

Request for Interest

The National Consortium for the Advancement of LDES Technologies Industry Transition

Process Timeline (Expected dates, subject to change)	
RFI Issue Date	By April 3, 2026
Submission Deadline for Full Proposals	May 15, 2026, 5PM PT
Interviews	Early June, 2026
Expected Date for Selection Notification	Late June, 2026
Public Announcement of Selection	July 14, 2026, at the Annual Workshop in Utah
Transition Completed	September 30, 2026

Questions, comments, and proposal submission to Kailey Fascitelli (kwulfer@sandia.gov).

Purpose

Sandia National Laboratories¹ (Sandia), on behalf of the National Consortium for the Advancement of Long Duration Energy Storage Technologies (LDES National Consortium) project, is issuing this Request for Interest (RFI) to **solicit proposals from an interested organization or body of organizations to assume ownership of the LDES National Consortium**. The LDES National Consortium resulted from a proposal submitted in June 2023 in response to a national laboratory call for proposals issued by the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) (formerly the Office of Technology Transitions). The LDES National Consortium was a three-year project funded via the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Technology Commercialization Fund. The LDES National Consortium is the exclusive forum through which stakeholders across the LDES ecosystem have convened to identify barriers, determine potential synergies, and collaboratively develop and implement strategies necessary to achieve LDES technology commercialization within the next decade.

No funding is available to support the organization or team selected for new leadership of the LDES National Consortium.

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¹ Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

Background

Long-duration energy storage (LDES) technologies can play a pivotal role in achieving US energy goals: supporting energy abundance; strengthening grid security and resilience; reducing energy costs for American families and businesses; and demonstrating our nation's leadership in scientific and technological innovation. The opportunities to contribute to US energy dominance are abundant, largely since LDES is a broad technology class with the potential to enable a range of system types, including electrochemical, mechanical, chemical, and thermal energy storage technologies. This range of technologies presents enormous potential benefits as it is highly likely that the future energy needs of the US will require a range of technologies with varying performance characteristics that can serve different applications for different end-users. However, despite a broad realization of the growing need for LDES technologies over the next decade, multiple challenges could impede a smooth pathway toward widespread commercialization and deployment if they are not adequately addressed.

The LDES National Consortium provides a forum through which stakeholders across the LDES ecosystem can convene to identify barriers, determine potential synergies, and collaboratively develop and implement strategies necessary to achieve LDES technology commercialization within the next decade.

The LDES National Consortium has a clear focus on developing commercialization strategies for a full range of various LDES technologies. Collectively, these strategies will enable stakeholders to introduce a greater number of LDES technologies, products, and applications to a wider range of markets, faster than has previously been possible.

All LDES technologies have been within the scope of the Consortium, but a particular focus has been given to those technologies deemed to have a reasonable pathway to commercialization in the short- and medium-term (i.e., within five to ten years). While there are various types of LDES technologies that have typically been associated with established energy storage categories—mechanical, thermal, electrochemical, and chemical—candidate LDES technologies that have emerged include advanced (non-lithium) batteries (including flow, lead-acid, sodium, and zinc batteries); compressed air; thermal energy storage (including molten salt, solid media, pumped, and bidirectional electricity); gravitational energy storage, and variations on pumped hydro storage. However, development of new technologies remains fluid and thus a continual update of LDES technologies that need to be evaluated is critically important.

Please review the full information about the LDES National Consortium:

<https://ldesconsortium.sandia.gov/>

Current State of LDES National Consortium Organization and Leadership

Leadership Team

The National Consortium for the Advancement of LDES Technologies was formed by Sandia National Laboratories (Sandia) and its five National Laboratory partners (Argonne National Laboratory (ANL), Idaho National Laboratory (INL), National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)) in October 2023.

The LDES National Consortium Leadership Team, comprising 14 individuals, has had responsibility for leading this effort. The Leadership Team meets bi-weekly, as needed, hosted by Sandia National Laboratories. The 14 individuals were comprised of:

- 6 National Laboratory Partner representatives.
- 7 Leadership positions were nominated from the Teaming Partner population for one-year tenures, of which two positions have been designated for small businesses (one <500 employees, and one <150 employees).
- Advisory role for the LDES National Consortium - Business Development Partner.

View the current leadership team members here: <https://ldesconsortium.sandia.gov/leadership/>.

Teaming Partners

Any organization that has a stakeholder interest in the commercialization of LDES technologies in the US and meets eligibility requirements has been welcome to join the LDES National Consortium as a “Teaming Partner.” The focus of the LDES National Consortium is aligned with DOE and the focus has been on the commercialization of LDES technologies in US markets.

There are currently over 200 Teaming Partners. Teaming Partners who have selected to make affiliation public are available on the website: <https://ldesconsortium.sandia.gov/our-network/>.

