48C portal, the Encouraged/Discouraged letter is listed under attachments.

- 11. What is the process to change the person whose name/ID.me authentication information is used to log into the 48C portal and submit the full application (e.g. if the person who**

**registered with the 48C portal and submitted the Concept Paper must be changed for the Full Application)?**

If you require assistance making changes to your account, adding or removing application contributors, or otherwise utilizing the 48C portal, please contact the Support Desk at 48CQuestions@hq.doe.gov or via phone at 202-586-9786. The Support Desk hours of operation are 8 AM to 5 PM Eastern, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Emails received outside of those hours will be processed the following business day.

**12. What is rough % of discouraged 48C concept paper applicants in round 1 that submitted full applications? or received funding allocation from DOE?**

DOE cannot provide this information.

**13. Are there examples of successful applications anywhere?**

Summaries of self-disclosed applicants' 48C Round 1 projects can be found on [Applicant Self-Disclosed 48C Projects | Department of Energy](#)

**14. Can applicants add a header per Section 2.8.6 of Appendix B to place a confidentiality declaration and highlight the figures, notes, etc. that they do not wish to be disclosed in a FOIA request if the data sheet advises "NO CELLS, ROWS, or COLUMNS SHOULD BE ADDED, and DO NOT ADJUST THE FORMATTING"?**

No, please do not add a header in the datasheet. You are encouraged to add this header to note confidential information in the narrative. Note that all 48C Program information is considered Federal Tax Information. If elements of a § 48C(e) application contain information the taxpayer considers to be trade secrets, confidential, privileged, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552), the taxpayer may assert a claim of exemption at the time of application by placing the following text on the first page of the § 48C(e) application, and specifying the page or pages of the § 48C(e) application to be restricted.

**15. Can an applicant use the FEIN in row 5 of tab '1. Project Overview' in the Data Sheet if they only have the FEIN?**

This row should only be used to input an applicant's TIN number. To be eligible for a tax credit, applicants must be taxpayers and therefore must have a TIN number.

**16. Should Commercial viability (A) column C row 29 & 30 in the datasheet be percentages?**

Both cells should be percentages (%). A revised version of each datasheet to reflect this change was uploaded on the 48C Portal.

**17. On the Application Data Sheet for Clean Manufacturing: (1) Tab "Commercial Viability", cell B12 Field "Investment stage (if private)" – What is this field and what are acceptable responses? (2) Tab "Commercial Viability", cell B18 Field "5-year revenue projection (\$)" – Is this projection for the whole company or just the project?**

For the "investment stage (if private)" field, which is cell B11 in the Commercial Viability tab (a), we ask that applicants indicate the applicant's investment stage (e.g., received series C funding). Cell B18 in the same tab requests "5-year revenue projection (\$)" and we request that applicants respond to all questions in the "Organization" section (cells B8-B22) with information

about the entity applying for the tax credit. If the applicant is a subsidiary to a parent company, the questions in this section should be answered for the applicant, not the parent company.

- 18. In the Round 2 Clean Energy Manufacturing Application Data Sheet template, the instructions in row 23 of tab '1. Project Overview' reference whether the project is primarily in producing or recycling eligible advanced energy property, and if it is a recycling project, to fill out the 'Recycling' tab. On row 24 of tab '1. Project Overview', the instructions note that every application must choose at least one technology area and fill out the corresponding yellow tab. These yellow tabs for Recycling and different technology areas are not included in the current Data Sheet template. Will there be a new version of the Data Sheet released with these tabs included? Or do they not need to be filled out?**

There is no 'Recycling' tab. This extraneous language was removed in the updated version of the datasheet on the 48C Portal.

- 19. (1) Tab 2a of the data sheet offers a drop-down option for levelized cost information that satisfies the Appendix B, Section 2.6.1.1 requirements of Notice 2024-36. The instructions say choosing an option will "automatically populate values,". Does this refer to the assumptions tab that shows values for different types of technology? (2) Does the drop-down choice of "emissions abatement" apply to this new category? (3) If an applicant choose a drop-down option, does this also satisfy the application requirements for Levelized Cost Information in Section 2.5.2.1 of Notice 2024-36 found on page 19-20 of Appendix B?**

For the Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling datasheet applicants should select a category from the dropdown menu in cell C63 that best reflects the project's levelized cost of energy or levelized cost of emissions abatement. Applicants can review the identified ranges for each category in the assumptions table in the datasheet in the table titled "levelized cost metrics". The language in the datasheet has been updated in the version posted on the 48C Portal. Yes, this input satisfies the application requirements or LCOE/LCEA for Clean Energy Manufacturing Projects. Please also provide context on this measure in the project narrative.

- 20. Is LCOE/LCEA information required for critical materials projects and, if so, what it is meant to capture, e.g., for an input into EV battery production on the critical materials data sheet?**

Please review the submission requirements and the technical merit review criteria for more information on this topic. Submission requirements for critical materials projects are summarized in Notice 2024-36, Appendix B Section 2.5.2.1 and the corresponding merit review criteria are described in Section 2.7.1.

- 21. What is the appeal process for Round 1 applicants who were denied?**

Please refer to Notices 2023-18, section 5, and 2023-44, section 1, which state: *"In the case of a denial, a taxpayer may request a debriefing with DOE regarding DOE's review of the taxpayer's - 7 - § 48C(e) application. The Denial Letter will include instructions for requesting a DOE debriefing."*

- 22. Can organizations request an extension to the 2-year time period between certification and placing a facility in service?**

Notice 2023-18 provides: *If the taxpayer has placed the project in service within the required 2-year period after receiving the Certification Letter and has notified DOE, the taxpayer claims the § 48C credit on its income tax return for the taxable year in which the project was placed in*

*service. If the taxpayer has not placed the project in service within the required 2-year period or has not notified DOE that the project has been placed in service within the required 2-year period, then the § 48C credit allocated to the taxpayer's project is forfeited.*

**23. Will there be a round 3 for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C) Program?**

As provided in Notice 2024-36, the Treasury Department and the IRS will evaluate if any § 48C credits remain unallocated at the close of Round 2 and determine if another allocation round is needed.

**24. What is the process to change a project location post-allocation?**

Section 8.01 of Notice 2023 -18, states that a “taxpayer must inform DOE and the IRS if the plans for the project change in any significant respect from the plans set forth in the concept paper and the § 48C(e) application... A significant change is any change that a reasonable person would conclude might have influenced DOE in recommending or ranking the project or the IRS in issuing the Allocation Letter had the person known about the change when considering the § 48C(e) application. Moving the project to a census tract different than the tract stated in the concept paper and § 48C(e) application is a significant change.”

**25. I applied to the wrong category in error, will my concept papers/ application still be considered?**

The applicant is responsible for determining the proper qualifying advanced energy project category for its application. If the applicant's described project is more appropriately aligned with a different project category at the concept paper stage (Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling, Critical Materials Recycling, Processing and Refining and Industrial Decarbonization), as described in IRS Notice 2024-36 Appendix, the applicant's concept paper was reviewed based on the DOE's best assessment of the appropriate category (Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling, Critical Materials Recycling, Processing and Refining and Industrial Decarbonization). The applicant is responsible for selecting the appropriate project category in the full application stage. See IRS Notice 2024-36, Appendix A.

**26. Can my organization receive a waiver to be able to submit a full application without having submitted the concept paper?**

No, to be considered for an allocation of § 48C credits in Round 2, taxpayers must first submit concept papers to the IRS through the Qualified Advanced Energy Project Credit Program Applicant Portal (48C Portal), accessible at <https://eco.energy.gov/48C/>, maintained by the Department of Energy (DOE). See IRS Notice 2024-36.

**27. Is it possible to change the Expected Tax Credit amount or Tax Credit Rate between the concept paper and the full application?**

Yes, the requested tax credit and other information may be updated between concept paper and application stages. See Appendix A of Notice 2024-36, which requires applicants to describe any significant changes to the project that have occurred since the concept paper stage.

**28. Can a § 48C project be placed in service in two different phases and in two different tax years (e.g., 2024 & 2025 or 2026 & 2027)?**

The project should be placed in service in alignment with the project schedule submitted in the application. IRS Section 5.02 (13) of Notice 2023-18, provides: that *If the taxpayer has placed the project in service within 2 years of receiving Certification Letter from IRS and has notified DOE, the taxpayer claims the § 48C credit on its income tax return for the taxable year in which the project was placed in service. If the taxpayer has not placed the project in service within the required 2-year period or has not notified DOE that the project has been placed in service within the required 2-year period, then the § 48C credit allocated to the taxpayer's project is forfeited.* See Appendix B of Notice 2024-36.

**29. Does the § 48C Program issue facility numbers for tax filing purposes?**

No, facility numbers are not assigned for tax filing purposes in the § 48C program.

**30. Can you provide clarity on the requirement for “advanced energy projects” under section 1.1.(i)(ii) of Appendix A in IRS Notice 2024-36, for energy-intensive materials? Are applicants required to supply an ISO-compliant LCA with third-party review, or is a preliminary, in-house LCA sufficient?**

In the case of advanced energy projects under section 1.1.(i) of Appendix A, *Other advanced energy property designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as may be determined by the Secretary*, “low carbon energy intensive materials,” applicants should report emissions and carbon intensity levels using facility-specific, material/product-specific cradle-to-gate Type III (third-party verified) Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), in line with the specifications found in EPA’s interim determination for the Buy Clean initiative for those relevant products.

The projects should reduce carbon intensity on a life cycle basis by at least 30% compared to an appropriate industry-specific benchmark. See Notice 2024-36, Appendix A, section 2.5.2.1.

**31. Are Renewable Energy Certificates ("REC") and Renewable Power Purchase Agreements ("RPPA") allowed when calculating the required GHG emission reductions?**

Applicants must meet the 20% reduction in GHG emissions through a reduction in Scope 1 emissions, a reduction in Scope 2 emissions at the facility, a combination of the preceding approaches, or a 20% reduction at a facility sub-unit.

**32. How does DOE think about short-term, limited labor needs for retrofits vs. greenfield production facility development.**

The Workforce and Community Engagement application guidelines apply to and are consistent across all project types. The 48C(e) program aims to support projects that create and maintain high-quality, good-paying clean energy manufacturing jobs for both new and incumbent workers. See Notice 2024-36, Appendix B.

**33. Can the proposed qualified investment and requested tax credit amount be amended after allocation is made or prior to when the qualified investment is placed in service based on total project costs?**

The taxpayer must inform DOE and the IRS if the plans for the project change in any significant respect from the plans set forth in the concept paper and the § 48C(e) application. A significant change is any change that a reasonable person would conclude might have influenced DOE in recommending or ranking the project or the IRS in issuing the Allocation Letter had the person known about the change when considering the § 48C(e) application. If the IRS is informed of the change after the Allocation Letter is sent to the taxpayer, any allocation or certification based on that acceptance is void. See Notice 2023-18, section 8.01.

**34. If the proposed qualified investment cannot be amended after allocation is made, can it be adjusted after placed in service to receive partial tax credit based on total project costs and qualified investment guidelines?**

The taxpayer must inform DOE and the IRS if the plans for the project change in any significant respect from the plans set forth in the concept paper and the § 48C(e) application. A significant change is any change that a reasonable person would conclude might have influenced DOE in recommending or ranking the project or the IRS in issuing the Allocation Letter had the person known about the change when considering the § 48C(e) application. If the IRS is informed of the change after the Allocation Letter is sent to the taxpayer, any allocation or certification based on that acceptance is void. See Notice 2023-18, section 8.01.

**35. Can the proposed project scope at the time of an application be amended or adjusted to meet the certification and/or placed in service timelines?**

The taxpayer must inform DOE and the IRS if the plans for the project change in any significant respect from the plans set forth in the concept paper and the § 48C(e) application. A significant change is any change that a reasonable person would conclude might have influenced DOE in recommending or ranking the project or the IRS in issuing the Allocation Letter had the person known about the change when considering the § 48C(e) application. If the IRS is informed of the change after the Allocation Letter is sent to the taxpayer, any allocation or certification based on that acceptance is void. See Notice 2023-18, section 8.01.

**36. Question: can a project after allocation be relocated from one 48C Energy Community location to another 48C Energy Community location to improve its chances?**

Appendix B of Notice 2024-36 states that applicants that receive allocation letters must provide evidence that they have met the requirements for certification no later than 2 years from the date the IRS notified the applicants that they have received an allocation. A project is eligible for certification only if the taxpayer has received all permits from federal, state, tribal, and local governmental bodies for construction of the project at the **planned location**, including environmental authorization or reviews necessary to commence construction of the project. See Notice 2023-18, section 7.02 (emphasis added). Notice 2023 -18 further provides if the project has been placed in service at a location that is materially different than the location specified in the § 48C(e) application for such project, the certification is no longer valid. Specifically, Notice 2023-18, Sec. 8.01 states: "Moving the project to a census tract different than the tract stated in the concept paper and § 48C(e) application is a significant change." A significant change will result in a forfeiture of the § 48C credit allocation. See IRS Notice 2024-36, section 8, for additional details.



**37. Question: Is NEPA review required for 48C projects to receive tax credit?**

NEPA does not apply to § 48C(e) tax credit program because neither DOE's recommendation or IRS final determination is a legal prerequisite for applicants to pursue their project. Additionally, DOE and IRS lack federal control and responsibility over the applicants' proposed projects; DOE merely evaluates whether a proposal qualifies for the 48C tax credit and IRS determines whether to allocate a tax credit. Thus, NEPA does not apply to DOE and IRS's actions in administering the § 48C(e) tax credit program.

**Posted on July 03, 2024**

**1. What does "as may be determined by the Secretary" in Notice 2024-36, Appendices A & B mean?**

This statement describes the Secretary of Treasury's discretion to update program priorities and eligibility. Program priorities and eligibility criteria are provided in the guidance in Appendix A, Sections 1.1 and 1.3.

**2. What is the reference basis for "carbon intensity on a life cycle basis compared to an appropriate industry-specific benchmark?"**

There is no specified benchmark. It is up to applicants to determine the appropriate benchmark for their specific product and justify the use of this benchmark.

**3. What is the basis of the 20% GHG reduction for industrial decarbonization projects?**

Applicants must demonstrate that the project will result in a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions facility-wide or at a subunit level once implemented. This can be achieved through Scope 1 emission reductions facility-wide, Scope 2 emission reductions facility-wide, or through a combination of Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions.

While facilities may be eligible under this project category by achieving a 20 percent reduction threshold within a particular element of their process or emissions profile, overall combined Scope 1, and Scope 2 GHG emissions impacts for the full qualifying facility will be taken into account when evaluating each project for the purposes of application scoring. Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions are further defined in section 2.2 of Appendix B, Glossary of Terms.

**4. Are construction costs eligible under 48C?**

Please refer to Appendix A of Notice 2024-36 for information on eligibility and qualified investments. Industrial decarbonization projects may only involve retrofits to facilities. New facilities, and construction of these new facilities, are eligible under Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Projects and Critical Material Projects.

**5. Under which project categories are costs to expand a facility eligible?**

To qualify as an Industrial Decarbonization project, the project must involve retrofitting, not expanding, an industrial or manufacturing facility. Please refer to Notice 2024-36, Appendix A Section 1.2. In contrast, to be eligible as a Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Project or a Critical Materials projects, the project must involve re-equipping, expanding, or establishing an industrial or manufacturing facility. Under these projects, the cost to expand the facility could be a qualified expense. Please to refer to Notice 2024-36, Appendix A Section 1.1 and Section 1.3 respectively.

Please refer to Appendix A of Notice 2024-36 for information on eligibility and qualified investments. Industrial decarbonization projects may only involve retrofits to facilities. New facilities, and construction of these new facilities, are eligible under Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Projects and Critical Material Projects.

Please also review Q15 on the IRS's [§ 48C credit frequently asked questions page](#) for a description of certain eligible costs.

**Posted on June 10, 2024**

**1. Can I speak with a representative from DOE or IRS to receive assistance in determining my project's eligibility and general project guidance?**

Neither DOE nor IRS may provide taxpayer-specific guidance on a particular project's eligibility. All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the IRS Notice 2024-36 and appendices to determine the eligibility of their proposed project and submission requirements. You may also wish to connect with your local, state, or federal development offices, which may be able to offer assistance; please recognize, however, that applicants are solely responsible for assuring the accuracy and completeness of their applications. The state-level development resources include the Economic Development Administration regional [offices \(https://www.eda.gov\)](https://www.eda.gov) and U.S. the Small Business Administration [district offices \(https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/small-business-development-centers-sbdc#id-find-an-sbdc-in-your-area\)](https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/small-business-development-centers-sbdc#id-find-an-sbdc-in-your-area)

**2. How does 48C(e) interact with the Battery Collection program? Are retailers eligible to apply for the 48C(e) tax credit program if they set up battery recycling bins in their stores and meet program requirements?**

The 48C(e) tax credit program is separate from the Battery Collection program. For determining eligibility of a particular project for 48C(e) and examples of Qualifying Advanced Energy Projects, please see IRS Notice 2024-36, Appendix A, Section 1 (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-24-36-appendix-a-b.pdf>). Neither DOE nor IRS may provide specific guidance on a particular project's eligibility. All 48C(e) applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the IRS Notice 2024-36 and appendices to determine the eligibility of their proposed project and submission requirements.

**3. Are you able or interested in supporting projects that collaborate with electrical utilities?**

DOE will follow the procedures and merit review criteria published in the Notice 2024-36 in recommending meritorious applications to IRS for allocation decisions. Applicants should carefully review the criteria in that notice to determine how to structure their proposed projects, including any benefits the applicant believes may result from partnership or collaboration, to best align the project with the criteria specified in the notice. Partnership or collaboration with interested participants in proposing a project for consideration under the 48C(e) investment tax credit is wholly up to the applicant to determine.

**4. If a manufacturing project can be split into phases, can it qualify for both 45X and 48C(e)? If a company is applying for 45X now, are they also able to apply in round 2 for the 48C(e)?** As described in IRS guidance, products manufactured using eligible property for which a taxpayer

receives an allocation of section 48C(e) credits and claims such credits may be ineligible for the section 45X credit. If a 45X facility contains any property for which a section 48C(e) credit has been claimed, then that 45X facility cannot produce eligible components under section 45X. See proposed § 1.45X-1(g).48C(e)48C(e) Applicants are encouraged to consult with their tax advisor before submitting a concept paper for consideration under § 48C(e)(e). See IRS Notice 2023-44 Section 3 and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking 88 FR 86844 for further clarity.

**5. If I have questions regarding the 48C(e) application selection and approval process, who can I contact?**

For more information regarding the 48C(e) Program application selection and approval process, please see IRS Notice 2024-36, Appendix B. All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the IRS Notice 2024-36 and appendices and follow the stated submission requirements. Please review the 48C(e) landing page ([https://energy.gov/infrastructure/48C\(e\)](https://energy.gov/infrastructure/48C(e))) for future updates and submit any questions related to the 48C(e) program to [48C\(e\)questions@hq.doe.gov](mailto:48C(e)questions@hq.doe.gov).

**6. Are those taxpayers that were successful applicants in Round 1 precluded from submitting concept papers and full applications for Round 2? If not precluded, do they face any limitations in Round 2?**

Round 1 applicants are eligible to apply in Round 2. All projects that meet the eligibility criteria and submission requirements described in IRS Notice 2024-36 will be considered for Round 2 tax credit allocations. To be considered for an allocation in Round 2, taxpayers must first submit concept papers to the IRS through the Qualified Advanced Energy Project Credit Program Applicant Portal (48C(e) Portal), accessible at [https://eco.energy.gov/48C\(e\)/](https://eco.energy.gov/48C(e)/), maintained by the Department of Energy (DOE). Note, Section 4 of Notice 2023-44 states that eligible property that is part of a § 48C(e) eligible project placed in service prior to being awarded an allocation of § 48C(e) credits under the § 48C(e) program is not eligible to receive such an allocation.

**7. Can we mark our concept papers for confidentiality or submit a confidential version after they are already submitted and after the submission date has closed?**

If elements of a § 48C(e)(e) concept paper contain information the taxpayer considers to be trade secrets, confidential, privileged, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552), the taxpayer may seek to protect it by asserting a claim of exemption at the time of application by placing the disclaimers in the “Company Description” section of their § 48C(e)(e) concept paper. The rules for these disclaimers are in Section 2.8.9 of IRS Notice 2024-36, Appendix B (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-24-36-appendix-a-b.pdf>). This must be done at the time of concept paper submission. No additional documents can be submitted after the submission period has concluded. The same process applies to § 48C(e)(e) applications. Note that we are required to publicly disclose the identity and amount of the credit allocated to an applicant approximately 2 years after a taxpayer receives a credit allocation (when a project is certified).

**8. Does the person submitting information through ID.me need to be an owner of the company claiming the tax credit or can a representative of the company claiming the tax credit submit information via ID.me?**

The registration process for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C(e)) Program requires that an individual create and submit applications on behalf of an organization (applicant). To be eligible to register and submit an application for an organization, the

individual must attest that they have authority to act on behalf of and legally bind the organization. Additionally, this individual will be responsible for signing attestations for the organization within the application and will receive all communications for the organization. Authority to legally bind an organization will depend on the entity type and, for some entity types, the laws of the state where the organization is organized. If you are uncertain whether an individual is authorized to legally bind the organization, *before registering* you should review the state laws applicable to your organization and internal organization legal agreements regarding duly authorized persons.

**9. Does the 48C(e) program require equipment to be compliant with Buy America? Or will the Department provide preference to projects that commit to source domestic equipment or materials when selecting applications or selecting concept papers for further consideration?**

The § 48C(e) statute does not require that projects comply with Buy America. The Clean Energy Manufacturing and Critical Materials project concept paper and the Industrial Decarbonization project concept paper and application request applicants describe how the project meets the four technical review criteria, which reflect the overall program objectives. Criteria three is Strengthening U.S. Supply Chains and Domestic Manufacturing for a Net-Zero Economy. Applicants should review Appendix B of Notice 2024-36 to determine what information is requested for this criterion and include it in their concept paper and application.

**10. When selecting applications or concept papers for further consideration will preference be provided to projects whose facility's products will be deployed or used domestically?**

As described in Notice 2024-36, § 48C(e) program policy factors include the degree to which the proposed project contributes to a portfolio that enhances American industrial and manufacturing competitiveness in a global net-zero economy.

**11. Does the program define clean energy? For example, is this program limited to renewable energy projects only?**

For the purposes of § 48C(e) the technologies included in the Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Projects are described in section 48C(e)(c)(1)(i). Additionally, section 1.1 of Appendix A of Notice 2024-36 describes in more detail what technologies are included in the Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Projects that are eligible under section 48C(e).

**12. When will final regulations be released for 45X so we know whether to submit under 48C(e) or 45X?**

Please refer to the Department of Treasury and Internal Revenue Service announcements and websites. DOE cannot provide information on timelines beyond what is made publicly available by Treasury and IRS.

**13. Can we apply now if our production does not start until 2028-2029?**

As described in Notice 2024-36, within 2 years of receiving an Allocation Letter, a taxpayer must notify DOE that the requirements for certification have been met by submitting the required information through the 48C(e) Portal. As the IRS intends to make all Round 2 allocation decisions no later than January 15, 2025, projects that could not possibly submit the required information within two years after that date could not be expected to meet that requirement. Taxpayers who have successfully met the requirements for certification receive a Certification Letter. Within 2 years of receiving the Certification Letter, the taxpayer notifies DOE that the § 48C(e) Facility has been placed in service by submitting such information through the 48C(e)

Portal. See Notice 2023-18, section 5 and Appendix B of Notice 2024-36 or additional information. If the taxpayer has not placed the § 48C(e) Facility in service and notified the DOE that the § 48C(e) Facility has been placed in service within the required 2-year period, then the § 48C(e) credit allocated to the taxpayer's § 48C(e) Facility would be forfeited.

**14. Guidance Notice 2023-44 is more detailed. Is it still relevant or is it superseded by the new guidance Notice 2024?**

IRS Notice 2023-18 and IRS Notice 2023-44 are still in effect. The appendices in Notice 2023-18 were superseded by IRS Notice 2023-44, and the appendices in Notice 2023-44 were superseded by Notice 2024-36 for Round 2. Notice 2024-36 updates and expands on the procedures for the allocation of credits under § 48C(e) of the Internal Revenue Code pursuant to the qualifying advanced energy project credit program under § 48C(e)(e) and announces the 2024 allocation round of the § 48C(e)(e) program (Round 2).

**15. Under the new energy-intensive material category, some materials are listed like cement, steel, and aluminum. Is it limited to the explicitly listed materials or are those just examples of energy-intensive materials and so manufacturers of other materials are encouraged to prepare concept papers?**

Examples of energy-intensive materials that have a substantially lower carbon intensity when compared to an appropriate industry-specific benchmark are described in Appendix A of IRS Notice 2024-36. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, projects that expand, re-equip, or establish facilities for manufacturing or recycling of low carbon cement, concrete or components such as supplementary cementitious materials, low carbon iron and steel, low carbon aluminum, low carbon chemicals, low carbon pulp or paper, and low carbon glass.

**16. If a project might qualify under more than one category, must the applicant choose one or is DOE guidance available prior to submission?**

The applicant will be most familiar with the nature of its project, and it is the applicant's responsibility to determine the most applicable qualifying advanced energy project category, according to the guidance in Section 2.8.2, *Determining an Application's Project Category*, and apply to only one category. For all three project categories, eligible applications will be evaluated by DOE against the four technical review criteria reflecting overall program objectives.

**17. What is deadline for Round 2 application submittal?**

Below are the key dates for Round 2 of the 48C(e) Program:

| <b>Milestone</b>  | <b>Date</b>  |
|---|--|
| Round 2 guidance issued   | 4/29/2024  |
| Informational webinar   | 5/16/2024  |
| DOE 48C(e) Portal opens for registration and concept paper submission | 5/22/2024  |
| Concept paper submission deadline                                     | 6/21/2024 by 5pm EDT   |
| 48C(e) Portal opens for full application submission                   | Summer 2024  |
| Full application submission deadline                                  | Fall 2024; 50 calendar days after the 48C(e) Portal opens to accept full application submissions |

|                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| IRS allocation decision notifications | No later than 01/15/2025 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|

Updates to all submission deadlines will be posted on [Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit \(48C\(e\)\) Program | Department of Energy](#) and on [48C\(e\) portal](#).

**18. What is the definition of a 48C(e) energy com**

**19.**

**20. munity? How close to an energy community do you need to be to qualify?**

A project does not have to be in or close to an Energy Community to be eligible to receive 48C(e) allocation. However, the statute requires that at least 40% of 48C(e) allocations are awarded to projects in 48C(e) energy communities.

The term “§ 48C(e)(e) Energy Communities Census Tracts” is defined in section 5.06 of Notice 2023-18, and such tracts are listed in Appendix C of IRS Notice 2024- 36. Section 48C(e)(e) Energy Communities Census Tracts are census tracts in which (1) no pre-IRA 48C(e) projects were located and (2) a coal mine has closed after December 31, 1999, or a coal-fired electric generating unit has been retired after December 31, 2009, or (3) which is directly adjoining to any of these census tracts. A taxpayer can determine whether its project is located within a § 48C(e)(e) Energy Communities Census Tract by referring to the list of Section 48C(e)(e) Energy Communities Census Tracts provided in IRS Notice 2024-36 Appendix C. Additionally, a map of § 48C(e)(e) Energy Communities Census Tracts has been provided by the DOE for general guidance, which is available at [www.energy.gov/infrastructure/48C\(e\)](http://www.energy.gov/infrastructure/48C(e)); please note, however, that the list provided in IRS Notice 2024-36 Appendix C controls in the event of any conflict between it and the map DOE has provided.

A § 48C(e) Facility is determined to be located in a § 48C(e)(e) Energy Community Census Tract at the time that DOE provides recommendations to the IRS. A § 48C(e) Facility is treated as located within a § 48C(e)(e) Energy Community Census Tract if the § 48C(e) Facility satisfies the Footprint Test as provided in section 6.03 of Notice 2023-44.

**21. Is it a requirement to use your concept paper template, or is that optional (so that we can use our format)?**

Applicants are not required to use the concept paper templates, but DOE recommends that applicants use them. To be considered for an allocation of § 48C(e) credits in Round 2, taxpayers must submit concept papers through the Qualified Advanced Energy Project Credit Program Applicant Portal (48C(e) Portal), accessible at [https://eco.energy.gov/48C\(e\)](https://eco.energy.gov/48C(e)). The entire concept paper submission includes two components: a template (there are unique forms for Clean Energy Manufacturing, Recycling Projects/Critical Materials Projects, and Industrial Decarbonization Projects) and a data sheet.

