Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) related to DE-FOA-0003333:
Opportunities to Support Mid-scale Commercial Direct Air Capture (DAC) Demonstration Facilities

1) Has OCED decided it will offer funding to mid-scale commercial direct air capture (“MSC DAC”) demonstration facilities?

No, OCED has not decided whether or when a future MSC DAC program will be offered or determined how such a program would be designed. OCED hopes the responses to the RFI will inform some of those decisions.

2) Has OCED decided that any future funding for MSC DAC facilities would come from the remaining funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law’s Regional DAC Hubs provision?

No, OCED has not made any decisions related to the amount or source of funding for a potential future MSC DAC program.

3) Is OCED still planning to release a FOA that would support larger-scale DAC projects like those solicited through FOA 2735’s Topic Area 3? If so, when?

OCED still anticipates offering funding for larger-scale (e.g., 50 KTA – 1 MTA) facilities in one or more future FOAs to achieve the goal of four regional DAC Hubs. The timing of that FOA (or FOAs) would likely be informed by the progress of the 19 earlier-stage projects selected under FOA 2735’s Topic Areas 1 and 2 as well as other relevant DOE programs and projects, and broader industry trends.

4) Will a response that encourages OCED to support MSC DAC facilities be taken to mean OCED should not support larger-scale DAC facilities?

No, a response encouraging support for an MSC DAC program will not be interpreted to mean support for larger-scale DAC facilities is less important.
5) How is OCED thinking about the potential relationship between FOA 2735 projects and a program supporting MSC DAC facilities?

OCED sees the potential for MSC DAC facilities to de-risk the technology and commercial aspects of current and future Regional DAC Hub partners as they advance their current technology to larger scale and as they develop new technologies. OCED hopes to better understand that potential through the RFI responses.

6) Does OCED have any minimum technical validation requirements planned for a MSC DAC scale facility?

No, the technical validation requirements for a future program have not been established.

7) Should companies developing carbon utilization, carbon storage, or clean energy projects respond to the RFI?

Yes, if the technology or project could be paired with or could be complementary to an MSC DAC facility. (Note: there are no restrictions on who can respond to the RFI or which questions they can answer.)

8) Should companies developing non-DAC carbon removal projects (e.g., BiCRS, enhanced rock weathering, marine CDR) respond to the RFI?

Everyone is encouraged to respond to the RFI questions that are relevant to them. However, the RFI is focused on DAC, so responses addressing other CDR methods without a relevance to DAC may not be applicable. (Note: there are no restrictions on who can respond to the RFI or which questions they can answer.)

9) Will my RFI submission be less valuable if I only answer some of the questions?

No, all questions are optional, and respondents are encouraged to answer the RFI questions that are relevant to them.
10) Can I submit multiple attachments of up to 20 pages each if I’m answering questions in multiple categories?

No, respondents should submit only one attachment of no more than 20 pages, even if responding to multiple categories. Please refer to additional submission formatting guidelines in the Request for Information Response Guidelines section of the RFI.