

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

**Notice of Program Interest—
Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty
Research and Development Program**

AGENCY: Albuquerque Operations Office (AL). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of program interest—to fund unsolicited applications/proposals for financial assistance awards contributing to the mission of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) Research and Development Program.

SUMMARY: The DOE is interested in receiving for consideration applications for Federal Financial Assistance Awards pursuant to the financial assistance rules contained in Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 600 (10 CFR 600), specifically 10 CFR 600.9). On behalf of the DOE CTBT R&D Program, DOE/AL invites Unsolicited Applications/Proposals from interested and qualified Nonprofit Organizations, Institutions of Higher Education, and Commercial Organizations to pursue research that supports the CTBT R&D program mission.

The CTBT R&D Program mission is: "to carry out research and development necessary to provide U.S. government agencies, that are responsible for monitoring and/or verifying CTBT compliance, with technologies, algorithms, hardware and software for integrated systems to detect, locate, identify and characterize nuclear explosions at the thresholds and confidence levels that meet U.S. requirements in a cost-effective manner." Program priorities focus on the advancement of seismic, infrasound, radionuclide, and hydroacoustic knowledge and capabilities. This Notice of Program Interest is intended to encourage the participation of Nonprofit Organizations, Institutions of Higher Education, and Commercial Organizations in furthering these program mission interests.

DATES: This Notice of Program Interest expires *September 30, 1998*. This date does not represent a common deadline for applications but rather that applications may be submitted at any time before the notice expires.

ADDRESSES: Applicants seeking funding consideration by the CTBT R&D Program under this Notice of Program Interest are requested to mark and submit their Unsolicited Applications/Proposals, eight (8) total, as follows:

Original and Copies #1–6: Leslie A. Casey, Treaty Monitoring Program Manager, c/o CTBT R&D Program—Notice of Program Interest—NN–20,

U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence, Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20585–0420. DOE/NN–20 will initiate the objective merit review process.

Copy #7: John N. Augustine, Unsolicited Applications/Proposals Manager, c/o CTBT R&D Program—Notice of Program Interest—NN–20, U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Technology Office (FETC), 626 Cochran Mill Road, PO Box 10940, Pittsburgh, PA 15236–0940. DOE FETC—Pittsburgh will assign a DOE identification number and acknowledge receipt of the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Department of Energy, Albuquerque Operations Office, P.O. Box 5400, Albuquerque, NM 87185–5400, Attn: Mr. Michael G. Loera, Contracts and Procurement Division, Telephone Number: (505) 845–4302, Fax Number: (505) 845–4004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Responses to this Notice of Program Interest must explain how the proposed work furthers the CTBT R&D Program mission and research issues. These are summarized on the Web Page: "<http://www.ctbt.rnd.doe.gov/coordination/>", under the heading "R&D Issues and Metrics". Successful applications will: demonstrate a knowledge of the ongoing CTBT R&D Program; offer novel or innovative approaches leading to performance improvements and cost reductions; respond to ground truth data deficiencies; and, follow the guidance provided in the "*Guide for the Submission of Unsolicited Applications/Proposals*", which is available on the Web Page: "<http://www.pr.doe.gov/gdtoc.html>". Applicants are, thereby, encouraged to review and acquaint themselves with 10 CFR 600.10, "Form and contents of applications", and with work that has already been performed as represented in the bibliography located at the Program's web site.

Unsolicited Applications/Proposals will be evaluated against many factors. Some of the criteria that are likely to apply include: technical merit; applicant's familiarity with other ongoing work; the relevance and quality of the applicant's prior work; effectiveness of the proposed technical approach; timeliness; cost; and the period of performance. Applicants are, therefore, encouraged to include information in their proposals that facilitate evaluation against these criteria and as a minimum should address the requirements listed below. Cost sharing is not required, but highly encouraged. It is anticipated that Cooperative Agreements will be favored

over Grants. The resulting Cooperative Agreement or Grant will be administered by the DOE Albuquerque Operations Office, or possibly by other CTBT Program Office designees.

Unsolicited Applications/Proposals are to be comprised of both technical and cost proposal elements. Unsolicited Proposal requirements and format are as follow:

(1) *Project Description:* (Provide a comprehensive, but succinct [350 character] description of the proposed research project. It should convey the project objective, application, method, product and value to U.S. government agencies and other users).

(2) *Objective(s):* (State research objectives).

(3) *Application:* (Describe the product and how it is to be used. Discuss the product's merits over the current baseline and operational risk considerations).

(4) *User(s):* (List potential users and indicate whether they have expressed interest in the product).

(5) *Prior Work:* (Summarize the current state-of-the-art for the stated field of endeavor. Provide credentials of key participants and describe their previous relevant work. Cite applicable bibliographic references).

(6) *Collaborators:* (Identify other participants and describe their role and contribution).

(7) *Proposed Work & Scientific Basis:* (Specify the technical approach to manage the project; describe specific tasks and subtask activities to be conducted by Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) to achieve the research objectives; and identify key decision points [milestones]. Relate these elements to how they further the stated research objectives and advance the state-of-the-art).

