**SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

**PROPOSITION 68**

**The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018**

 

FINAL COMPETITIVE GRANT

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

March 14, 2019

I. Introduction

**A. The San Diego River Conservancy**

The San Diego River Conservancy (“Conservancy”) is a state agency, established in 2002, to work within the San Diego River watershed to implement multi-benefit projects that protect and enhance the San Diego River and its connected resources. (Public Resources Code, Division 22.9.) The San Diego River Conservancy Act authorizes the Conservancy to undertake projects and award grants to achieve the goals set forth in Division 22.9. The Conservancy works along the entire length of the San Diego River, from its mouth in the City of San Diego at Ocean Beach to its headwaters in the mountains near Julian. The Conservancy’s jurisdiction also includes all of the contributing area to the San Diego River watershed including streams and tributaries, an estuary, wetlands, reservoirs, uplands, meadows and forests. A map of the Conservancy’s jurisdiction can be viewed at [www.sdrc.ca.gov](http://www.sdrc.ca.gov).

The Conservancy provides technical assistance through its staff and it provides grant funds to help develop and implement projects that achieve its goals. The Conservancy supports multi-benefit projects that advance a number of objectives, including:

* Conserving land
* Resource protection
* Reducing flood and fire risk
* Improving water quality
* Enhancing wildlife habitats
* Completing the San Diego River Trail
* Providing public access for the enjoyment of the San Diego River Park and nearby open space, trail facilities, campgrounds and parks.
* Removing invasive plant species from the river corridor and its tributaries.
* Restoring habitat and promoting the re-establishment of the area’s native species.
* Promoting cultural and historical interpretation of the San Diego River and its people.
* Protecting the natural and scenic beauty of the San Diego River

The Conservancy’s adopted Strategic Plan Update 2018-2023 identifies the Conservancy’s goals and objectives by program area. The Conservancy’s Proposition 68 funded grants must advance state priorities, align with the goals of the Conservancy, be consistent with the San Diego River Conservancy Act, and comply with the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.

**B. Proposition 68 Language**

The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (“Prop 68”) was approved by voters in June 2018. Prop 68 is codified as Division 45 of the Public Resources Code, Chapters 1-13, Sections 80000-80173. The purposes of Prop 68 include creating and enhancing park and trail facilities, providing public access, enhancing river parkways, and protecting coastal forests and wetlands.

Further, Public Resources Code, chapter 1, section 80001 (b) states, “It is the intent of the people of California that all of the following shall occur in the implementation of this division:

(1) The investment of public funds pursuant to this division will result in public benefits that address the most critical statewide needs and priorities for public funding.

(2) In the appropriation and expenditure of funding authorized by this division, priority will be given to projects that leverage private, federal, or local funding or produce the greatest public benefit.

(3) To the extent practicable, a project that receives moneys pursuant to this division will include signage informing the public that the project received funds from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.

(4) To the extent practicable, when developing program guidelines for urban recreation projects and habitat protection or restoration projects, administering entities are encouraged to give favorable consideration to projects that provide urban recreation and protect or restore natural resources. Additionally, the entities may pool funding for these projects.

(5) To the extent practicable, a project that receives moneys pursuant to this division will provide workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities.

(6) To the extent practicable, priority for funding pursuant to this division will be given to local parks projects that have obtained all required permits and entitlements and a commitment of matching funds, if required.

(7) To the extent practicable, administering entities should measure or require measurement of greenhouse gas emissions reductions and carbon sequestrations associated with projects that receive moneys pursuant to this division. . . .”

Chapter 8 of Proposition 68, entitled “State Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board, and Authority Funding,” allocates one hundred eighty million dollars ($180,000,000) to state conservancies for projects according to their governing statutes for their specified purposes. Twelve million dollars ($12,000,000) of the funds available in Chapter 8 are allocated to the San Diego River Conservancy.

