

centers were funded. All of the FY 2000 grantees had been previously funded under the first solicitation, so there was continuity in the collaborative efforts between the centers, as well as continuity in support from the State and local governments being served by the centers.

One of the regional centers serves as "P2Rx program coordinator" with a 2-year term of service. The P2Rx program coordinator receives additional funding for tasks such as: Facilitating frequent communication among regional centers, developing consensus among the centers, coordinating subcommittees and the development of standards, and providing meeting and training services for center staff. New grantees will be included in P2Rx national meetings, monthly conference calls, subcommittees, trainings, and other activities supporting the national products this group agrees to develop.

3. *Authorizing statute.* This solicitation is made under the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, (the Act) (Public Law 101-508) which established 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:

i. 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.

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

EPA further defines P2 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, 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:

i. Make technical assistance available to businesses seeking information about source reduction opportunities, including funding for experts to provide on-site technical advice and to assist in the development of source reduction plans.

ii. Target assistance to businesses for whom lack of information is an impediment to source reduction.

iii. Provide training in source reduction techniques.

III. Award Information

1. *Availability of FY 2003 funds.* With this publication, EPA is expecting the availability of \$1 million in cooperative agreement funds for FY 2003. All funds are subject to availability at the time of award. These awards will be made through a competitive process for amounts not to exceed \$150,000.00 per year. Proposals may include up to 3 years in their schedule and budget. Funding for multiple year proposals will be made incrementally, every year as funds are available. In the past 5 years the awards have averaged \$121,000.00. Cooperative agreements are anticipated to be awarded by September 30, 2003. Substantial involvement by EPA in the cooperative agreement may include: The EPA project officer participating in monthly conference calls, consulting on the agenda for regional meetings, or attending steering committee meetings, etc. New applicants are encouraged to submit proposals. Proposals from existing P2Rx centers will compete with new proposals for new regional centers.

2. *Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance.* The number assigned to this program in the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance is 66.708.

IV. Eligibility

1. *Applicants.* In accordance with the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, 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 Indian tribes that meet the requirement for treatment in a manner similar to a State at 40 CFR 35.663 and intertribal consortia that meet the requirements at 40 CFR 35.504. For convenience, the term "State" in this Notice refers to all eligible applicants. Local governments, private universities, private nonprofit, private businesses, and individuals are not eligible for funding. Eligible applicants are encouraged to establish partnerships with other environmental assistance providers to seamlessly deliver pollution prevention assistance. In many cases, partnerships can make the most efficient use of Federal/State government funding. In cases where applicants are not clear, an instrumentality of the State by given name, the applicant must provide proof

that the applicant is indeed a State or interstate agency/organization.

2. *Matching requirements.* Under the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, the Federal Government will provide up to half of the total allowable costs of the project, and the State will provide the remainder. For example, a project costing \$200,000 could be funded by a grant for up to \$100,000 from the Federal Government. The State is responsible for providing the remainder. State contributions may include cash, in-kind goods and services, and third party contributions.

V. Application and Submission Information

1. *Preapplication coordination.* This program is eligible for coverage under Executive Order 12372 "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs" (and the review requirements of section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act). An applicant should consult the Office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review. The single point of contact must notify in writing, the Grants Administration Division of the Environmental Protection Agency whether their State's official Executive Order 12372 process will review applications in this program within 30 days of this **Federal Register** Notice.

2. *Preapplication assistance.* Federal forms that should be included in the proposal are: Application for Federal Assistance OMB Form 424; Budget Information Form 424A; Construction Assurances Form 424B; Certification Regarding Debarment, etc., Form 5700-49; Certification Regarding Lobbying; and EPA Civil Rights Form 4700-4. Forms can be obtained at <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/application.htm>. Requests for forms, examples of currently funded cooperative agreements, or other questions should be made to the contact listed under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

3. *Activities to be funded.* EPA is inviting proposals from the existing P2Rx centers as well as requesting new applicants, who will coordinate their proposed work with the existing P2Rx centers. EPA is seeking proposals that will contribute to the organization and efficient retrieval of P2 information. New applicants will work with existing P2Rx centers and provide their own unique areas of expertise as part of their national collaboration. For instance, the P2Rx centers have developed