(8) *Research Issues:* (Identify the technical issues that will be addressed by the project; list potential barriers and explain how they will be overcome).

(9) *Tasks:* (By WBS element, list the tasks, associated subtasks, and associated costs. Differentiate the cost for fully burdened labor, equipment, materials, other (such as travel, taxes, fee (if applicable), etc.) [Once Unsolicited Applications/Proposals are selected for funding, a complete breakdown by cost element will be required.]

(10) *Milestones:* (List milestones and scheduled completion dates by task/subtask).

(11) *Deliverables:* (List deliverables and scheduled completion dates by task/subtask).

Funding Considerations

Financial Assistance Awards are anticipated to be funded for project duration's of 1-3 years and awards will generally range from \$100,000 to \$500,000. Total program funds for Unsolicited Applications/Proposals in Fiscal Year (FY) 1998 are not likely to exceed \$1,000,000. Unsolicited Applications/Proposals received may be considered for funding at any time following receipt. Unsolicited Applications/Proposals not selected in FY 1998 may be reconsidered for funding in the following year.

Submission, Withdrawal, and Unsuccessful Applications

Unsolicited Applications/Proposals will be accepted on an ongoing basis. Unsolicited Applications/Proposals must state an acceptance period of 180 days; however, Unsolicited Applications/Proposals may be withdrawn by the Applicant at any time by written notification to the DOE Contracting Officer identified below. Unsolicited Applications/Proposals not funded and not withheld for reconsideration will be destroyed and the Applicant will be notified accordingly. A Federal Financial Assistance Award (Grant and Cooperative Agreements) application package which includes a sample award can be obtained from the DOE Contracting Officer identified below or can be down-loaded from the DOE AL Web Page: "http://www.doeal.gov/cpd/" under the heading "Solicitations".

It is DOE policy to exercise extreme care to ensure that the proposal information is not duplicated, used or disclosed in whole or in part for any purpose other than to evaluate the proposal, without written permission of the Applicant. Furthermore, with respect to the Unsolicited Proposal evaluation, the Applicant is hereby informed that it is standard practice of the CTBT R&D program officials to include review by DOE laboratory managers and experts in the topic area of the proposal. If you are an expert and are willing to serve as a reviewer on a non-remunerative basis, the CTBT R&D Program would like to be notified of your interest. Serving as a technical reviewer could encompass these Unsolicited Applications/Proposals, subject to non-disclosure agreements, as well as other proposals related to the CTBT R&D Program. Interested individuals are requested to forward their resume and cover letter expressing their interest to: Manager, Treaty Monitoring Programs (NN-20), U.S.

Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC, 20585-0420. Finally, proposal evaluation may include coordination with other government agencies or their designated contractors, primarily to check for duplication of effort and end user interest. This is an important integration practice appropriate to a full-scope, ongoing and mature program such as the CTBT R&D program.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on May 13, 1998.
Leslie A. Casey,
Treaty Monitoring Program Manager, NN-20.
 [FR Doc. 98-13412 Filed 5-19-98; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 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: Environmental Management Advisory Board.

DATE AND TIMES: Wednesday, June 10, 1998; 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

PLACE: U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW.; Room 1E-245, Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James T. Melillo, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management; Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB), EM-22, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4400. The Internet address is: James.Melillo@em.doe.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board

The purpose of the Board is to provide the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) with advice and recommendations on issues confronting the Environmental Management program from the perspectives of affected groups and state, local, and tribal governments. The Board will help to improve the Environmental Management Program by assisting in the process of securing consensus recommendations, and providing the Department's numerous publics with opportunities to express

their opinions regarding the Environmental Management Program.

Tentative Agenda

Wednesday, June 10, 1998

8:30 a.m. Co-Chairmen Open Public Meeting
 8:45 a.m. EM-1 Opening Remarks
 9:15 a.m. Technology Development & Transfer Committee Report
 9:45 a.m. Science Committee Report
 10:30 a.m. Break
 10:45 a.m. Privatization Committee Report
 11:00 a.m. Long Term Stewardship Committee Report
 11:15 a.m. 2006 Strategic Planning Committee Reports
 12:00 p.m. Working Lunch
 12:30 p.m. 2006 Strategic Plan Status
 1:00 p.m. Board Discussion
 1:45 p.m. Public Comment Period
 2:00 p.m. Board Business
 2:30 p.m. Public Comment Period
 3:00 p.m. Meeting Adjourns

A final agenda will be available at the meeting.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should either contact James T. Melillo at the address or telephone number listed above, or call 1-(800) 736-3282, the Center for Environmental Management Information and register to speak during the public comment session of the meeting. Individuals may also register on June 10, 1998 at the meeting site. Every effort will be made to hear all those wishing to speak to the Board, on a first come, first serve basis. Those who call in and reserve time will be given the opportunity to speak first. The Board Co-Chairs are empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

Transcripts and Minutes: A meeting transcript and minutes will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC on May 14, 1998.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-14311 Filed 5-19-98; 8:45 am]

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