

II (Project Description, Potential Sites), a program policy factor for DOE is the determination of potential needs for medical surveillance for former workers at major DOE sites not included in the cooperative agreements awarded in September 1996.

VII. DOE's Role

In order for DOE to utilize cooperative agreements for these medical surveillance projects, there must be substantial involvement between DOE and any awardee(s). DOE established the core tasks for these projects and prepared this **Federal Register** Notice of Availability. DOE will conduct the selection and award process, which will include evaluations by persons outside the Federal government. DOE will evaluate the results of phase I and, where warranted, authorize and fund phase II. DOE will facilitate awardee access to the target sites and help familiarize investigators with the facility and historical operations. DOE will facilitate access to exposure records, including the identification and retrieval of records relating to DOE activities, and declassification of records, as needed. DOE will establish requirements for data collection and handling. DOE will consult with project investigators and coordinate semiannual meetings. DOE will interact with an independent advisory group that will provide advice to DOE and to project investigators. Finally, DOE will monitor and evaluate the results of the projects, including the participant's level of satisfaction, to determine how these projects could be expanded to other groups of former workers both at the project sites and at other DOE sites. In addition to helping former workers, information gained from these projects will contribute to DOE's ongoing efforts to improve health and safety programs for current workers.

VIII. Applicants

Applicants for the cooperative agreements could include domestic nonprofit and for profit organizations, universities, medical centers, research institutions, other public and private organizations, including State and local governments, labor unions and other employee representative groups, and small, minority and/or women-owned businesses. Consortia of interested organizations are encouraged to apply. Awardees for each project will work cooperatively with former workers, DOE site officials, DOE operating contractors, labor organizations, health officials, and designated community representatives.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on March 14, 1997.

Paul J. Seligman,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Studies.

[FR Doc. 97-7470 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Mobile Systems Certification Program

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE), Albuquerque Operations Office (AL).

ACTION: Notice of intent to issue competitive solicitation.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy, Albuquerque Operations Office, announces its intent to issue a competitive Federal Financial Assistance (FFA) Solicitation Number 97AL77459 under DOE Financial Assistance Rules, 10 CFR 600.8, for Mobile Systems Certification Program participation. This solicitation is to assist in the certification of Recipients to perform Contact-Handled (CH) Transuranic (TRU) Waste Management Activities at DOE's Waste Generator/Storage Sites and Small Quantity Sites located throughout the United States, through the use of the Recipient's Mobile Systems.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: DOE plans to issue FFA Solicitation Number 97AL77459 on or about April 15, 1997. A copy of the solicitation can be obtained after April 15, 1997, by contacting Mr. Lowther at the address, telephone, fax number, or E-Mail address below. Companies who have previously received a copy of or responded to DOE AL Draft Request For Proposal No. DE-RP04-97AL77459 entitled "Mobile CH TRU Waste Management Services" are currently on the mailing list and will be furnished a copy of this FFA Solicitation No. 97AL77459. *Applications will be due June 12, 1997.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Department of Energy, Albuquerque Operations Office, PO. Box 5400, Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400, Attn: Mr. Robert D. Lowther, Contracts and Procurement Division, Telephone Number: (505) 845-6839, Fax Number: (505) 845-4004, E-Mail Address: rlowther@doeal.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOE plans to issue a Federal Assistance Solicitation for Cooperative Agreement Proposals (FASCAP) on or about April 15, 1997. The objective of this solicitation is to (1) stimulate the market place by having Recipients, who possess or can develop Mobile Systems (equipment which can be attached to trailers and transported to sites around the country) technology and capability,

apply for federal financial assistance to seek DOE's review and certification of the Recipient's procedures, policies, and processes, and, (2) to evaluate the Recipients' capabilities and equipment through participation in DOE performance demonstration programs and certification audits.

A maximum of three applicants will be awarded a cooperative agreement. The estimated DOE funding for this Mobile Systems Certification Program is \$900,000, to be shared equally among the selected applicants. The DOE funding is restricted to developing procedures and its associated quality assurance plans, and for participating in performance demonstration programs and audits. The DOE funding cannot be used to purchase or develop Mobile Systems equipment. Recipient cost sharing (non-federal) is highly encouraged. The DOE Carlsbad Area Office (CAO) will administer the cooperative agreements, which will have a project period of approximately six months with an August 1997 planned award date.

