

*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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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-

connected natural fracture network is the exception, rather than the rule. These factors indicate that improved recovery technology and reduced costs associated with completion will increase recovery from this vital resource.

Although the high ultimate recovery from wells associated with large natural fractures systems are the exception, these wells can produce 5–10 Bcf. However, these wells often have problems associated with high water production because the natural fracture system connects to overlying or underlying water zones or because they are associated with a fault(s) that provides a pathway for large water influx.

Applications will be accepted for research and development (R&D) in two major areas: (1) Improved completion technology; and (2) identification/remediation of high water production problems from basin-centered gas plays. Priority basins and plays in which the R&D shall be conducted will be identified from previous United States Geological Survey, NPC and NETL studies, but will more than likely include: Greater Green River, Wind River, Anadarko, Permian, San Juan, Piceance, Uinta, Arkla-E.Texas.

Increasing reserves per well with better completion technology or reducing the cost to complete a well will vastly improve the recovery from marginally economic wells. Applications for improved completions can include (but will not be limited to): Cementing, downhole separation/reinjection, stimulation techniques, e.g., comparable fluids, composite fracturing plugs/baffles, and zonal isolation, improved identification of most productive intervals, tubulars (CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>S), multi-lateral horizontal wells, and multiple stimulations from a horizontal well. By identifying the sources and mechanisms of high water production, industry can avoid these areas or complete the reservoir in a way that reduces or eliminates excessive water production. Applications for identification of high water production problems from basin-centered gas plays can include: Regional hydrologic study, water sampling and analysis, new/improved geophysical well log processing, and improved downhole fluid identification.

DOE anticipates issuing financial assistance (Cooperative Agreement) awards. DOE reserves the right to support or not support, with or without discussions, any or all applications received in whole or in part, and to determine how many awards will be made. Multiple awards are anticipated.

Approximately \$2 million of DOE funding is planned over a 3 year period for this solicitation. National Laboratories may participate as team members; however, they may not act as the prime awardee and total funding to the Laboratory must not exceed 10% of the total project cost. If a project which includes National Laboratory participation is approved for funding, DOE intends to make an award to the applicant for its portion of the effort and to provide direct funding for the National Laboratories portion of the effort as a Field Work Proposal (FWP). DOE has determined that a minimum cost share of 20 percent of the total project cost is required for this solicitation. Details of the cost sharing requirement and the specific funding levels will be contained in the solicitation. The anticipated period of performance of the projects will range in duration from 24 months to 36 months.

Prospective applicants who would like to be notified as soon as the solicitation is available should register at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>. Provide your E-mail address and click on the "Oil & Gas" technology choice located under the heading "Fossil Energy." Once you subscribe, you will receive an announcement by E-mail that the solicitation has been released to the public. Telephone requests, written requests, E-mail requests, or facsimile requests for a copy of the solicitation package will not be accepted and/or honored. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the solicitation. The actual solicitation document will allow for requests for explanation and/or interpretation.

Issued in Pittsburgh, PA on March 7, 2001.

**Dale A. Siciliano,**

*Deputy Director, Acquisition and Assistance Division.*

[FR Doc. 01-7748 Filed 3-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Science

#### Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 01-24: Theoretical Research in Plasma and Fusion Science

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

**ACTION:** Notice inviting new and renewal grant applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Fusion Energy Sciences (OFES) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

announces its interest in receiving grant applications for theoretical research in magnetic fusion energy sciences. All individuals or groups planning to submit applications for new or renewal funding in FY 2002, should submit in response to this Notice.

The specific areas of interest are:

1. Magnetohydrodynamics and Stability,
2. Confinement and Transport,
3. Edge and Divertor Physics,
4. Plasma Heating and Non-inductive Current Drive,
5. Innovative Confinement Concepts,
6. Atomic and Molecular Processes in Plasmas.

More specific information on each area of interest is outlined in the general and program specific supplementary information section below. OFES may also solicit proposals from time to time under separate announcements of Initiatives to support coordinated, goal-directed community efforts. The Initiatives will be funded to achieve specific programmatic and scientific aims and will be subject to requirements that are different from those of this notice. Such grants, if funded, will be subject to periodic reviews of progress.

Due to the limited availability of funds, Principal Investigators with continuing grants may not submit a new application in the same area(s) of interest as their current grant(s). A Principal Investigator may submit only one application under each area of interest as listed above.

**DATES:** To permit timely consideration for awards in Fiscal Year 2002, applications submitted in response to this notice must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., June 14, 2001. Electronic submissions of formal applications will not be accepted.

Applicants are requested to submit a letter-of-intent by May 17, 2001, which includes the title of the application, the name of the Principal Investigator(s), the requested funding and a one-page abstract. These letters-of-intent will be used to organize and expedite review processes. Failure to submit a letter-of-intent will not negatively prejudice a responsive formal application submitted in a timely fashion. Electronic submissions of letters-of-intent are acceptable.

**ADDRESSES:** Formal applications referencing Program Notice 01-24, should be sent 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 01-24. The above address must also be used when submitting