# II. Program Purposes, Required Criteria and Eligibility

**A. Purpose of Proposition 68 Grant Program Guidelines**

These Proposition 68 Grant Program Guidelines establish the process and criteria that the Conservancy will use to solicit competitive proposals, evaluate applicants’ projects, and award grants. These Prop 68 Guidelines identify eligible entities, project types, project requirements, priorities, the evaluation process and grant administration. These Guidelines are adopted pursuant to Division 45 of the Public Resources Code, Chapters 1-13, Sections 80000-80173.

These draft guidelines were posted on the Conservancy’s website for public comment from January 22, 2019 through February 22, 2019 . Comments were submitted by February 27, 2019 and emailed to dharrison@sdrc.ca.gov or delivered to the San Diego River Conservancy, 1350 Front Street, Suite 3024, San Diego, CA 92101. The guidelines may be revised based on comments received and presented to the Conservancy Board at a public meeting for approval.

Listed below are the steps required to develop solicitation and evaluation guidelines, and a proposed schedule for the process:

**Step Schedule**

Draft grant program guidelines for Prop 68 Nov.-Dec. 2018

California Natural Resources Agency review December 2018

Post draft guidelines on the Conservancy website for 30 days January 2019

Public meetings February 2019

Adopt final grant program guidelines March 2019

**B. Conservancy Project Selection Criteria**

The Conservancy Program Guidelines provide required criteria that must be satisfied by all projects and additional criteria that are not mandatory but which will be considered for purposes of determining priority. The selection criteria are:

**Required**

* **Eligible entity**
* **Location** must be within the San Diego River watershed.
* **Agreement to operate and maintain the property for 10 - 20 years in accordance with purposes set forth in grant application**
* **Project Type consistent with Project catergories (page 8)**
* **Consistent with purposes of Prop 68**
* **Achieves the Conservancy’s statutory programs and goals**
* **Promotes or implements state plans and priorities**
* **Climate change considerations and sea level rise**
* **Collaboration, cooperation and community support**
* **The extent to which the project provides multiple benefits**
* **Project Readiness**
* **Leveraged funding**
* **Consultation is required with the California Conservation Corps** or certified community conservation corps.
* **Tribal Consultation**

**Other factors for consideration**

* **Need** (desired project or result will not occur without Conservancy participation)
* Projects that seek to achieve the **wildlife and habitat conservation** objectives through projects on public lands or voluntary projects on private lands. Projects on private lands shall be evaluated based on the durability of the benefits created by the investment.
* Priority may be given to projects with components that **emphasize efficient use and conservation of water** supplies, use of recycled water, capture of storm water, facilitation of safe and reliable drinking water to park and open-space visitors.

**C. Prop 68 Priorities**

Prop 68 sets forth requirements and priorities for selecting projects. Some of the Prop 68 requirements vary by chapter of the legislation, but the general requirements and priorities are discussed below. Prop 68 funds must be spent in a way that addresses the most critical statewide needs and priorities for public funding. These priorities include: promotes diversity, serves a severely disadvantaged community, leverages funds, provides workforce training, and demonstrates readiness. Some are as discussed in greater detail below:

1. **Project promotes Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

Prop 68 directs agencies receiving funding, to the extent practicable, to consider a range of actions that derive from the *Presidential Memorandum - Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in Our National Parks, National Forests, and Other Public Lands and Waters,* January 12, 2017. These actions direct agencies to expand outreach efforts, create new partnerships and improve programs to increase access by diverse populations. These actions are consistent with page 4 of the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan and addressed under “Expand Focus and Capacity.”

To the extent practicable, the Conservancy will seek to fund Prop 68 grants that:

* Create new partnerships with state, local, tribal, private, and nonprofit organizations to expand access for diverse populations. (PRC § 80001(b)(8)(C).)
* Identify and implement improvements to existing programs to increase visitation and access by diverse populations, particularly minority, low-income, and disabled populations and tribal communities. (PRC § 80001(b)(8)(D).)

**(2) Project serves Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC)** (located within a SDAC, or within 1 mile of SDAC or benefits SDAC).The Conservancy’s $12 million allocation under Prop 68 includes approximately 20% (or $2,400,000) to be spent on projects that serve severely disadvantaged communities. An SDAC is defined as a community with a median household income that is less than 60% of the statewide average. Expenditures on projects serving SDACs will be tracked in the state bond expenditure database.

