

on the nanoscience research community outside of the projects;

The evaluation under item 2, Appropriateness of the Proposed Method of Approach, will also consider the following elements related to Quality of Planning:

(a) Quality of the plan for effective coupling of nanoscience researchers, computational scientists and applied mathematicians;

(b) Quality and clarity of proposed work schedule and deliverables.

Note that external peer reviewers are selected with regard to both their scientific expertise and the absence of conflict-of-interest issues. Non-federal reviewers may be used, and submission of an application constitutes agreement that this is acceptable to the investigator(s) and the submitting institution. Reviewers will be selected to represent expertise in the technology areas proposed, applications groups that are potential users of the technology, and related programs in other Federal Agencies or parts of DOE, such as the Advanced Strategic Computing Initiative (ASCI) within DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration.

Information about the development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluation, selection process, and other policies and procedures including detailed procedures for submitting applications from multi-institution partnerships may be found in 10 CFR part 605, and in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program. Electronic access to the Guide and required forms is made available via the World Wide Web at: <http://www.science.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>. The Project Description must be 20 pages or less, including tables and figures, but exclusive of attachments. The application must contain an abstract or project summary, letters of intent from collaborators, and short vitae. DOE is under no obligation to pay for any costs associated with the preparation or submission of applications if an award is not made.

(The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this program is 81.049, and the solicitation control number is ERFAP 10 CFR part 605).

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John Rodney Clark,

Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

State Energy Program (SEP) Special Projects

AGENCY: Golden Field Office, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of the 2003 State Energy Program Special Projects Solicitation.

SUMMARY: The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE) is anticipating the availability of financial assistance to the States for a group of special project activities. Funding is being provided by a number of programs in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. States may apply to undertake any of the projects being offered by these programs. Financial Assistance will be awarded to the States separately for each special project, with activities to be carried out in conjunction with their efforts under SEP. The special projects' funding and activities are tracked separately so that the DOE Program Offices may follow the progress of individual projects.

DATES: The program solicitation is anticipated to be posted on the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) Web site in mid-February, 2003. Applications will be due in early to mid-May, 2003.

ADDRESSES: To obtain a copy of the solicitation, interested parties should access the DOE Golden Field Office Home Page at <http://www.golden.doe.gov/businessopportunities.html>, and click on the "Solicitations" button. The Golden Home Page will provide a link to the Solicitation in the IIPS Web site and provide instructions on using IIPS. The Solicitation can also be obtained directly through IIPS at <http://e-center.doe.gov> by browsing opportunities by Contract Activity, for those solicitations issued by the Golden Field Office. DOE will not issue paper copies of the solicitation.

IIPS provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial assistance applications, and evaluating the applications in a paperless environment. The application must be submitted to IIPS by an eligible State applicant. For questions regarding the operation of IIPS, contact the IIPS Help Desk at IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov or at (800) 683-0751.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrea Lucero, DOE Golden Field Office, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden,

CO 80401-3393 or via facsimile to Andrea Lucero at (303) 275-4788, or electronically to andrea_lucero@nrel.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The projects must meet the relevant requirements of the program providing the funding, as well as of the SEP as specified in the 2003 State Energy Program Special Projects Solicitation. The goals of the special projects activities are to assist States accelerate deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; facilitate the acceptance of emerging and underutilized energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; and increase the responsiveness of Federally funded technology development efforts to private sector needs.

Fiscal Year 2003 is the eighth year special project activities have been funded in conjunction with the State Energy Program (10 CFR part 420). Most of these special projects are related to or based on similar efforts that have been funded by other DOE programs.

Availability of Fiscal Year 2003 Funds

With this publication, DOE is anticipating the availability of an estimated \$16.3 million in new financial assistance awards from Fiscal Year 2003 appropriations. DOE's obligation for performance of this Solicitation is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which financial assistance awards can be made.

The awards will be made through a competitive process. The programs that are participating in the State Energy Program Special Projects for Fiscal Year 2003, with the estimated amount of funding available for each, are as follows:

- **Clean Cities:** The program will provide funds to support the deployment of alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles (AFV) in the following four categories: (1) Projects that promote acquisition of commercially-available AFVs that maximize alternative fuel use, especially when those vehicles support an AFV niche market activity center or niche deployment strategy; (2) projects that promote AFV infrastructure development; (3) Projects that promote the acquisition of AFV school buses; (4) Projects that support coalition activities (\$5,000,000).

- **Industrial Technology Program:** The objective is to broaden the impact of investments in advanced industrial technologies and practices geared toward energy savings and waste reduction. This will be done through