

water contamination exceeding background levels or maximum concentration limits. If ground water contamination has not exceeded these standards and is not expected to do so in the future, remediation will not be required.

Pursuant to the EPA standards, if ground water has been contaminated by uranium processing activities and the contamination exceeds background levels or maximum concentration limits, the next step will be to determine whether compliance with EPA ground water standards could be achieved by applying supplemental standards under 40 CFR 192.21(g), based on a determination that the ground water met EPA's definition of "limited use ground water." "Limited use ground water" means ground water that is not a current or potential source of drinking water because of: high concentration of dissolved solids; ambient contamination unrelated to milling operations that cannot reasonably be cleaned up; or poor aquifer yield (40 CFR 192.11(e)). If limited use ground water is shown to exist and if supplemental standards are protective of human health and the environment, no site-specific remediation will be required. If supplemental standards based on limited use ground water is not applicable, the next step will be to determine whether alternate concentration limits apply.

If alternate concentration limits are protective of human health and the environment, alternate concentration limits will be applied. If not, it will be necessary to determine whether the contaminated ground water plume(s) will qualify for supplemental standards which, under 40 CFR 192.21(b) of the EPA ground water standards, may be appropriate if remediation will cause more environmental harm than benefit. At some sites where supplemental standards or alternate concentration limits may be applied, ground water monitoring and institutional controls may be necessary to ensure that the application of alternate concentration limits or supplemental standards will continue to be protective of human health and the environment. In addition, when limited-use ground water is present, supplemental standards must ensure that current and reasonably projected uses of the affected ground water are preserved.

If supplemental standards will not be protective, the next step will be to determine whether natural flushing (attenuation) will bring the contaminated ground water into compliance (i.e., within maximum concentration limits, background levels,

or alternate concentration limits) within 100 years. Natural flushing could be used if DOE determines and NRC concurs that institutional controls could be implemented, maintained, and enforced during the natural flushing period; that this strategy is protective of human health and the environment; and that all other EPA provisions are met.

If natural flushing will not be protective, it will be necessary to determine whether natural flushing combined with active remediation methods will meet the EPA ground water standards and will be protective of human health and the environment. If so, a two-part strategy will be implemented. Active remediation methods will first be used for a short time to remove the most contaminated ground water in a discrete area, and then natural flushing will occur. When appropriate, DOE would use active methods that have low operational and maintenance requirements, such as gradient manipulation or geochemical barriers, in conjunction with natural flushing.

Site characterization data may show that natural flushing combined with active remediation will not result in ground water quality that is protective of human health and the environment. If that is the case, the next step in the framework will be to determine whether active ground water remediation techniques will meet the EPA ground water standards, and if so, to implement these techniques. Several methods of active ground water remediation could be used, including gradient manipulation, ground water extraction, and *in situ* ground water treatment. The active remediation methods could be used individually or in combination with other cleanup methods. If active remediation results in compliance with the EPA standards, remedial action will be complete. If these methods do not result in compliance, supplemental standards based on technical impracticability of remediation will be applied, along with institutional controls where necessary.

Site-specific NEPA documentation will be prepared to evaluate the impact(s) from alternative strategies for implementing the programmatic decision described above. In accordance with DOE policy, DOE will solicit input from the public, local organizations, and educational institutions on issues that should be identified, considered, and analyzed, and will conduct public meetings for that purpose in the affected communities. Furthermore, DOE will adopt all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm during site-specific activities.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 21, 1997.

Alvin L. Alm,

Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Under Review by the Office of Management and Budget

AGENCY: Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Energy Information Administration (EIA) has submitted the energy information collection listed at the end of this notice to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13). The listing does not include collections of information contained in new or revised regulations which are to be submitted under section 3507(d)(1)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act, nor management and procurement assistance requirements collected by the Department of Energy (DOE).

Each entry contains the following information: (1) Collection number and title; (2) summary of the collection of information (includes sponsor (the DOE component)), current OMB document number (if applicable), type of request (new, revision, extension, or reinstatement); response obligation (mandatory, voluntary, or required to obtain or retain benefits); (3) a description of the need and proposed use of the information; (4) description of the likely respondents; and (5) estimate of total annual reporting burden (average hours per response x proposed frequency of response per year x estimated number of likely respondents.)

DATES: Comments must be filed by May 28, 1997. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments but find it difficult to do so within the time allowed by this notice, you should advise the OMB DOE Desk Officer listed below of your intention to do so as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 395-3084. (Also, please notify the EIA contact listed below.)

