

- Collaborative R&D (if applicable)—description of the collaborative arrangements defining responsibilities and tasks assigned to each participating organization (up to 2 pages).

- Facilities & Resources—information on the experience of the applicant's organization and the adequacy of required facilities and resources (no more than 5 pages).

- Budget for each year and a summary budget page for the entire project period.

- Budget explanation for each participating organization.

- Budget and budget justification for each collaborative subproject, if any.

- Additional information the applicant deems relevant may be included, subject to the page limitation.

In addition to providing an original and seven copies of each proposal, applicants are required to also provide a 3.5-inch write protected diskette containing the field work proposal in electronic format. The label on the diskette must clearly identify the institution, principal investigator, title of field work proposal, and the computer system and program used to prepare the document. Unsuccessful field work proposals will not be returned to the applicant.

Field Work Proposal Evaluation

All valid field work proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the requirements of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 600.13.

- DOE will perform an initial review for conformance with the technical and administrative requirements stated in this Program Announcement, for funding availability, and for general relevance to NERI program objectives.

- For those field work proposals that successfully complete the initial review, an objective merit review (peer review) will be performed to evaluate technical and/or scientific merit, and cost aspects of the field work proposals, exclusive of NE programmatic and policy factors. This review will be in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated below. For this purpose, a group comprised of three or more professionally and technically qualified persons will be selected in such a manner as to assure the highest degree of independence and objectivity. The reviewers may include any mix of federal and non-federal experts, except those persons involved in approving/disapproving the field work proposals. Reviewers must comply with the requirements for avoiding conflict of interest as stated in 10 CFR 600.14.

- Following the objective merit review, a relevance review will be performed by DOE on those field work

proposals judged to be of the highest merit. The field work proposals will be evaluated with respect to NE programmatic and policy factors, including relevance of the proposed work to the NERI program objectives, and the balance among program elements to be supported.

The following evaluation criteria apply to the objective merit review:

- Technical quality of the field work proposal:

- Contribution to the state of knowledge in the scientific/technology fields;

- Importance of the proposed work in meeting program objectives;

- Completeness and clarity of the technical proposal;

- Appropriateness/adequacy of the proposed methodology or approach;

- Extent to which proposed work is new, unique or innovative;

- Reasonableness of project cost and schedule, including allocations among multiple participating organizations where applicable.

- Capabilities and qualifications of principal investigator/project manager and key personnel, adequacy of resources and facilities applied by participating organizations.

Intellectual Property Rights

With respect to intellectual property, the patent and data provisions set forth in the national laboratories M&O contract shall be used.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

The Nuclear Energy Research Initiative will be conducted under the authority of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1999, Public Law 105-245; the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 81.092; and the applicable DOE Financial Assistance Regulations at 10 CFR Part 600. The regulations and guidance documents can be accessed on the DOE Financial Assistance Home Page at "http://www.pr.doe.gov/fahome.html".

Program Announcement Questions & Answers

DOE does not intend to hold a preproposal conference. You may submit your written questions via e-mail to denise.berry@oak.doe.gov by November 13, 1998. Responses to questions will be placed on the Oakland Operations Office Website at "http://www.oak.doe.gov/financial/sol_page.html".

Information

Information about the development, submission of field work proposals, eligibility, limitations, the selection

process, and other policies and procedures may be found on "http://www.oak.doe.gov/financial/sol_page.html".

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise Berry, Contract Specialist, U.S. Department of Energy, 1301 Clay Street, 700N, Oakland, California 94612-5208 (510) 637-1873, (510) 637-2025 FAX.

Issued in Oakland, California, on October 29, 1998.

Joan Macrusky,

Director, Financial Assistance Center.

Attachment A

FAX: (510) 637-2025

TO: Denise Berry, Contract Specialist

Notice of Intent To Apply

Name of DOE Laboratory

Name of Collaborating Organization(s)

intends to submit a field work proposal under Program Notice No. LAB NE-99-1.

