

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 30, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Lauren_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: March 26, 2001.

John Tressler,

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

Office of the Undersecretary

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: GEPA 424 Data Collection on the Distribution of Federal Education Funds.

Frequency: Biennially.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour

Burden: Responses: 125.

Burden Hours: 6,488.

Abstract: This data collection fulfills a Congressional mandate to obtain information on the distribution of Federal education funds to school districts. Specifically, this data collection obtains information on subgrants and contracts made under state-administered programs as well as programs that provide funds directly to school districts.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Jacqueline Montague at (202) 708-5359 or via her internet address Jackie_Montague@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 01-7757 Filed 3-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Office of Elementary and Secondary Education**

[CFDA No. 84.338]

Reading Excellence Program

ACTION: Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001.

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: The Reading Excellence Program provides competitive grants to eligible State educational agencies to award competitive subgrants to local educational agencies to fund local reading improvement programs and tutorial assistance programs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State educational agencies (SEAs) that were not funded in FY 1999 or FY 2000; Puerto Rico; the

Virgin Islands; Guam; American Samoa; and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: March 28, 2001.

DEADLINE FOR TRANSMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS: May 7, 2001.

Note: An application for an award may be submitted by electronic mail (email), regular mail, or hand delivery.

Special instructions for applications submitted by email: Applications submitted by email should include an electronic return receipt and should be emailed to: grantspolicy@ed.gov.

Applications submitted by email may be submitted in one of the following formats: (1) Microsoft Word (Version Word 95 or Word 97) or (2) portable document format (PDF). The preferred version is Word 97; however, all versions must have text search capability. The electronic version will be the official file copy. The returned receipt and copy will be considered proof of receipt. All forms requiring original signatures (ED-424, Application for Federal Education Assistance; SF 424B, Assurances: Non-Construction Programs; ED 80-0013, Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension and other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; ED 80-0014, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion—Lower Tier Covered Transactions; and Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities) must be mailed to the Department by the deadline date, as set out above under the **DEADLINE FOR TRANSMITTAL** section. Please send a hard copy of your application in addition to the electronic copy to ensure that your application is formatted properly when printed.

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in 34 CFR 75.102 (EDGAR). Under 5 U.S.C. 553, the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, these exceptions to EDGAR make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 22, 2001.

Estimated Available Funds: \$316,495,390.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$500,000–\$60,000,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$21,125,693.

Estimated Number of Awards: 15.
Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Minimum Grant Award for SEAs: \$500,000 for SEAs, \$100,000 minimum for territories

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 100 pages, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Single space (no more than six lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative.
- Use a font that is either 11-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the letters of support or the two permissible appendices. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

Our reviewers will not read any pages of your application that:

- Exceed the page limit if you apply these standards; or
- Exceed the equivalent of the page limit if you apply other standards.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; (b) 34 CFR and Part 299 and (c) The final priorities, application requirements and selection criteria published by the Department in the **Federal Register** on April 18, 2000. (65 FR 20881-20884). Upon publication of that document, the Department announced that the contents applied to the fiscal year 2000 competition and may be used for future competitions. The Department has chosen to apply those fiscal year 2000 final priorities, application requirements and selection criteria to the fiscal year 2001 competition.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER

INFORMATION: Send an email message requesting an application to: reading_excellence@ed.gov.

You may also receive an application by downloading it from the reading excellence website: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/REA/index.html> or by contacting Nancy Rhett, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5C141, Washington, DC 20202-6200; Telephone: (202) 260-

8228. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request by contacting Katie Mincey, Director, Alternate Format Center, 330 C St. SW, Room 1000, Washington, DC 20202-4560; by calling (202) 260-9895 or 205-8113; or by emailing: katie_mincey@ed.gov.

Individuals with disabilities also may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format by contacting Ms. Mincey. 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 file you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program, which is available free at either of the preceding 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://access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6661 et seq.

Dated: March 23, 2001.

Thomas M. Corwin,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 01-7695 Filed 3-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Energy Technology Laboratory

Improved Recovery From Low-Permeability Formations

AGENCY: National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of Availability of a Financial Assistance Solicitation.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intent to issue Financial Assistance Solicitation No. DE-PS26-01NT41121 entitled "Improved Recovery from Low-Permeability Formations". The objective of this solicitation is to demonstrate existing technologies and methodologies, or improve and demonstrate technologies with strong near-term commercialization potential, for increasing production from low-permeability "tight" gas formations. Demonstration of existing technologies should be relatively new to a basin or play.

An Information Package is available on the NETL's Homepage at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business> for viewing and downloading. The Information Package contains general information regarding the proposed solicitation.

DATES: The solicitation will be available on the DOE/NETL's Internet address at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business> on or about April 6, 2001. Prospective applicants are invited to E-mail any comments and/or questions associated with the information presented to Dona Sheehan via the Internet at sheehan@netl.doe.gov by COB on March 30, 2001 as a draft version of the solicitation will not be issued.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dona G. Sheehan, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, P.O. Box 10940, MS 921-107, Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940, E-mail Address: sheehan@netl.doe.gov, Telephone Number: 412/386-5918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As new discoveries from conventional supplies decline, future supplies of natural gas will have to come increasingly from low-permeability (tight) reservoirs. The National Petroleum Council's (NPC) 1992 natural gas study concluded that 232 Tcf of gas could be technically recoverable from low-permeability formations, and assuming that technology improvements continued, the NPC estimated that 349 Tcf of gas could be produced. In their most recent study (1999), the NPC states that deeper resources, resources in deeper water, and nonconventional resources will be the key to future supply. However, under current limitations in exploration and production technology, only a small portion of this vast resource is economic to develop.

A significant portion of natural gas resources in low-permeability formations are found in deep reservoirs and in large gross intervals (over thousands of feet) with many potential pay zones. In addition, most low-permeability wells are marginally productive because an extensive, well-