ADDRESSES: Address comments to the Department of Energy Desk Officer,

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 726 Jackson Place NW, Washington, D.C. 20503. (Comments should also be addressed to the Office of Statistical Standards at the address below.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Herbert Miller, Office of Statistical Standards, (EI-70), Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20585. Mr. Miller may be telephoned at (202) 426-1103, FAX (202) 426-1081, or e-mail at hmillier@eia.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The energy information collection submitted to OMB for review was:

1. EIA-887, "DOE Customer Surveys"
2. Department of Energy; OMB No. 1901-0302; Extension of Currently Approved Collection; Voluntary
3. DOE-887 will be used to contact users and beneficiaries of DOE products or other services to determine how the Department can better improve its services to meet their needs. Information is needed to make the Department's products more effective, efficient, and responsive and at a lesser cost. Respondents will be users and beneficiaries of the Department's products and services.
4. Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government
5. 12,500 hours (.25 hrs. per response \times 1 response per year \times 50,000 respondents)

Statutory Authority

Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13).

Issued in Washington, D.C., April 21, 1997.

Jay H. Casselberry,

Agency Clearance Officer, Office of Statistical Standards, Energy Information Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Research

Energy Research Financial Assistance Program Notice 97-14; Advanced Computational Testing and Simulation Software Activities

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Mathematical, Information, and Computational

Sciences (MICS) Division of the Office of Computational and Technology Research (OCTR), Office of Energy Research (ER), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its interest in receiving applications for research grants in Advanced Computational Testing and Simulation Software Activities.

DATES: Formal applications submitted in response to this notice must be received not later than 4:30 p.m. E.D.T., July 16, 1997, to permit timely consideration for award early in fiscal year 1998.

ADDRESSES: Formal applications, referencing Program Notice 97-14, should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Research, Grants and Contracts Division, ER-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290, Attn: Program Notice 97-14. The above address also must be used when submitting formal applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, any commercial mail delivery service, or when hand-carried by the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Mary Anne Scott, Office of Energy Research, U.S. Department of Energy, OCTR/MICS, ER-31, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290. Tel: (301) 903-6368; E-mail: scott@er.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The vision of the DOE 2000 Initiative is to accelerate DOE mission accomplishments through advanced collaboration and simulation. Objectives include improved ability to solve DOE's scientific problems, an increased R & D productivity and efficiency, and enhanced access to DOE resources by R & D partners.

One of the two major thrusts for addressing these objectives is the Advanced Computational Testing and Simulation (ACTS) Toolkit. This toolkit will provide an integrated set of software tools, algorithms, and environments that accelerate the adoption and use of advanced computing by DOE programs for mission-critical problems. The toolkit will include capabilities for representing complex geometries, solving diverse numerical equations, simplifying multi-language parallel execution, evaluating and enhancing code performance, and dynamically steering calculations during execution. The strategy for building this toolkit is to select a base set of existing successful tools, provide support to make them interoperable, and then add new tools and interfaces to make the entire toolkit robust for diverse application needs.

In FY 1997, the founding efforts for the ACTS Toolkit were begun—the Scientific Template Library (SciTL). SciTL concentrates on three areas of tool development: interoperable numeric libraries, object-oriented libraries and capabilities for modular code development, and runtime libraries for efficient parallel execution (including dynamic load-balancing). All portions of the SciTL work are tied to specific DOE applications (Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative (ASCI) codes and ER Grand Challenges) and initially targeted to specific computing platforms (ASCI machines). The FY 1997 SciTL project description, including detailed plans, deliverables, and participants, can be found via the Internet at the following URL: <http://www.acl.lanl.gov/SciTL>.

In FY 1998, the ACTS Toolkit efforts will begin to expand. Applications are solicited to build on the SciTL to further advance the strategies of the ACTS Toolkit. Technical areas of interest include, but are not limited to: additional application-specific data structures required for scientific codes, additional numerical solvers, parallel and distributed data structures to support numerical techniques; high-performance parallel input/output components, language interoperability (primarily Fortran, C, and C++), tools for enhancing fault tolerance, tools for easily saving and restoring complex pointer-based structures and objects, tools for debugging and performance analysis/tuning; and toolkit components required for new domains of use. Applications are also encouraged for expanding the use of the ACTS Toolkit to a wider range of DOE applications and for expanding the types of computing platforms on which the Toolkit can be used.

Successful applications will relate to the current SciTL structure by one or more of the following:

- Building new ACTS Toolkit capabilities by using the current functionality provided by the SciTL interface,
- Expanding capabilities of the SciTL interface by developing complementary libraries that interoperate with relevant portions of the existing SciTL components,
- Evaluating the current capabilities of the SciTL components for their functionality, performance, and portability in the context of new application and/or computing systems domains,
- Restructuring portions of the existing SciTL components to enhance functionality, improve performance, and/or expand portability,