

INNOVATIVE CLEAN ENERGY (ICE) FUND

2026 Targeted Call for Clean Energy Innovation

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Submission Deadline: June 15, 2026 at 4:00 PM PT

FAQ Last Updated: May 6, 2026

Application Documents are published on the ICE Fund Website

Questions: icefund@gov.bc.ca

Successful candidates will be offered funding by November 30, 2026



Ministry of
Energy and
Climate Solutions

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

1) How is this call different than the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund Open Call for Innovation and Partnerships?

The Targeted Call for Clean Energy Innovation identifies specific focus areas and seeks to address near-term provincial clean energy priorities and emission reductions as a result of technology deployment.

The Open Call for Innovation and Partnership is open for continuous intake, with a different program guide and application documents, so please review to ensure you are applying to the correct funding call.

2) What technology readiness level is required for the project technology?

The technology readiness level (TRL) must start from TRL 4 (lab validation) up to 9 (fully operational), including first-of-kind commercial deployment in BC. TRL 9 projects have additional eligibility considerations and applicants are advised to carefully read the Targeted Call Program Guide, including “Ineligible Project Types” on page 7.

TRL can be found here: [Technology Readiness Level \(TRL\) Definitions](#).

3) What can be included in First-Of-Kind?

For this call, First-Of-Kind refers to first commercial deployment in BC, but projects which deploy new commercial technologies in novel applications or sectors may be considered.

Commercial technology projects that are “First-Of-Kind” in BC (i.e., never deployed in BC or project deployment will be in a novel, impactful and scalable application) are eligible. Commercial “First-Of-Kind” projects does not include manufacturing or licensing international technology. Applicants with “First-of-Kind” projects are encouraged to contact the icefund@gov.bc.ca prior to applying to confirm eligibility.

4) Is there a strict definition for non-commercially available technology, and would custom-engineered solutions and applications based on known equipment be eligible?

There isn't a strict definition for non-commercially available technology within this context. The emphasis is on developing technologies that are replicable, scalable, and impactful.

Custom-engineered solutions can be eligible if they are truly innovative, easily replicable, and contribute to making electricity use efficient, reliable, and cost-effective. However, if the solution mainly involves combining commercially available technologies on a project-by-project basis, the innovation strength and scalability would not score as well under the criteria “Strength and Innovation of the Clean Energy Technology”. Applicants should also review Technology Development/Commercialization eligibility on page 7 of the Program Guide.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

5) Are clean energy technologies that are targeting international markets a good fit for this call?

Potentially, but application of the technology in BC is important for this call. Projects that develop clean energy technologies need to have a direct and strong application in the Province of BC.

6) Does the technology need to be deployed in British Columbia to be eligible for this call?

Yes, one of the main goals of this call is to deploy technology that supports broader provincial goals that make electricity use efficient, reliable and cost-effective. Therefore, there must be a planned deployment of the technology within BC.

While technologies developed may have applications outside BC, the technology must have a significant expected impact in BC by 2030 to be considered a good candidate. International adoption and impact are positive, but the connection to BC is crucial for this call. Technologies that have limited deployment and energy impact potential within BC will not be successful.

7) Are applications outside the priority themes considered?

Potentially. While projects outside the priority themes remain eligible, they are likely to be screened out if sufficient high-quality applications are received within the preferred areas.

8) How much funding is available under this call in 2026 and over the three-year call term?

\$12.3 million (M) has been committed to this call over a three-year period and approximately \$4M of the funding is anticipated to be committed in 2026.

9) What is the potential funding amount?

The anticipated funding amount for each successful project recipient is expected to be between \$500,000 and \$1.5M. Applications requesting funding outside of this range are not preferred but will be accepted and reviewed.

10) How many projects do you plan to fund given the available budget?

The number of projects funded will depend on the number and type of applications received and the total amount of funding available.

With \$4M allocated for this call and considering project amounts ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.5M, the estimated range could be 3 to 8 projects. This is an approximate figure, and the final number will be determined based on the specifics of the applications received.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

11) What is the funding profile for this program and stacking limits?

- Non-dilutive grant funding.

At the time of application and through the term of the project, government funding must not exceed 75% of eligible project costs. The applicant and its consortium partners must contribute a minimum of 25% of eligible project costs.

12) What is defined as “government funding”?

Government funding is defined as funding from a federal, provincial or local government. This includes funding directly from government agencies and from Crown corporations. Government funding does not include funding provided by non-profit organizations.

13) Will the ICE Fund cover 75% of the project, or is there a maximum percentage it will fund?

The maximum percentage for all government funding is 75%, and the ICE Fund could potentially cover up to that amount. Projects requesting the highest percentage of funding must demonstrate a strong rationale, a clear need for funding, and that they have exhausted other sources of funding. Therefore, while it's possible for the ICE Fund to cover up to 75%, it is more likely that the funding amount will be less than that. Accordingly, applicants are encouraged to closely review the criteria for the call which includes: “the applicant’s need for funding as well as the availability of other funding sources to fund the project.”

14) Is a consortium required for the project?

No, a consortium is not a requirement for the project, but strong consortium partners will significantly strengthen applications. Partnerships can be valuable as they can bring additional skills and help de-risk the project through technology validation and market adoption. Having partners involved, especially those who can assist with commercialization or market adoption, can demonstrate market demand and strategic interest.

15) How can a second-tier supplier developing components for green technology demonstrate eligibility for the deployment guidelines, if the deployment happens with other companies acting as OEMs?

The requirements for all technology projects are the same: we need to understand the reasonable approach for how the technology will be developed and deployed. The company developing the technology doesn't have to be the one commercializing or deploying it directly. They may license the technology to another company, such as an original equipment manufacturer (OEM). To demonstrate eligibility, you need to clearly outline the commercialization pathway and provide evidence that it is realistic and possible. This includes showing partnerships, consortia, or connections to an OEM. Evidence such as letters of support or established demand can help us understand how the technology will be adopted and commercialized. The key is to demonstrate a clear and feasible plan for commercialization and deployment.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

16) Is it a hard deadline for the project to begin by the start date and be completed within two years?

The expectation is for the project to start before the end of this calendar year (December 31, 2026) and to be completed within two years. The terms of the financial support will be discussed with the applicant during the contracting stage and will be milestone-based. This will depend on the project milestones and the Province's funding available for the project in a fiscal year.

While the general guideline is a two-year completion timeline, each project will be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure reasonable support for technology development. If you have concerns about the feasibility of these timelines for your project, please email icefund@gov.bc.ca.

17) Can organizations have more than one application or project with the ICE Fund?

Yes, applications are project based rather than organization based. If your organization has previously received funding, you remain eligible to submit a new application. New applications from the same organization must clearly demonstrate they are different than the original project. There is a preference for applicants that have not received funding from the ICE Fund previously.

18) Are applicants who have received past ministry funding eligible to apply?

Yes, applicants who have received past ministry funding are eligible to apply if they are working on new projects that are distinct from their previously funded projects. However, there is a preference for applicants that have not received funding from the ICE Fund previously. If you have specific questions about your eligibility, you can send an email to icefund@gov.bc.ca for clarification.

19) Are detailed greenhouse gas (GHG) emission calculations required at the application stage?

No, detailed GHG emission calculations are not required at the application stage. At this stage, the focus is on understanding the GHG reduction potential of the project and ensuring that applicants have reasonable methods to determine the expected GHG reductions. Detailed calculations will be required in the detailed proposal stage, should an application be successful moving to that stage.

20) Would a project selling power to BC Hydro and off-grid rural and remote communities be acceptable?

Projects selling power to BC Hydro and off-grid rural and remote communities are potentially acceptable. However, projects using commercially available technology that is already deployed might not be eligible unless the technology is incredibly novel, first-of-its-kind in BC, or different from what is currently available. Applicants need to clearly explain the need for funding and show that they are not better suited to apply to other programs that provide funding support for clean energy in rural and remote communities. This program aims to support innovative technologies and solutions that aren't already in place. The focus is on providing funding for gaps not covered by existing programs and complementing them where necessary.



Canal Flats, BC

CONTACT INFORMATION

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