

576-7734. You may also contact ED Pubs via its Web site (<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>) or its E-mail address (ed_pubs@inet.ed.gov). If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.235H.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 3317, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 205-8351. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm>
<http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 773(b).

Dated: August 19, 1999.

Curtis L. Richards,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 99-22036 Filed 8-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 99-24; Novel X-Ray Light Sources

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting research grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications for the development and application of novel, laser-based light sources operating in the X-ray spectral region.

DATES: Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a brief preapplication. All preapplications, referencing Program Notice 99-24, should be received by DOE by 4:30 P.M., E.D.T., October 1, 1999. A response to the preapplications encouraging or discouraging a formal application generally will be communicated to the applicant within 30 days of receipt.

The deadline for receipt of formal applications is 4:30 P.M., E.S.T., January 19, 2000, in order to be accepted for merit review and to permit timely consideration for award in Fiscal Year 2000.

ADDRESSES: All preapplications, referencing Program Notice 99-24, should be sent to Dr. Eric A. Rohlifing, Division of Chemical Sciences, SC-14, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290 or transmitted by facsimile to (301) 903-4110.

Formal applications referencing Program Notice 99-24 should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290, ATTN: Program Notice 99-24. This address must also be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express, any commercial mail delivery service, or when hand carried by the applicant. An original and seven copies of the application must be submitted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Eric A. Rohlifing, Division of Chemical Sciences, SC-14, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, telephone (301) 903-8165, e-mail: eric.rohlifing@science.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In January 1999, the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (BESAC) Panel on Novel, Coherent Light Sources made a series of six recommendations to BES on the R&D plan for the development of light sources that might ultimately lead to the next-generation light-source facility. The full report from this panel is available at the following web address: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/bes/BESAC/pubs.html>

The BESAC panel identified the specific need for research into the development and application of table-top, laser light sources in their Recommendation (3):

"There is a symbiotic relationship between future accelerator-based sources and high-powered ultrafast lasers. Future light sources will involve a complete marriage of accelerator principles and lasers. Lasers are also likely to be the avenue where the shortest pulses are attained and many new scientific experiments are developed first. The Panel recommends that DOE should support laser light source development independently and vigorously. This is best done by support of peer-reviewed proposals based on science that requires a significant component of laser source development. It is also desirable to support one or more DOE laboratory centers for laser development that can be coordinated with overall light source facility development plans."

They also identified the need for improved X-ray detectors and optics in order to more fully utilize these novel lasers or existing synchrotron facilities in their Recommendation (6):

"Support should be provided for the development of X-ray detectors and optics, concomitant with better utilization of existing synchrotron facilities and lasers to carry out tests of potential new experiments that may be enhanced by a coherent hard X-ray source."

This invitation for grant applications is a direct response to these two recommendations of the BESAC Panel on Novel, Coherent Light Sources. In particular, we seek applications for research in the following areas:

- Development of new light sources in the X-ray region that are based on table-top, ultrafast laser systems or combinations of such lasers systems with particle beam accelerators or existing synchrotron X-ray sources. Desirable attributes for such sources include ultrashort (femtosecond) pulses, high peak spectral brightness, and a high degree of spatial and temporal coherence. Applications are not limited to those seeking to construct new sources. Fundamental experiment or theory on the physics underlying novel generation schemes (such as high-harmonic generation) are also sought.
- Fundamental experiment and theory on the interactions of ultrafast, intense X-ray pulses with matter, including multiphoton or multiwave processes, high-field effects, and material damage studies relevant to the development of X-ray optics for next-generation light sources.

- Improved techniques for the detection and characterization of ultrafast, intense X-ray pulses.
- Applications using such X-ray sources to fundamental science that fits within the interests of the Chemical Sciences and Materials Sciences Divisions of BES. Detailed program descriptions for these two BES divisions may be found at the BES homepage: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/bes/bes.html>

As noted in Recommendation (3) of the BESAC Panel given above, future light source facilities are likely to encompass both accelerator-based and laser-based light sources in a fully symbiotic relationship. Thus, we encourage applications in which there is a direct linkage to or collaboration with ongoing efforts in the area of X-ray free electron lasers (FELs), such as the use of laser-based systems as seeds for FEL amplifiers.

Program Funding

It is anticipated that an estimated \$1.0 million will be available for grant awards during FY 2000, contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Multiple year funding of grant awards is expected, also contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, progress of the research and continuing program need. Applications received by the Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, under its current competitive application mechanisms may be deemed appropriate for consideration under this notice and may be funded under this program.

Preapplications

Preapplications are strongly encouraged but not required prior to submission of a full application. Please note that notification of a successful preapplication is not an indication that an award will be made in response to the full application.

The preapplication should identify, on the cover sheet, the institution, principal investigator name, address, telephone, fax and e-mail address, title of the project, and the field of scientific research. The preapplication should consist of no more than a three-page narrative describing the research project objectives and methods of accomplishment. These will be reviewed relative to the scope and research needs of the Novel X-Ray Light Source initiative. Formal notification of either discouragement or encouragement for submission of a full application will occur within 30 days of the deadline for receipt of the preapplications.

Full 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.

Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with researchers in other institutions, such as universities, industry, non-profit organizations, federal laboratories and Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), including the DOE National Laboratories. A parallel announcement with a similar potential total amount of funds will be issued to DOE FFRDCs. All projects will be evaluated using the same criteria, regardless of the submitting institution.

Information about the development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluation, 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 available via the World Wide Web at: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>. On the grant face page, form DOE F 4650.2, block 15, provide the principal investigator's phone number, fax number and e-mail address. The research description must be 20 pages or less, exclusive of figure illustrations, and must contain an abstract or summary of the proposed research. Attachments should include curriculum vitae, a listing of all current and pending federal support, and letters of intent when collaborations are part of the proposed research.

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 August 18, 1999.

John Rodney Clark,

Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.

[FR Doc. 99-22301 Filed 8-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Semi-Annual Chairs Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Semi-Annual Chairs Meeting. Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES:

Monday, September 20, 1999, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 21, 1999, 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 22, 1999, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 23, 1999, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Double Tree Hanford House Hotel, 802 George Washington Way, Richland, WA, (509) 946-7611.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fred Butterfield, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC, 20585, (202) 586-5542.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of future use, cleanup levels, waste disposition and cleanup priorities.

Tentative Agenda

Monday, September 20, 1999

3:30-5:30 p.m.: EM SSAB Chairs meet with Dr. Carolyn Huntoon, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (tentative)

Tuesday, September 21, 1999: Hanford Site Tour

8:00 a.m.: Bus departs hotel for Hanford Site tour (Lunch provided @ \$6.00)

4:00 p.m.: Depart from Hanford Site tour to Dinner at the Yakama Indian Culture Center, Toppenish, WA

Note: Individuals must pre-register if they plan to attend; Cost: \$10.00.