Title: _____

Scope of Work

Element/Area: _____

Engineering research
and/or basic science
field: _____

[FR Doc. 98-29800 Filed 11-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology (NE)

Financial Assistance Solicitation No. DE-PS03-99SF21764; Nuclear Energy Research Initiative

AGENCY: Oakland Operations Office, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Solicitation inviting Grant and Cooperative Agreement applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology, U.S. Department of Energy, is interested in receiving applications for financial assistance through the award of grants and cooperative agreements, as appropriate, for innovative scientific and engineering research and development in the field of nuclear energy as part of the Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (NERI). NERI is designed to support innovative research that can address the principal technical and scientific obstacles to future use of nuclear power in the U.S. NERI is also intended to reinvigorate the vital nuclear scientific and engineering infrastructure within U.S. universities, industry and DOE national laboratories.

This Solicitation applies to applications from universities or other institutions of higher learning, industry, non-profit and R&D organizations and collaborations among organizations, including those in which DOE national laboratories are participating, but not as the lead organization. A separate Program Announcement is being issued simultaneously for applications in which a DOE national laboratory is the sole or lead performing organization.

DATES: Potential applicants are encouraged to submit a Notice of Intent to Apply (Attachment A). Refer to the paragraph on the Designation of Field(s) of Proposed Work in this solicitation to identify the contemplated field of R&D in Attachment A. The notice should be faxed to Denise Berry, Department of Energy at (510) 637-2025 by November 13, 1998. This Notice of Intent in no way obligates an organization to submit an application, and failure to submit the Notice of Intent in no way prevents you from submitting an application.

Potential applicants are encouraged to submit a brief preapplication. All preapplications, responding to Solicitation No. DE-PS03-99SF21764, should be received by DOE by 4:30 p.m. P.S.T., November 20, 1998. A response encouraging or discouraging a formal application will be communicated to the applicant by December 11, 1998. Notification of a favorable preapplication is not an indication that an award will be made in response to the formal application.

The deadline for receipt of the formal applications is 4:30 p.m. P.S.T., January 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: All preapplications and applications referencing Solicitation No. DE-PS03-99SF21764, should be sent to Denise Berry, U.S. Department of Energy, 1301 Clay Street, 700N, Oakland, California 94612-5208, Attn: Solicitation No. DE-PS03-99SF21764.

An original and five copies of the preapplication should be submitted by United States Postal Service including Express Mail or commercial mail delivery service, or should be hand carried by the applicant to the address stated above. Preapplications will not be accepted by fax, or electronic mail.

An original and seven copies of the application shall be submitted by United States Postal Service including Express Mail or commercial mail delivery service, or should be hand carried by the applicant to the address stated above. Applications will not be accepted by fax, or electronic mail.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Eligibility

This solicitation invites applications from all segments of the U.S. private sector (non-federal). U.S. universities or other institutions of higher learning, industry, non-profit and R&D organizations are eligible for grant or cooperative agreement awards under this program. DOE national laboratories are eligible to participate, but not as the lead organization in the application. A separate Program Announcement is being issued for proposals in which a DOE national laboratory is the sole or lead performing organization. Non-citizens employed by U.S. institutions also are eligible.

Awards

It is anticipated that awards will be made in Fiscal Year 1999. One-year or multiple year funding of grants and cooperative agreements are anticipated, contingent upon the availability of funds. Up to a total of \$19 million of Government Fiscal Year 1999 Federal funds are available for awards under this Solicitation and the complementary Program Announcement (to DOE national laboratories).

Funding for individual research awards is expected to be up to \$1 million per year with typical awards in the range of \$100,000 to \$400,000 per year. Collaborative research projects involving two or more organizations may receive larger awards, if merited. The period of performance for individual projects is expected to be up to 3 years.

DOE reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted in response to this solicitation.

Background

In January 1997, the President requested his Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) to review the current national energy research and development (R&D) portfolio, and provide a strategy to insure the U.S. has a program to address the Nation's energy and environmental needs for the next century.

