

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of financial assistance solicitation.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Idaho Operations Office (ID) is seeking applications for advanced melting or innovative casting processes that have the potential to significantly improve energy efficiency in the areas of metal melting and the casting process. DOE is very interested in funding innovative, cost effective ideas that will reduce energy consumption. Crosscutting ideas from other industries or ideas that have crosscutting applications are also strongly encouraged. Advanced aluminum remelting furnace concepts are also of interest in this solicitation. Proposals dealing with product development R&D will not be funded. Proposals must address energy efficiencies in metal casting manufacturing not in the end-use applications.

**DATES:** The issuance date of Solicitation Number DE-PS07-03ID14488 will be on or about March 31, 2003. The deadline for receipt of applications will be approximately on May 30, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** The solicitation in its full text will be available on the Internet at the following URL address: <http://e-center.doe.gov>. The Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial assistance applications and evaluating the applications in a paperless environment. Completed applications are required to be submitted via IIPS. An IIPS "User Guide for Contractors" can be obtained on the IIPS Homepage and then clicking on the "Help" button. Questions regarding the operation of IIPS may be e-mailed to the IIPS Help Desk at [IIPS\\_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov](mailto:IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Seb Klein, Contract Specialist, [kleinasm@id.doe.gov](mailto:kleinasm@id.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** DOE anticipates making 1 to 4 cooperative agreement(s) with duration of 3 years or less for these efforts. A minimum 50% non-federal cost share is required for research and development projects over the life of the project. First year cost share can be as low as 30% if subsequent years have sufficient cost share so that non-federal share totals at least 50%. However, it is important to note that in the event a multi-year project is not continued, then the awardee will be required to increase the cost share to meet the 50% requirement. The statutory authority for this program is the Federal Non-Nuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-577). The Catalog of Federal

Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number for this program is 81.086.

Issued in Idaho Falls on March 26, 2003.

**Cheryl A. Thompson,**

*Acting Director, Procurement Services Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Energy Information Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Energy Information Administration (EIA), Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Agency information collection activities: proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The EIA is soliciting comments on the proposed Form EIA-902, "Annual Geothermal Heat Pump Manufacturers Survey."

**DATES:** Comments must be filed by June 2, 2003. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to James Holihan. To ensure receipt of the comments by the due date, submission by FAX to (202) 287-1946 or e-mail to [JHolihan@eia.doe.gov](mailto:JHolihan@eia.doe.gov) is recommended. The mailing address is Office of Coal, Nuclear, Electric, and Alternate Fuels, EI-52, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585-0650. Alternatively, Mr. Holihan may be contacted by telephone at (202) 287-1735.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of any forms and instructions should be directed to Mr. Holihan at the address listed above.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background
- II. Current Actions
- III. Request for Comments

#### I. Background

The Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-275, 15 U.S.C. 761 *et seq.*) and the DOE Organization Act (Pub. L. 95-91, 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*) require the EIA to carry out a centralized, comprehensive, and unified energy information program. This program collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes, and disseminates information on energy resource reserves, production, demand, technology, and related

economic and statistical information. This information is used to assess the adequacy of energy resources to meet near and longer-term domestic demands.

The EIA, as part of its effort to comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35), provides the general public and other Federal agencies with opportunities to comment on collections of energy information conducted by or in conjunction with the EIA. Any comments received help the EIA to prepare data requests that maximize the utility of the information collected, and to assess the impact of collection requirements on the public. Also, the EIA will later seek approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under section 3507(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The Form EIA-902 collects information on shipments of geothermal heat pumps. The survey tracks shipments of the following three main types of geothermal heat pumps, as classified by the Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Institute (ARI), and the much smaller shipped volume of non-ARI rated systems. A brief description of the ARI-classified system is as follows:

**ARI 320—Water-Source Heat Pumps (WSHP)**—These systems are installed in commercial buildings, where a central chiller or boiler supplies chilled or heated water, respectively, to heat pumps installed in series. The heat pumps reject building heat to chilled water during the cooling season and, during the heating season, take heat from boiler water.

**ARI 325—Ground Water-Source Heat Pumps (GWHP)**—The GWHP is an open-Loop system in which ground water is drawn from an aquifer or other natural body of water into piping. At the heat pump, heat is drawn from or dumped to the water through a heat exchanger to the refrigerant in the heat pump. The heated or cooled water returns to its source.

**ARI 330—Ground Source Closed-Loop Heat Pumps (GSHP)**—A water or water/glycol (antifreeze) solution flows continuously through a closed loop of pipe buried underground. Ground heat is absorbed into or rejected from the solution flowing in the closed loop. At the heat pump, heat is drawn from or dumped to the closed loop solution via heat transfer through a heat exchanger, which passes heat to or removes heat from the refrigerant in the heat pump. Depending on the type of ground and land area, systems can either be installed horizontally or vertically.

Data are collected by model type, heat pump capacity, region of destination,