P³Nano Request for Proposals to Advance Commercialization of Cellulosic Nanomaterial – May 2014

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (Endowment) and the USDA Forest Service’s (USFS) public private partnership (P³Nano) has approximately $3 million in funding available for collaborative research projects designed to advance the commercialization of cellulosic nanomaterial.

Proposal selection will be made by the P³Nano steering committee with initial review and recommendations made by its science advisory committee. The Endowment is requiring that a USFS Scientist be listed as a Co-PI on all submitted proposals. Budgets should not include funding for this scientist.

We would like to receive proposals by July 1, 2014 with awards made by August 15, 2014. Please submit proposals to Michael Goergen via email (michael@usendowment.org) by midnight East Coast time on July 1, 2014.

Proposals are limited to six pages using the outline that follows this RFP. Budget, investigator bios and references are not included in the five page limit. Although there is no specified dollar limit for each proposal, the Endowment is hoping to fund 8-10 proposals with anticipated budgets of $300,000 to $350,000 each. We will accept proposals from any individual, university, company, or research organization. Please clearly articulate how the proposed work will lead to rapid commercialization of cellulosic nanomaterial.

While we are open to a broad range of proposals we are interested in investigating:

- Environmental health and safety
- Cellulose nanomaterial dewatering
- New/novel composites containing cellulose nanomaterial
- Fundamental studies on cellulose surfaces focused on improving the interface between cellulose particles and typical composite resins
- Development of photonic and electronic enabled materials using cellulose nanomaterial
- Manufacturing cost analysis including +/- 30 capital cost estimate, mass and energy balance and cost sensitivity analysis for production of a cellulose nanomaterial
- Other new/novel applications of cellulose nanomaterial
Proposal Outline

1. Title
2. Principal Investigator(s)
3. Forest Service Collaborating Scientist(s)
4. Other Personnel:
5. Project Abstract:
6. Key Questions Being addressed
7. Background:
8. Scientific Approach
9. Expected Results (Deliverables)
10. Time Line & Milestones
11. Budget

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†Maximum indirect cost allowed by the Endowment is 15% on all noncapital/non-travel dollars

12. References
13. PI Bios