In its November 1997 report responding to this request, the PCAST Energy Research and Development Panel determined that assuring a viable nuclear energy option to help meet our future energy needs is important; and that a properly focused R&D effort should be implemented by the Department of Energy to address the principal obstacles to achieving this option. These obstacles include issues involving nuclear waste, proliferation, economics, and safety. The Panel

recommended addressing technologies that include, but are not limited to, work on proliferation-resistant reactors or fuel cycles; new reactor designs for improved performance, reduced cost, and enhanced safety to compete in the global market; lower output power reactors for applications where larger reactors may not be advantageous; and nuclear waste. The PCAST report can be viewed on the NERI web page at <http://neri.ne.doe.gov>.

In response to these recommendations, the Department has proposed the Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (NERI), composed of projects selected from individual or collaborative applications from universities, DOE national laboratories, industry, R&D, and non-profit organizations. To assist in defining the NERI program, a workshop was convened in Washington, D.C. on April 23-24, 1998, attended by over 120 researchers, scientists, and engineers representing these organizations. The workshop focused primarily on the nuclear R&D topics recommended by PCAST, and served to identify promising areas of R&D to implement these recommendations and related recommendations from the workshop. The workshop results, as reported on the NERI web page, <http://neri.ne.doe.gov>, have been of fundamental importance in developing the program defined in this solicitation. Respondents are encouraged to refer to the NERI Workshop Report prior to developing an application.

Objective

The NERI program is intended to conduct R&D to meet the following objectives:

- Address and help overcome the principal technical and scientific obstacles to expanded future use of nuclear energy in the U.S., including the issues involving resistance to proliferation, unfavorable economics and nuclear waste disposition;
- Advance the state of nuclear technology to maintain a competitive position in overseas markets and a future domestic market;
- Promote and maintain a nuclear science and engineering infrastructure to meet future technical challenges, and
- Improve the performance, efficiency, reliability, economics, and other attributes to enhance nuclear energy applications.

Scope of Work

The Department of Energy is seeking applications for new and innovative science and engineering research, development, concepts, and/or

experimental projects in the nuclear energy and supporting fields that will contribute significantly to meeting the NERI program objectives. The following paragraphs identify areas for which proposals are solicited. However, researchers may propose projects in other related areas that are consistent with the NERI objectives. In formulating proposed projects, the current state of development in the areas to be investigated should be recognized such as by citing references, to avoid repeating work already accomplished.

Proliferation Resistant Reactors and Fuel Technology

Increased knowledge is required to enable incorporation of proliferation resistance in the design, development, and deployment of new reactor systems. Proposals are solicited in scientific and engineering research to improve the proliferation resistance of reactors and fuel systems. Possible research areas include, but are not limited to, investigation and conceptual development to establish feasibility and attributes of reactor systems, fuel systems and/or alternative or modified reactor and fuel cycle concepts; material protection, and control; and techniques that minimize generation of plutonium and waste-by-products, restrict physical access to fuel materials while in the reactor, or increase the energy extraction from and utilization of plutonium and other actinides generated in the fuel.

There is an inherent need for an increase in the understanding of the basic behavior of irradiated materials; for science and engineering research that impacts fuel preparations and recycle or alternate means of spent fuel treatment; and for basic materials research to support understanding of fuel structure changes during irradiation, as it relates to the advancement of proliferation resistant reactors and fuel cycles.

New Reactor Designs

This program element involves scientific and engineering investigation and development of promising new reactor concepts in the following areas:

- Reactors to Achieve Improved Performance/Higher Efficiency and Reduced Costs

Advances in understanding of reactor systems and components are required to achieve a significant improvement in performance and economics for the next generation of reactors. Innovative reactor and power conversion concepts are needed which offer the prospects of higher efficiency, improved performance, design simplification,

enhanced safety, and low cost. Increased knowledge is required to support enabling technologies. Research areas of interest include, but are not limited to development of reactor design advancements and alternative reactor core concepts, passive safety systems and components, development of innovative reactor concepts for electrical, non-electrical or co-generation purposes and advanced system or component design concepts, advanced instrumentation and controls, and work to evaluate direct energy conversion technologies such as thermoelectric conversion systems. Proposed projects should address, among other items, the characteristics, principal attributes, feasibility, safety features, proliferation resistance, economic competitiveness, and identification of other research that may be required.

