

2017 SOLAR DECATHLON CHINA COLLEGE TEAM COMPETITION



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IMPORTANT DATES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

STEP 1: LETTER OF INTENT

- Submission Period Begins: Friday January 1, 2016, Beijing Time
- Submission Period Ends: Monday February 29, 2016 5:00 PM, Beijing Time
- Informational Webinar: Friday Feb 26, 2016 10:00 AM Beijing Time:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/530586741>

STEP 2: FULL APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- Submission Period Ends: Monday April 18, 2016 5:00 PM Beijing Time
- Selections Announced: Friday April 29 2016 Beijing Time
- Informational Webinar: Friday March 18, 2016 10:00 AM Beijing Time:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/475383373>

STEP 3: TEAM ORIENTATION MEETING

- Teams Orientation: TBD July 2016 Beijing Time
- Teams Orientation: TBD January 2017 Beijing Time

INTRODUCTION

The Organizing Committee of Solar Decathlon China (OCSDC), executing the memorandum of understanding between National Energy Administration of China (NEA) and The Department of Energy (DOE) on Solar Decathlon China 2017, seeks applicants to its Solar Decathlon College Team Competition. This Competition will support the Chinese government's commitment to the sustainable urbanization within Chinese socio-economic context, to the development of environmental technology industries and transition into renewable energy, and to the public education of ecological living and ecological culture of a sustainable society. Meantime, OCSDC helps improving the nation's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education efforts, building a more knowledge-intensive workforce and incubating college students' practical creation and innovation.

One of China's most pressing and technically difficult scientific and engineering challenges is developing new and better technologies to supply clean and renewable energy. As the nation's demand for energy increases and the energy sector grows to meet these needs, China faces an impending shortage of the skilled workforce needed to support this sector. OCSDC is eager to create and support education and workforce development programs that are specific to applied energy, that are essential to China government's mission, and that advance energy technologies for the future. An educated and highly-trained workforce is imperative if it is to support today's low-carbon economy as it develops—and lead it to tomorrow. Finding solutions to these challenges is critical today and for China's future. For this reason, OCSDC supports developing and providing educational and technical training opportunities for students and for the workforce.

China is undergoing a rapid urbanization period. Millions of rural population need new homes in the cities. The market demands for creative and sustainable building solutions at different cost levels. We also want college teams to take this competition as an opportunity to find proper living solutions for one of the most populated countries, to educate the public of sustainable culture and to commercialize their works as real products.

Since its inception in 2000, the Solar Decathlon has been a high-profile DOE-branded education and workforce development program for university-level students. It culminates in a competition that is a public demonstration of integrated sustainable design technologies that promotes energy efficiency and increases awareness about residential energy use; fostering greater adoption of clean energy technologies. The competition demonstrates that an aesthetically beautiful and well-designed house can generate enough thermal and electrical energy to meet the needs of a single family household. At the last Solar Decathlon China competition in 2013, around 300,000 visitors have toured the houses to see student teams' use of integrated sustainable design technologies in action. More information about past Solar Decathlons is available at <http://www.solardecathlon.gov/>. More information about past Solar Decathlons is available at <http://www.sdchina.org>

The Solar Decathlon's wide audience includes collegiate student teams, the building industry, the sustainable and clean energy industries, real estate developers, homeowners, and general public consumers. The student teams pursue multidisciplinary approaches to meet OCSDC's requirements in designing, building, and operating energy-efficient, solar-powered houses. The program's technology showcase educates the attending public and industry professionals about the benefits, affordability, and availability of clean energy solutions, with research papers, media coverage, and digital outreach serving as tools to amplify this message.

STRUCTURE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND AWARDS

OCSDC is inviting up to 25 collegiate teams of creative designers and innovators to enter this competition. OCSDC intends to offer up to \$2,500,000 financial support and monetary prizes to teams that are selected to participate via this Notice, and that bring an eligible house to the Solar Decathlon China Competition. The teams also have the option to market their houses to local consumers and obtain monetary rewards upon the completion of the competition.

The prizes will be awarded to the lead organizational entities that submit applications to OCSDC under this competition and are selected by OCSDC to compete, and that complete a house for the Solar Decathlon. Recipients will receive a start-up funding of \$50,000, and will be eligible for prize money upon completion of the competition.

