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Region III: (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia), Fatima El-Abdaoui, 1650 Arch St., (3WC32), Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029; telephone: (215) 814-2129; e-mail: el-abdaoui.fatima@epa.gov.

Region IV: (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee), Troy Pierce, 61 Forsyth St., SW., Atlanta, GA 30303-8960; telephone: (404) 562-9016; e-mail: pierce.troy@epa.gov.

Region V: (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin), Heather McDonald, 77 W Jackson Blvd., (DT-8J), Chicago, IL 60604-3507; telephone: (312) 886-3572; e-mail: mcdonald.heather@epa.gov.

Region VI: (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas), Jerry Collins, 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200, (6PD-P), Dallas, TX 75202-2733; telephone: (214) 665-7562; e-mail: collins.jerry@epa.gov.

Region VII: (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska), Brad Horchem, 901 N 5th St., (WWPDPEST), Kansas City, KS 66101; telephone: (913) 551-7137; e-mail: horchem.brad@epa.gov.

Region VIII: (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming), Peg Perreault, 999 18th St, Suite 300, (8P-P3T), Denver, CO 80202-2466; telephone: (303) 312-6286; e-mail: perreault.peg@epa.gov.

Region IX: (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam), Paul Feder, 75 Hawthorne St., (CMD-1), San Francisco, CA 94105; telephone: (415) 947-4160; e-mail: feder.paul@epa.gov.

Region X: (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington), Sandy Halstead, 24106 North Bunn Road, Prosser, WA 99350; telephone: (509) 786-9225; e-mail: halstead.sandra@epa.gov.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides, Risk reduction.

Dated: March 13, 2003.

**Janet L. Andersen,**

*Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7469-9]

### Notice of Request for Initial Proposals (IP) for Projects To Be Funded From the Water Quality Cooperative Agreement Allocation (CFDA 66.463—Water Quality Cooperative Agreements)

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** EPA Region 6 is soliciting Initial Proposals (IP) from State water pollution control agencies, interstate agencies, other public or nonprofit agencies, institutions, organizations, and other entities as defined by the Clean Water Act (CWA) interested in applying for Federal assistance for Water Quality Cooperative Agreements under the CWA section 104(b)(3) in the States of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Region 6 EPA will award an estimated \$1 million to eligible applicants through assistance agreements ranging in size, on average, from \$40,000 up to \$200,000 (Federal) for innovative projects/demonstrations/studies that can be used as models relating to the prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution. From the IPs received, EPA estimates up to 10 to 12 projects may be selected to submit full applications. The Agency reserves the right to reject all IPs and not make awards. A request for proposals for tribal governments will be issued under a separate notice.

**DATES:** EPA will consider all proposals received on or before 12 p.m. midnight central standard time May 5, 2003. IPs received after the due date will not be considered for funding.

**ADDRESSES:** IPs should be mailed to: Terry Mendiola (6WQ-AT), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, Water Quality Protection Division, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. Overnight delivery may be sent to the same address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terry Mendiola by telephone at 214-665-7144 or by e-mail at [mendiola.teresita@epa.gov](mailto:mendiola.teresita@epa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Purpose of This Request for Initial Proposals

EPA Region 6's Water Quality Protection Division is requesting proposals from State water pollution control agencies, interstate agencies, other public or nonprofit agencies, institutions, organizations, and other

entities as defined by the CWA for unique and innovative projects that address the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program with special emphasis on concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO) permitting, sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) impact studies, watershed integration through NPDES, homeland security, and promotion of "good data" efforts to support NPDES decisions, as well as, water quality projects relating to water quality standards, assessment methods, and reporting, ecoregion and subregion delineation, and improved approaches to total maximum daily load (TMDL) modeling.

An organization whose IP is selected for Federal assistance must complete an EPA Application for Assistance, including the Federal SF-424 form (Application for Federal Assistance, see 40 CFR 30.12 & 31.10). Organizations who have an existing agreement under this program are eligible to compete for new awards.

#### EPA Region 6 Has Identified the Following High Priority Areas for Consideration

WQCA's awarded under section 104(b)(3) may only be used to conduct and promote the coordination and acceleration of activities such as research, investigations, experiments, training, education, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution. These activities, while not defined in the statute, advance the state of knowledge, gather information, or transfer information. For instance, "demonstrations" are generally projects that demonstrate new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches and the results of the project will be disseminated so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained. A project that is accomplished though the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project may be, is not a demonstration. Research projects may include the application of the practices when they contribute to learning about an environmental concept or problem.

EPA Region 6 has identified several subject areas for priority consideration. EPA will award WQCA's for research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies related to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination