

The Department anticipates that application packages for the State Grants Program, Partnership Grants for Teacher Education Program, and the Teacher Recruitment Program will be available in late January of 1999. It is proposing that the Department receive all applications under each of these programs by April 16, 1999, so that grant awards may be made by mid to late July. However, because of the particular complexity of the Partnership Grants for Teacher Education Program, the Department is considering use of a pre-application procedure for this program. Under this procedure, all applicants first would submit synopses of their proposals. Reviewers would assess the quality of these synopses, and invite applicants whose synopses are found to be of highest quality to submit full applications. Grant awards issues under the Partnership Grants for Teacher Education Program might not be issued until early September, 1999. By law, the Department must award these grants no later than September 30, 1999.

The Department is considering this option out of concern that partnerships choosing to apply for grants under this program (1) may need a significant period of time to plan their working relationships and activities, and (2) should only need to spend the time and resources preparing the full program application if their proposals are deemed to be of sufficiently high quality. In addition, a pre-application process might enable peer reviewers to better focus their attention on those applications that most warrant it.

The Department specifically requests written comment from potential applicants on (1) whether the Department should adopt this proposal for a pre-application procedure even though doing so will delay grant awards and (2), if so, how the Department should address key issues such as: the information the pre-applications should contain; the criteria reviewers should use to select those applicants who they would recommend be invited to submit full applications; the length of the pre-applications; and the length of time that applicants will need to prepare pre-applications and, if requested to do so, the final program applications. In considering these issues, the public may find it useful to review the proposed selection criteria for the Partnership Grants for Teacher Education Program that are contained in the program's application package. In addition, the public should be aware that if a pre-application procedure is used, the Department estimates it may need over three and one half months to process,

peer-review, and select applicants for both phases of the application process.

Written comments on these and other matters should be sent as early as possible to the addresses identified at the beginning of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Financial and Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Louis Venuto at the address specified above.

Dated: December 7, 1998.

Kent H. Hannaman,

*Leader, Information Management Group,
Office of the Chief Financial and Chief
Information Officer.*

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: New.

Title: Applications under the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:

Responses: 100

Burden Hours: 4,000

Abstract: This application package is essential for Governors, State and Local agencies, and institutions of higher education to apply for new awards under the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants fiscal year 1999 competition.

This information collection is being submitted under the Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grant Information Collections (1890-

0001). Therefore, this 30-day public comment period notice will be the only public comment notice published for this information collection.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Availability of Solicitation Entitled Reservoir Class Field Demonstration Program—Class Revisit

AGENCY: National Petroleum Technology Office (NPTO) through the Federal Energy Technology Center (FETC), DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Issuance of Financial Assistance Solicitation.

SUMMARY: The U. S. Department of Energy's National Petroleum Technology Office (NPTO) in conjunction with the Federal Energy Technology Center (FETC) announces that it intends to issue a competitive Program Opportunity Notice (PON), DE-PS26-99BC15144, and to award financial assistance (Cooperative Agreements) to qualified recipients. Through the issuance of this PON, the DOE is presenting the next round of solicitations which addresses U.S. vulnerability to supply disruptions by expanding the domestic supply of oil production from the domestic resource. Proposals will be subjected to a comparative merit review by DOE technical panel, and awards will be made to a limited number of proposers on the basis of the scientific merit of the proposals, application of relevant program policy factors, and the availability of funds.

DATES: The Program Solicitation is expected to be ready for release on or about December 18, 1998. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms in the Program Opportunity Notice and must be received by the DOE by April 1, 1999. Prior to submitting your application to the solicitation, check for any changes (i.e. closing date of solicitation) and/or amendments, if any.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Keith R. Miles, U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Technology Center, P.O. Box 10940 (MS 921-143), Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940; (Telephone: 412-892-5984; Facsimile: 412-892-6216; E-Mail: miles@fetc.doe.gov).

ADDRESSES: The solicitation will be available through the Internet at FETC's Home Page (<http://www.fetc.doe.gov/business>). TELEPHONE REQUESTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY

FORMAT VERSION OF THE SOLICITATION.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This solicitation supports two of the 1998 Comprehensive National Energy Strategy (CNES) goals, which are (1) to ensure against energy disruptions and (2) to promote energy production and use in ways that reflect human health and environmental values. The focus is to reduce U. S. vulnerability to supply disruptions by expanding the domestic oil supply. Petroleum reservoirs have been classified based on the geology of the reserve and the environment of deposition. Depositional environments of the fluvial dominated deltaic type (Class I), shallow shelf carbonates (Class II), and slope and basin clastics (Class III), support these goals because they contain 50% of the domestic remaining oil in place. Further background material is given in the DOE Oil and Gas R & D Programs (DOE/FE-0359, March 1997) document. The strategy targets three groups of depositionally similar reservoirs based on the premise that demonstrated methodologies and technologies that overcome specific producibility problems in representative reservoirs have a higher probability of being applicable to other members of that same class than to non-class reservoirs. This solicitation addresses program goals of preserving access to reservoirs with high potential for increased productivity. These goals will be accomplished by conducting technology transfer activities that motivate operators to identify producibility problems and apply underutilized technologies to overcome these problems.

