



26-ARPC-RFP-02

**MSAPR COST-BENEFIT ASSESSMENT &  
OPTIMIZATION (DATA-DRIVEN DESIGN)**

APRIL 22, 2026

BUDGET: \$100,000

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 12, 2026 BY 5 P.M.**

www.ptac.org  
Suite 1550,  
520 Fifth Avenue SW  
Calgary, AB. T2P 3R7

## 1. Background & Rationale

Since the introduction of the Multi-Sector Air Pollutants Regulations (MSAPR), operators have accumulated substantial implementation experience and compliance test data, and the sector is now entering the Phase-2 Part 2 engine requirements period (effective January 1, 2026, for pre-existing regular-use engines). MSAPR Part 2 applies to stationary spark-ignition (SI) gaseous-fuel-fired engines and sets national performance standards under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999 (CEPA1999). This decade of operational experience and testing results creates a timely opportunity to examine whether MSAPR Part 2 compliance mechanisms are delivering proportional environmental value relative to their cost and operational burden.

Producers guiding the Alberta Upstream Petroleum Research Fund (AUPRF) have identified a priority need to better leverage existing NO<sub>x</sub> test data, operational experience, and compliance learnings from MSAPR implementation to inform more efficient, risk-based NO<sub>x</sub> testing and compliance requirements. While testing plays an important role in demonstrating compliance, current approaches may not always align testing frequency, scope, and operating conditions with the incremental regulatory value gained (e.g., the marginal value of a performance test versus an emissions check for stable engine categories).

This project is intentionally broader than reviewing alternative measurement technologies. It is a desktop regulatory cost-benefit assessment designed to identify and justify MSAPR Part 2 regulatory amendment opportunities that can improve efficiency and effectiveness while upholding MSAPR's environmental objectives and defensible compliance outcomes.

This RFP is different from RFP 1: 26-ARPC-RFP-01 because it is not a technology/methods review of lower-cost NO<sub>x</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> measurement approaches; instead, it is a test design and cost-benefit assessment of MSAPR Part 2 intended to identify, justify, and prioritize opportunities that improve efficiency while maintaining MSAPR's environmental objectives. In contrast, RFP 1 is focused on evaluating commercially available lower-cost measurement/testing methodologies, building an audit-defensible QA/QC framework, and producing decision tools like an evaluation matrix and field-ready validation plan to support compliance-relevant data collection.

### Producer Benefits:

- Reduce MSAPR Part 2 compliance costs by identifying where current requirements create high administrative or operational burden with limited incremental environmental benefit, and by proposing defensible efficiency improvements.
- Improve operational efficiency by reducing avoidable testing triggers and downtime (e.g., scenarios where engines that would otherwise remain off are started solely to complete a test requirement).
- Provide a credible, evidence-based package to support testing procedure improvements supported by quantitative analysis of existing datasets and practical operational experience.

- Increase predictability and planning for operators by clarifying which requirements are most critical to outcomes and which could be simplified, streamlined, or better targeted without compromising compliance integrity.

## 2. Research Objectives

- Map and describe MSAPR Part 2 compliance mechanisms and identify the primary cost and burden drivers (testing, administration, and implementation practices).
- Conduct a quantitative cost-benefit assessment of prioritized MSAPR Part 2 provisions using available compliance data and operational experience to compare compliance costs versus environmental outcomes.
- Evaluate and prioritize opportunities that improve efficiency while maintaining environmental integrity and defensible compliance results.
- Develop clear, practical recommendations (including rationale, expected benefits, implementation considerations, and risks/trade-offs) suitable for producer decision-making.

## 3. In Scope

In-scope activities include, but are not limited to:

- Review of MSAPR Part 2 requirements and compliance pathways for stationary SI engines, focusing on NO<sub>x</sub> compliance mechanisms and related administrative requirements.
- Analysis of accumulated compliance testing data and operational experience to identify stable/low-risk categories where requirements may be over-prescriptive relative to incremental value.
- Cost-benefit evaluation of a defined set of MSAPR Part 2 testing practices (including, where relevant: testing requirements for stable rich-burn engines; emissions checks versus performance tests; low-use engine averaging mechanisms; analyzer calibration/interference requirements; group averaging administrative complexity for pre-existing engines; performance-test retriggering on fuel changes; repeated testing on large lean-burn engines with proven stability; mandatory emissions checks well below limits; unit-conversion requirements; and emissions-check invalidation rules).
- Development of evidence-based options and supporting technical justification, including sensitivity/scenario considerations for key assumptions.

