

Magnetized Plasma Turbulence Apparatus. *Manufacturer:* Academia Sinica Institute of Plasma Physics, Peoples Republic of China. *Intended Use:* The instrument is intended to be used to study turbulence and transport in plasmas, principally hydrogen and argon plasmas. The basic properties of the plasma—density, temperature, and velocity—will be measured as well as the behavior of the fluctuations (turbulence) in those quantities. Experimental objectives include validating the nonlinear mechanisms occurring in plasma turbulence and the effect of shear in the flow velocity in stabilizing the turbulence. *Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:* December 12, 2002.

Docket Number: 02–051. *Applicant:* National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL), 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO 80401. *Instrument:* Ignition Quality Tester. *Manufacturer:* Advanced Engine Technology Ltd., United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* The instrument is intended to be used to measure the ignition delay, maximum chamber temperature, rate of heat rise, and autoignition temperature of various diesel fuels, surrogate molecules, additives, and alternative fuel compounds to better understand how the molecular structure of fuel compounds relates to the ignition quality (and potentially to the exhaust emissions). The instrument will also be used to characterize new fuels (such as biodiesel) prior to testing them in engines. *Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:* December 20, 2002.

Gerald A. Zerdy,

Program Manager, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No.: 991215340–2318–02]

Collaborative Science, Technology, and Applied Research (CSTAR) Program

AGENCY: National Weather Service (NWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice and request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The CSTAR Program represents an NOAA/NWS effort to

create a cost-effective continuum of basic and applied research to operations through collaborative research between operational forecasters and academic institutions which have expertise in the environmental sciences. These activities will engage researchers and students in applied research of interest to the operational meteorological community and improve the accuracy of forecasts and warnings of environmental hazards by applying scientific knowledge and information to NWS products and services. The NOAA CSTAR Program is a contributing element of the U.S. Weather Research Program. NOAA's program is designed to complement other agency contributions to that national effort.

DATES: Proposals must be received by the NWS no later than close of business February 21, 2003. We anticipate review of full proposals will occur during March 2003, and funding should begin during early summer 2003 for most approved projects. June 1, 2003, should be used as the proposed start date on proposals, unless otherwise directed by the Program Officer. Applicants should be notified of their status within 3 months of the closing date. All proposals must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines below. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in proposals being returned to the submitter.

ADDRESSES: Proposals must be submitted to NOAA/NWS; 1325 East-West Highway, Room 15330; Silver Spring, Maryland 20910–3283.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sam Contorno (see **ADDRESSES**), or by phone at 301–713–3557 ext. 150, or fax to 301–713–1253, or via internet at samuel.contorno@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 313; 49 U.S.C. 44720 (b); 33 U.S.C. 883d; 15 U.S.C. 2904; 15 U.S.C. 2934.

Catalog for Federal Domestic Assistance

This program is designated under Catalog for Federal Assistance number 11.468, Applied Meteorological Research.

Funding Availability

NOAA/NWS believes its warning and forecast mission will benefit significantly from a strong partnership with outside investigators. Current program plans assume the total resources provided through this announcement will support extramural efforts through the broad academic community. Because of Federal budget uncertainties, it has not been

determined how much money will be available through this announcement. Proposals should be prepared assuming an annual budget of no more than \$125,000. It is expected that approximately four awards will be made, depending on availability of funds. This program announcement is for projects to be conducted by university investigators for a 1-year, 2-year, or 3-year period. When a proposal for a multi-year award is approved, funding will initially be provided for only the first year of the program. If an application is selected for initial funding, the NWS has no obligation to provide additional funding in connection with that award in subsequent years. Funding for each subsequent year of a multi-year proposal is at the discretion of the NWS. It will be contingent upon satisfactory progress in relation to the stated goals of the proposal to address specific science needs and priorities of the NWS and the availability of funds. Applications must include a scope of work and a budget for the entire award period. Each funding period must be discrete and clearly distinguished from any other funding period.

The funding instrument for extramural awards will be a cooperative agreement since one or more NOAA/NWS components—forecast offices, National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) service centers, or regional headquarters—will be substantially involved in implementation of the project. Examples of substantial involvement may include, but are not limited to, proposals for collaboration between NOAA scientists and a recipient scientist and/or contemplation by NOAA of detailing Federal personnel to work on proposed projects. Funding for non-U.S. institutions and contractual arrangements for services and products for delivery to NOAA are not available under this announcement. A matching share is not required by this program.

Program Objectives

The long term objective of the CSTAR Program is to improve the overall forecast and warning capabilities of the operational hydrometeorological community by addressing the following national science priorities through collaborative efforts between the NWS and academic institutions: Quantitative precipitation estimation (QPE) and forecasting (QPF), including precipitation type and probabilistic QPF; Flash flood and probabilistic river prediction; Prediction of seasonal-to-interannual and decadal climate variability, and the impacts of these