

(NOAA)/Department of Commerce; the Directorate for Geosciences, Division of Ocean Sciences/National Science Foundation (NSF); the Office of Naval Research (ONR)/Department of Defense; and the Office of Earth Science/National Aeronautics Space Administration (NASA) are cooperating in an opportunity for investigators to propose activities to address fundamental ecological and oceanographic questions related to the national harmful algal bloom (HAB) problem.

This announcement provides an opportunity for investigators to propose activities that address areas in the national problem of harmful algal blooms. The primary goal of this interagency program is to provide support for projects that are part of an integrated national effort to address HAB problems. Thus, ECOHAB will consider support for projects ranging from relatively small targeted laboratory or field studies by individual investigators or small teams, to regional studies involving larger teams of investigators conducting coordinated, well-integrated multi-disciplinary field programs.

All studies should address fundamental ecological and oceanographic questions related to HABs. Additionally, larger, regionally focused studies should attempt to determine the linkages between HAB species and their surrounding environments. Modeling efforts should be an integral part of these larger studies and these applications should also identify potential user communities for models and results. Investigators are encouraged to list specific management needs identified in the regional community, document the management sources, and also document how research results will meet those needs.

ECOHAB agencies will consider a wide range of studies for support. Examples of topic areas for proposed projects are provided in the complete announcement (see the **SUMMARY** in this announcement).

ECOHAB will support projects ranging from laboratory studies by individual investigators or small teams, up to larger teams of investigators conducting coordinated, well-integrated, multi-disciplinary regional field studies or cross-regional comparative studies. For individuals and small teams, support may be requested for 1–3 years duration. Projects focused on multi-disciplinary regional studies may request support for 3 to 5 years duration. However, the size and duration of the latter studies are dependent on appropriations, and potential applicants must obtain

permission from the ECOHAB Coordinator (see **CONTACTS** in this announcement) to submit a regional or cross-regional study.

Eligibility: Institutions of higher education and not-for-profit institutions located in the U.S., and State or local governments, are eligible under all existing authorizations. Some participating agencies are authorized to make awards to international institutions, and commercial organizations located in the U.S. Federal agencies and laboratories are eligible if they can produce certifications or documentation which clearly show that they have specific legal authority to receive funds from another Federal agency in excess of their appropriations. Funding for salaries of full time Federal employees will not be allowed. Applications from non-Federal and Federal applicants will be evaluated under the same review/selection process. Proposals from non-Federal applicants that are selected for funding will be funded through a project grant or cooperative agreement under the terms of this announcement. Proposals from Federal agencies or laboratories deemed acceptable and selected for funding will be funded through a medium other than a grant or cooperative agreement, such as inter- or intra-agency transfers, where legal authority exists for such funding. Note that this announcement is not proposing to procure goods and services from Federal applicants; therefore the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535) is not an appropriate legal basis.

How to Apply: The original and eighteen (18) copies of the fully developed application (19 in all) and one (1) additional copy of the abstract, prepared in accordance with the full announcement, must be received by NOAA no later than 4 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date, January 28, 2004.

Program Authorities: For COP: 33 U.S.C. 883d and Pub. L. 105–383; for Office of Protected Resources/NOAA: 16 U.S.C. 1382 and 16 U.S.C. 1421a; EPA: 33 U.S.C 1251 *et seq.* and 40 CFR parts 30 and 40; for NSF: 42 U.S.C. 1861 *et seq.*; for ONR: 10 U.S.C 2358 as amended and 31 U.S.C 6304; and for NASA: 14 CFR part 1260.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers. 11.478 for the Coastal Ocean Program; 11.472 for NOAA/Office of Protected Resources; 66.509 for the Environmental Protection Agency; 47.050 for the National Science Foundation, and 12.300 for the Office of Naval Research.

Dated: October 27, 2003.

John C. Puzak,

Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Research.

[FR Doc. 03–27674 Filed 11–3–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7582–9]

Proposed Settlement Under Section 122(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act Regarding the Global Landfill Superfund Site, Middlesex County, NJ

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of proposed administrative settlement and opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Environmental Protection (EPA) is proposing to enter into an administrative settlement to resolve claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended. Notice is being published to inform the public of the proposed settlement and of the opportunity to comment. The administrative settlement is intended to resolve the United States' claims for past response costs against the following potentially responsible parties ("PRPs"): Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc.; Chevron Chemical Company; Consolidated Edison Company of New York; E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co.; FMC Corporation; Jersey Central Power & Light Company d/b/a GPU Energy; Gerdau AmeriSteel-Perth Amboy Mill f/k/a Co-Steel Raritan, f/k/a River Steel Company; Shell Oil Company; Johnson & Johnson; and Merck & Co., Inc. (collectively, "Settling Parties"). The administrative settlement concerns the Global Landfill Superfund Site located in Middlesex County, New Jersey.

In accordance with section 122(h)(i)(1) of CERCLA, notice is hereby given of a proposed administrative settlement concerning the Global Landfill Superfund Site located in Middlesex County, New Jersey. Section 122(h) of CERCLA provides EPA with the authority to consider, compromise and settle certain claims for costs incurred by the United States.

Pursuant to the administrative settlement, the Settling Parties will pay the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \$474,000 as reimbursement of past response costs incurred by EPA in