- Low Output Power Reactors

New concepts and supporting knowledge are required to support development of small, possibly compact, and easily deployable reactors either for use in developing countries or for specialized applications. Potential applications include electrical power generation, process heating, medical isotope production, or nuclear research. Research in science and engineering is expected to focus on concepts, characteristics, principal attributes, feasibility, safety features, proliferation resistance and underlying technologies rather than on full reactor systems design.

Science and engineering research of crucial importance to new reactor designs is dependent on the particular reactor application being explored. Examples include, but are not limited to, basic material degradation and corrosion sciences impacting both operation and applications; increased understanding of the behavior of fluid systems at elevated temperatures; modern high-temperature materials for reactor structural components; innovative non-destructive evaluation methods for system and component monitoring; development and application of risk-based design tools for pre-deployment predictions of performance and reliability; modern computational and modeling methods; incorporation of inherent safety features; automation of reactor system operation; radiation damage and metallurgy of long-lived fuels and other components; science and engineering effort to support alternative energy conversion methods.

Advanced Nuclear Fuels

Research and development is needed to provide measurable improvements in the understanding and performance of nuclear fuel with respect to safety, waste production, proliferation resistance, and economics to enhance the long-term viability of nuclear energy systems. Appropriate topics include, but are not limited to: innovative concepts for material preparation and production of nuclear fuels; enhanced fuel design safety; innovation in fuel composition or other attributes that maximize energy production, optimize fissile material utilization, or reduce production costs.

Applications are solicited in scientific and engineering research that encompass an evaluation over the entire nuclear fuel cycle utilizing knowledge gained over the past several decades on the technical characteristics of recycling systems, as well as in monitoring and controlling fissionable materials, but not being bound by technologies and facilities currently available. This work is basic to innovative reactor concepts, proliferation resistance, and advanced fuels. Results are expected to define gaps in current knowledge and hence identify areas requiring further work.

New Technologies for Management of Nuclear Waste

Paramount to public acceptance of nuclear technology is development of concepts and supporting knowledge required for reliable approaches to management and storage of spent fuels and associated wastes. Appropriate research topics include, but are not limited to, new concepts for on-site or interim surface storage; chemistry and materials science to develop understanding of the behavior of spent fuel for time periods consistent with on-site surface storage requirements; strategies for reduction in high level waste volume; research in surface chemistry and physics to understand and ameliorate corrosion processes at all pertinent interfaces; engineering research to support beneficial use of spent fuel and associated wastes.

Applications in this area are expected to complement, and not duplicate, research activities supported by the Offices of Civilian Radioactive Waste and Environmental Management. Abstracts of work supported under the Environmental Management Science Program (EMSP) can be found at <http://www.doe.gov/em52/science-grants.html>, while information on the Civilian Radioactive Waste program and related efforts can be found at <http://www.rw.doe.gov/links.htm>.

Fundamental Science and Technology

This element features research and development in science and new technologies that support one or more applications in the nuclear energy field, including but not limited to those identified for the preceding program elements. The proposed work should be based in part on a consideration of the value or benefits of this work to potential future applications that satisfy the program objectives. Scientific and engineering research is solicited in pertinent areas of materials and chemical sciences, automation engineering and computational sciences, thermodynamics, health physics, systems engineering and safety, human factors research to improve the man/machine interface, and other areas which addresses problems common to the technology topics described above.

Applications should identify the prospective technical areas associated with the proposed work, and the expected benefits from successful completion of this work.

Designation of Field(s) of Proposed Work

To facilitate the merit review, preapplications and applications should identify the nuclear technology areas and the related engineering research and/or basic science field(s) that most closely apply to the proposed research work. The nuclear technology areas include proliferation resistant reactor and fuel, reactors with higher performance/efficiency, low output reactors, advanced nuclear fuels, management of nuclear waste, and fundamental science and technology. The engineering research category would include such fields as reactors; system and component design development; fuel systems development; instrumentation and control systems development; radioactive waste; and other nuclear engineering fields of research. The basic science categories would include such fields as materials science, chemical science, computational sciences (including development of algorithms and software technology), and engineering sciences (including basic research on instrumentation and control systems, diagnostics and transport processes).

