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National Science Foundation Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) FY2014-2019 Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Track 1 Program

Maine EPSCoR RII Track 1 Proposal Development Process: To prepare for the next round of NSF EPSCoR RII Track 1 funding, Maine EPSCoR will conduct a proposal development process as follows: (please note that timeframes and processes are subject to change)

- **Informational Presentation (November 1, 2012):** Maine EPSCoR will hold an informational session for interested participants throughout the state (in person and virtually).
- **Phase I - Concept Papers (due November 13, 2012):** Interested parties will be invited to submit a two-page concept paper on key research topics that might be applicable to an NSF EPSCoR RII Track 1 project. (Note that the Track 1 is required to address a comprehensive, integrated, trans-disciplinary statewide focus that creates a substantial academic research infrastructure & involves participants from colleges & universities throughout the state. It is not designed for individual, single institution, or small group faculty research.)
- **Phase II - Informational & Networking meeting (December 11, 2012):** a networking meeting will be held to allow interested participants to: 1) participate in additional Q&A on the RII Track 1 program; 2) hear short presentations on submitted research concepts; and 3) network to develop further partnerships and solidify possible projects that will proceed for further consideration.
- **Phase III – Pre-proposals (due January 30, 2013):** As a result of the above process, a select # of groups will be invited to submit pre-proposals for specific research focus areas.
- **Phase IV – AAAS Review (February 2013):** The above pre-proposals will be reviewed by AAAS, and comments distributed to the groups so that they can be addressed below.
- **Phase V – Review Panel Presentations (March 2013):** The pre-proposal groups will present their projects to the Maine EPSCoR review panel, which is responsible for making the recommendation on which research focus is the most viable for the state to submit.
- **Phase VI – State Approval (March-April 2013):** the recommended research focus is presented to the State EPSCoR Committee (Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board) for approval.
- **Phase VII – Proposal Preparation (begins March 2013):** Maine EPSCoR works with the research theme group, statewide educational institutions, stakeholders, and other partners to develop a proposal that fully addresses the NSF EPSCoR RII Track 1 solicitation guidelines and intent (solicitation release date unknown – could be anywhere from March to July 2013).
- **Phase VIII – Proposal Submission (June to October 2013):** submission of the State's proposal to NSF EPSCoR. Note that NSF EPSCoR is potentially changing the due date for the Track 1 from October to earlier in the year – there is no indication at this time of when that will be.
- **Phase IX: Award notification (Summer 2014)**
- **Phase X: Project begins (July 2014)**