

beryllium sensitive? If so, what is the acceptable level? Please provide evidence and rationale for acceptable surface contamination level.

16. Are there any indications that establishing ultra-low permissible surface contamination levels would provide any additional protection to workers? Please provide evidence of the health protection benefits and cost of implementing various permissible surface contamination levels, for example, the "stop work level."

17. What standards for contamination control should be applied to beryllium operations? Please provide descriptions of current practices for swipe sampling, levels acceptable in access controlled areas, levels acceptable for facilities and equipment released for uncontrolled use, and work rules for personal hygiene.

18. What engineering and work practice controls are routinely applied for beryllium work? How do the various controls compare with respect to efficiency in reducing exposures? Please support your answer with exposure data and a discussion of the time and cost required for implementation of various controls.

19. Could current beryllium exposures be reduced by the use of additional available engineering controls and work practices? Would such reductions be economically feasible? Please support your answer with a discussion of additional available controls, their efficiency in reducing exposures, and the associated time and cost for implementation.

20. Are there unique conditions in work settings where beryllium is produced or used that make engineering controls infeasible?

21. Are there conditions under which respirators use should be permitted? If so, what are the conditions? What respirator fit testing requirements should be included in the standard and when should such testing be required?

22. To the extent you might be able to forecast possible beryllium control measures, what would be the possible financial impacts of incremental spending for such controls by your facility? How large an effect is incremental spending on beryllium controls likely to have on the costs of products or services that you provide?

23. What examinations and tests should be included in a medical monitoring program aimed at the early detection of chronic beryllium disease? What should the time interval be between periodic medical examinations or tests?

24. What criteria should be used to determine who must be included in a

medical monitoring program? Using this criteria, how many current workers at your facility would be included in the medical monitoring program.

25. Do you currently have a medical monitoring program for workers exposed to beryllium? What does this program entail (i.e., identify required tests, examinations, frequencies, costs, criteria for inclusion in the program). How many of your current workers are in the medical monitoring program?

26. Are estimates available of the medical costs associated with beryllium-related disease? Please provide references to these estimates.

27. Regarding current policies for medical removal:

a. What are the current practices and criteria for removing overexposed workers from beryllium jobs?

b. What specific biological indicators or clinical test results are currently used to determine overexposure?

c. For workers who have been removed from jobs because of beryllium overexposure, what alternate types of jobs were they given? Does this assignment have any impact on wages, position classification, etc.? How long does this reassignment usually last?

d. Are reassigned workers ever returned to jobs that include beryllium activities? If so, what are the criteria for returning?

The draft agenda for the forums is as follows:

#### *Draft Agenda*

Opening remarks

Presentations by Participants (10 minutes per speaker)

Next Steps—Closing

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 19, 1996.

Tara O'Toole,

*Assistant Secretary Environment, Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 96-33129 Filed 12-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

#### **Idaho Operations Office; Notice of Solicitation**

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Idaho Operations Office (ID), in accordance with the Financial Assistance regulations in 10 CFR 600, announces competitive Solicitation Number DE-PS07-97ID13507 for DOE's Greenhouse of the Future Program. With this solicitation DOE intends to make a financial assistance award to support the Greenhouse of the Future Program.

**AVAILABILITY OF SOLICITATION:** Prospective applicants should send a written request for a copy of the solicitation and a DOE application

instruction package (which includes standard forms, assurances and certifications) to the U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, 850 Energy Drive, MS-1221, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563, Attn: SOL DE-PS07-97ID13507, Connie Osborne, Contract Specialist (Telephone Number: 208-526-0093). Requests transmitted by facsimile at (208) 526-5548 will be accepted. It is advised that prospective applicants submit their requests in writing no later than January 17, 1997.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The DOE Agriculture Office is interested in promoting new agriculture technologies to reduce energy consumption in an environmentally sound way. The goals of the Greenhouse of the Future Research Program is to: Promote and advance U.S. greenhouse technologies and encourage U.S. universities (targeted at the undergraduate research level) to develop innovative greenhouse technologies.

DOE anticipates awarding one Financial Assistance Grant in accordance with DOE Financial Assistance regulations appearing at Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter II, Subchapter H, Part 600 if funding is available. Federal funds available for this solicitation are expected to be \$20,000 for the 12-month research period. The \$20,000 will be used for greenhouse research and travel expenses to the Epcot® Floral and Garden Show. Travel expenses shall not exceed \$5000. No fee or profit will be paid to the award recipients. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 81.104. Applicants must identify a project period which does not exceed 12 months. Applications identifying a project period for 12 months or less will be eligible for funding of \$20,000 for the entire project period. The period of performance is anticipated to be 12 months. The successful applicant will be required to submit a final report at the end of the 12 month period to DOE. The objective of this solicitation is to promote the development of environmentally sound, new technologies for greenhouse food and floral production with the objective of conserving energy. To ensure that the competition elicits creative ideas, and not simply prototype fabrication capabilities, the contest will be a design competition, where the university teams submit conceptual ideas of their particular technologies. Interdisciplinary teamwork is strongly encouraged, particularly from the undergraduate level. Proposed projects should consider total systems

integration to include energy conservation, pollution reduction, pest management, and crop productivity.