The requested identification of applicable fields of work is not intended to constrain or otherwise influence the proposed work in any way.

Collaborative Applications

Collaboration between science and engineering researchers is encouraged.

U.S. universities, DOE national laboratories, private industry and R&D and non-profit organizations are encouraged to submit collaborative applications. Collaborative applications should identify a lead organization, and the work scope responsibilities and cost for each participating organization. The lead organization should submit a single application, which integrates the portion of the overall project work scope assigned to each participant.

For successful applications, DOE will award grants or cooperative agreements, as applicable, to the lead organizations. The lead organization will fund other non-federal participants by a subcontract arrangement. Any participating DOE national laboratories will be separately funded directly by DOE. The private sector or academic organization must include a Standard Face Page (Form 424) and Budget Pages for its portion of the project in the application. Separate Budget Pages must be included for the DOE national laboratory portion. The joint application must be submitted as one package.

Where a DOE national laboratory is the lead organization, the application should be prepared in response to Program Announcement LAB NE-99-1.

Collaboration with international organizations is acceptable provided the collaboration is mutually beneficial and the lead organization is a U.S. based organization, and all DOE and other domestic funding is used for work performed in the U.S. Such collaborative arrangements are subject to approval by DOE and must comply with any Federal restrictions on foreign participation, and with any current DOE memoranda of understanding or other general agreements between DOE and the participating foreign entity.

Preapplications

The submittal of preapplications prior to submission of full applications is encouraged. The purpose of submitting a preapplication is to receive a preliminary DOE opinion regarding the significance of the proposed work in meeting program objectives. Preapplications should include a cover sheet and a brief (up to 3 pages) project description. The cover sheet should identify the name, telephone, fax and e-mail address for the project manager or principal investigator and for the organization(s) submitting the application, title of the project, and the field of R&D. A narrative project description should be included indicating the objectives, work to be accomplished and importance of successful completion, resources needed, and estimated cost. In the case

of collaborative projects, the preapplicant should identify the work to be performed by each participating organization and the estimated cost to be borne by each party. The original and five copies of the preapplication should be submitted. DOE will review preapplications for technical and scientific merit and relevance of the proposed project to program objectives and respond to the applicants. This preliminary review neither prevents submittal of a full application nor indicates the likelihood of an award.

Format and Information to be Included in the Application

Applicants are expected to use the following format. Applications must be written in English with all budgets in U.S. dollars. The applications should clearly present the objectives, activities or tasks to be performed, schedule and costs, and the importance/significance of the proposed project. Where collaborative efforts are proposed, the individual responsibilities of participating organizations should be identified. As a minimum, the following information should be included:

- Standard face page (DOE Form 424).
- Table of Contents.
- Project Abstract including identification of the fields of R&D for the proposed project (1 +page).
- Project Description—narrative description of the proposed project including objectives, R&D plan including preliminary studies, research design and tasks, and the significance or benefits of proposed project (no more than 20 pages; multi-investigator collaborative projects may use up to 40 pages).
- Project schedule information.
- Organization & Qualifications—identification of the project organization, and qualifications and responsibilities of the participating organizations. Biographical sketches of project manager/principal investigator and other key project personnel (no more than 2 pages each).
- Collaborative R&D (if applicable)—description of the collaborative arrangements defining responsibilities and tasks assigned to each participating organization (up to 2 pages).
- Facilities & Resources—information on the experience of the applicant organization and the adequacy of required facilities and resources (no more than 5 pages).
- Budget for each year and a summary budget page for the entire project period (using DOE F.4620.1)
- Budget explanation for each participating organization.

- Budget and budget justification for each collaborative subproject, if any.
- Additional information the applicant deems relevant may be included, subject to the page limitation.

