

Alternative 3 evaluates the impacts resulting from the maximum potential activities identified for the Nevada Test Site. However, the Department has identified in other EISs that the Nevada Test Site is not the preferred site for the proposed National Ignition Facility, the interim storage of plutonium pits, or weapons assembly/disassembly operations. Accordingly, the preferred alternative in this EIS does not include these activities, even though their impacts are included in Alternative 3. The preferred alternative is the most comprehensive alternative in supporting statutory mission responsibilities while providing for a diversification of use to include nondefense, interagency, public and private uses of the resources and capabilities available.

Environmental impacts were assessed for each alternative by analyzing, to the extent possible, the discrete and cumulative environmental impacts associated with defense, waste management, environmental restoration, nondefense research and development, and work for others programs.

The preparation of this EIS required the participation of several federal agencies, including the Department of Defense (Air Force and Defense Nuclear Agency), and the Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management and Fish and Wildlife Service), along with Nye County, Nevada.

Copies of the Final EIS will be available in Reading Rooms at the following locations:

1. DOE Public Reading Facility, 2621 Losee Road, Bldg B-3, North Las Vegas, NV 89030
2. Carson City Public Library, 900 N. Roop Street, Carson City, NV 89701
3. Doris Shirkey Library, 2101 E. Calvada Blvd., Pahrump, NV 89041
4. University of Nevada, Reno, Noble H. Getchell Library, Reno, NV 89557
5. Freedom of Information Reading Room, Forrestal Bldg, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585
6. Las Vegas Public Library, 833 N. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89101
7. Tonopah Public Library, 171 Central Street, Tonopah, NV 89049
8. Caliente Branch Library, 100 Depot Avenue, Caliente, NV 89008
9. University of Nevada, Las Vegas, James Dickenson Library, 4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89154
10. Fallon Public Library, Churchill County Library, 553 S. Main, Fallon, NV 89406-3387
11. Washington County Library, 50 S. Main, St. George, UT 84770
12. Goldfield Library, P.O. Box 430, Goldfield, NV 89013

13. Silver Peak Library, P.O. Box 128, Silver Peak, NV 89047
14. Community College of Southern Nevada, Henderson Campus, Library Reading Room, 700 College Drive, Henderson, NV 89015
15. Amargosa Valley Community Library, HRC 69, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020-9701
16. White Pine Library, 950 Campton, Ely, NV 89301
17. Dyer Public Library, P.O. Box 105, Dyer, NV 89010
18. Community College of Southern Nevada, Cheyenne Campus, 3200 E. Cheyenne, Las Vegas, NV 89117
19. Community College of Southern Nevada, West Charleston Campus, Library Reading Room, 6375 W. Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89102

Issued in Washington, DC, this 10th day of October, 1996.

James C. Landers,

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs.*

[FR Doc. 96-26761 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

#### **Announcement of Program Opportunity Notice (PON); In Support of the Gas Utilization/Gas-to-Liquids Program**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center (PETC).

**ACTION:** Issuance of Program Opportunity Notice (PON).

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center (PETC) announces that pursuant to 10 CFR 600.8 (a)(2), and in support of the Gas Utilization/Gas-to-Liquids Program, it intends to issue a competitive financial assistance solicitation No. DE-PS22-96PC96052 leading to the selection and award of a cost-shared cooperative agreement to a qualified recipient. Applications will be subjected to a comparative merit review by a DOE technical panel, and one award will be made on the basis of the scientific merit of the application, utilization of relevant program policy factors, and the availability of funds. The solicitation is expected to be available on or about October 21, 1996. The solicitation will be provided electronically, using WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows, or on paper.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** U.S. Department of Energy, Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center, P.O. Box 10940, MS 921-143, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. Attn: John N. Augustine. Telephone: (412) 892-4524. FAX: (412)

892-6216. E-mail: augustin@petc.doe.gov

The solicitation will be posted on the internet at PETC's Home Page (<http://www.petc.doe.gov>). Requests for disk versions of the solicitation (3.5", double-sided/high-density) may be made via letter, FAX, or e-mail. Paper copies can be made available upon request. TELEPHONE REQUESTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY VERSION OF THE SOLICITATION.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Solicitation Number:* DE-PS22-96PC96052.

*Title of Solicitation:* "Engineering Development of Ceramic Membranes Reactor Systems for Converting Natural Gas to Synthesis Gas and Hydrogen".