## 4. Out of Scope

Out-of-scope activities include:

- Development or field demonstration of new monitoring technologies or alternative measurement systems (these are addressed in a separate directed RFP focused on lower-cost measurement approaches).

- Predictive or AI-based monitoring intended to substitute for measurement.
- Field testing, onsite trials, or operator training programs.
- Recommendations that compromise MSAPR objectives or increase overall compliance costs relative to current practice.

## 5. Specific Deliverables

Deliverables are expected to be produced in two phases:

### Phase 1 — Stakeholder Engagement

- Draft stakeholder engagement plan (stakeholder map, interview/questionnaire approach, data-collection process, and synthesis method).
- Stakeholder engagement findings summary (report and slide deck), capturing operator experience, service/testing provider insights, and regulator perspectives where available.
- Written inventory of MSAPR Part 2 compliance optimization opportunities identified through engagement, including qualitative commentary on anticipated benefit, effort, and risks.
- A slide deck deliverable (PPTX) that can be circulated to stakeholders.

### Phase 2 — Comprehensive Desktop Regulatory Analysis

- Technical analysis report documenting the cost-benefit evaluation for each regulatory review area, including methods, assumptions, and sensitivity/scenario discussion.
- A prioritized set of specific MSAPR Part 2 improvement opportunities, each with supporting evidence, expected cost savings, expected effect on environmental outcomes, and implementation considerations.
- A formal presentation to stakeholders on the results of this project.

## 6. Success Criteria

- A defensible, data-driven assessment of MSAPR Part 2 compliance requirements that clearly explains cost drivers and the relationship between requirements and environmental outcomes.
- A prioritized set of practical recommendations that improve efficiency while upholding MSAPR's environmental integrity and compliance defensibility.
- Transparent documentation of data sources, analytical methods, assumptions, and sensitivity/scenario results sufficient to support producer discussions.
- Engagement results that demonstrate stakeholder input was captured and used to refine recommendations.



# AUPRF 2026 Request for Proposals

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS**

APRIL 2026

[www.ptac.org](http://www.ptac.org)  
Suite 1550,  
520 Fifth Avenue SW  
Calgary, AB. T2P 3R7

# Instructions for Proposal Submissions

## AUPRF 2026 RFPs

### 1 Purpose & Scope

These instructions apply to all competitive solicitations funded by the Alberta Upstream Petroleum Research Fund (AUPRF) and administered by PTAC Petroleum Technology Alliance Canada. They define how Proponents must prepare and submit proposals, how proposals are evaluated, the timelines for decisions and notifications, and key commercial and legal terms applicable to AUPRF-funded projects.

### 2 Submission – Content Requirements

#### 2.1 Proponent & Company Information

- Legal name and address
- Primary contact name, title, email, and phone
- Brief company overview and relevant services

#### 2.2 Technical Proposal

- Understanding of the problem statement and scope
- Proposed methodology and approach
- Work plan, milestones, and schedule
- Team composition; max 2-page bios/CVs with roles and expertise

#### 2.3 Financial Proposal

- Itemized cost breakdown (e.g., labour categories and rates, materials, travel, subcontractors)
- Proposed milestone-based payment schedule (payments tied to deliverables)
- Leveraged funding

#### 2.4 Formatting and Page Limits

Unless otherwise specified in a particular RFP, no strict page limits apply; include the content necessary to enable a thorough assessment.

### 3 Submission — Method & Logistics

Submit by email to [info@ptac.org](mailto:info@ptac.org) with subject line: *AUPRF – RFP ID – Proponent Company Name*.

**Proposals submitted by other means will not be accepted.**

- **Deadline:** Proposals must be received on or before the RFP deadline indicated in each RFP document; late submissions will not be considered.

- File format: A single combined PDF is preferred, plus any required spreadsheets or forms specified in the RFP.
- Validity: Proposals must remain irrevocable and open for acceptance for 90 days from the submission deadline.
- Questions & FAQs: Refer to the AUPRF call for proposals landing page and any RFP-specific instructions for updates and clarifications.

#### 4 Eligibility, Legal & Commercial Terms

- PTAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, in whole or in part, and to cancel or amend an RFP without liability.
- Proponents are responsible for all costs associated with preparing and submitting their Proposals.
- Confidentiality applies to information provided by PTAC; Proponents may be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement. Proposals will be kept confidential and will be accessed only by evaluators.
- Intellectual property (IP) arising from AUPRF projects may be owned by AUPRF funders, or AUPRF funders receive a royalty-free operational use right. No other IP ownership or sharing options (if IP is being generated) are acceptable.
- Minimum insurance: Commercial General Liability (CGL) of \$5,000,000 and Professional Liability of \$2,000,000.
- Disclosure of intent to subcontract and any actual or potential conflicts of interest is required.
- Governing law: Province of Alberta, Canada.

