Q: Can a research project have multiple PIs? Or just one PI and the rest Co-PIs?

   A: A project can have multiple PIs, as long as the organizational and management structure is clear.

Q: Can a research project focus on public housing developments that are not currently pursuing conversion through RAD? Or could the research focus on other public housing developments that might inform research topics related to RAD? Can a research project compare non-RAD projects with housing project developed by community development corporations (CDCs)?

   A: HUD’s goal is to produce policy-relevant knowledge about RAD. HUD does not require that research projects focus on properties converting under RAD; however, if a research project focuses on non-RAD properties it may be difficult to demonstrate that the proposed research is related to RAD and has significance for HUD, RAD, and affordable housing practitioners.

Q: For how many sites will administrative data be available? The NOFA refers to 24 sites but it is not clear how these 24 sites relate to the universe of public housing developments, RAD developments, and public housing units.

   A: In the initial application period (9/24/2012 to 10/25/2012), HUD received and reviewed 113 applications for public housing conversions. Of those, 110 projects (converting 11,910 units) were awarded a CHAP. HUD is pursuing a large-scale evaluation (referred to in the NOFA as the contracted evaluation) that we expect will focus on a sample of 24 RAD sites. These sites have not yet been selected. Administrative data will be available for all RAD projects (not just the 24 studied by the contracted evaluation) and may also be available for other assisted housing units, if appropriate.