

Notice of Request for Proposals- Growth Dimensions Biomass Commercialization Award Program-December 1-December 31st

Growth Dimensions for Belvidere Boone County Inc., has developed the Biomass Commercialization Award Program to provide qualified clients with funds on a cost share basis to commercialize biomass or agricultural based materials into alternative industrial products. The U.S. Department of Energy is the source of funds for this award program; therefore projects must meet U.S. Department of Energy and Federal Acquisition Regulations.

Growth Dimensions will manage this program and make final decisions with respect to awards based on the following:

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants include private companies, must be in the process of commercializing biomass technology.

Required Cost Share: All awards made under this program must provide cost share on a cash or in-kind basis. For administrative and reporting purposes, all awards will be made in the form of subcontracts. The cost share must be of non-federal cash or in-kind contributions of at least \$1.60 for every \$1 in federal funds of the total project cost.

Location in Illinois: Firms applying for assistance under this program must be located in, or must have relocated to, and be primarily domiciled in to the Northern Illinois counties of Boone, DeKalb, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, and Winnebago, prior to the receipt of funds. Firms that leave this region during the period of the grant agreement will be responsible for repaying the grant in whole.

Rolling Submission of Applications: The Growth Dimensions Commercialization Award is offered through a competitive, merit based solicitation process. The award value is based on proposal detailed costs of project tasks and deliverables associated with commercialization activities. Due to the limited funding available, it is expected that awards to companies be limited to \$200,000 per award.

Review and Form of Recommendation: Growth Dimensions has developed a formal application procedure for this program that is consistent with U.S. Department of Energy and Federal Acquisition Regulations. Growth Dimensions will also require that all awards be subject to review and approval by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Growth Dimensions is required to review and select awards prior to submitting them to DOE for approval. Growth Dimensions will review proposals as submitted throughout the open period.

DOE approval process will take two different paths at projects that total over \$100,000.

Path One: Projects that are under 100,000 only require DOE to approve the EF1/NEPA review process.

Path Two: Projects that are over \$100,000 require DOE financial review and approval of submitted PF-20 and 424A (attached with application) documents in addition to NEPA review. It is hopeful that both reviews will occur simultaneously.

*Proposals will be due **no later than December 31, 2010***

Please contact Growth Dimensions for Application Information at:

Growth Dimensions office

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