

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Acting Director, Information Resources Group, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before July 5, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Wendy Taylor, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Director of the Information Resources Group publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or

Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

Dated: May 30, 1996.

Gloria Parker,

Director, Information Resources Group.

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: Title II—Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program Report Forms.

Frequency: Triennially.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions, Federal Government, State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs and LEAs.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden: Responses: 104; Burden hours: 3,640.

Abstract: These forms will be used by the Department as a means of collecting information on the effectiveness of the program at the State and local levels. The data will be used to inform the Department and Congress on the progress of the State programs in meeting performance indicators. The information will assure statutory mandates are followed.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: Final Performance Report for Grants under the Strengthening Institutions Program.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 1.

Burden Hours: 2,472.

Abstract: A final performance report is required of former grantees that have completed either a 12-month planning grant project or a 60-month development grant project. The reports enable a grantee and the awarding agency to evaluate overall project accomplishments and the impact of funded activities on the grantee institutions' academic programs, institutional management, and fiscal stability.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: Application for Approval to Participate in Federal Financial Aid Programs.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 2,219.

Burden Hours: 36,073.

Abstract: The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires postsecondary institutions to complete and submit this application as a condition of eligibility for any of the Title IV student financial assistance programs and for the other postsecondary programs authorized by the HEA. An institution must submit the form (1) initially when it first seeks to become eligible for the Title IV programs, (2) every four years after the initial certification ("recertification"), (3) when it changes ownership, merges, or changes from a "profit" to a "non-profit" institution, and (4) to be reinstated to participate in the Title IV programs.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: GEPA 424 Biennial Report on the Distribution of Federal Education Funds.

Frequency: Biennially.

Affected Public: Federal Government; State, local or Tribal Government, SEAs or LEAs.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 142.

Burden Hours: 3,420.

Abstract: Section 424 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) requires States to report on the distribution of funds for State-administered Federal education funds. This reporting requirement, previously known as GEPA 406A, underwent significant revisions during the 1994 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, including changing the collection from annual to biennial, extending the reporting deadlines, and expanding the report to include Federally-administered programs.

[FR Doc. 96-13901 Filed 6-3-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Denver Regional Support Office

Commercialization Ventures Program; Notice of Solicitation for Financial Assistance Applications

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation for financial assistance application Number DE-PS48-96R810587.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), through its Commercialization Ventures Program,

announces its intention to issue a competitive solicitation for applications for financial assistance from state energy offices for projects that will accelerate the commercialization of renewable energy technologies. This action is subject to the DOE Financial Assistance Rules, which can be found in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 600).

AVAILABILITY OF THE SOLICITATION: DOE expects to issue the solicitation on or about May 31, 1996. To obtain a copy of the solicitation, interested parties may write to the U.S. Department of Energy, Denver Regional Support Office, Attention: Margaret Learmouth, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO 80401. Only written requests for the solicitation will be honored. For convenience, requests for the solicitation may be faxed to Margaret Learmouth at (303) 275-4830. Telephone requests for the solicitation will not be granted.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOE Commercialization Ventures Program seeks to assist entry into the marketplace of newly emerging renewable energy technologies or innovative applications of existing renewable energy technologies. Generally, an emerging technology means one that has already been proven to be viable, but which has had little or no operational experience, or when an innovative application of such technology has not been generally utilized. Any such experience has been limited, either to sub-commercial size or quantities, to restricted or controlled operation, or to limited applications.

Restricted Eligibility Notice:

- Applications must be submitted by an eligible applicant. Eligible applicants for purposes of funding under the program are the *energy offices* of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and any territory or possession of the United States. For states lacking official energy offices, the eligible applicant is the state agency with responsibility for energy matters. A state agency applicant must form a partnering arrangement with at least one for-profit business to be eligible.

Project Requirements:

- This state agency, as the direct award recipient, is required to work in a partnership or subaward arrangement with at least one for-profit entity.
- The activities funded must be performed in the United States.
- The manufacture and reproduction of any invention or product resulting from the project must be manufactured

or reproduced substantially in the United States.

- Have at least 50 percent of the total project costs directly and specifically related to the project come from non-federal sources.

- Local governments, State and private universities, private non-profits, for-profit businesses, and individuals, who are not eligible as direct applicants, must work with the appropriate State agencies in developing projects and forming participation arrangements.

Additional requirements will be described in the solicitation.

Projects may include manufacture of an emerging renewable energy technology or production of energy or fuel using an innovative application of an existing renewable energy technology.

DOE expects to have approximately \$8-11 million available for projects, and anticipates making 5-10 awards. The solicitation is anticipated to be issued on or about May 31, 1996, and will contain detailed information on funding, cost sharing requirements eligibility, application preparation and evaluation methodology. Responses to the solicitation will be due approximately 75 days after solicitation release.

In addition to the direct financial assistance offered through this solicitation, DOE may be in a position to offer non-financial assistance in the form of consulting expertise on business aspects of proposed projects, such as development of a business plan or identifying commercial financing for promising projects. Candidate projects for this form of assistance will be identified during the application review process.

Issued in Golden, Colorado on May 23, 1996.

John W. Meeker,

Chief, Procurement, GO.

[FR Doc. 96-13906 Filed 6-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Golden Field Office

Hydrogen Feasibility Studies; Notice of Solicitation for Financial Assistance Applications

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation for financial assistance applications Number DE-PS36-96GO10160.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), under authority of Section 2026 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, Public Law 102-486, and the Matsunaga Hydrogen Research, Development, and

Demonstration Act of 1990, Public Law 101-566, is requesting applications as a follow-on to a Notice of Interest published in the Commerce Business Daily (on April 21, 1995). DOE is seeking private-sector led, cost-shared projects in research, development, and technology validation that include the integration of hydrogen technologies such as production, storage, transport, and end-use applications.

AVAILABILITY OF THE SOLICITATION: To obtain a copy of the solicitation once it is issued in June, 1996, write to the U.S. Department of Energy's Golden Field Office, 1617 Cole Blvd, Golden, CO 80401, Attn: Mr. John Motz, Contract Specialist. Only written requests for the solicitation will be honored. For convenience, requests for the solicitation may be faxed to Mr. Motz at (303) 275-4754.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the solicitation is to assist the private sector in the development of integrated hydrogen systems for applications to near- and long-term markets. DOE encourages the submission of development plans for integrated systems related to long-term hydrogen energy markets, although DOE will consider applications for systems addressing near-term hydrogen 'niche' markets. In any case, all awardees will be required to participate in a Phase I effort prior to consideration by DOE for a subsequent award to participate in later phases. The anticipated progression of projects awarded under this solicitation will be: Phase I—Feasibility Studies (the subject of this solicitation); Phase II—Technology Development; Phase III—Technology Validation; and Phase IV—Demonstration/Scale-Up.

The applications should provide detailed information regarding Phase I efforts, but should also include a sufficient description of anticipated efforts in follow-on Phases II through IV to provide an overall characterization of necessary steps to allow commercialization of the hydrogen technology/system at the conclusion of Phase IV. After the conclusion of the Phase I efforts by all awardees, DOE will evaluate the Phase I results and future plans of each awardee. Based upon technical, economic, and programmatic considerations, DOE may select awardees to participate in follow-on agreements without further competition.

In Phase I, a cost-shared business and technical feasibility study will be undertaken which will result in the development of information necessary for follow-on applications in Phases II through IV. Applications submitted in