The Prize money is open to all collegiate teams in China and around the world, but the focus is on design solutions for China.

The structure of the Solar Decathlon China 2017 financial support and awards comprises of three categories: A, B, and C:

A. Startup Funding Provided by the OCSDC

Each team that is selected by OCSDC to compete in the Solar Decathlon China 2017 Competition will receive a \$50,000 financial support to complete the competition project.

B. Monetary Prize Based on the Place in the Solar Decathlon China Competition

<u>Place</u>	<u>Award</u>
1st	\$400,000
2nd	\$250,000
3rd	\$150,000
4th-5th	\$100,000
6th - 10th	\$50,000
11th - 25th	\$0
Total Category B	1,250,000

OCSDC provide a total of \$2,500,000 financial support and monetary prize in category A and B.

C. Compensation of Entries to be Retained for Long-term Demonstration

OCSDC will help the teams to transfer their entries to the local entity for long-term demonstration and get reasonable compensation.

POST-COMPETITION INCUBATION

By leveraging the Chinese market and government support, OCSDC is investigating a one-stop post-competition incubation program for all the participants of the Solar Decathlon China 2017 that includes talent recruitment, technology transfer, startup incubation and entry commercialization.

SUMMARY OF COMPETITION

This Competition seeks up to 25 collegiate teams to compete in the Solar Decathlon competition. The challenge to the teams competing in the Solar Decathlon is, within limited timeframe, to safely and effectively design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive. The winner of the competition is the team that best blends affordability, consumer appeal, and design excellence with optimal energy production and maximum efficiency.

Competition designs must be sustainable for one or more of the predominant climate zones in China. The six climate zones are based on temperature, precipitation, and heating and cooling degree-days. The six predominant zones are hot-humid, hot-dry, mixed-humid, mixed-dry, marine, and cold. More information can be found at:

http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/building_america/4_3a_ba_innov_building_science_climate_maps_011713.pdf.

The Solar Decathlon China comprises a workforce development and education program. The objective is to give student architects, engineers, business majors, and communicators the opportunity to gain hands-on experience designing and building sustainable housing projects. This valuable training will help more students enter the clean energy workforce. Therefore, teams are both allowed and encouraged to collaborate with industry. University leadership is encouraged to look to the private sector when forming a team. Conversely, private businesses and community leaders are encouraged to reach out to their nearest college or university to help form strong, capable teams.

A critical long-range goal of the Solar Decathlon project is developing and demonstrating cost-effective, highly energy efficient solar-powered homes. OCSDC is soliciting proposals from post-secondary educational institutions that not only address participation in the competition, but also include a description of how the design will help to achieve this critical outcome.

OCSDC intends to select up to 25 college and university teams that will participate in the Solar Decathlon China 2017 competition. The ability and plan to obtain sponsorships and team support are a part of the evaluation and selection criteria.

The Solar Decathlon China 2013 Rules document will be the basis for the 2017 China competition, though it will be revised prior to the 2017 event based on lessons learned and technology advancements at the Solar Decathlon 2015. Modifications and clarifications under consideration include:

1. The entries shall be built for permanent purpose;
2. Defining the type of designed residential projects to be Single-Family Detached House category;
3. Changing the maximum height of the built structure to 8.4 meters above grade, the first story

must be at least 0.3 meters above grade;

4. Defining the size of competition site to 25 meters by 25 meters (same as last competition);
5. Competition teams may build up to two stories with no basement construction;
6. Defining the minimum built area of the competing project to be 120 square meters; defining the maximum built area of the competing project to be 200 square meters;
7. Competition teams shall complete full furnishing of the entire project for evaluation and public exhibition purposes;
8. OCSDC will provide portable water and plumbing system, the hosting city will not provide cooling water circulations for the HVAC operation.
9. OCSDC will provide concrete building pad for teams to build the projects on site. No construction below grade is permitted on site.
10. Allowing batteries for increased load management

Please note these changes may not be adopted for the Solar Decathlon China 2017. The current (2013) Solar Decathlon China rules are posted at <http://www.sdchina.org/about.aspx>

Finally, OCSDC stress that creativity according to market demand and resourcefulness are the keys to success.

SOLAR DECATHLON COLLEGE TEAM COMPETITION EMAIL

For questions about this Notice, please email: support@sdchina.org.cn.

APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility Requirements:

Teams must be led by a post-secondary education institution.

Application Process:

The application process will include two phases: a Letter of Intent phase and a Full Application phase. Only applicants who have submitted an eligible Letter of Intent by the deadline will be eligible to submit a Full Application. At each phase, OCSDC performs an initial eligibility review of the applicant submissions to determine whether they meet the eligibility requirements of the Notice. OCSDC will not review or consider noncompliant and/or nonresponsive or otherwise ineligible submissions.

MATERIAL SUBMISSION

All submissions must conform to the following form and content requirements, including maximum page lengths described below. Application must send an electronic version of the Letter of Intent. Applicants must submit a physical copy as well as an electronic copy of the Full Application. The full application must be mailed to OCSDC with the address below, postmarked before the deadline. The full application **must also be submitted via email to submit@sdchina.org.cn as attachment in form of PDF**, unless specifically stated otherwise.

Miss Youran Zhao

Organizing Committee Solar Decathlon China

No. 6-3, Building A, SOHO 2 Guanghua Rd, Chaoyang

Beijing, China, 100020

北京市朝阳区光华路 SOHO2 期 A 座 6-3 , 100020 赵悠然 (收)

OCSDC will not review or consider submissions submitted through means other than effective email and mail address, submissions submitted after the applicable deadline, and incomplete submissions. OCSDC will not extend deadlines for Applicants who fail to submit required information and documents due to server/connection congestion.

The Letter of Intent and Full Application must conform to the following requirements:

- Each must be submitted in Adobe PDF format unless stated otherwise.

- Each must be written in English, Chinese version can be also submit for reference purpose.
- All pages must be formatted to fit on 8.5 x 11 inch paper with margins not less than one inch on every side. Use Times New Roman typeface, a black font color, and a font size of 12 point or larger (except in figures or tables, which may be 10 point font). A symbol font may be used to insert Greek letters or special characters, but the font size requirement still applies. References must be included as footnotes or endnotes in a font size of 10 or larger. Footnotes and endnotes are counted toward the maximum page requirement.
- Each must not exceed the specified maximum page limit, including cover page, charts, graphs, maps, and photographs when printed using the formatting requirements set forth above and single spaced. If Applicants exceed the maximum page lengths indicated below, OCSDC will review only the authorized number of pages and disregard any additional pages.

Applicants are responsible for meeting each submission deadline. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit Letters of Intent and Full Applications at least 48 hours in advance of the submission deadline.** Under normal conditions (i.e., at least 48 hours in advance of the submission deadline), Applicants should allow at least one hour to submit a Letter of Intent or Full Application.

All Full Applications that pass compliance review will undergo comprehensive technical merit review according to the criteria identified in this Notice.

APPLICATION FORMS

The application forms and instructions are available on www.sdchina.org. You can also acquire the application forms by sending email to support@sdchina.org.cn

CONTENT AND FORM OF THE LETTER OF INTENT

To be eligible to submit a Full Application, Applicants must submit a Letter of Intent by the specified due date. Letters of Intent will be used by OCSDC to plan for the merit review process. The letters should not contain any proprietary or sensitive business information. The letters will not be used for down-selection purposes, and do not commit an applicant to submit an application.

OCSDC will not review or consider ineligible Letters of Intent.

Each Applicant must provide the following information as part of the Letter of Intent:

- Project Title;
- Lead Organization;
- Organization Type (Business < 500 Employees; Business > 1000 Employees; Business 500-1000 Employees; Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC); Government-Owned, Government Operated; Non-Profit; University);
- Whether the Application has been previously submitted to OCSDC;
- % of effort contributed by the Lead Organization;
- The Project Team, including:
 - The Principal Investigator for the Prime Recipient;
 - Team Members (i.e., Subrecipients); and
 - Key Participants (i.e., individuals who contribute in a substantive, measureable way to the execution of the proposed project);
- Abstract – The abstract provided should be 200 words in length, and should provide a truncated explanation of the proposed project.

CONTENT AND FORM OF THE FULL APPLICATION

Applicants must submit a Full Application by the specified due date for consideration to enter this competition. Applicants must complete the following application forms found on the OCSDC official website at <http://www.sdchina.org> under Public Notice page, in accordance with the instructions.

Samples of completed Application of past Solar Decathlon Project is available at http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1001&context=solar_decathlon_reports. This document is intended for applicants to learn the format and requirement of the Full Application.

All Full Application documents must be clearly indicate the name of the team and the leading institution(s) at the header of the submission documents.

FULL APPLICATION CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

OCSDC will not review or consider ineligible Full Applications. Each Full Application must be limited to a single project.

Full Applications must conform to the following requirements:

SUBMISSION	COMPONENTS	FILE NAME (IF NECESSARY)
Full Application (PDF, unless stated otherwise)	Technical Volume (PDF format; see Chart for details and page limits)	LeadOrganization_Technical Volume
	Statement of Project Objectives (10 page limit, Microsoft Word format)	LeadOrganization_SOPO
	Statement of Market Targeting (no page limit; PDF format)	LeadOrganization_Market Targeting
	Budget Analysis and Justification (no page limit, Microsoft Excel format, must comply with OCSDC requirement)	LeadOrganization_Budget Justification
	Summary for Public Release (1 page limit; PDF format)	LeadOrganization_Summary
	Summary Slide (1 page limit, Microsoft PowerPoint format)	LeadOrganization_Slide
	Contract/ Agreement of Collegiate Collaboration (Collaborating Institutions Only)	LeadOrganization_Collaboration Contract

Note: The maximum file size that can be emailed to OCSDC is 10 MB. Files in excess of 10 MB cannot be received via OCSDC email, and hence cannot be submitted for review. If a file exceeds 10 MB but is still within the maximum page limit specified in the NOTICE it must be broken into parts and denoted to that effect. For example: **LeadOrganization_Project_Part_1**

LeadOrganization_Project_Part_2, etc.

OCSDC will not accept late submissions that resulted from technical difficulties due to uploading files that exceed 10 MB.

OCSDC provides detailed guidance on the content and form of each component below.

TECHNICAL VOLUME

The Technical Volume must be submitted in Adobe PDF format. The Technical Volume must conform to the following content and form requirements, including maximum page lengths. If Applicants exceed the maximum page lengths indicated below, OCSDC will review only the authorized number of pages and disregard any additional pages. This volume must address the Merit Review Criteria as discussed in this Notice. Save the Technical Volume in a single PDF file using the following convention for the title:

“LeadOrganization_TechnicalVolume”.

Applicants must provide sufficient citations and references to the primary research literature to justify the claims and approaches made in the Technical Volume. OCSDC and reviewers may review primary research literature in order to evaluate applications. However, OCSDC and reviewers are under no obligation to review cited sources (e.g., internet websites).

The Technical Volume to the Full Application may not be more than 20 pages, including the cover page, table of contents, and all citations, charts, graphs, maps, photos, or other graphics, and must include all of the information in the table below. The applicant should consider the weighting of each of the evaluation criteria listed in this Notice when preparing the Technical Volume.

SECTION/PAGE LIMIT	DESCRIPTION
Cover Page / 1 page	The cover page should include the project title, both the technical and business points of contact, names of all team member organizations, and any statements regarding confidentiality.
Project Overview (This section should constitute approximately 10% of the Technical Volume)	<p>The Project Overview should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Background: The Applicant should discuss the background of their organization, including the history, successes, and current research and development status (i.e., the technical baseline) relevant to the technical topic being addressed in the Full Application.• Project Goal: The Applicant should explicitly identify the targeted improvements to the baseline technology and the critical success factors in achieving that goal.• Impact: The Applicant should discuss the impact that this innovative design will have on the current state of the technology in this area.