The current charter can be viewed on our website: <https://ldesconsortium.sandia.gov/relevant-documents/>.

Key Considerations

Eligibility

Entities applying must be a current member of the LDES National Consortium **and/or** have a stakeholder interest in long duration energy storage technologies. The entity must be incorporated in and maintain a primary place of business in the United States with majority domestic ownership and control.

Respondents may be single organizations or multiple organizations acting as a team. We would discourage respondents from applying if they are looking to promote a single technology or company/brand.

Funding

No funding is available to support the organization or team selected for new leadership of the LDES National Consortium.

Privileged Information

Applicants should not include trade secrets, proprietary, or commercial / financial information that is privileged or confidential in their application.

Disclaimer on Selection

Please note that the issuance of this RFI does not guarantee that any proposals will be selected. Sandia National Laboratories reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received in response to this RFI. The decision will be based on the evaluation of proposals against the established criteria, and it is possible that no applicant will be selected if none meets the necessary requirements or expectations.

Information for a Successful Application

As you prepare your proposal, please consider the following comments/questions to guide your application development. These comments/questions are designed to help you articulate your vision, strategies, and plans for the Consortium effectively:

1. Vision and Objectives

- How do you envision the future of the LDES National Consortium under your leadership (5, 10, or 15 years from now)? What would bring the most value to the LDES ecosystem? The Consortium does not have to continue as established in its current operating form.
- What specific goals and objectives (near- and long-term) do you propose to advance the Consortium's mission and enhance its impact on the LDES ecosystem?
- How will the Consortium continue to enable the commercialization of LDES technologies?
- The Consortium currently operates under a technology-neutral framework, meaning that it will not favor any specific LDES technology over others. Would the new vision for the Consortium require limiting the participating technologies or shifting the technology focus?

2. Innovative Strategies

- What innovative ideas and strategies do you plan to implement to improve the effectiveness of the Consortium?
- How will you transition the Consortium into new areas or technologies that may enhance its relevance and reach?

3. Collaboration and Engagement

- How do you plan to foster collaboration among existing Consortium members, lab partners, other advocacy groups, and stakeholders?
- What communication protocols and decision-making processes will you establish to ensure effective engagement and participation?
- How do you plan to engage with the Department of Energy and other state/federal partners moving forward?
- We expect to transition the Consortium by September 2026. What do you think will make this process effective? Do you foresee any issues or risks with the transition process?

4. Membership Model

- What membership model do you propose for the Consortium? Will there be different levels of membership or fees? Will you charge a membership fee to the participants?
- How will you encourage participation from various organizations within the LDES ecosystem?
- What will be the organizational structure of the LDES National Consortium? How will leadership positions be determined?
- What type of organizations would you encourage to participate? Currently, we have allowed U.S. companies only due to the funding source. Going forward, would you envision that Consortium membership will be U.S. only or international?

5. Risk Management

- What potential risks do you foresee associated with the transition and ongoing operations of the Consortium?
- What strategies will you implement to mitigate these risks and ensure the sustainability of the Consortium?

6. Sustainability and Long-Term Success

- How do you plan to ensure the long-term success and sustainability of the LDES National Consortium? How will you measure success?
- What metrics or indicators will you use to measure the Consortium's progress and impact over time?
- How will you ensure long-term financial viability/sustainability?

Application Submission and Review Information

Application Process

We are soliciting proposals from any organization to assume ownership of the National Consortium for the Advancement of LDES Technologies. If your organization is interested in proposing, please review the following information and submit your proposal to Kailey Fascitelli (kwulfer@sandia.gov) by May 15, 2026, 5PM PT.

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must submit a written proposal by the above deadline. Finalists will be invited to participate in a clarification interview. Organizations are discouraged from submitting multiple proposals.

Proposal Instructions

Responses to this RFI must be submitted electronically and provided as attachments to an email. It is recommended that attachments with file sizes exceeding 25MB be compressed (i.e., zipped) to ensure message delivery. Only electronic responses will be accepted. A receipt email will be sent to acknowledge submission.

The proposal must be in the following format:

- Must be written in English.
- Maximum page limit of 8 pages.
- 1" margins, font no smaller than 12 pt Calibri.
- Must be submitted as an Adobe PDF document.

Proposal Content

SECTION/PAGE LIMIT	DESCRIPTION
Cover Page (1-page)	The cover page should include a brief introduction about the applicant’s organization and team members if applicable, including contact information and a summary of your interest in assuming ownership of the LDES National Consortium.
Applicant/Team Description (~1-Page)	The applicant / team description should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization type, size, and brief history. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If member-based, please summarize your membership details and current membership model. • Experience and involvement with the LDES ecosystem, including the LDES National Consortium. • Relevant qualifications of key personnel who will be involved in the Consortium.

