

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-00225; FRL-5748-3]

Notice of Availability of Pollution Prevention Grants and Announcement of Financial Assistance Programs Eligible for Review**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of Pollution Prevention Grants.

SUMMARY: EPA expects to have approximately \$5 million available in fiscal year 1998 grant/cooperative agreement funds under the Pollution Prevention Incentives for States (PPIS) grant program. The grant dollars are targeted at State and Tribal programs that address the reduction or elimination of pollution across all environmental media: air, land, and water. Grants/cooperative agreements will be awarded under the authority of the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Your EPA Regional Pollution Prevention Coordinator. Contact names for each Regional Office are listed under Unit VII. of this document.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Electronic Availability:***Internet*

Electronic copies of this document and the Guidance document are available from the EPA home page at the Federal Register-Environmental Documents entry for this document under "Laws and Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgrstr/>).

Fax-on-Demand

Using a faxphone call 202-401-0527 and select item 3055 for a copy of the 1998 Guidance document.

I. Background

Approximately \$50 million has been awarded to more than 100 State and Tribal organizations under EPA's multimedia pollution prevention grant program, since its inception in 1989.

In November 1990, the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (the Act) (Pub. L. 101-508) was enacted, establishing as national policy that pollution should be prevented or reduced at the source whenever feasible. Section 6603 of the Act defines source reduction as any practice that:

(1) Reduces the amount of any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment (including fugitive emissions) prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal.

(2) Reduces the hazards to public health and the environment associated with the release of such substances, pollutants, or contaminants.

EPA further defines pollution prevention as the use of other practices that reduce or eliminate the creation of pollutants through increased efficiency in the use of raw materials, energy, water, or other resources, or protection of natural resources, or protection of natural resources by conservation.

Section 6605 of the Act authorizes EPA to make matching grants to States to promote the use of source reduction techniques by businesses. In evaluating grant applications, the Act directs EPA to consider whether the proposed State program will:

(1) Make technical assistance available to businesses seeking information about source reduction opportunities, including funding for experts to provide onsite technical advice and to assist in the development of source reduction plans.

(2) Target assistance to businesses for which lack of information is an impediment to source reduction.

(3) Provide training in source reduction techniques.

In addition to this grant making authority, the Act authorized EPA to establish a national source reduction clearinghouse and expanded EPA's authorities to collect data to better track source reduction activities. The Act also requires EPA to report periodically to Congress on EPA progress in implementing the Act.

II. Availability of FY 98 Funds

EPA expects to have approximately \$5 million in grant/cooperative agreement funds available for FY 1998 Pollution Prevention activities. The Agency has delegated grant making authority to the EPA Regional offices. Regional offices are responsible for the solicitation of interest, the screening of proposals, and the actual selection of awards. PPIS grant guidance will be provided to all applicants along with any supplementary information the Regions may wish to provide.

All applicants must address the national program criteria listed under Unit V.2. of this document. In addition, applicants may be required to meet supplemental Regional criteria. Interested applicants should contact their Regional Pollution Prevention Coordinator for more information (see Unit VII. of this document for the listing of Regional Pollution Prevention contacts).

III. Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance

The number assigned to the PPIS program in the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance is 66.708 (formerly 66.900).

IV. Matching Requirements

Organizations receiving pollution prevention grant funds are required to match Federal funds by at least 50 percent. For example, the Federal government will provide half of the total allowable cost of the project, and the State will provide the other half. A grant request for \$100,000 would support a total allowable project cost of \$200,000, with the State also providing \$100,000. State contributions may include dollars, in-kind goods and services, and/or third party contributions.

V. Eligibility

1. *Applicants.* In accordance with the Act, eligible applicants for purposes of funding under this grant program include the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any territory or possession of the United States, any agency or instrumentality of a State including State universities, and all Federally recognized Native American tribes. For convenience, the term "State" in this notice refers to all eligible applicants. Local governments, private universities, private nonprofit entities, private businesses, and individuals are not eligible. The organizations excluded from applying directly are encouraged to work with eligible applicants in developing proposals that include them as participants in the projects. EPA strongly encourages this type of cooperative arrangement.

