

Industry Cluster RFP
Questions and Answers
June 5, 2008

Questions:

1. I am not 100% clear on the research objective: Is it to **develop the process and criteria of selecting clusters**, or is it to **identify the clusters themselves**? My confusion is due to the language on pg 2, last two paragraphs. To paraphrase, these paragraphs say to me that the results from "Phase One" will be used to "identify clusters and strategic clusters in Washington". However, the deliverables outlined on pg 3 indicate identification of clusters.
2. So my second [related] question is: Has the "workgroup" already identified the criteria?
3. Has the organization worked with a research company in the past on similar projects? If so, whom?

Answers:

The objective of the research is not to develop the process and criteria for identifying clusters. That is the objective of the workgroup. The RFP reflects the advice of the workgroup to date regarding the process and criteria.

The Workforce Board has worked with many research companies on research regarding workforce development. The Board has worked with researchers only once regarding a cluster analysis, those were University of Washington-based researchers.