LDES National Consortium Vision (~3-Pages)	The LDES National Consortium Vision should include a comprehensive outline of the applicant’s vision for the future of the LDES National Consortium, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative ideas and strategies to enhance the Consortium's effectiveness / impact and transition the Consortium into new areas. • Proposed goals and objectives for moving the Consortium’s mission forward. • A timeline that includes what high-level accomplishments and milestones will be reached in the first five years of your Consortium leadership. • Proposed organizational chart including lead roles, member types, and sub teams
Collaboration Plan (~2-Pages)	The Collaboration Plan should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of how the applicant plans to enhance collaboration within the LDES ecosystem. • How the Consortium will engage Lab Partners and/or DOE moving forward. • Communication protocols and decision-making processes. • What membership model will you use (i.e. levels, etc.) • Membership fees
Risk Management and Sustainability Plan (~1-Page)	The Risk Management and Sustainability Plan should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of potential risks associated with the transition and ongoing operations. • Strategies for mitigating risks. • Plans for ensuring the long-term success and sustainability of the Consortium.
Appendices (optional)	If needed references or other supporting documentation may be included as appendices.

Clarification Interview Instructions

After careful review of written proposals, finalists will be invited to participate in a clarification interview.

The purpose of this interview will be to provide an opportunity for the evaluation team to gain a deeper understanding of the proposals submitted and to clarify any questions or uncertainties regarding the content of the proposals.

Interview Format

- **Duration:** Each clarification interview will be scheduled for one hour.
- **Presentation:** The applicant will be required to deliver a 15-minute presentation summarizing their proposal, focusing on key aspects such as organization qualifications, vision for the LDES National Consortium, collaboration plan, and risk management strategies.
- **Q&A Session:** Following the presentation, there will be a question-and-answer session lasting up to 45 minutes, during which the evaluation team will ask questions to clarify details and gain further insights into the proposal.

Merit Review Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated considering their written proposal and interview performance, based on the merit review criteria below.

- **Criterion 1 (30%): Organization Qualifications**
 - Key personnel are highly qualified to transition and manage the Consortium.
 - The applicant has relevant experience and history of involvement in the LDES ecosystem.
- **Criterion 2 (30%): Innovative Ideas for the Future**
 - The applicant's proposed vision and goals for the future of the LDES National Consortium are comprehensive and transformative.
 - The applicant provides innovative strategies and approaches that will enhance the effectiveness and impact of the Consortium.
 - The actions and timeline provided show clear commitment for the Consortium to advance the LDES ecosystem.
- **Criterion 3 (20%): Collaboration and Engagement Strategies**
 - There are clear plans for collaboration with existing Lab Partners, Teaming Partners, and stakeholders in the LDES ecosystem.
 - The proposed communication and engagement plan will likely foster and increase participation and collaboration among Consortium members.
 - The applicant provides effective communication protocols and decision-making processes outlined in the collaboration plan.
- **Criterion 4 (20%): Sustainability**
 - The applicant proposes logical strategies for ensuring the sustainability and long-term success of the Consortium.
 - The applicant identifies potential risks associated with the transition and ongoing operations of the Consortium with mitigation options.

The review and selection will consist of a committee of personnel from the LDES National Consortium partner National Laboratories, along with guidance from the Department of Energy Office of Technology Commercialization.

Post-Selection Transition Conditions

The LDES National Consortium, under the funding of the Department of Energy, has created documents, tools, assets, etc. Under the transition from national laboratory ownership to an external stakeholder the following will occur:

- The transition of leadership will occur on the specified date, with the new leadership organization assuming all responsibilities and decision-making authority for the LDES National Consortium. This date will be determined post-selection.
- The new leadership will not receive any funding from Sandia National Laboratories or the Department of Energy. All operational costs and funding for activities will be the responsibility of the new leadership and consortium members.
- Existing members of the LDES National Consortium will have the option to reassess their participation. Members may choose to leave the LDES National Consortium if they determine that

the new direction or leadership does not align with their organizational goals or interests. Membership contacts that remain will be provided to the new organization.

- The name, logo, and relevant marketing materials will be provided. It is up to the new organization if these shall remain or change.
- The website contents will be reviewed and decided what resources would be beneficial if provided. It is up to the new organization to build and maintain a relevant web presence independently.
- Any reports or written documents prepared under the LDES National Consortium will be provided as a point of record.
- The LDES National Consortium, under the guidance of staff at Sandia National Laboratories, have developed tools under the name of, the Long Duration Energy Storage Evaluation & Tracking Tool. These tools will remain with Sandia National Laboratories for ownership, future iterations, and regular updates.
- If needed, current and future leadership will discuss ownership and transition of any other items.



Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525. SAND2026-192350