These reservoirs represent the higher priority reservoir classes. An assessment of about 2000 domestic reservoirs in the Total Oil Recovery Information System (TORIS) showed these classes to have a large volume of remaining oil, a large potential for additional recovery using conventional recovery technologies, and a high risk of abandonment of the resource in the next five years.

Advanced recovery technologies represent a significant improvement in process effectiveness (i.e., greater sweep efficiencies, improved economics, or evaluation techniques) or applicability over currently available technologies or represent a new or innovative technology not successfully demonstrated in the field.

Advanced technologies, as defined in this PON, include advanced reservoir characterization techniques, advanced recovery technologies and advanced reservoir management techniques. The understanding of the interaction of the

reservoir architecture is essential to these advanced technologies. These technologies should not have been previously addressed in the same region and reservoir class. DOE discourages repeating the same suite of technologies in the same plays as the previous class programs.

Some examples of advanced technologies or some combination of technologies are:

Advanced Reservoir Characterization Technologies or Tools:

- New geophysical imaging or interpretation techniques.
- Three-dimensional simulation.
- Advanced or high resolution 3-D seismic.
- Geochemical techniques.
- Advanced well and tracer tests.
- Advanced logging techniques such as borehole imaging or permeability logging.

Advanced Recovery Technologies:

- Mobility control agents.
- Steam processes.
- Gas processes.
- Horizontal & lateral(s) (radial) wells.
- Miscible solvents.
- Chemical processes.
- In-situ combustion.

Advanced Reservoir Management Techniques

- Reservoir modeling/simulation.
- Fracture stimulation.
- New geostatistical methodologies.
- Novel or innovative recompletions.
- Injection strategies and pressure maintenance.
- Material balance decline curve techniques.

Note: Pure tool development is excluded under this solicitation.

DOE currently has available \$8.3 million for this Program Opportunity Notice (PON) and intends to bring total DOE support to \$18 million for this solicitation. Projects must include: reservoir characterization (Budget Period 1), demonstration/field activities (Budget Period 2), continued project monitoring activities (Budget Period 3); moreover, technology transfer should be a major component of all Budget Period activities and should aim to motivate operators toward broader application of cost-effective technologies/methodologies. It is anticipated that between 10-20 cost-shared awards, with a *total* project value estimated at \$1.5 million to \$10.0 million each (i.e., DOE share of project costs estimated at between \$500K-\$3,000K), will be made under this solicitation. The proposer

must cost share at least 55 percent of the total allowable cost of Budget Period 1 for reservoir characterization, at least 65 percent of the total allowable cost of Budget Period 2 for the demonstration phase, and at least 90 percent of the total allowable cost of Budget Period 3 for continued project monitoring activities. Each project is expected to have a period of performance of approximately five (5) to six (6) years.

Issued in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on December 2, 1998.

Dale A. Siciliano,

Contracting Officer, Acquisition and Assistance Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice Inviting Financial Assistance Applications

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Federal Energy Technology Center (FETC).

ACTION: Notice of Restricted Eligibility.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy announces that it intends to conduct a competitive Program Solicitation and award financial assistance (cooperative agreements) to small independent oil production operators, operating on shore in the lower contiguous 48 states. Small independent oil-producing operators are defined as companies employing less than 50 full time employees; and those having no affiliation with a major oil or gas producer (domestic or foreign). The program seeks solutions to oil production problems. Applications will be subjected to a review by a DOE technical panel, and awards will be made to a limited number of applicants based on a scientific and engineering evaluation of the responses received to determine the relative merit of the approach taken in response to this offering by the DOE, and funding availability.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Beth Pearse, U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Technology Center, Acquisition and Assistance Division, P.O. Box 10940, MS 921-143, Pittsburgh PA 15236-0940, Telephone: (412) 892-4949, FAX: (412) 892-6216, E-mail: pearse@fetc.doe.gov. The solicitation (available in both Word 97 and Portable Document Format (PDF)) will be released on DOE's FETC World Wide Web Server Internet System (<http://www.fetc.doe.gov/business/solicit>) on or about December 15, 1998.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: