

grammar of connectedness in molecular function. Through escalating levels of complexity from functional aggregates to metabolic circuits and homeostatic networks we will arrive at a systems view of biology. This will enable diverse applications in human health, including individualized medicine and drug design, in biotechnology, including, new and improved biomaterials and new biocatalysis in industry and manufacturing, in environmental science for the design of enzymes for effective and efficient removal of environmental contaminants and in energy technology for the development and conversion of biomass for fuels.

#### Program Funding

It is anticipated that approximately \$2.0 million will be available for multiple grant awards during Fiscal Year 2000 contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Applications may request project support up to three years, with out-year support contingent on the availability of funds, progress of the research, and programmatic needs. We expect to award several grants in this area of research of up to \$500,000 per year.

#### Preapplications

A brief preapplication should be submitted. The preapplication should identify on the cover sheet the institution, PI name, address, telephone, fax and E-mail address for the principal investigator, and title of the project. The preapplication should consist of two to three pages narrating the research objective, methods for accomplishment and benefits of the effort.

Preapplications will be evaluated relative to the scope and research needs for the Computational Structural Biology subprogram.

Applications will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following evaluation criteria listed in descending order of importance as codified at 10 CFR 605.10(d):

1. Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Project.
2. Appropriateness of the Proposed Method or Approach.
3. Competency of Applicant's Personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources.
4. Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget.

The evaluation will include program policy factors such as the relevance of the proposed research to the terms of the announcement and an agency's programmatic needs. Note, 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.

To provide a consistent format for the submission, review and solicitation of grant applications submitted under this notice, the preparation and submission of grant applications must follow the guidelines given in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program 10 CFR part 605.

Information about the development, submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluation, the selection process, and other policies and procedures 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.er.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>. On the SC grant face page, form DOE F 4650.2, in block 15, also provide the PI's phone number, fax number and E-mail address.

The Office of Science as part of its grant regulations requires at 10 CFR 605.11(b) that a recipient receiving a grant and performing research involving recombinant DNA molecules and/or organisms and viruses containing recombinant DNA molecules shall comply with NIH "Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules", which is available via the world wide web at: <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/odhsb/biosafe/nih/rdna-apr98.pdf>, (59 FR 34496, July 5, 1994), or such later revision of those guidelines as may be published in the **Federal Register**.

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

Issued in Washington, D.C. on April 29, 1999.

**John Rodney Clark,**

*Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

**Chicago Operations Office; Notice of Solicitation Entitled "Support of the U.S. Chemical Industry's Technology Vision 2020", Financial Assistance Solicitation No. DE-SC02-99CH10989**

**AGENCY:** DOE, Chicago Operation Office.

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation for cooperative agreement proposals.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Industrial Technologies (OIT) announces its intention to issue a competitive solicitation for applications for financial assistance to conduct innovative research and development (R&D). The R&D should improve energy efficiency and support the goals of *Technology Vision 2020: The Chemical Industry*. The Chemical industry and the DOE have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to provide a framework for joint research, development, and demonstration among industry, academia, and government. OIT seeks collaborative R&D projects that address priority needs that are detailed in industry-developed Technology Roadmaps and other selected topic areas. Roadmap areas for the upcoming solicitation include Computational Chemistry, Materials of Construction, Separations, and Selected Topics Related to Catalysis, Alternative Synthetic Pathways, and the Application and Use of Alternative Chemicals—specifically C1 Compounds as Alternative Raw Materials/Feedstocks, Alternative Reaction Conditions, and Supercritical/Dense Phase Fluids As Solvent Replacements in Production of Chemicals and in Other Applications.

**DATES:** The complete solicitation document will be available on or about May 24, 1999 on the internet by accessing either the OIT grant program home page at <http://www.oit.doe.gov/chemicals/page3.html> or the DOE Chicago Operations Office Acquisition and Assistance Group home page at <http://www.ch.doe.gov/business/ACQ.htm> under the heading "Current Acquisition Activities" Solicitation No. DE-SC02-99CH10989. Applications are anticipated to be due no later than 3:00 p.m. (CDT), July 30, 1999. Selection of applications for award is anticipated by October 13, 1999.

**DATES:** Completed applications referencing Solicitation Number DE-SC02-99CH10989 must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy, Chicago Operations Office, Attn: Jennifer Stricker, Bldg. 2101, Rm. 3F-13, 9800 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439-4899.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As a result of this solicitation, DOE expects to award twelve (12) to fifteen (15) cooperative agreements. Total estimated Government funding for the solicitation is approximately \$12 million with anticipated Government funding of approximately \$4 million for FY00. DOE

will consider projects ranging from one (1) to three (3) years in length.