<p>Technical Description, Innovation, and Impact (This section should constitute approximately 30% of the Technical Volume)</p>	<p>The Technical Description should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance and Outcomes: The Applicant should provide a detailed description of the project. This section should describe the relevance of the proposed project to the goals and objectives of the Notice, including the potential to meet specific OCSDC technical targets, Chinese and international standards, or other relevant performance targets. The Applicant should clearly specify the expected outcomes of the project. • Feasibility: The Applicant should demonstrate the technical feasibility of the proposed project and capability of achieving the anticipated performance targets, including a description of previous work done and prior results. • Innovation and Impacts: The Applicant should describe the current state of the art in the applicable field, the specific innovation of the proposed project, and the overall impact on advancing the state of the art/technical baseline if the project is successful.
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<p>Workplan (This section should constitute approximately 40% of the Technical Volume)</p>	<p>The Workplan should include a summary of the Project Objectives, Technical Scope, Work Breakdown Structure, Milestones, Go/No-Go Decision Points, and Project Schedule. A detailed Statement of Project Objectives (SOPO) is separately requested. The Workplan should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Objectives: The applicant should provide a clear and concise (high-level) statement of the goals and objectives of the project as well as the expected outcomes. • Technical Scope Summary: The applicant should provide a summary description of the overall work scope and approach to achieve the objective(s). The overall work scope is to be divided by performance periods that are separated by discrete, approximately annual decision points (see below for more information on go/no-go decision points). The applicant should describe the specific expected end result of each performance period. • Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) and Task Description Summary: The Workplan should describe the work to be accomplished and how the applicant will achieve the milestones, will accomplish the final project goal(s), and will produce all deliverables. The Workplan is to be structured with a hierarchy of performance period (approximately annual), task and subtasks, which is typical of a standard work breakdown structure (WBS) for any project. The Workplan shall contain a concise description of the specific activities to be conducted over the life of the project. The description shall be a full explanation and disclosure of the project being proposed (i.e., a statement such as “we will then complete a proprietary process” is unacceptable). It is the applicant’s responsibility to prepare an adequately detailed task plan to describe the proposed project and the plan for addressing the objectives of this NOTICE. The summary provided should be consistent with the SOPO. The SOPO will contain a more detailed description of the WBS and tasks.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go/No-Go Decision Points: The applicant should provide a summary of project-wide go/no-go decision points at appropriate points in the Workplan. A go/no-go decision point is a risk management tool and a project management best practice to ensure that, for the current phase or period of performance, technical success is definitively achieved and potential for success in future phases or periods of performance is evaluated, prior to actually beginning the execution of future phases. Unless otherwise specified in the NOTICE, the minimum requirement is that each project must have at least one project-wide go/no-go decision point for each budget period (12 to 18-month period) of the project. The Applicant should also provide the specific technical criteria to be used to make the go/no-go decision. The summary provided should be consistent with the SOPO • Project Schedule (Gantt Chart or similar): The applicant should provide a schedule for the entire project, including task and subtask durations, milestones, and go/no-go decision points. • Project Management: The applicant should discuss the team's proposed management plan, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The overall approach to and organization for managing the work ○ The roles of each Project Team member ○ Any critical handoffs/interdependencies among Project Team members ○ The technical and management aspects of the management plan, including systems and practices, such as financial and project management practices ○ The approach to project risk management ○ A description of how project changes will be handled ○ If applicable, the approach to Quality Assurance/Control ○ How communications will be maintained among Project Team members
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<p>Technical Qualifications and Resources (Approximately 20% of the Technical Volume)</p>	<p>The Technical Qualifications and Resources should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the Project Team’s unique qualifications and expertise, including those of key Subrecipients. • Describe the Project Team’s existing equipment and facilities that will facilitate the successful completion of the proposed project; include a justification of any new equipment or facilities requested as part of the project. • This section should also include relevant, previous work efforts, demonstrated innovations, and how these enable the applicant to achieve the project objectives. • Describe the time commitment of the key team members to support the project. • Attach one-page resumes for key participating team members as an appendix. Resumes do not count towards the page limit. Multi-page resumes are not allowed. • Describe the technical services to be provided by OCSDC and other agencies, if applicable. • Attach letters of commitment from all Subrecipient/third party cost share providers as an appendix. Letters of commitment do not count towards the page limit. • Attach any letters of support from partners/end users as an appendix (1 page maximum per letter). Letters of support do not count towards the page limit. • For multi-organizational or multi-investigator projects, describe succinctly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The roles and the work to be performed by each PI and Key Participant; ○ Business agreements between the applicant and each PI and Key Participant; ○ How the various efforts will be integrated and managed; ○ Process for making decisions on scientific/technical direction; ○ Publication arrangements; ○ Intellectual Property issues; and ○ Communication plans
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Concept and Design Elements	Provide graphics, e.g., sketches, drawings, diagrams, etc., and a one- page 500-word maximum narrative summarizing the most important elements of the conceptual design solution. Refer to the Solar Decathlon China rules at http://www.sdchina.org/about.aspx for additional information.
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STATEMENT OF MARKET TARGETING (NO PAGE LIMIT; PDF FORMAT)

Applicants are required to submit a summary of the market orientation of the proposed project. The Statement of Market Targeting must include the investigation of potential markets and explain the rationality of the designated market of the project. The document should include the name of the applicant, the project director/principal investigator(s), the project title, the proposed market of the project, including justification of the market, means that the project meets market demands, and preliminary demonstration of affordability and sustainable economic effect.

