§ 611.103 Application evaluation.

(a) Eligibility screening. Applications will be reviewed to determine whether the applicant is eligible, the information required under § 611.101 is complete, and the proposed loan complies with applicable statutes and regulations. DOE can at any time reject an application, in whole or in part, that does not meet these requirements. Any additional information submitted to DOE will be treated as provided in 10 CFR 600.15 and must be marked as provided in 10 CFR 600.15(b).

(b) Evaluation criteria. Applications that are determined to be eligible pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section will be subject to a substantive review by DOE based upon factors that include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) The technical merit of the proposed advanced technology vehicles or qualifying components, with greater weight given for factors including, but not limited to:
   (i) Improved vehicle fuel economy above that required for an advanced technology vehicle;
   (ii) Potential contributions to improved fuel economy of the U.S. light-duty vehicle fleet;
   (iii) Likely reductions in petroleum use by the U.S. light-duty fleet; and
   (iv) Promotion of use of advanced fuel (e.g., E85, ultra-low sulfur diesel).

(2) Technical Program Factors such as economic development and diversity in technology, company, risk, and geographic location.