#### 5 Evaluation Criteria & Process

##### 5.1 Scored Criteria and Weights

<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Technical Approach	30%
Relevant Experience	30%
Cost	25%
Leveraged Funds from Other funders	5%
Team Qualifications	10%

##### 5.2 Screening & Completeness

Proposals are first screened for completeness and compliance (deadline, required sections, and required disclosures). Incomplete or non-compliant Proposals may be removed from further consideration at PTAC’s discretion.

### 5.3 Committee Review, Scoring & Deliberation

The relevant AUPRF technical committee reviews Eligible Proposals. Committee members score Proposals using the standardized scoring sheet before a deliberation meeting, where compiled results are discussed, and recommendations are confirmed.

PTAC may request clarifications, additional information, or presentations from Proponents to support evaluation before final ranking.

## 6 AUPRF Review & Communication Timelines<sup>1</sup>

The following applies to AUPRF RFPs for **Air Research Planning Committee (ARPC)**, unless a specific RFP states a different schedule:

<i>Step</i>	<i>Date</i>
1. <b>RFP Release</b>	April 22, 2026
2. <b>Submission of Questions</b>	May 13, 2026
3. <b>Answers to Questions Posted</b> on PTAC Website	May 22, 2026
4. <b>Proposal submission deadline</b>	<b>June 12, 2026</b> <b>5 pm Mountain Time</b>
5. <b>Decision ratification</b>	June 30, 2026 or sooner
6. <b>Award notifications</b>	July, 2026
7. <b>Target project start</b>	Summer 2026 (unless otherwise specified)

### 7 Communication

- All communications by the proponent to PTAC should be directed to [info@ptac.org](mailto:info@ptac.org) and AUPRF2026 RFPs should be included in the subject line.
- PTAC will notify the Proposal's primary contact by email of the outcome (award or non-award).
- Unsuccessful Proponents may request high-level feedback on strengths and areas for improvement.
- Public Communications: PTAC/AUPRF may publish award highlights after contract execution.

### 8 Contracting, Payments & Reporting

- A standard AUPRF Funding Agreement will be issued to successful Proponents for review and execution.
- Payments are quarterly milestone-based and tied to accepted deliverables, as specified in the Funding Agreement.
- Executed agreements are retained in the AUPRF contracts repository managed by PTAC.

---

<sup>1</sup> AUPRF 2026 RFPs for Well Decommissioning Research (WDRC), Water Innovation Planning (WIPC), Ecological Research Planning Committee (ERPC), and Reclamation Remediation Research (RRRC) **follow a different timeline and deadline.**

## 9 Compliance & Reserved Rights

PTAC may amend or cancel an AUPRF RFP at any time; any changes will be communicated to all prospective Proponents. Proponents must comply with all instructions, including confidentiality, insurance, subcontracting disclosures, and conflict-of-interest requirements.

## 10 Proponent Checklist

- Company information (legal name, address, contacts, overview)
- Technical proposal (approach, work plan, schedule, team bios/CVs)
- Financials (itemized costs; milestone-based payment plan, leveraged funding)
- Disclosures (subcontracting intent; conflicts of interest)
- Insurance confirmation (CGL \$5M; Professional Liability \$2M)
- Submission format (single PDF + required forms); deadline; 90-day validity

## 11 Legal Conditions

### 11.1 Non-Binding Solicitation; No Obligation to Award

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is not an offer to contract. No contractual, quasi-contractual, fiduciary, or other legal obligations of any kind are created by this RFP or by any submission, communication, or conduct of PTAC unless and until a written Funding Agreement is executed by duly authorized representatives of PTAC and the successful Proponent. PTAC may cancel, amend, or suspend this RFP at any time without liability.

### 11.2 PTAC's Reserved Rights

Without limiting any other rights, PTAC may, in its sole discretion and without liability: (a) accept or reject any or all Proposals; (b) accept a Proposal in whole or in part; (c) waive non-material irregularities; (d) seek clarifications; (e) negotiate changes to scope, schedule, and pricing with one or more Proponents; and (f) cancel this RFP at any time. The lowest-priced Proposal will not necessarily be selected.