2. *Activities and criteria—*a. *General.* The purpose of the PPIS grant program is to support the establishment and expansion of State and Tribal multimedia pollution prevention programs. EPA specifically seeks to build State pollution prevention capabilities or to test, at the State level, innovative pollution prevention approaches and methodologies. Funds awarded under the PPIS grant program must be used to support pollution prevention programs that address the transfer and reduction of potentially harmful pollutants across all environmental media: air, water, and land. Programs should reflect comprehensive and coordinated pollution prevention planning and implementation efforts State-wide.

b. *1998 National Criteria.* There are a growing number of business assistance

organizations established within States interacting with businesses in an increasing number of areas, including environmental concerns. Consequently, as a means to provide substantive support of pollution prevention, EPA is eager to ensure that the PPIS grants will add to the success and sustainability of State environmental assistance providers and contribute to the development of a cooperative network of coordinated business assistance providers. Through the PPIS grant funds, EPA seeks to leverage the expertise of the various environmental assistance organizations to work jointly with business assistance organizations in an effort to provide seamless assistance to industry. To this end, applicants must provide documentation showing they have entered into a partnership agreement with at least one environmental and/or business assistance provider in their State.

EPA also believes it is important for the sustainability of State pollution prevention programs to complement the goals and strategies of the State Performance Partnership Agreements (PPAs), and Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs) under the National Environmental Performance Partnership System (NEPPS) or for those States not participating in the PPAs and PPGs, to show that the pollution prevention work they are undertaking complements and supports the State's environmental strategic plans. EPA encourages all applicants to develop proposals focused on priority industrial sectors, geographic areas, and/or State and Federal Reinvention activities (if applicable). Where the State environmental programs may lack a single comprehensive environmental strategy, PPIS applications must show a correlation between the proposed activity and the environmental goals, or objectives of the State environmental program. The application must demonstrate how the proposed pollution prevention activities will advance State environmental goals as stated in either PPAs, PPGs, or other State environmental strategic planning documents. Applicants submitting proposals that do not show a correlation between the environmental goals of the State and the proposed pollution prevention activity will not be considered eligible for funding.

EPA, through the PPIS grants, is also working to encourage better awareness by the state regulatory and media programs of how pollution prevention and the State pollution prevention programs are helping the regulatory programs address their ever growing and increasingly complex

environmental management problems. To address this, applications must include activities the pollution prevention program will undertake to ensure communication and feedback to the regulatory programs showing how pollution prevention is helping to advance multimedia environmental protection.

Based on the above, proposals that do not address these three criteria will not be eligible for funding. In summary, in the narrative of the grant application, the following three requirements must be clearly addressed:

(1) Identify the partnering organization(s) and demonstrate or document the relationship. This can be done, for example, through a letter of agreement, a joint statement, or principles of agreement signed by both parties or multiple parties.

(2) Describe how the activities proposed in the grant will support the State's PPA, PPG under NEPPS, or where the State is not participating in the PPA - PPG process, show how the proposal complements the goals and objectives laid out in State strategic planning documents. Applications must show a correlation between the proposed activity and the environmental goals or objectives of the State environmental program if the State environmental program lacks a single comprehensive environmental strategy. Proposals must include copies of language from PPAs, PPGs, or other strategic planning documents and show directly how P2 will be used to support those goals and objectives.

(3) Describe the outreach and communication strategies that will be undertaken to ensure that the State's regulatory and environmental programs are made aware of the pollution prevention activities in their State and how those activities are addressing multimedia environmental management problems. For example, a work plan might incorporate identifiable activities which supply relevant source reduction information to the affected regulatory program.

Applicants should consult the PPIS program guidance for more detailed information on the 1998 goals and criteria.

Proposals accepted for review under this program must qualify as pollution prevention as defined by EPA.

3. *Program management.* Awards for FY 1998 funds will be managed through the EPA Regional Offices. Applicants should contact their EPA Regional Pollution Prevention Coordinator to obtain specific deadlines for submitting proposals. National funding decisions will be made by April 1998.

4. *Contacts.* Interested applicants are requested to contact the appropriate EPA Regional Pollution Prevention Coordinator listed under Unit VI. of this document to obtain specific instructions and guidance for submitting proposals.

VI. State Single Point of Contact

This program is eligible for review under Executive Order 12372. States must notify the following office in writing within 30 days of this publication whether their State's official E.O. 12372 process will review applications in this program: Policy, Information and Training Branch, Grants Administration Division (3903R), U.S. EPA, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention: Carol H. Hoffman.

Applicants must contact their State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for intergovernmental review as early as possible to find out if the program is subject to the State's official E.O. 12372 review process and what material must be submitted to the SPOC for review. Please note that federally recognized tribal organizations are not required to comply with this procedure.

VII. Regional Pollution Prevention Contacts

- Region I: (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont), Mark Mahoney, JFK Federal Bldg/SPN, Boston, MA 02203, Telephone: (617) 565-1155.
- Region II: (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands), Janet Sapadin, (2-OPM-PPI), 290 Broadway, 25th Floor, New York, NY 10007, Telephone: (212) 637-3584.
- Region III: (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia), Jeff Burke, (3EP10), 841 Chestnut Bldg., Philadelphia, PA 19107, Telephone: (215) 566-2761.
- Region IV: (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee), Bernie Hayes, Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsyth St., SW., Atlanta, GA 30303, Telephone: (404) 562-9430.
- Region V: (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin), Phil Kaplan, (DRP-8J), 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604, Telephone: (312) 353-4669.
- Region VI: (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas), Eli Martinez, (6EN-XP), 1445 Ross Ave., 12th Floor, Suite 1200, Dallas, TX 75202, Telephone: (214) 665-2119.
- Region VII: (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska), Marc Matthews, (ARTD/TSP), 726 Minnesota Ave., Kansas

City, KS 66101, Telephone: (913) 551-7517.

Region VIII: (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming), Linda Walters, (8P2-P2), 999 18th St., Suite 500, Denver, CO 80202, Telephone: (303) 312-6385.

Region IX: (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam) (WST-1-1), Bill Wilson, 75 Hawthorne Ave., San Francisco, CA 94105, Telephone: (415) 744-2192.

EPA Region X: (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington), Carolyn Gangmark, 1200 Sixth Ave., Seattle, WA 98101, Telephone: (206) 553-4072.

Dated: September 23, 1997.

William H. Sanders III,

Director, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00502; FRL-5742-1]

Proposed Pesticide Amendment Reinvention Measures

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: EPA is soliciting comments on a proposed revised policies and procedures concerning certain types of registration amendments. The proposal is available in a draft Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice entitled "Notifications, Non-notifications and Minor Formulation Amendments" which is available upon request. Interested parties may request a copy of the Agency's proposed policy as set forth in the ADDRESSES unit of this notice.

DATES: Written comments, identified by the docket number "OPP-00502," must be received on or before December 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments identified by the docket control number OPP-00502 by mail to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments directly to the OPP docket which is located in Rm. 1132 of Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The PR Notice is available by contacting the person whose name appears under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under Unit V. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Jeff Kempter (7505C), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: Rm. 713E, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 305-5448, e-mail: kempter.carlton@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability:
Internet

Electronic copies of this document and the PR Notice are available from the EPA home page at the Federal Register-Environmental Documents entry for this document under "Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>).
Fax on Demand

Using a faxphone call 202-401-0527 and select item 6102 for a copy of the PR notice.

This **Federal Register** notice announces the availability of the draft PR Notice and solicits comment on the proposed policy. If, after reviewing any comments, EPA determines that changes to the Notice are warranted, the Agency will revise the draft PR Notice prior to release.

I. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed PR Notice is to reinvent the registration process by expanding the types of minor amendments which may be accomplished by notification, non-notification, or minor formula changes. The proposed PR Notice will supersede the document now in effect, PR Notice 95-2 (May 31, 1995). The goal of this notice is to increase the efficiency and timeliness of the registration amendment process so as to reduce regulatory burdens while maintaining protection to human health and the environment.

II. Applicability

The proposed PR Notice will apply to all applicants seeking minor registration amendments which meet the criteria in the notice.

III. Contents of the PR Notice

The proposed PR Notice simply expands the current PR Notice 95-2 to include more kinds of minor labeling amendments which may be accomplished by notification or non-notification. In addition, the proposed notice revises the process for submission and review of notifications

to reflect the new requirements of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996.

IV. Submission of Confidential Business Information

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice.

V. Public Record

A record has been established for this action under docket number "OPP-00502" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Rm. 1132 of the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this action, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in ADDRESSES at the beginning of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, pesticides and pests.