

page, headed with the proposal title and the name(s) of the PI(s) and their home institution(s).

(3) All proposals must provide a Statement of Work that includes:

a. The proposed duration of the project, from one up to two years;

b. If known, suggested forecaster and/or technical point(s) of contact at TPC/NHC and, if necessary, other operational center(s);

c. A brief description of the project, with prior research results (including references) to demonstrate sufficient maturity and potential for a successful transition to operations at TPC/NHC and other operational forecast centers (e.g., CPHC, JTWC) and/or, if applicable, at a numerical weather prediction center;

d. A work plan for the project, including hardware and software needs, the testing and evaluation approach, metric(s) for success, project deliverables, a time line with key milestones, real-time operational data needed as input, and a plan to port necessary codes to the operational environment of TPC/NHC and/or NCO (an overview of the JHT and TPC/NHC operational IT environments can be obtained along with the standard NOAA Grants and Cooperative Agreement Application Package, as described previously in the **ADDRESSES** section following the **SUMMARY** of this notice);

e. A time line for delivering scientific and technical documentation and training materials over the course of the project that are sufficient to enable testing and evaluation of the proposed techniques. If the proposal is funded, researchers are expected to coordinate with the JHT Director to formalize this time line;

f. Schedule and needs for expected travel (PIs are strongly encouraged to plan and budget during each year of the project to describe their work at the annual Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference (IHC), sponsored by the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research, and visits by PIs and/or their support staff to the TPC/NHC, and any other operational center(s) as necessary, may be beneficial for training JHT staff and the forecaster and technical point(s) of contact in preparation for project testing and evaluation); and

g. Estimates of JHT staff requirements in terms of on-site (or off-site) JHT Facilitator efforts, and estimated computational, communication, and/or display requirements at the researcher's home institution and/or at JHT via remote access and data transfer.

(4) Applicants must submit a budget using the Standard Form 424A (4-92), Budget Information—Non-Construction

Programs. This form is included in the standard NOAA Grants and Cooperative Agreement Application Package (see **ADDRESSES** section that follows the **SUMMARY** earlier in this notice). The budget must include PI and scientific and technical support staff salaries, JHT facility requirements, computing and communications funding, equipment funding (provide justification), indirect charges, and travel. Note that funding for secretarial support and IT improvements at the PI's home institution is not generally available.

(5) Applicants must also use the following forms when applying for financial assistance: Standard Forms 424, Application for Federal Assistance, 424B, Assurances—Non-Construction Programs, and SF-LLL (Rev. 7-97); Department of Commerce forms CD-346, Applicant for Funding Assistance, and CD-511, Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying. These forms are also included in the standard NOAA Grants and Cooperative Agreement Application Package (see **ADDRESSES** section that follows the **SUMMARY** earlier in this notice).

(6) An abbreviated Curriculum Vita for the PI must be included. Reference lists should be limited to all publications in the last three years with up to five other relevant papers.

(7) Current and pending Federal support: Each investigator must submit a list that includes project title; supporting agency with grant number, investigator months, dollar value and duration. Requested amounts should be listed for pending Federal support.

(8) Additional proposal requirements include:

a. One signed original and two hard copies of the complete proposal must be submitted (submission of five additional hard copies is encouraged, to expedite the review process, but is not required);

b. Each proposal must be dated with pages numbers;

c. Items 3a through 3g above must be contained within no more than ten pages, using a 12-point font and one-inch margins.

## IX. Evaluation Criteria

The JHT Steering Committee, and/or other designated reviewers, and the JHT and TPC/NHC Directors will base their recommendations regarding each preapplication and each full proposal upon the extent to which the following criteria (listed with assigned weights and in order of decreasing importance) are satisfied:

A. (25% weight) Consistency with one or more of the USWRP goals, and

consistency with one or more of the priorities and needs of the TPC/NHC (especially the highest priority "TPC A-1 through A-6" items) and/or EMC, as listed in Section III of this notice (**Note:** proposals with exceptional promise for improving operational tropical cyclone forecasting, but that do not fall within the scope of the listed TPC/NHC or EMC needs and priorities, will still be considered.)

B. (25% weight) Potential for improving operational tropical cyclone analysis and forecast accuracy.

C. (20% weight) Promise for a successful transition to operations within one to two years, and readiness for testing and evaluation in a quasi-operational environment.

D. (15% weight) Appropriations and reasonableness of the budget with respect to available JHT funds.

E. (10% weight) Compatibility with the communications, computing, data, and display environments of TPC/NHC and/or NCEP Central Operations (NCO) (note that in cases where the technological advances of the project require cutting-edge hardware or software not yet in place at the JHT and at TPC/NHC and/or NCO, support for such enhancement from the USWRP may be considered).

F. (5% weight) Applicability to other operational forecast centers (e.g., CPHC, JTWC).

## X. Selection Procedures

All full proposals will receive an independent, objective review in accordance with the criteria specified above in Section IX of this notice. Such review will be conducted by the JHT Steering Committee, and/or other designated reviewers, consisting of at least three federal and/or non-federal experts. Each member of the independent review panel will individually evaluate and rank the proposals. The reviewers will provide their rankings and recommendations to the JHT Director and TPC/NHC Director. The JHT Director and TPC/NHC Director will together decide whether to endorse each proposal based upon the rankings and recommendations from the reviewers and based upon the availability of TPC/NHC resources to support each project. The JHT Director and TPC/NHC Director will then together present their recommendations on favorably reviewed and endorsed proposals to the Directors, Office of Weather and Air Quality Research (W&AQR) of NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.

The Director of W&AQR makes the final recommendation to the NOAA Grants Officer regarding the funding of