The statutory authority for this program is Sec 107 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, Public Law 93488, 88 Stat. 1240 (U.S.C. 5817) and Federal Non-Nuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974. Public Law 93-577, 88 Stat. 1878 (42 U.S.C. 5901 et seq.). A copy of the solicitation may be accessed on DOE-ID's home page using Universal Resource Locator address: <http://www.inel.gov/procurement/index.html>. The deadline for receipt of applications is 3:00 p.m. MST February 27, 1997.

*Procurement Request Number:* 07-97ID13507.000.

Dated: December 23, 1996.

R. Jeffrey Hoyles,

*Director, Procurement Services Division.*

[FR Doc. 96-33195 Filed 12-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

### Secretary of Energy Advisory Board; Notice of Open Meeting.

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**SUMMARY:** Consistent with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following advisory committee meeting:  
*Name:* Secretary of Energy Advisory Board—Electric System Reliability Task Force.

*Dates and Times:* Thursday, January 16, 1997, 8:30 AM—5:00 PM.

*Place:* JW Marriott Hotel, Capital Ballroom—Salon E, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20004.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Richard C. Burrow, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (AB-1), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-1709.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The electric power industry is in the midst of a complex transition to competition, which will induce many far-reaching changes in the structure of the industry and the institutions which regulate it. This transition raises many reliability issues, as new entities emerge in the power markets and as generation becomes less integrated with transmission.

##### Purpose of the Task Force

The purpose of the Electric System Reliability Task Force is to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board

regarding the critical institutional, technical, and policy issues that need to be addressed in order to maintain the reliability of the nation's bulk electric system in the context of a more competitive industry.

#### Tentative Agenda

##### 8:30—9:15 Opening Remarks

Hazel R. O'Leary, Secretary of Energy  
Bob Hanfling, Chairman, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board  
Phil Sharp, Chairman, Electric System Reliability Task Force

##### 9:15—9:30 Task Force Member

##### Introductions

##### 9:30—9:45 Break

##### 9:45—10:30 Institutional Reliability Issues

Mike Gent, National Electric, Reliability Council

##### 11:15 Technical Reliability Issues

Karl Stahlkopf, Electric Power, Research Institute

##### 11:15—11:45 State Reliability Perspectives

Duncan Kincheloe, Missouri, Public Utility Commission

##### 11:45—1:00 Lunch

##### 1:00—1:30 Federal Policy Issues

Charles B. Curtis, Deputy Secretary of Energy

##### 1:30—2:00 Public Comment

##### 2:00—4:30 Development of a Task Force Work Plan

##### 4:30 Adjourn

This tentative agenda is subject to change. The final agenda will be available at the meeting.

#### Public Participation

The Chairman of the Task Force is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will, in the Chairman's judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. During its meeting in Washington, D.C. the Task Force welcomes public comment. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. The Task Force will make every effort to hear the views of all interested parties. Written comments may be submitted to David Cheney, Acting Executive Director, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board, AB-1, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585.

#### Minutes

Minutes and a transcript of the meeting will be available for public review and copying approximately 30 days following the meeting at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190 Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on December 23, 1996.

Gail Cephas,

*Acting Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 96-33130 Filed 12-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

### Energy Information Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**SUMMARY:** The Energy Information Administration (EIA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed new form EIA-902, "Geothermal Heat Pump Manufacturers Survey."

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before February 28, 1997. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below of your intention to do so as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to James Holihan, Office of Coal, Nuclear, Electric, and Alternate Fuels, EI-522, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20585-0650, (202) 426-1147 (telephone number), (202) 426-1308 (fax number), JHolihan@eia.doe.gov (e-mail address).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to James Holihan at the address listed above.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background
- II. Current Actions
- III. Request for Comments

##### I. Background

In order to fulfill its responsibilities under the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-275) and the Department of Energy Organization Act (Pub. L. 95-91), the Energy Information Administration is obliged to carry out a central, comprehensive, and unified energy data and information program. As part of this program, EIA collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes, and disseminates data and information related to energy resource reserves, production, demand, and technology, and related economic and statistical information relevant to the adequacy of energy resources to meet demands in the near and longer term future for the Nation's economic and social needs.