**22. For our work with clients on “Energy-as-a-service” industrial solution offerings, in the context of the industrial decarbonization category, can we submit a concept paper, or must the project be submitted by the current asset owner?**

The registration process for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C(e)) Program requires that an individual create and submit applications on behalf of an organization (applicant) that owns, or will own, the property for which the tax credit will be claimed. To be eligible to register and submit an application for an organization, the individual must have

authority to act on behalf of and legally bind the organization that owns, or will own, the relevant property. The individual will be required to attest that they have authority to legally bind the organization. Additionally, this individual will be responsible for signing attestations for the organization, within the application, and will receive all communications for the organization. See question 8 of FAQs posted on June 10, 2024.

**23. Would the refurbishment or fuel switching from coal to gas power generation in a facility located within a coal community qualify as an industrial decarbonization project?**

Fuel switching from coal to traditional gas power would not be eligible under the Industrial Decarbonization Project category. However, adoption of renewable or low-emissions fuels and feedstocks is eligible under this project category. Please see IRS Notice 2024-36, Appendix A 1.2 for more information about qualifying Industrial Decarbonization Projects.

**24. If we have two distinct projects in two separate categories but happening at the same project site, are we allowed to submit two applications?**

Yes, applicants may submit multiple applications for different project categories even if they occur at the same project site.

**25. Are Round 2 priority areas for Clean Energy projects medium and heavy-duty electric vehicle/EV components as opposed to light vehicle EVs (passenger cars)?**

The following are the EV program priorities for Round 2 which include components for both light, medium, and heavy-duty EVs: Manufacturing of power electronics (including semiconductors, modules, and circuits for EV motor traction drives, on-board EV chargers, DC/DC converters, and EV charging stations), permanent magnets, and specific battery components (separators, electrolyte salts and solvents, cathode and anode active materials and precursors). Manufacturing of capital equipment for battery manufacturing. Manufacturing of sub-components and components specific to medium- and/or heavy-duty (MDV/HDV) electric vehicles and final assembly of MDV/HDV electric vehicles

**26. If we are assessing two different locations for the project, and one is a 48C(e) energy community and the other is not, how do we complete that section of the application?**

In the concept paper stage, applicants may indicate that they are still determining the project site and are recommended to share a discussion of this in their submission. Applicants must have a determined project site by the time of the full application.

**27. Is there a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) in mind for defining commercial viability?**

Technical merit review criteria do not reference technology readiness level as it relates to a project's commercial viability. Applicants should tailor their application to demonstrate how the project meets the commercial viability technical merit review sub-criteria.

**28. Is there a way to know the minimum and maximum allocation expected?**

In Round 2, the minimum and maximum allocation will depend on the size of the projects requesting a tax credit. In Round 1, applicants requested tax credits ranging from under \$1 million to over \$100 million. 48C(e) While the issued guidance does not specify a minimum or maximum allocation amount, DOE is unlikely to recommend to the IRS projects with a very large qualified investment. Applicants with very large projects may consider reducing the proposed

qualified investment in their § 48C(e)(e) application to improve their chances of receiving a § 48C(e) allocation.

**29. In round 1, facilities that produce low carbon chemicals were not eligible for 48C(e). With the changes in round 2, are facilities that produce low carbon chemicals now eligible?**

Yes, low carbon chemicals are eligible so long as the proposed project reduces carbon intensity on a life cycle basis by at least 30% compared to an appropriate industry-specific benchmark.

**30. For the fourth technical review criterion “Workforce and Community Engagement”, if the number of jobs created is the same for 2 projects, and one project is prevailing wage and one project is not prevailing wage, will they be scored the same on this criterion?**

Projects will be evaluated based on the technical merit review criteria described in Section 2.7 of Appendix B, Notice 2024-36, which includes job quality. Please refer to Section 2.7.1.4 for details on how Criterion 4, Workforce and Community Engagement will be evaluated.

**31. Is there an environmental authorization component to my application?**

A project is eligible for certification only if the taxpayer has received all permits from federal, state, tribal, and local governmental bodies for construction of the project at the planned location, including environmental authorization or reviews necessary to commence. See IRS Notice 2023-18(7).02.

**32. Are projects in located within U.S Territories eligible to apply for the 48C(e) Program?**

Yes, projects located within U.S. Territories are eligible to apply for the 48C(e) Program.

**Posted on April 29, 2024**

**1. Do the Concept Paper and Concept Paper Workforce and Community Engagement Plan each require a title page? Does the title page count toward the maximum page count?**

The Concept Paper submission has been consolidated into a single document, and a template has been provided. Completing the template is all that is required. A separate title page is not required.

**2. A project submitted for the 48(c) program has been recommended for allocation. Are there steps needed at this time to “accept” the allocation?**

No further action is needed by the allocated applicant at this stage.

**3. What is the required documentation for certification?**

No further action is needed by the allocated applicant at this stage. IRS Notification letter included details on next steps on certification. Look for guidance on what documents that are required for certification soon.

**4. Will there be a list of § 48C(e) Round 1 projects published publicly?**

After a 48C allocation recipient meets the steps required for certification, the IRS is required by statute to publish the name of the taxpayer and the amount of the allocation. Prior to this, your organization may voluntarily choose to share information about your allocation that can be included in upcoming public announcements made by the Department of Energy and/or U.S. Executive Office of the President. Applicants who received an allocation can review the form on



the 48C Portal titled, “Optional 48C Announcement Participation Instructions and Attachment” for more information.

**5. What are the implications of a change of location of the project after the concept paper phase but before the application phase?**

Changes in site address from the concept paper to the application stage are allowed. Please refer to § 8 of IRS Notice 2023-44.

**6. Are applicants who were recommended for allocation allowed to change the planned location listed on the application for the facility?**

As mentioned in IRS Notice 2023 -18, if it is determined that the project has been placed in service at a location that is materially different than the location specified in the § 48C(e) application for such project, the certification is no longer valid. More specifically, Notice 2023-18, Sec. 8.01 states: “Moving the project to a census tract different than the tract stated in the concept paper and § 48C(e) application is a significant change.” This will result in a forfeiture of the § 48C credit allocation. Please refer to section 8 of IRS Notice 2024-36-for additional details.