“LeadOrganization_Market Targeting”

BUDGET ANALYSIS AND JUSTIFICATION

Applicants are required to complete a budget analysis and justification form estimating the total cost of the competing project. A template form provided by OCSDC is available at www.sdchina.org within two weeks after the release of this Notice. Applicants must complete each tab of the Budget Analysis File for the project as a whole, including all work to be performed by the Prime Recipient and its Contractors. Applicants must carefully read the “Instructions and Summary” tab provided within the Budget Analysis File. Save the Budget Analysis File in a single Microsoft Excel using the following convention for the title:

“LeadOrganization_Budget_Analysis”

SUMMARY/ABSTRACT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

Applicants are required to submit a one-page summary/abstract of their project. The project summary/abstract must contain a summary of the proposed activity suitable for dissemination to the public. It should be a self-contained document that identified the name of the applicant, the project director/principal investigator(s), the project title, the objectives of the project, a description of the project, including methods to be employed, the potential impact of the project (i.e., benefits, outcomes), and major participants (for collaborative projects). This document must not include any proprietary or sensitive business information as the Department may make it available to the public after selections are made. The project

summary must not exceed 1 page when printed using standard 8.5 x 11 paper with 1" margins (top, bottom, left, and right) with font not smaller than 11 point. Save the Summary for Public Release in a single PDF file using the following convention for the title **"LeadOrganization_Summary"**.

SUMMARY SLIDE

Applicants are required to provide a single PowerPoint slide summarizing the proposed project. The slide must be submitted in Microsoft PowerPoint format. This slide is used during the evaluation process. Save the Summary Slide in a single file using the following convention for the title **"LeadOrganization_Slide"**.

The Summary Slide template requires the following information:

- A project Summary;
- A description of the project impact;
- Proposed project goals;
- Any key graphics (illustrations, charts and/or tables);
- The project's key idea/takeaway;
- Project title, Prime Recipient, Principal Investigator, and Key Participant information

STATEMENT OF PROJECT OBJECTIVES (SOPO)

Applicants are required to complete a Statement of Project Objectives (SOPO). The SOPO, including the Milestone Table and goals per each evaluation criterion, must not exceed 10 pages when printed using standard 8.5 x 11 paper with 1" margins (top, bottom, left, and right) with font not smaller than 12 point. Save the SOPO in a single Microsoft Word file using the following convention for the title **"LeadOrganization_SOPO"**.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation process consists of multiple phases that each includes an initial eligibility review and a thorough technical review. Rigorous technical reviews are conducted by reviewers that are experts in the subject matter of this Notice. Ultimately, the Selection Official considers the recommendations of the reviewers, along with other considerations such as program policy factors, in determining which applications to select.

Evaluation Criteria: Solar Decathlon College Team Competition

Criterion 1: Technical Innovation and Design

Weight: 20%

The proposal demonstrates that the applicant:

- Has an aggressive yet practical approach to the project, maximizing its chances of success by studying past competitions and committing to a design philosophy that demonstrates it has learned valuable lessons from them
- Seek to incorporate innovations with a high likelihood of success, with potential benefit to home builders and the energy efficiency and renewable energy industry

Criterion 2: Market Targeting

Weight: 20%

The proposal demonstrates:

- A clear understanding of the market demands or potential demands that the project is positioning (Targeting)
- Propose practical and effective solutions to meet the market demands by demonstrating affordability, profitability, construction/operational cost saving and sustainable economic effect; demonstrating the success and desirability of the product if commercialized.