In addition to providing an original and seven copies of each application, applicants are required to also provide a 3.5-inch write protected diskette containing the application in electronic format. The label on the diskette must clearly identify the institution, principal investigator, title of application, and the computer system and program used to prepare the document. Unsuccessful applications will not be returned to the applicant.

Application Evaluation

All valid applications will be evaluated in accordance with the requirements of Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 600.13:

- DOE will perform an initial review for conformance with the technical and administrative requirements stated in this solicitation, for funding availability, and for general relevance to NERI program objectives.

- For those applications that successfully complete the initial review, an objective merit review (peer review) will be performed to evaluate technical and/or scientific merit, and cost aspects of the applications, exclusive of NE programmatic and policy factors. This review will be in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated below. For this purpose, a group comprised of three or more professionally and technically qualified persons will be selected in such a manner as to assure the highest degree of independence and objectivity. The reviewers may include any mix of federal and non-federal experts, except those persons involved in approving/disapproving the applications. Reviewers must comply with the requirements for avoiding conflict of interest as stated in 10 CFR 600.14.

- Following the objective merit review, a relevance review will be performed by DOE on those applications judged to be of the highest merit. The applications will be evaluated with respect to NE programmatic and policy factors, including relevance of the proposed work to the NERI program objectives, and the balance among program elements to be supported.

The following evaluation criteria apply to the objective merit review:

- Technical quality of the application and proposed work:
 - Contribution to the state of knowledge in the scientific/technology fields;
 - Importance of the proposed work in meeting program objectives;

- Completeness and clarity of the technical application;
- Appropriateness/adequacy of the proposed methodology or approach:
 - Extent to which proposed work is new, unique or innovative;
 - Reasonableness of the proposed project cost and schedule including allocations among multiple participating organizations where applicable.
 - Capabilities and qualifications of principal investigator/project manager and key personnel; adequacy of resources and facilities applied by participating organizations.

Intellectual Property Rights

With respect to intellectual property, the patent and data provisions set forth in 10 CFR Part 600.27 and 48 CFR 927 shall be used in any financial assistance awards funded under this program. Any application or preapplication materials which contain proprietary technical or confidential commercial data should be submitted with the Notice contained at 10 CFR 600.15 (b)(1).

Regulatory Information

No funding will be available under the DOE Minority Economic Impact Act (MEI) loan program, 10 CFR Part 800, to finance the cost of preparing a financial assistance application.

Review under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs" is not required.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

The Nuclear Energy Research Initiative will be conducted under the authority of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1999, Pub. L. 105-245; the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 81.092; and the applicable DOE Financial Assistance Regulations at 10 CFR Part 600. The regulations and guidance documents can be accessed on the DOE Financial Assistance Home Page at: "<http://www.pr.doe.gov/fahome.html>".

Solicitation Questions & Answers

DOE does not intend to hold a preapplication conference. You may submit your written questions via e-mail to denise.berry@oak.doe.gov by November 13, 1998. Responses to questions will be periodically placed on the Oakland Operations Web Site: "http://www.oak.doe.gov/financial/sol_page.html".

Information

Information about the development, submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, the selection process, and

other policies and procedures may be found on "http://www.oak.doe.gov/financial/sol_page.html".

Certifications

Lobbying Restrictions (Department of Interior & Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998)

The contractor or awardee agrees that none of the funds obligated on the award shall be made available for any activity or the publication or distribution of literature that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which congressional action is not complete. This restriction is in addition to those prescribed elsewhere in statute and regulation.

Notice Regarding the Purchase of American-Made Equipment and Products—Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that, to the greatest extent practicable, all equipment and products purchased with funds made available under this award should be American-made.

Simpson-Craig Amendment

Applicant organizations which are described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and engage in lobbying activities after December 31, 1995 shall not be eligible for the receipt of Federal funds constituting an award, grant, or loan. Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 covers:

Civic leagues or organizations not organized for profit but operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare, or local associations of employees, the membership of which and the net earnings of which are devoted exclusively to charitable, educational, or recreational purposes.

As set forth in section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, as amended, (2 U.S.C. 1602), lobbying activities are defined broadly to include among other things, contacts on behalf of an organization with specified employees of the Executive Branch and Congress with regard to Federal legislative regulatory, and program administrative matters. Applicants qualifying as described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 must fill out representation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise Berry, Contract Specialist, U.S. Department of Energy, 1301 Clay Street, 700N, Oakland, California 94612-5208, (510) 637-1873, Fax (510) 637-2025.

Issued in Oakland, California on October 29, 1998.

Joan Macruskus,

Director, Financial Assistance Center.

Attachment A

FAX: (510) 637-2025

To: Denise Berry, Contract Specialist

NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY

Name of Organization/Principal Investigator

Name of Collaborating Organization(s) intends to submit an application under Solicitation No. DE-PS03-99SF21764.

Title: _____

Scope of Work Element/Area: _____

Engineering research and/or basic science field:

[FR Doc. 98-29801 Filed 11-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-39-000]

Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc.; Notice of Application

November 2, 1998.

Take notice that on October 27, 1998, Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc. (Granite State), 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581, filed an application, pursuant to Sections 7(b) and 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations. Granite State seeks to acquire and operate as an integral component of its main transmission system approximately 5,300 feet of 8 and 12-inch lateral pipeline now owned and operated by Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern Utilities). The pipe is currently part of Northern Utilities natural gas distribution system in the Town of Newington (Rockingham County), New Hampshire. As a consequence of the acquisition, Granite State needs to abandon a transportation service delivery point to Northern Utilities on its main line and establish three new delivery points to Northern Utilities along the lateral. The details of Granite State's proposal are more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Granite State says that the Commission has certificated a new interstate pipeline in Docket No. CP97-238-000 which will be jointly owned and operated by the Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (PNGTS) and Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline L.L.C.

(Maritimes). According to Granite State, PNGTS-Maritimes have been authorized to construct and operate an interconnection with Granite State in the Town of Newington at which point Granite State will receive natural gas deliveries from the jointly owned pipeline. Granite State will receive such deliveries for further transportation on its system, most notably on behalf of, Northern Utilities. Granite State further says that Northern Utilities will be a significant shipper on PNGTS-Maritimes, but will not be directly connected to the jointly owned pipeline facility. Granite State says that the only route by which Northern Utilities can receive gas shipped for its account on PNGTS-Maritimes is via Granite State's authorized interconnections with the jointly owned pipeline.

Granite State further says that it has no existing directly connecting pipeline between the planned and authorized Newington interconnection with PNGTS-Maritimes. However, Granite State says that Northern Utilities has a distribution lateral consisting of 5,324 feet of 8 and 12-inch pipeline (the Gosling Road Lateral) which extends from Granite State's main line to the site of the Newington interconnection. Granite State proposes in its application to acquire and operate the lateral as an integral component of its main transmission system. The acquisition cost will be the depreciated book cost on the date of transfer, which is estimated to be \$372,035.12 on December 31, 1998.

Granite State also says that, in connection with the acquisition, it will abandon the present delivery point to Northern Utilities at the point where the Gosling Road Lateral connects with Granite State's main line and it will establish three delivery points to Northern Utilities at existing points on the lateral where gas now flows into Northern Utilities' local distribution system. Granite State says that no construction of new facilities is required to implement its proposed acquisition and no existing service will be terminated or abandoned.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before November 23, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the

appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the Protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed acquisition are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Granite State to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-29764 Filed 11-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2777]

Idaho Power Company; Notice of Authorization for Continued Project Operation

November 2, 1998.

On December 20, 1995, Idaho Power Company, licensee for the Upper Salmon Falls Project No. 2777, filed an application for a new or subsequent license pursuant to the Federal Power Act (FPA) and the Commission's regulations thereunder. Project No. 2777 is located on the Snake River in Gooding and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho.

The license for Project No. 2777 was issued for a period ending October 31, 1998. Section 15(a)(1) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. 808(a)(1), requires the Commission, at the expiration of a license term, to issue from year to year an annual license to the then licensee under the terms and conditions of the