Eligible applicants must have a teaming arrangement consisting of two or more chemical companies. (A "chemical company" is defined as a private (profit or non-profit) organization that manufactures chemicals or provides products or serves to such manufactures. In addition to chemical manufacturers, raw material suppliers, equipment and technology suppliers, architectural and engineering companies, software and consulting firms, trade and professional associations, and research institutes that routinely conduct a minimum of 10% of their business with chemical industry manufactures are within the scope of the definition.) In addition, the teaming arrangement may also include, but is not limited to, universities, trade associations, DOE National Laboratories, and small businesses. All projects must offer significant energy savings when compared to the currently-used technology. Eligible applicants must cost share at least 50% of project costs and projects should be planned for one to three years in duration. Teaming arrangements with DOE National Laboratories are encouraged, however national laboratories may not serve as the prime applicant and may not provide cost share. Industry partner(s) must perform at least 50% of the proposed effort. Further, applicants should describe the work to be performed and plans for project management and technology commercialization; describe how the work will advance one or more of the priority needs of the roadmaps and/or above topic areas; estimate energy savings and waste and emission reductions; describe the innovative aspects of the technology; and provide information on the qualifications and experience of both the project team and of key personnel.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Stricker at (630) 252-2888, U.S. Department of Energy, 9800 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439-4899; by fax at (630) 252-5045; or by e-mail at [jennifer.stricker@ch.doe.gov](mailto:jennifer.stricker@ch.doe.gov).

Issued in Chicago, Illinois on April 28, 1999.

**John D. Greenwood,**

*Acquisition and Assistance Group Manager.*  
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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Bonneville Power Administration

#### Mid-Columbia Coho Salmon Reintroduction Feasibility Project

**AGENCY:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and floodplain statement of findings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces BPA's proposal to fund research for 2 to 3 years on the feasibility of reintroducing coho salmon into mid-Columbia River basin tributaries. The research would take place in the Methow and Wenatchee river basins in Chelan and Okanogan counties, Washington. BPA has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOE/EA-1282) evaluating the proposed project. Based on the analysis in the EA, BPA has determined that the proposed action is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. Therefore, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required, and BPA is issuing this FONSI.

The FONSI includes a finding that there is no practicable alternative to locating a portion of the project within 100-year floodplains.

**ADDRESSES:** For copies of this FONSI or the EA, please call BPA's toll-free document request line: 800-622-4520.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy Weintraub, KECN, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621, phone number 503-230-5373, fax number 503-230-5699.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** BPA proposes to fund coho research and broodstock development in the Wenatchee and Methow river basins for 2 to 3 years. BPA is responding to a need to determine the ecological risks and biological feasibility of reintroducing coho to mid-Columbia River basin tributaries, from which they have been extirpated for at least a half century. Reintroduction of coho into the mid-Columbia region has been identified by regional fish-managing entities as one of fifteen high-priority projects for the Columbia River basin. The project is included in the Northwest Power Planning Council's (Council) Fish and Wildlife Program, and was recommended by the Council to BPA for funding in 1996. However, before a full-scale reintroduction program is

implemented, feasibility research needs to be conducted. Besides BPA, project participants include Yakama Indian Nation (YIN) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), co-managers; National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); U.S. Forest Service (USFS); and Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation.

Federal and State fish agencies and YIN, as well as environmental groups and individual citizens, have been strongly interested in the project. In the Wenatchee and Methow basins, there are several fish species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as well as several other game fish species, which are the subject of various enhancement programs. The primary concern of most organizations and citizens has been the potential for reintroduced coho to prey on or compete with other weakened, sensitive, or prized species in the two basins. BPA has participated in extensive discussions leading to alternatives that BPA seriously considered and included in this EA/FONSI (see below). BPA has remained open to the views of the community and all project participants as well as those of the original project proponents (YIN). We realize this project, if fully implemented, could increase the risk of harm to other sensitive fish species in the basin. We believe, however, that in this first phase, the feasibility studies, the risks are low and that they are manageable through monitoring and annual review by project participants, with adjustments as necessary to minimize risks. This FONSI documents that the research can be conducted without significant environmental impacts.

Several possible alternative plans have been identified and are addressed in the EA (Chapter 2). Briefly, they are as follows:

- **Tribal Alternative (Proposed Action):** BPA would fund research into all life phases of coho and their interactions with other species in the Wenatchee and Methow basins, including survival, natural spawning, predation, residualism, and productivity studies; genetics monitoring; and a broodstock development program. Research would depend on acclimation and release of up to 1,000,000 coho smolts in the Wenatchee basin and up to 400,000 smolts in the Methow. Up to three of six alternative acclimation sites would be developed in the Wenatchee; up to three existing acclimation sites in the Methow would be used.