For the purpose of Prop 68, the Conservancy will define serving a severely disadvantaged community to include projects located in SDACs or projects within 1 mile of a SDAC. The Conservancy will also define serving SDACs to include projects that are not located in a SDAC, but that provide other direct benefits to SDAC residents, including training and workforce education, providing job opportunities, providing recreational amenities, increasing resilience to climate change, habitat restoration, wildlife conservation, and projects that reduce flooding, reduce pollution burden, and address environmental justice. The Conservancy will prioritize its technical assistance for projects that serve SDACs. Applicant should use Community Fact Finder to determine if proposed project is within SDACS, the website is <http://www.parksforcalifornia.org/communities> .

**(3) Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects.** Up to 5% ($600,000) of the Conservancy’s Prop 68 $12 million allocation may be used for community access, which is defined as “engagement programs, technical assistance, or facilities that maximize safe and equitable physical admittance, especially for low-income communities, to natural and cultural resources, community education, or recreational amenities.” Applicant may apply for a stand-alone project but must demonstrate a long-term benefit, so that the project aligns with bond funding.

Specifically, Prop 68, Section 800008 (c) (1) provides in pertinent part that:

“Up to 5 percent of funds available pursuant to each chapter of this division shall, to the extent permissible under the State General Obligation Bond Law (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 16720) of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code) and with the concurrence of the Director of Finance, be allocated for community access projects that include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Transportation.

(B) Physical activity programming.

(C) Resource interpretation.

(D) Multilingual translation.

(E) Natural science.

(F) Workforce development and career pathways.

(G) Education.

(H) Communication related to water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and other outdoor pursuits.”

# III. Grant Application Process and Timeline

**A. Concept Proposal**

The first step in the process is to submit a concept proposal, which is posted on the Conservancy’s website and may be updated periodically. The Conservancy may elect to solicit targeted proposals for a specific type of project for some of the solicitation periods. For any questions concerning the grant program, please contact Dustin Harrison, Environmental Scientist at dharrison@sdrc.ca.gov or 619-525-4094.

**B. Grant Solicitation Periods**

Starting in 2019, the Conservancy’s grant solicitation period will be every other year until appropriations are expended. An announcement with key action dates will be posted on the Conservancy’s website (<http://sdrc.ca.gov/>) and sent out to past Conservancy applicants from other grant programs and potential grantees.

**Round 1, action dates are in the table below:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Conservancy’s Proposition 68 schedule** | **Concept Proposal Due**  | **Full Application Due** | **Board review/approval** |
| Round 1 | May 15, 2019 | July 30, 2019 | September and November 2019  |

Concept Proposals are due to the Conservancy by 4 p.m. on **May 15, 2019**. After the Conservancy completes review of the proposals, eligible applicants will be invited to submit full applications that are due **by 4 pm on July 30, 2019. For this grant program, please** submit documents by email to dharrison@sdrc.ca.gov or by hard copy to the San Diego River Conservancy, 1350 Front Street, Suite 3024, San Diego, California, 92101.

After Concept Proposals are submitted, the Conservancy will meet with potential applicants, conduct site reviews as necessary and select which concept proposals meet the minimum criteria to be invited to submit full applications. Conservancy staff and technical experts will review, evaluate and rank the full applications. Conservancy staff will formulate and concur with one score for each proposal based on the criteria below and from subject matter experts, as appropriate. Each application will receive one final score from which to compare and rank against other proposals.

Project applicants are encouraged to seek technical assistance from the Conservancy on how to address any deficiencies for future submissions. For example, for projects that align with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan goals and the purposes of Prop 68, but are not sufficiently developed to be awarded a Conservancy grant, the Conservancy may provide technical assistance to assist applicants in further developing their project concepts. Technical assistance will be prioritized for projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

The Conservancy reserves the right to reject any applicant who has a history of performance issues with past grants or other agreements with any public entity, including but not limited to the Conservancy.

**C. Application Review and Evaluation**

Full Applications will be reviewed and evaluated based on how well the proposed project advances the objectives in the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan, meets its project evaluation criteria, and meets the priorities identified in Prop 68. To be funded by Prop 68, projects must be consistent with both the Conservancy’s enabling legislation and the applicable Chapter of Prop 68.

**Projects will be evaluated using the following criteria to determine an initial ranking, out of a score of 150 possible points**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Points** |
| Consistency with purposes of the funding source | 25 |
| Alignment with State plans and priorities | 20 |
| Conservancy goals  | 20 |
| Climate change considerations | 25 |
| Multiple Benefits | 10 |
| Project Readiness | 15 |
| Community, Non-Profit and/or Government Support and Collaboration  | 15 |
| Leveraged Funding | 20 |
| **Total Points Possible** | **150** |

**Eligibility**

1. The project is located within San Diego River watershed.
2. Project applicant is a public agency, special district, joint powers authority, public college, public university, nonprofit organization that qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, or Indian Tribes that are either federally recognized or listed on the current Native American Heritage Commission’s California Tribal Consultation List.
3. Project type, Eligible Project Categories:

Below are general project categories that may be eligible for funding. Applicants are encouraged to work with Conservancy staff if a project does not fall within one of these categories, to determine if it may be otherwise eligible.

1. Land Conservation Projects. (fee title/easements/deed restrictions)
2. Resource Protection and Restoration Projects. Projects which facilitate the protection and restoration of wildlife, habitat, and historical/archaeological resources. Projects that enhance above and below ground carbon storage through planting trees and other vegetation.
3. Vegetation Management and Fire Safety Projects. Projects which facilitate fire prevention and safety, understory clearing, establishing fuel breaks and recommended fuel modification zones.
4. Trail and Facility Improvement Projects. Projects which provide public access, trail improvements, enable safe accessibility to parks, open space, and green space (including signage, restrooms, entrances, parking, kiosks or other). This includes new projects to implement statutory requirements to provide better accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
5. Planning and Design Projects. Includes CEQA/NEPA environmental review, permitting, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans, and other certified engineering/surveying documents. Up to 5% of the Conservancy’s Prop 68 allocation may be used for Planning and Design.
6. Water and Flood Management Projects. Projects that improve water quality, restore floodplains or wetlands, install bioswales, permeable/pervious pavement, storm water reduction, retention, detention and/or infiltration basin.
7. Community Access

**Required Evaluation Criteria:**

1. **Consistency with purposes of the funding source.** (25 points) see <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB5>
2. **The extent** **to which the project promotes and implements state priorities.** (20 points) Promotion and implementation of State plans and priorities require that projects be consistent with adopted statewide plans and priorities. Related state plans include, but are not limited to: California Water Action Plan, Forest Carbon Plan, Safeguarding California – California’s Climate Adaptation Strategy, the 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan (Scoping Plan) and the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, Natural Working Lands Plan, and Wildlife Action Plan, Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin as well as other adopted State plans.
3. **Achieves Conservancy goals.** (20 points) Division 22.9 of the Public Resources Code “The San Diego River Conservancy Act,” and Strategic Plan 2018-2023 (<http://sdrc.ca.gov/webmaster/arc/docs/StratPlan_update_2018-2023_Final.pdf>)
	* Land acquisition and conservation
	* Recreation
	* Education/interpretation
	* Habitat protection and restoration
	* Water quality and supply
	* Outreach
4. **Climate change considerations.** (25 points)
	* Minimization of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (project design and construction methods include measures to avoid or minimize greenhouse gas emissions)
	* Carbon sequestration
	* Increase resiliency to rising temperatures – global warming
	* Reduce heat island effects
	* Soils/amendments/crop rotation
	* Wetlands creation/enhancement
	* Green infrastructure and greenbelts
	* Riparian restoration
5. **The extent to which** **the** **project provides multiple benefits**. (10 points)
6. **Project readiness.** (15 points)

Discuss ability of the grantee and other partners to start and finish the project within 2-year timeframe. Is project shovel ready and site control obtained? The Conservancy is required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Grant applicants should consider whether their proposed project will trigger the need for an environmental impact report, negative declaration or whether a CEQA exemption applies. How CEQA applies and the status of CEQA compliance must be addressed in the concept proposal/full application. Applicant should list and discuss any other potential permits needed for their project.