**7. My application was rejected but was encouraged in the Concept Paper phase.**

As mentioned in IRS Notice 2023 -18, upon request, the DOE will offer a debriefing once the application period ends. Requests for a debriefing must be received by the DOE no later than 30 business days from the date of IRS notification letter. The sole purpose of the debrief is to provide DOE's impression of the strengths and weaknesses of the § 48C(e) application should applicants apply for future rounds of the § 48C(e) program or § 48C credit allocation programs. Applicants who qualify for a debriefing will be provided with a written response upon request.

**8. My application was rejected, and I was discouraged in the Concept Paper phase.**

As mentioned in IRS Notice 2023 -18, upon request, the DOE will offer a debriefing once the application period ends. Requests for a debriefing must be received by the DOE no later than 30 business days from the date of IRS notification letter. The sole purpose of the debrief is to provide DOE's impression of the strengths and weaknesses of the § 48C(e) application should applicants apply for future rounds of the § 48C(e) program or § 48C credit allocation programs. Applicants who qualify for a debriefing will be provided with a written response upon request.

**9. What is the debriefing process?**

As mentioned in IRS Notice 2023 -18, upon request, the DOE will offer a debriefing once the application period ends. Requests for a debriefing must be received by the DOE no later than 30 business days from the date of IRS notification letter. The sole purpose of the debrief is to provide DOE's impression of the strengths and weaknesses of the § 48C(e) application should applicants apply for future rounds of the § 48C(e) program or § 48C credit allocation programs. Applicants who qualify for a debriefing will be provided with a written response upon request.

**10. Can updated or additional documentation be provided after my concept paper or application has been submitted and the submission period has ended?**

No additional documents can be submitted after the submission period has concluded. However, DOE may request that applicants submit clarifications and/or supplemental information in writing.

**11. Will reviewers ask applicants additional questions or request additional information?**

DOE may request that applicants submit clarifications and/or supplemental information in writing. Individual reviewers will not contact applicants.

**12. For the requirement of “A Professional Engineer must inspect and certify the project documents for feasibility,” must that engineer be a professional Engineer licensed in the United States or will a professional licensed Engineer with only Canadian credentials be adequate?**

Canadian credentials equivalent to U.S. credentials are acceptable.

**13. Some of the requirements seem geared for commercial companies; are precommercial companies eligible to participate in the DOE 48C program? For instance, will letters of intent suffice to show the interest instead of an offtake agreement?**

Any applicant proposing an eligible project under 48C can submit an application.

**14. Will letters of intent suffice to show the interest instead of an offtake agreement?**

Letters of intent can be submitted as appendix materials if an offtake agreement has yet to be acquired. Note as part of the application process, a Business Entity Certification submission is required. See IRS Notice 2024-36, Appendix B.

**15. What does Equity Commitments mean?**

An example of an equity commitment could be, but not limited to, a letter that documents the commitment to contribute financial support.

**16. What does Debt Commitments mean?**

An example of a debt commitment could be a written agreement that outlines the conditions for one entity (the provider) to lend money to another entity (the recipient).

**17. What is required for the Shareholders agreement?**

An example of a shareholder agreement could be an agreement that details the operational guidelines for the company and delineates the rights and responsibilities of each shareholder.

**18. For the Operations and Maintenance agreement, Is this with the Construction Engineering firm or the Companies internal CBA union agreement?**

An example of an Operations and Maintenance Agreement could be a contract between the applicant and an entity to manage the operations and maintenance of the project.

**19. Does DOE require evidence of the corporate health of the entity that owns and operates the existing manufacturing facility who would be the offtaker for the special purpose entity?**

Offtake agreements and other documents provided as evidence may be included as appendix materials. DOE does not explicitly require evidence of corporate health of the offtaker entity.

**20. As an applicant, do I have to acknowledge receiving my encourage/discourage notification that I will be moving forward with an application?**

No acknowledgment is required. The <https://eco.energy.gov/48C/s/> portal will accept applications from any applicant that submitted a concept paper.

**21. Are the examples listed under the clean energy manufacturing and recycling project category in § 48C IRS Notice 2024-36 comprehensive?**

Appendix A of IRS Notice 2024-36 lists property eligible under the clean energy manufacturing or recycling project category. The examples provided are non-exhaustive and property may be determined to be designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions either through published guidance or in the letter notifying an applicant that the IRS has accepted the applicant's application for § 48C(e) certification with respect to the property.

**22. In the project overview it asks to describe your baseline emissions compared to peers in your industry. How do you define a peer and where does one find peer emissions data?**

A peer is a competitor within your industry who produces the same product and ideally has a similar industrial or manufacturing capacity. Peer data can be found through EPA's [Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program](#) and public emissions disclosures, among other sources.

**23. Is it necessary for an organization to register on Sam.Gov for either "All Awards" or "Financial Assistance Awards Only" to apply for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (§ 48C)?**

No, an organization will need to register for an account in the 48C ECO Portal. Credentials for the 48C ECO Portal are created and managed via ID.me.

**24. Is there any advantage to submitting a § 48C Concept Paper earlier than the deadline, or will DOE begin reviewing all applications after the deadline?**

There is no advantage to submitting a concept paper before the deadline. DOE will begin reviewing all applications after the deadline.

**25. Will the industrial projects qualify for the credits by meeting only 1 of the "three project types", or does it have to be a clean energy manufacturing facility?**

Only one of the following project types must be met: (1) Clean energy manufacturing or recycling (2) Industrial decarbonization (GHG emissions reduction), or (3) Critical materials processing, refining, and recycling.

**26. Under the Industrial Decarbonization category of § 48C: Can you confirm that wastewater treatment facilities qualify as an industrial facility given their processing and recycling of raw water into releasable effluent, as well as energy producing solids?**

Yes, wastewater and drinking water treatment facilities would qualify as an industrial facility.

**27. What tool should applicants use to determine their Technology Readiness Level in the datasheet?**

The descriptions provided in the TRL drop-down menu are provided for the applicants' clarity. Applicants may use the Commercial Adoption Readiness Assessment Tool (CARAT) linked in the instructions to calculate their appropriate level. While Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and Adoption Readiness Level (ARL) are distinct, we use the terms interchangeably in the data sheet.

Please reference <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2019/04/f62/Appendix%20F%20-%20TRL%20Guide.pdf>

**28. Will § 48C concept papers that do not address Round 2 priorities be considered for Round 2 tax credit allocation or should organizations wait for future funding priorities?**

All applicants that meet the eligibility criteria will be considered for Round 2 tax credit allocation. The indicated priorities for Round 2 signal priority for one of four technical review criteria, and they are not inclusive of all eligible properties.

**29. Are expansions eligible for the industrial decarbonization projects?**

No, only projects that re-equip an existing facility are eligible under the Industrial Decarbonization project category. Expansion projects are eligible under the Clean Energy Manufacturing and Recycling or Critical Material Project categories.

**30. If we include an early-stage capital cost estimate in the concept paper, are we allowed to update that number in the full application as we progress through different engineering stages of our project?**

Yes, current capital cost estimates can be updated in the full application. Please provide the current cost estimate in the concept paper.

**31. In completing the data sheet for a § 48C(e) concept paper, can we include additional tabs for each component that is produced at the facility where more than one original equipment manufacturer (OEM) parts are being manufactured?**

Please fill in one tab as generally as possible and clarify the OEM parts being manufactured in the narrative of the concept paper (clearly describing parts, end uses, relative volume, etc.). We acknowledge there will be nuances that are hard to capture in the data sheet and intend to consider the data sheet with the context of the narrative. Do NOT add tabs, rows, or columns to the data sheet, as this will interfere with concept paper evaluation.

**32. For the Industrial Decarbonization Projects category, how do renewable energy credits (RECs) factor into Scope 2 emissions? If RECs are already being purchased to offset electricity footprint, how does those RECs factor into the calculation of the 20% threshold?**

RECs may not factor into the baseline or future Scope 2 emissions or the emissions reduction calculation, as they cannot constitute a facility-level emissions reduction driven by the retrofit. Scope 2 emissions should be associated with the facility's direct electricity and fuel use. However, while they are not directly used in the calculation of the Scope 2 baseline or emissions reduction for the purposes of § 48C, applicants are welcome to share their RECs in the narrative. As with other efforts to reduce the facility's environmental impact, RECs may be considered in the overall evaluation of the project's merits.

**33. On the data input sheet and concept paper, does the term "cost" actually mean the MSRP of the product?**

The guidance provides information on cost metrics (i.e., \$/W, \$/Unit, and efficiency) as well as higher-level metrics such as LCOE. Applicants are welcome to clarify whether this is the sales price or the production cost when explaining their technological or cost advantage over competitors. We recognize that cost comparisons are not always publicly available, so applicants should do their best to compare their products to peers wherever possible. Applicants can mark their applications for confidentiality to protect proprietary information.

**34. When it comes to achieving greenhouse gas emission reductions in a manufacturing facility, can the reductions come from retrofits or reequipment of areas in the facility not directly related to the manufacturing activities?**

There is no requirement that the property necessary for re-equipping an industrial or manufacturing facility be directly related to the manufacturing activities of such facility. The equipment, however, must be designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% through the installation of (1) low- or zero-carbon process heat systems, (2) carbon capture, transport, utilization and storage systems, (3) energy efficiency and reduction in waste from industrial processes, or (4) any other industrial technology designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as determined by the Secretary. Please refer to Appendix A, section 1.2 of IRS Notice 2024-36 for more information.

**35. What is the earliest date eligible property could be placed in service and still qualify for a § 48C credit allocation?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**36. Can costs be incurred before the allocation award date, as long as eligible property is not put into service before the award date?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**37. Can an organization submit one application for multiple eligible projects? Or would they have to submit one application per project?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**38. How can I determine if my project is located in a § 48C(e) Energy Community Census Tract?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**39. Is there a limit or maximum credit on the § 48C credit per project/company?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**40. Does "Industrial Decarbonization Project" only apply to existing facilities?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**41. Could an applicant receive an allocation of § 48C credits if it has also been the recipient of a grant/loan under other DOE manufacturing – related funding opportunities?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**42. What costs qualify as investments? Is it anything that goes into developing a property for these uses? What about "soft costs" such as design or development costs?**

Please refer to [Frequently asked questions about the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project \(48C\) Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#) for the answer.

**43. Is there a procedure for withdrawing a Concept Paper or application once either has been submitted? Is there any penalty for withdrawing a § 48C Concept Paper or application once either has been submitted?**

Yes, if the taxpayer chooses to withdraw a submission at any phase of the program, the taxpayer must provide a formal withdrawal notification through the 48C ECO portal.

**44. Will taxpayers that fail to receive an allocation in round 1 be eligible to apply again during round 2?**

Yes, failing to receive an allocation in round 1 does not preclude an applicant from applying again in round 2.

**45. If a company is establishing a US entity for the purposes of § 48C, but that US entity is not set up by concept paper deadline, may a non-US entity submit the concept paper, so long as the US entity is formed to submit the § 48C(e) application and operate the project?**

Yes, a non-US entity may submit a concept paper as long as the US entity is formed to submit the full application and operate the project. Please be advised that the 48C ECO Portal may not be accessible through certain non-domestic (US-based) IP addresses.

**46. Why is there is a discrepancy between the amount listed in the IRS allocation notification and the Requested Credit Amount"?**

IRS considers the information provided in the datasheet as the official request for tax credits when there is discrepancy in the tax credit request in the datasheet and application narrative. It is the applicant's responsibility to upload correct data sheets and information, as well as verify that the information submitted is correct.