



**Request For Proposals
For The
(2019 Funding Cycle)
From The
Unconventional Energy Center Applied Research Committee
At
Colorado Mesa University**

Organizational Background

The Unconventional Energy Center at Colorado Mesa University was created as a part of the Redifer Research Institute in March of 2012. Its goal is to promote the region served by Colorado Mesa University as an epicenter for energy innovation. To accomplish this goal the Center has identified the following strategic objectives:

- Promote research and development of new and emerging technologies/processes for new and existing energy businesses.
- Support the development of new and existing business through innovations in the energy industry that promote the reduction of operating costs, increased effectiveness of resource extraction and reduced impacts on the environment.
- Promote the development of a regional and local business climate that aligns federal, state and any local laws and regulations that minimizes duplication while creating a streamlined, consistent regulatory process.
- Identify and promote new markets for natural gas.
- Develop curriculum to provide a skilled work force to assist the energy industry in meeting these objectives.
- Provide educational opportunities to increase community awareness of the importance of unconventional energy development and the benefits and challenges it poses on the region.

Project Scope

This request for proposals is designed to support the Unconventional Energy Center's efforts to promote applied research dedicated to improving the operations and marketing of businesses in the unconventional energy industry. The Center has budgeted approximately \$100,000 each year to allocate to research proposals that involve CMU and/or WCCC faculty,

undergraduate students and industry in applied research that will improve the efficiency, effectiveness or environmental impacts of unconventional energy sector operations in the region and state.

The Center anticipates awarding several grants ranging from \$5,000 - \$20,000 but will entertain proposals for projects requiring up to \$50,000. Proposals should address one or more of the following areas:

- Research and development of new and emerging technologies for the energy industry.
- Reduce energy costs, enhance production or reduce environmental impacts of energy industry operations.
- Promote the establishment of a streamlined, predictable regulatory climate for energy producers.
- Promote and encourage compressed natural gas (CNG) consumption and infrastructure development.
- Expansion of the existing energy industry workforce.

Proposal Guidelines and Requirements

Preference will be given to proposals that include matching funds. An estimated value of in-kind contributions may be considered as matching funds.

Proposals are limited to five pages plus any attachments and must contain:

- A clear statement of goals and objectives as they relate to (1) applied research projects related to the unconventional energy industry or (2) marketing strategies or infrastructure enhancements for compressed natural gas or (3) strategies for expanding the unconventional energy industry work force.
- A description of how proposed project will achieve its goals and objectives.
- A description of how proposed project involves CMU and/or WCCC faculty and undergraduate students in partnership with industry.
- An itemized budget that includes salaries, materials, and any special equipment costs associated with the proposal.
- A timeline and deliverables.
- A component that addresses the assessment of the project and/or its effectiveness.

Proposal Deadlines and Submission Information

Proposals will be considered until funding is exhausted, on an as submitted basis throughout the calendar year which ends on December 31, 2019. The availability of funding will be provided on the Center's website throughout the year. Once funding is exhausted any subsequent proposals will be considered in the next year when the funding source has been replenished. A final report detailing the work effort and assessment of results will be required

within thirty days of completion of the project. Proposals should be submitted by e-mail to the Unconventional Energy Center c/o dawagner@coloradomesa.edu . Questions about the submission process should also be sent to this e-mail address. The Unconventional Energy Center's Applied Research Committee will select projects to be funded. Applicants will be notified within thirty days of their decision.