1. **Collaboration and community support.** (15 points)

Support letters from local, state, tribal and federal organizations and community members. Extent to which the public, nonprofit groups, landowners, and others will contribute to the project.

1. **Leveraged funding** - contribution of matching funds or in-kind services. (20 points)

**Required Consultations:**

1. For projects under this grant program, the services of the California Conservation Corps (CCC) or a local conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps shall be used whenever feasible. Public Resources Code Section 80016 states “To the extent feasible, a project whose application includes the use of services of the California Conservation Corps or certified community conservation corps, as defined in Section 14507.5, shall be given preference for receipt of a grant under this division.” Applicants seeking funds for Proposition 68 projects should consult with representatives of both the California Conservation Corps and the Community Conservation Corps (hereafter collectively referred to as Corps) prior to application submission to determine the feasibility of the Corps’ participation. The Corps’ consultation form is attached hereto as Appendix N.
2. The Conservancy recognizes the need for consultation regarding projects that affect California tribal communities. As such, applicants should make every effort to involve Native American Tribes and stakeholder groups. The Conservancy requires applicants to contact both the Native American Heritage Commission and the Kumeyaay Diegueño Land Conservancy. Proof of contacting both organizations will be required in Full Application.

**D. Project Eligibility**

Prop 68 funds must be spent consistent with the General Obligation Bond Law, Government Code Section 16727. Prop 68 contains additional provisions that may make some projects ineligible, these include:

* Projects cannot be used to fund acquisitions of land by eminent domain.
* Projects that include acquisition of property that cannot be purchased at fair market value
* Projects that include both acquisition and development.
* Projects that will not be completed in the allotted timelines.
* Projects that are intended to correct problems caused by inadequate maintenance.
* Projects that would be used to fulfill mitigation requirements imposed by law are not

eligible for funding (PRC §80020).

* Prop 68 funds may only be used for projects that will provide benefits or improvements that are greater than required applicable environmental mitigation measures or compliance obligations.

**E. Grant Awards**

Prop 68 grants will be awarded when authorized by the Conservancy Board. The Conservancy Board holds public board meetings approximately 6 times a year. Staff recommendations will be provided to the Conservancy Board to document how each project meets objectives and priorities for the Prop 68 Grant program. Recommended awards will be posted on the Conservancy’s website prior to the public meeting.

A grant agreement will be the binding legal agreement between the Conservancy and its grantee. Expenses incurred before the Conservancy grant agreement is executed are not reimbursable. The agreement will include requirements of the grantee and information about how and when funds can be disbursed. To the extent practicable, the grant agreement will require grantees to comply with some of the provisions of Prop 68, including signage acknowledging Prop 68 funding and measurement of greenhouse gas emission reductions or carbon sequestration and provide site access for maintenance and operation period post project implementation. The grantee must sign the grant agreement and exhibits, as needed and comply with general terms and conditions in order to receive funds.

# IV. Additional Information

**A. Available Funding**

The Conservancy expects to grant approximately $1-2 million every other year for 8 years. However, the amount of funds available will depend upon the amount appropriated to the Conservancy each year. The amount awarded will also depend on the quality of the proposed projects submitted and being developed and any returned funds.

**B. Grant Provisions**

Following Conservancy Board approval of a grant, staff will prepare a grant agreement with detailed conditions specific to the project. The grant agreement must be signed by the grantee before funds will be disbursed. Several typical grant agreement provisions are:

* Actual awards are conditional upon funds being available from the State.
* Grantees must submit a detailed project work program and budget for Conservancy approval.
* Grant funds will only be paid in arrears on a reimbursement basis.
* Site control from the landowner is needed prior to commencing work.
* Grantee or Land owner must agree to a ten (10) or twenty (20) year Memorandum of Understanding for operation and management agreement for the project site, depending on project type.
* Grantees may be required to reimburse the Conservancy for some or all of the disbursed grant funds if the project is not successfully completed.
* Grantees must maintain liability insurance during grant term and include the San Diego River Conservancy as an “additional insured.”
* Expenses incurred before the Conservancy grant agreement is executed are not reimbursable.