*Objective:* The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center (PETC) is interested in pursuing cost-shared research, development, and demonstration in the area of "Engineering Development of Ceramic Membrane Reactor Systems for the Conversion of Natural Gas to Synthesis Gas and Hydrogen." The purpose of this proposed action is to solicit applications to advance the current state-of-the-art of ceramic membranes for the conversion of natural gas to synthesis gas (a mixture of carbon monoxide and hydrogen) and hydrogen to commercial readiness. The membrane-based technology is envisioned to couple air separation and methane partial oxidation into a single process step to be followed either by conversion of the synthesis gas to transportation fuels or the production of hydrogen. The goal of the proposed effort is to develop and demonstrate the technical, economic, and commercial feasibility of the membrane-based technology for the utilization of domestic remote natural gas, such as that found in Alaska, by 2008. A multi-budget period, multi-task approach to the development of the technology is sought, with decision points at critical junctures. Budget Period 1 will encompass ceramic material development, selection, and characterization, membrane/reactor module fabrication, seal and manifolding technology development, bench-scale process performance evaluations, and engineering and economic analyses. Budget Period 2 will involve the scale-up of the technology to an engineering prototype unit to demonstrate an integrated process, to obtain process engineering data, to validate design concepts, and to provide additional data to refine prior engineering and economic evaluations. Engineering models that represent the

fundamental physical and chemical phenomena in the membranes and are useful for the scale-up of the technology will also be developed. Budget Period 3 will utilize the technology data base and engineering models developed in Budget Periods 1 and 2 to design, fabricate, construct, and operate a fully integrated, proof-of-concept, commercially scalable process that reduces technical risks sufficiently to permit commercialization of the technology. A minimum cost-share of 50% in each budget period is expected from the participants, as well as repayment of the Government's share upon commercialization of the technology. The solicitation will be available on or about October 21, 1996. All requests for the solicitation package should be submitted in writing to the attention of John N. Augustine, Contract Specialist, U.S. Department of Energy, P.O. Box 10940 (MS 921-143), Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940. NO TELEPHONE REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

#### *Term of Award*

- Total project: 8 years
- Budget Period 1: 2.5 years
- Budget Period 2: 2.5 years
- Budget Period 3: 3 years

*Awards:* DOE anticipates issuing a single financial assistance cooperative agreement. DOE reserves the right to support or not support any or all applications received in whole or in part, and to determine how many awards may be made through the solicitation subject to funds available in this fiscal year. The limitation on the maximum DOE funding for the selected cooperative agreement to be awarded under this financial assistance solicitation is approximately \$35,000,000.

*Solicitation Release Date:* The solicitation is expected to be available on or about October 21, 1996. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms in the solicitation. To be eligible, applications must be received at the designated DOE office by the closing date stated in the solicitation.

Dale A. Siciliano,

*Contracting Officer, Acquisition and Assistance Division.*

[FR Doc. 96-26764 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. MT96-29-001]

#### **ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff**

October 11, 1996.

Take notice that on September 26, 1996, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the following tariff sheets, to become effective October 1, 1996:

First Revised Sheet No. 101  
Original Sheet No. 101A

In the same filing, ANR withdrew the tariff sheets filed in this docket on September 3, 1996 (First Revised Sheet No. 68G and Original Sheet No. 68G.1).

ANR states that the above-referenced tariff sheets are being filed pursuant to the Commission's August 2, 1996 "Order Authorizing Abandonment and Determining Jurisdictional Status of Facilities," in the captioned proceeding. The revised tariff sheets address "Standards of Conduct" regarding ANR's affiliate, ANR Field Services Company and are located in the "General Terms and Conditions" section of ANR's tariff.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 96-26730 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP94-43-000]

#### **ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference**

October 11, 1996.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference will be convened in this proceeding on Thursday, October 24, 1996, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC, for the purpose of

exploring the possible settlement of the above-referenced docket.

Any party, as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(c), or any participant as defined in 18 CFR 385.102(b), is invited to attend. Persons wishing to become a party must move to intervene and receive intervenor status pursuant to the Commission's regulations (18 CFR 385.214).

For additional information, please contact William J. Collins at (202) 208-0248.

Lois D. Cashell,

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 96-26733 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP97-16-000]

#### **Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization**

October 11, 1996.

Take notice that on October 7, 1996, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia), 1700 MacCorkle Avenue, S.E., Charleston, West Virginia 25314-1599, filed in Docket No. CP97-16-000, a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.211 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.211) for authorization to construct and operate a new point of delivery to Ohio Cumberland Gas Company (OCGC), in Richland County, Ohio, under the blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP83-76-000, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Columbia states that the construction and operation of the new point of delivery has been requested by OCGC for firm transportation service for residential and industrial service. Columbia indicates that OCGC has not requested an increase in its peak day entitlements in conjunction with this request. Therefore, Columbia says there is no impact on Columbia's existing peak day obligations to its other customers as a result of the proposed new point of delivery. Columbia says it will provide transportation service for OCGC under Columbia's FTS Rate Schedule. Columbia estimates quantities will be 50 Dth per day and 18,250 Dth annually.

Columbia relates that the estimated cost to construct this new point of delivery is \$10,000 which includes gross-up for income tax purposes. Columbia says that OCGC has agreed to