

Federal Register, tentatively scheduled for October 2000. Western will offer a prototype contract for power allocated under the Final 2005 Resource Pool Allocations. Allottees will be required to commit to the Base Resource and Optional Purchase on or before December 31, 2000, and to the Custom Product on or before December 31, 2002, as described in the Marketing Plan. Electric service contracts will be effective upon Western's signature, and service will begin on January 1, 2005.

Dated: October 4, 1999.

Michael S. HacsKaylo,
Administrator.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6459-1]

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) or Superfund, Section 104; National Brownfields Assessment Pilots

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of proposal deadlines, revised guidelines.

SUMMARY: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will begin to accept proposals for the National Brownfields Assessment Pilots on October 19, 1999. The brownfields assessment pilots (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years) test cleanup and redevelopment planning models, direct special efforts toward removing regulatory barriers without sacrificing protectiveness, and facilitate coordinated environmental cleanup and redevelopment efforts at the federal, state, and local levels.

In fiscal year 2000, an additional \$50,000 may be awarded to an applicant to assess the contamination of a brownfields site(s) that is or will be used for greenspace purposes. Greenspace purposes may include, but are not limited to, parks, playgrounds, trails, gardens, habitat restoration, open space, and/or greenspace preservation.

EPA expects to select up to 50 additional National brownfields assessment pilots by April 2000. The deadline for new proposals for the 2000 assessment pilots is *February 16, 2000*. Proposals must be post-marked or sent to EPA via registered or tracked mail by the stated deadline. Previously unsuccessful applicants are advised that they must revise and resubmit their

proposals to be considered for the 2000 National assessment pilot competition.

The National brownfields assessment pilots are administered on a competitive basis. To ensure a fair selection process, evaluation panels consisting of EPA Regional and Headquarters staff and other federal agency representatives will assess how well the proposals meet the selection criteria outlined in the newly revised application booklet *The Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative: Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots* (October 1999). Applicants are encouraged to contact and, if possible, meet with EPA Regional Brownfields Coordinators.

DATES: This action is effective as of October 19, 1999, and expires on February 16, 2000. All proposals must be post-marked or sent to EPA via registered or tracked mail by the expiration date cited above.

ADDRESSES: The proposal guidelines can be obtained by calling the Superfund Hotline at the following numbers:

Washington, DC Metro Area at 703-412-9810

Outside Washington, DC Metro at 1-800-424-9346

TDD for the Hearing Impaired at 1-800-553-7672

Copies of the guidelines are also available via the Internet: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Superfund Hotline, 800-424-9346.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As a part of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative, the Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots are designed to empower States, communities, tribes, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely cleanup and promote the sustainable reuse of brownfields. EPA has awarded cooperative agreements to States, cities, towns, counties and Tribes for demonstration pilots that test brownfields assessment models, direct special efforts toward removing regulatory barriers without sacrificing protectiveness, and facilitate coordinated public and private efforts at the Federal, State, tribal and local levels. To date, the Agency has funded 307 Brownfields Assessment Pilots.

EPA's goal is to select a broad array of assessment pilots that will serve as models for other communities across the nation. EPA seeks to identify proposals that demonstrate the integration or linking of brownfields assessment pilots

with other federal, state, tribal, and local sustainable development, community revitalization, and pollution prevention programs. Special consideration will be given to Federal Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities (EZ/ECs), communities with populations of under 100,000, and federally recognized Indian tribes. These pilots focus on EPA's primary mission—protecting human health and the environment. However, it is an essential piece of the nation's overall community revitalization efforts. EPA works closely with other federal agencies through the Interagency Working Group on Brownfields, and builds relationships with other stakeholders on the national and local levels to develop coordinated approaches for community revitalization.

Funding for the brownfields assessment pilots is authorized under Section 104(d)(1) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (CERCLA or Superfund), 42 U.S.C. 9604(d)(1). States (including U.S. Territories), political subdivisions (including cities, towns, counties), and federally recognized Indian Tribes are eligible to apply. EPA welcomes and encourages brownfields projects by coalitions of such entities, but only a single eligible entity may receive a cooperative agreement. Cooperative agreement funds will be awarded only to a state, a political subdivision of a state, or a federally recognized Indian tribe.

Through a brownfields cooperative agreement, EPA provides funds to an eligible state, political subdivision, or Indian Tribe to undertake activities authorized under CERCLA section 104. Use of these assessment pilot funds must be in accordance with CERCLA, and all CERCLA restrictions on use of funds also apply to the assessment pilots. All restrictions on EPA's use of funding cited in CERCLA apply to brownfields assessment pilot cooperative agreement recipients.

The evaluation panels will review the proposals carefully and assess each response based on how well it addresses the selection criteria, briefly outlined below:

Part I (Required)

1. Problem Statement and Needs Assessment (4 Points Out of 20)

—Effect of Brownfields on your Community or Communities
—Value Added by Federal Support

2. Community-Based Planning and Involvement (6 Points Out of 20)

—Existing Local Commitment

- Community Involvement Plan
- Environmental Justice Plan

3. Implementation Planning (6 Points Out of 20)

- Government Support
- Site Selection and Environmental Site Assessment Plan
- Reuse Planning and Proposed Cleanup Funding Mechanisms
- Flow of Ownership Plan

4. Long-Term Benefits and Sustainability (4 Points Out of 20)

- Long-Term Benefits
- Sustainable Reuse
- Measures of Success

Part II (Optional)

5. Greenspace

- Authority and Context (2 points out of 8)
- Community Involvement (2 points out of 8)
- Site Identification, Site Assessment Plan, Flow of Ownership, and Reuse Planning (4 Points Out of 8)

Approved: October 4, 1999.

Linda Garczynski,

Director, Outreach and Special Projects Staff,
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 99-2148]

International Bureau To Hold Public Forum on Submarine Cable Landing Licenses

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces a public forum on Submarine Cable Landing Licenses to be held by the International Bureau on November 8, 1999. The Commission is making this announcement to provide an opportunity for the public to identify issues that should be addressed in an upcoming proceeding.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Nightingale, Attorney-Advisor, Policy and Facilities Branch, Telecommunications Division, International Bureau, (202) 418-2352 or Breck Blalcok at (202) 418-0484.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Released: October 8, 1999.

On November 8, 1999, from 3:00-5:00 pm, the International Bureau will hold

a public forum to provide an opportunity for the public to identify issues the Commission should address in its upcoming proceeding to examine how its policies regarding licensing submarine cables might best promote competition and benefit consumers. The information we gather from this public forum may assist the Commission in its 2000 Biennial Regulatory Review.

The forum is open to the public and will be at the Federal Communications Commission Headquarters, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC, in the Commission Meeting Room (Room TW-C305). The Bureau encourages users as well as facilities and service providers to attend.

The Bureau intends that this public forum will provide an opportunity to raise, but not necessarily debate, issues related to the Commission's regulation of submarine cables. The Bureau does not intend that the public forum will include a discussion of the merits of pending Commission proceedings, such as pending proceedings involving applications for a cable landing license. Appropriate topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Streamlining or simplifying the Commission's cable landing license application and review process.
- How can the Commission expedite the process, reduce burdens on applicants and the Commission, and minimize the information the Commission asks for in applications?
 - Do the conditions routinely imposed on licenses remain necessary?
 - What sort of "ownership" requires an entity to be a licensee on a cable landing license, and how much of a cable system must be owned by licensees?
- Should the Commission consider separately ownership of backhaul and of landing stations?
 - Structural/ownership issues raised by certain cable systems.
- Do certain ownership structures raise competitive problems?
- How can the Commission address these problems?
- In identifying ownership structures that may raise competitive concerns, how does the Commission draw the line?
- Does the Commission need to define "consortium"?
- Does the corporate governance over certain cable systems raise competitive problems?

- Under what circumstances, if any, should price differentials, especially volume discounts, be restricted?

- How should the Commission address issues of competitive access to backhaul?

- Are there other competitive issues that the Commission should address in its upcoming proceeding?

- Are there other issues the Commission should address related to submarine cables?

The purpose of the forum is not to discuss the merits of pending Commission proceedings (including cable landing license applications pending before the Commission) and is not otherwise part of a pending Commission proceeding. As such, the forum is not subject to the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

To the extent a participant discusses the merits of a pending proceeding, the *ex parte* rules will apply with respect to the particular discussion.

The Bureau invites parties wishing to discuss competition issues in depth to meet with the staff individually. The Bureau encourages users as well as facilities and service providers to meet with Bureau staff. Please contact Elizabeth Nightingale of the Bureau's Telecommunications Division, at 202-418-2352, to make arrangements. Any party wishing to make a formal presentation (no longer than 10 minutes) at the public forum should send an outline of the presentation to Elizabeth Nightingale. Parties also are welcome to make written submissions in lieu of speaking at the forum. Outlines of oral presentations and written submissions should be sent to Elizabeth Nightingale no later than October 29, either via facsimile to the Bureau's Telecommunications Division at (202) 418-2824, or by e-mail to enightin@fcc.gov.

For information on obtaining a videotape of the forum, please contact the Commission's Audio-Visual Office at (202) 418-0460. Audio and video tapes of the forum may also be purchased from Infocus, 341 Victory Drive, Herndon, VA 20170, by calling Infocus at (703) 834-0100 or by faxing Infocus at (703) 834-0111.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

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