

## **Energy R&D Request For Proposals Q&A**

December 6, 2022

As noted in the recent Request For Proposal(s) (RFP) issued by Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC) for our **Energy R&D Initiative Project**, there was an opportunity for possible Respondents to submit questions concerning the RFP. It was noted on page 3 that “the RFP and Responses to Questions received would be posted on [www.semhc.org](http://www.semhc.org).”

The following Questions were received from a potential Respondent concerning the SEMDC RFP.

**Question #1: *Will the beneficial use of CO2 qualify as “Flue Gas Capture and Processing” research?***

**Response:** It would be up to each Respondent to state their best case in the submitted Proposal. SEMDC allows each Respondent flexibility to be creative on how they would like to address and justify their respective Proposals. Each Respondent should pay special attention to Section 3: Scope of Work to ensure they are addressing the required elements of the RFP.

**Question #2: *Will (our company’s) ability to extract REEs be enough to qualify?***

**Response:** As stated in Response #1, it is up to each Respondent to address in their respective Proposal how it would best fit or address either one of the Four (4) Resource Development Areas or any combination of the Four.

**Question #3: *Can the extraction of cenospheres qualify?***

**Response:** If a Respondent feels that the extraction of cenospheres would best fit or address one of the Four Resource Development Areas, then that decision is up to the Respondent to incorporate that opportunity into their Proposal.

**Question #4: *What is conspicuous by its absence, however—is the beneficial use of coal ash. How can this be, and what can be done about it at this late date?***

**Response:** The Four (4) Resource Development Areas were selected as having potential for development for “Value-Added Energy Commercialization Opportunities” identified in the 2017 Colstrip Diversification Strategy. While SEMDC is not diminishing the potential beneficial use for coal ash, numerous issues are currently being addressed by the power plant ownership as required by state law and the MT DEQ.