**C. Payment of Grant Funds**

Funds cannot be disbursed until there is a fully-executed grant agreement between the Conservancy and grantee and satisfactory site control, including an operations and maintenance agreement; CEQA / NEPA (if applicable) is completed; and signage is installed.

For all Projects, payments are made on a reimbursement basis (i.e., the Grantee pays for services, products or supplies, submits invoices and proof of payment and is then reimbursed by the Conservancy). Each invoice submitted will require a progress report. It generally takes 4-6 weeks to receive payment once a complete payment request is submitted. Ten percent (10%) of the amounts submitted for reimbursement will be withheld and issued as a final payment upon project completion.

**D. Use of Project Property**

Grantee must maintain and operate the property acquired or developed in a manner consistent with the grant agreement and grant guidelines. Conservation easement proposals must include a plan describing the proposed restrictions and reservations for the easement and the funding mechanism available to support the plan. The final conservation easement terms and conditions are subject to approval of the Conservancy.

Grantees must own the land or hold a lease, long-term agreement, or other legal, long-term interest in the land that is satisfactory to the Conservancy.

Grantee is responsible for ensuring the project complies with all applicable current laws and regulations affecting development projects, including but not limited to, legal requirements for construction and implementation, building codes, health and safety codes, state contractor’s and other licenses, and disabled access laws. Grantee must certify that all applicable permits have been obtained.

**E. Project Monitoring and Reporting**

The Full Application must include a monitoring and reporting component that explains how the effectiveness of the project will be measured and reported. The monitoring and reporting component will vary depending on the nature of the project. In addition, Conservancy staff will work with grantees to develop appropriate monitoring and reporting templates and procedures.

**F.** **Loss of Funding *(not a complete list)***

The following are examples of actions that may result in a grantee’s loss of funding:

* + 1. Grantee fails to execute a grant agreement within three (3) months of grant issuance.
		2. Grantee withdraws from the grant program.
		3. Property cannot be acquired at or below approved fair market value.
		4. Grantee loses willing seller(s).
		5. Grantee loses site control or landowner does not sign an operation and management agreement.
		6. Grantee fails to submit required documentation within the time periods specified in the grant agreement.
		7. Grantee fails to submit evidence of CEQA/NEPA compliance as specified by the grant agreement.
		8. Grantee changes project scope without prior approval from the Conservancy.
		9. Grantee fails to complete the project.
		10. Grantee fails to demonstrate sufficient progress.

**G. State Audit and Accounting Requirements**

**Audit requirements**

If the project is selected for audit, the grantee will be contacted in advance. The audit shall include all books, papers, accounts, documents, or other records of the grantee, as they relate to the project for which the funds were granted.

The grantee must have the project records, including the source documents and canceled checks, readily available, and provide an employee with knowledge of the project to assist the auditor. The Grantee must provide a copy of any document, paper, record, or the like, requested by the auditor.

**Accounting requirements**

The grantee must maintain an accounting system that:

• accurately reflects fiscal transactions, with the necessary controls and safeguards,

• provides a good audit trail, including original source documents such as purchase orders, receipts, progress payments, invoices, time cards, canceled checks, etc.

• provides accounting data so the total cost of each individual project can be readily determined.

**Records Retention**

Project records must be retained for a period of three (3) years after final payment is made by the Conservancy. All project records must be retained by the grantee at least one (1) year following an audit. A project is considered complete upon receipt of final grant payment from the Conservancy.

**Ongoing Project Reporting**

Grantees are required to submit report on the progress of the project as request by the Conservancy through the term of the grant agreement. Entities will be provided a final report of tasks completed and final accounting with the last invoice.