### 11.3 No Claim for Compensation; Bid Costs

Each Proponent is solely responsible for all costs associated with preparing and submitting its Proposal, as well as any related activities. PTAC shall not be liable for any such costs or damages, whether or not the Proponent is selected for award.

### 11.4 Limitation of Liability

To the maximum extent permitted by law, PTAC shall not be liable to any Proponent for indirect, incidental, consequential, special, punitive, or exemplary damages, loss of profit, loss of opportunity, or loss of reputation arising out of or related to this RFP, the evaluation process, or any decision to award or not award funding, even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

Any direct liability of PTAC to a Proponent is strictly limited to the reasonable, proven out-of-pocket costs of preparing the Proposal, which the parties agree is disclaimed by Section 4.

#### 11.5 Verification and Clarifications

PTAC may request clarifications, additional information, or presentations from any Proponent and may verify any information contained in a Proposal through interviews, reference checks, third-party sources, or site visits. Failure to respond promptly may result in disqualification.

#### 11.6 Grounds for Disqualification

PTAC may, at any time, disqualify a Proposal or rescind a selection if: (a) the Proposal is late, incomplete, or non-compliant; (b) the Proponent fails to disclose or address an actual or potential conflict of interest; (c) the Proposal contains misrepresentations or misleading information; (d) the Proponent engages in collusion, unfair competition, improper influence, lobbying outside the authorized contact, or attempts to obtain confidential information not publicly available; or (e) adverse information materially affecting the Proponent's qualifications comes to PTAC's attention.

#### 11.7 Proponent Representations & Warranties

By submitting a Proposal, the Proponent represents and warrants that: (a) the Proposal is accurate, complete, and not misleading; (b) all proposed work product will not infringe intellectual property or other rights of third parties; (c) the Proponent and proposed subcontractors are duly qualified and in good standing; and (d) it will maintain the insurance required by the RFP and Funding Agreement.

#### 11.8 Confidentiality; Use and Disclosure

Information provided by PTAC in connection with this RFP is confidential and may be used solely for Proposal preparation and evaluation. Proponents must not disclose such information to any third party except their team members, advisors, or subcontractors who have a need to know and are bound by confidentiality obligations no less protective. PTAC may disclose Proposals to its funders, technical committees, advisors, and partners for evaluation and administration and may make disclosures as required by law or court/government order.

#### 11.9 Intellectual Property & License to Use

Subject to the Funding Agreement, IP arising from the Project may be owned by AUPRF funders, or funders will receive a perpetual, royalty-free right to use the IP in their operations without additional compensation. Proponents must ensure they have all the rights necessary to grant such ownership or licenses. If IP is generated by the proposal/project, no other IP ownership or sharing options are acceptable. If IP is not generated by this project, this provision is unnecessary.

#### 11.10 Subcontracting

The Proponent must disclose its intent to subcontract any portion of the work. PTAC reserves the right to approve or reject proposed subcontractors. The Proponent remains fully responsible for all subcontracted work.

#### 11.11 Proposal Validity

Proposals must remain irrevocable and open for acceptance for 90 days after the submission deadline.

#### 11.12 Acceptance Not a Waiver

PTAC's acceptance of a Proposal, or its failure to identify deficiencies, does not waive any requirement of the RFP or Funding Agreement and does not relieve the Proponent from responsibility for compliance or performance.

#### 11.13 Order of Precedence; Entire Agreement

In case of conflict, the following order of precedence applies: (1) the executed Funding Agreement (including schedules), (2) the specific RFP (including addenda), (3) these Proponent Instructions, and (4) the Proposal. The executed Funding Agreement constitutes the entire agreement for project performance.

#### 11.14 Governing Law and Forum

This RFP and any related dispute are governed by the laws of the Province of Alberta and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein, without regard to conflict-of-laws rules. The parties attorn to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Alberta, sitting in Calgary.

#### 11.15 Insurance & Indemnities

At a minimum, the Proponent shall maintain CGL of \$5,000,000 and Professional Liability of \$2,000,000, as well as any other insurance required by the Funding Agreement. Proponents will indemnify and hold harmless PTAC, its officers, directors, employees, and agents from third-party claims arising out of the Proponent's acts or omissions in connection with the Proposal or the Project, subject to the Funding Agreement.

#### 11.16 Addenda and Questions

Only written addenda issued by PTAC form part of the RFP. Proponents are responsible for monitoring the RFP communication channel (the PTAC website) and ensuring their Proposal reflects all addenda.