

Expression of Interest Evaluation Procedures – Guidelines for Applicants October 2010

1. When Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are received by the due date , they will be sent to the Chair of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and he, in turn, will send them to those RAC members whose Organisations/Institutions are **NOT** involved in the EOIs;
2. It will be suitably recorded that for reasons of confidentiality and conflicts of interest, EOI documents were only distributed to those RAC members whose organizations are not associated with any of the EOIs;
3. Only those members who receive the documents, plus the Chair, will be responsible for the evaluation and subsequent recommendation to the CEO of the Australian Water Recycling Centre of Excellence as to which team or teams should be invited to submit a detailed proposal;
4. The Chair may invite EOI proponents to make a presentation on their EOI to the Centre, in which case RAC representatives of organizations/institutions involved in an EOI can present on their EOI but they will not be present for presentations by other teams, nor will they be involved in the subsequent evaluation;
5. In the event of an EOI being submitted that does not include any of the RAC member organizations/institutions, the team will have a similar opportunity to make a presentation to the Centre.
6. In the event of the majority of the RAC being 'conflicted', the Chair of the RAC will approach the CEO with the aim of appointing suitably qualified independents to assist in the evaluation, noting that this may well delay the completion of the evaluation.

Project Evaluation Criteria

The proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria, and the proposed cash and in-kind contributions will also be assessed to determine overall value for money.

Criteria	Principles
Significance and Innovation	How does the project align with the SRP? What are the main innovative features and how does it differentiate from existing research projects?
Expertise	Do the project partners possess key expertise in the relevant field in Australia and how strong is this expertise in relation to relevant R&D worldwide?
Approach	Is the scientific and technical approach sound, well developed and able to deliver expected outcomes?
Capacity Building	Does the proposal contribute towards capacity building of the Centre? Does it address knowledge transfer and skills attraction/retention?
Industry Participation	Is the industry participation at the expected level both in terms of cash and in-kind contributions? Are relevant industry partners directly participating in the project
Value and National Benefit	How will the project outcomes foster water reuse and recycling in Australia and worldwide? Will the project have outcomes that can be commercialised or directly
Project Management	How is the project to be managed; are the nominated project managers suitably qualified and experienced? Are the milestones and reporting timelines appropriately addressed?