Background

Approximately 102,000 cubic meters (contained in various size drums or boxes) of retrievably stored, CH TRU waste and mixed TRU waste, is in inventory at numerous sites around the country. In addition, an estimated 38,000 cubic meters of TRU waste will be generated in the course of continuing DOE operations. All stored and to-be-generated defense TRU waste is destined for permanent disposal in the DOE Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) located near Carlsbad, New Mexico. WIPP is scheduled to open in November 1997, pending receipt of regulatory approvals from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of New Mexico.

In order to ship TRU waste to WIPP, sites must certify that the waste meets WIPP Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC). Waste certification involves the physical characterization combined with the appropriate quality assurance documentation (records, audits, etc.) to demonstrate that the waste complies with the standards for disposal at WIPP. The waste must go through physical characterization performed in accordance with the Transuranic Waste Characterization Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) on a waste stream basis and per container basis to determine the chemical, radiological, and physical attributes of the waste. Waste containers that do not meet the acceptance criteria outlined in WIPP WAC will need further processing, including repackaging for shipment in

the TRUPACT-II shipping containers, before disposal at WIPP.

Most sites with significant quantities of TRU waste plan to use existing fixed facilities or open new facilities in the future to perform these functions; however, such facilities may not be fully operational and thus not be capable of meeting DOE's current disposal schedule. Furthermore, small quantity sites lack the capability to characterize, treat, package, and load TRU waste.

An alternative to using fixed facilities is the use of mobile systems mounted on one or more trailers or portable systems which can be transported to a site(s). These mobile systems must be capable of characterizing, processing, repackaging, and loading TRU waste into TRUPACT-II shipping containers. In addition to the physical characterization and processing to be provided by these mobile systems, the sites have a need for waste management services necessary to certify waste to WIPP WAC requirements prior to transportation and disposal at WIPP.

The CAO is pursuing this strategy of using mobile systems services to offer the DOE complex substantial advantages such as:

- More rapid deployment than the construction of fixed facilities;
- Greater flexibility in managing and configuring waste preparation; and
- Greater efficiencies and cost-effectiveness in waste preparation.

The majority of drums destined for WIPP are planned for transportation through the year 2006, with additional drum quantities to be identified, characterized, certified, and transported through the year 2033. However, the TRU-Waste inventory processing allocations may be subject to change, thus enhancing the potential for additional mobile systems processing.

Under this Mobile Systems Certification Program, a Recipient(s) must develop procedures and plans that demonstrate its proposed "characterization/certification process" meets the Quality Assurance Standards set forth by the CAO. These standards (available from CAO) are identified in CAO's Transuranic Waste Characterization Quality Assurance Program Plan, CAO-94-1010, and Quality Assurance Program Document, CAO-94-1012. Additional information is available in the National Transuranic Waste Management Plan, DOE/NTP-96-1204, and Mobile Systems Capability Plan, DOE/NTP-96-1202.

The solicitation to be issued will include a guide for submission of applications as well as identify the evaluation criteria, and program policy factors. If you are interested in receiving

the FASCAP, contact Robert Lowther at the above address or telephone/fax number. All responsible sources may submit an application, which will be considered. The solicitation is subject to the limitations on financial aid participation imposed by Section 2306 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13525).

Purpose

This notice is issued to announce the Mobile Systems Certification Program solicitation.

Issued in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 18, 1997.

James G. Hoyal, Jr.,

Deputy Assistant Manager for Management and Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-7469 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Nevada Test Site

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Nevada Test Site.

DATES: Wednesday, April 2, 1997: 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Community College of Southern Nevada (Cheyenne Avenue Campus), High Desert Conference and Training Center, Room 1422, 3200 East Cheyenne Avenue, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030-4296, 702-651-4294.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin Rohrer, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Environmental Management, PO Box 98518, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8513, phone: 702-295-0197.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Advisory Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

April Agenda

5:30 p.m.—Call to Order

5:40 p.m.—Presentations

7:00 p.m.—Public Comment/Questions

7:30 p.m.—Break

7:45 p.m.—Review Action Items

8:00 p.m.—Approve Meeting Minutes

8:10 p.m.—Committee Reports

8:45 p.m.—Public Comment

9:00 p.m.—Adjourn

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Kevin Rohrer, at the telephone number listed above. Requests must be received 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Official is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. This notice is being published less than 15 days in advance of the meeting due to programmatic issues that needed to be resolved.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available by writing to Kevin Rohrer at the address listed above.

Issued at Washington, DC on March 19, 1997.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Acting Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-7474 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

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Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge Reservation.

DATES: Wednesday, April 2, 1997; 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Information Resource Center, 105 Broadway, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandy Perkins, Site-Specific Advisory Board Coordinator, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, 105 Broadway, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, (423) 576-1590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations