

participating in the research project. The CDC IRB will review and approve the protocol initially and on at least an annual basis until the research project is completed.

c. Develop and provide to recipient a number of baseline questions for data collection related to the participant's exposure history.

d. In collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency Region IV and the recipient(s), coordinate meetings in Anniston, Alabama, at least twice in the first year to review available exposure data to better define exposed population(s).

e. Participate in periodic meetings with community leaders in Anniston, Alabama, to gather input on study design issues, and receive feedback regarding outreach, participation, and education throughout the study period.

f. Facilitate external peer review of the study protocol and the final report.

g. Provide assistance with the dissemination of information resulting from this project, including the review and publication of a final report.

h. Facilitate an annual meeting between awardee(s) in Atlanta, Georgia, to coordinate planned efforts and review progress.

F. Content

Applications

The Program Announcement title and number must appear in the application. Use the information in the Program Requirements, Other Requirements, and Evaluation Criteria sections to develop the application content. Your application will be evaluated on the criteria listed, so it is important to follow them in laying out your program plan.

The narrative should be no more than 45 pages, double-spaced, printed on one side, with one-inch margins, and unreduced 12-point font. The narrative should consist of, at a minimum, a Proposed Research Plan, Objectives, Methods, Evaluation, Budget, and Time line. The program plan should address activities to be conducted over the entire three-year project period.

G. Submission and Deadline

Application Forms

Submit the signed original and two copies of PHS 5161-1 (OMB 0920-0428). Forms are available at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/forminfo.htm>. If you do not have access to the Internet, or if you have difficulty accessing the forms on-line, you may contact the CDC Procurement and Grants Office Technical Information Management

Section (PGO-TIM) at: 770-488-2700. Application forms can be mailed to you.

Submission Date, Time, and Address

The application must be received by 4 p.m. eastern time June 30, 2003. Submit the application to: Technical Information Management—PA #03087, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2920 Brandywine Rd, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146.

Applications may not be submitted electronically.

CDC Acknowledgment of Application Receipt

A postcard will be mailed by PGO-TIM, notifying you that CDC has received your application.

Deadline

Applications shall be considered as meeting the deadline if they are received before 4 p.m. eastern time on the deadline date. Any applicant who sends their application by the United States Postal Service or commercial delivery services must ensure that the carrier will be able to guarantee delivery of the application by the closing date and time. If an application is received after closing due to (1) carrier error, when the carrier accepted the package with a guarantee for delivery by the closing date and time, or (2) significant weather delays or natural disasters, CDC will upon receipt of proper documentation, consider the application as having been received by the deadline.

Any application that does not meet the above criteria will not be eligible for competition, and will be discarded. The applicant will be notified of their failure to meet the submission requirements.

H. Evaluation Criteria

Application

An independent review group appointed by ATSDR will evaluate each application against the following criteria:

1. Goals and Objectives (20 percent)

The extent to which the applicant clearly identifies specific, measurable, and scientifically sound goals and objectives.

2. Study Design and Methods (20 percent)

a. Adequacy of the study design and methodology for accomplishing the stated goals and objectives.

b. The degree to which efficient and innovative approaches are proposed in collaboration with other institutions.

c. The extent to which the applicant's plans and schedule proposed for

accomplishing the activities to be carried out in this project are clearly stated, are realistic given the length of the funding period, and can be achieved within the proposed budget.

d. Applicant provides opportunities to collaborate with Anniston community leaders to develop final study protocol.

3. Community Involvement, Education, and Dissemination of Results (20 percent)

a. Adequacy of plan to address community concerns by establishing partnerships with community representatives, local environmental and health agencies, and other relevant public and private groups and organizations prior to project implementation.

b. Adequacy of plans to create formal lines of communication with Anniston leaders on a periodic basis, including representation from various disciplines and backgrounds.

c. The degree to which efficient and innovative approaches are proposed to educate the community about PCB exposure.

d. Adequacy of methods to work with the community to disseminate study results.

4. Understanding of the Problem (10 percent)

a. The applicant's understanding of the problems facing the residents of Anniston, Alabama.

b. The applicant should demonstrate an understanding of scientific and epidemiologic issues when conducting environmental research.

c. Relevance of the proposed program to these and related problems.

5. Program Personnel (10 percent)

a. Applicant's technical experience and understanding in the areas of PCBs, environmental epidemiology, health education/community outreach, etc.

b. Qualifications and time allocation of the professional staff to be assigned to this project.

c. Extent to which the management staff and their working partners are clearly described.

6. Facilities and Resources (10 percent)

The adequacy of the applicant's facilities, equipment, and other resources available for performance of this project.

7. Measures of Effectiveness (10 percent)

Applicants are required to provide measures of effectiveness that will demonstrate the accomplishment of the various identified objectives of the