Criterion 3: Sponsorship Engagement and Team Support

Weight: 15%

The proposal demonstrates:

- A clear understanding of the costs associated with the project
- A plan for obtaining sufficient sponsorship or other funds to support all phases of

the two-year project; sponsorship engagement has been adequately planned

- The level of available or obtainable equipment, instrumentation, and facilities is adequate
- Industry involvement in the project is considered

Criterion 4: Organization and Project Planning

Weight: 20%

The proposal demonstrates that:

- The team understands all the activities involved in the project
- The activities are planned and organized adequately to ensure successful completion

Criterion 5: Conceptual Design

Weight: 15%

The proposal demonstrates:

- An energy-efficient, solar-powered house at the conceptual design stage
- A conceptual design that communicates ideas, character, and forms of an architectural design including aesthetics, building envelope, and solar components
- The design's potential to succeed in the Marketplace and / or benefit professional home builders and solar installers

Criterion 6: Curriculum and Integration

Weight: 10%

The proposal demonstrates that the institution (or institutions):

- Has an architecture and/or building science curriculum and that the Solar Decathlon project is well-integrated into the students' course work
- Incentivizes top students to make long-term commitments to the project by offering scholarships, independent study credit, paid research assistantships, or other paid or academic compensation
- Has full commitment of college or university administration, including team members, with letters of commitment provided.

OTHER SELECTION FACTORS

PROGRAM POLICY FACTORS

In addition to the above criteria, the Selection Official may consider the following program policy factors in determining which Full Applications to select for the Competition:

- The level of industry involvement and demonstrated ability to commercialize energy or related technologies;
- Technical, market, organizational, and environmental risks associated with the project;
- Whether the proposed project is likely to lead to increased employment and manufacturing in China;
- Whether the proposed project will accelerate transformational technological advances in areas that industry by itself is not likely to undertake because of technical and financial uncertainty;
- Whether the proposed project will advance the goals of the Climate Action Champion initiative, as committed to by the designated Champion pursuant to its designation agreement. The Climate Action Champion¹ initiative goals include improving climate resilience and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Geographic and/or Technological Diversity.

NOTIFICATION OF SELECTIONS:

SELECTION NOTICES

OCSDC anticipates notifying applicants of its decisions on Friday April 29 2016 Beijing Time.

REJECTED SUBMISSIONS

Ineligible Letter of Intent and Full Applications are rejected by the Contracting Officer and are not reviewed or considered. The Contracting Officer sends a notification letter by email to the technical and administrative points of contact designated by the Applicant. The notification letter states the basis upon which the Letter of Intent was rejected or the Full Application was rejected.

¹ For more information on DOE's Climate Action Champion Initiative visit: [Climate Action Champion site](#)

FULL APPLICATION NOTIFICATIONS

OCSDC notifies Applicants of its determination via a notification letter by email to the technical and administrative points of contact designated by the Applicant. The notification letter may inform the Applicant that its Full Application was selected for the competition, or not selected. Alternatively, OCSDC may notify one or more Applicants that a final selection determination on particular Full Applications will be made at a later date, subject to the programmatic or other factors.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

A notification letter selecting a Full Application for the competition does not authorize the Applicant to commence performance of the project. If an application is selected for the competition, it is not a commitment to issue an award. Applicants are not officially accepted into the competition until OCSDC negotiations are complete.

The competition acceptance process will take approximately 60 days. Applicants must designate a primary and a backup point-of-contact with whom OCSDC will communicate to conduct negotiations. The Applicant must be responsive during negotiations (e.g., provide requested documentation) and meet the negotiation deadlines. If the Applicant fails to do so or negotiations are otherwise unsuccessful, OCSDC will cancel negotiations and rescind the Selection. OCSDC reserves the right to terminate negotiations at any time for any reason.

UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

OCSDC shall promptly notify in writing each applicant whose application has not been selected for the competition. If the application was not selected, the written notice shall explain why the application was not selected.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Selectees must continue to comply with all terms and conditions of these Official Rules, and receiving a prize is contingent upon fulfilling all requirements contained herein.

APPENDIX

TIMELINE OF SOLAR DECATHLON CHINA 2017

Please note that the competition timeline has been adjusted from the Letter of Intent.

Feb 2016: Invitation

March 2016: Release of rules and project bidding document

April 2016: Candidates submit project technical documents

April 2016: Review of project technical documents and announce final participating teams

July 2016: First Session of Technical Training

Nov 2016: Participating teams submit preliminary design documents

Jan 2017: Second Session of Technical Training

Feb 2016: Preliminary technical documents

May 2017: Construction technical documents

August 2017: Transportation of construction materials

Sept 2017: Construction

Oct 2017: Competition and demonstration

The timeline may be adjusted according to actual situation.