President accepts the Secretary's positive recommendation, he would recommend the site as qualified for application for a construction license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The State of Nevada would then have the opportunity to submit a disapproval notice. If it does so, Congress would have to pass a law approving the President's recommendation in order for it to take effect. If the President's recommendation does take effect, the Department would then prepare and submit a construction license application to NRC.

It is important to note that, following a possible Presidential recommendation and prior to either the construction of or use of a repository, numerous additional steps must be satisfied. These steps include consideration of the Presidential recommendation by the State of Nevada and possibly the United States Congress. In addition, construction of a facility and receipt of waste requires the issuance of a construction license and a license to possess nuclear material, respectively, by the NRC after a rigorous review process with public involvement.

In providing comments to the Department, there are a number of topics regarding which your views and comments would be appreciated. An outline of these topics is attached for your use. The Department also values any other comments you believe would be relevant to its consideration. Your participation on this critical issue is important and helpful. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Lake H. Barrett,
Acting Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management.

Suggested Topics for Public Comment on Yucca Mountain

- Please provide your views concerning whether the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE) and other scientific documents produced by the Department provide an adequate basis for finding that the Yucca Mountain site is suitable for development of a repository. If you believe that certain aspects of the PSSE are inadequate, please detail the basis for this belief and indicate how the documentation might be made adequate with respect to these aspects.
- If the Secretary determines that the scientific analysis indicates that the Yucca Mountain site is likely to meet the applicable radiation protection standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency and Nuclear Regulatory Commission, do you believe that the Secretary should proceed to recommend the site to the President at this time? If not, please explain.
- Are there any reasons that you believe should prevent the President from concluding that the Yucca Mountain site is qualified for the preparation and submission of a construction license application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission?
- If you believe that the Secretary should not proceed with a recommendation to develop a repository at Yucca Mountain, what mechanism should be utilized to meet the Department's legal obligation to begin accepting spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste?
- If you believe that the Secretary should not proceed with a recommendation to develop a repository at Yucca Mountain, what measures should the Nation consider for assuring safe disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste?
- Please provide any other comments concerning any relevant aspect of the Yucca Mountain site for use as a repository, or that are otherwise relevant to the consideration of a possible recommendation by the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01–21961 Filed 8–27–01; 4:47 pm]
BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 01–29: Division of Nuclear Physics Outstanding Junior Investigator Program

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

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Division of Nuclear Physics of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy, invites grant applications for support under the Outstanding Junior Investigator Program in nuclear physics. The purpose of this program is to support the development of individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers. Applications should be from tenure-track faculty who are currently involved in experimental or theoretical nuclear physics research, and should be submitted through a U.S. academic institution.

DATES: To permit timely consideration of awards in fiscal year 2002, formal applications submitted in response to this notice should be received by November 13, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Applications referencing Program Notice 01–29 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 01–29. The above address must be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, any other commercial mail delivery service, or when hand carried by the applicant. An original and seven copies of the application must be submitted. Although it is not required, it would be helpful for each applicant to submit twelve copies of their application, due to the anticipated number of reviewers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Dennis G. Kovar, Director, Division of Nuclear Physics, SC–23, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874–1290. Telephone: (301) 903–3613. Fax: (301) 903–3833. E-Mail: dennis.kovar@science.doe.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is the third year of an Outstanding Junior Investigator Program in Nuclear Physics. A principal goal of this program is to identify exceptionally talented nuclear physicists early in their careers and to facilitate the development of their research programs. The proposed research is expected to make an important contribution to the vigor of the U.S. Nuclear Physics program.

The DOE expects to make several awards in FY 2002; four awards were made in FY 2001. The actual number of awards will be determined by the number of excellent applications and the total amount of funds available for this program. It is anticipated that a total of up to $250,000 will be available in FY 2002 for funding the program, subject to availability of appropriated funds, and that awards would be for three to five year terms. At the end of the initial term these grants may be renewed, subject to appropriate external peer review at the time of renewal, as long as the recipient's tenure status is unchanged.

Applications will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following 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.

Additional criteria which will be considered: future promise of the investigator, and the resources and interest of the sponsoring institution.

General information about development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluation and selection processes, and other policies and procedures are contained in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program and 10 CFR part 605. Electronic access to the latest version of SC's Application Guide is possible via the Internet at the following web site address: *http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html.* DOE is under no obligation to pay for any costs associated with the preparation or submission of applications if an award is not made.

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 21, 2001.

John Rodney Clark,

Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.

[FR Doc. 01–21916 Filed 8–29–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 01–30: Outstanding Junior Investigator Program

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

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Division of High Energy Physics of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy, hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications for support under its Outstanding Junior Investigator (OJI) Program. Applications should be from tenure-track faculty investigators who are currently involved in experimental or theoretical high energy physics or accelerator physics research, and should be submitted through a U.S. academic institution. The purpose of this program is to support the development of individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers. Awards made under this program will help to maintain the vitality of university research and assure continued excellence in the teaching of physics.

DATES: To permit timely consideration for award in Fiscal Year 2002, formal applications submitted in response to this notice should be received before November 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Completed formal applications referencing Program Notice 01–30 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 01–30. The above address must also be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, any other commercial mail delivery service, or when hand carried by the applicant. An original and seven copies of the application must be submitted. Due to the anticipated number of reviewers, it would be helpful for each applicant to submit an additional four copies of the application.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Jeffrey Mandula, Division of High Energy Physics, SC–221 (GTN), U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874–1290. Telephone: (301) 903–4829. E-Mail: jeffrey.mandula@science.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Outstanding Junior Investigator program was started in 1978 by the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Research. A principal goal of this program is to identify exceptionally talented new high energy physicists early in their careers and assist and facilitate the development of their research programs. Eligibility for awards under this notice is therefore restricted to non-tenured investigators who are conducting experimental or theoretical high energy physics or accelerator physics research. Since its debut, the program has initiated support for between five and ten new Outstanding Junior Investigators each year. The program has been very successful and contributes importantly to the vigor of the U.S. High Energy Physics program. Applicants should request support under this notice for normal research project costs as required to conduct their proposed research activities. The full range of activities currently supported by the Division of High Energy Physics is eligible for support under this program.

The DOE expects to make five to ten grant awards in Fiscal Year 2002, to meet the objectives of this program. It is anticipated that approximately $500,000 will be available in Fiscal Year 2002, subject to availability of appropriated funds. In the past, awards have averaged $50,000 per year, with the number of awards determined by the number of excellent applications and the total funds available for this program. Multiple year funding of grant awards is expected, including renewal beyond the initial project period, as long as the recipient's tenure status is unchanged. Funding will be provided on an annual basis subject to availability of funds.

Applications will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following criteria, which are listed in descending order of importance as set forth in 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; and

4. Reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget.

General information about development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluations and selection processes, and other policies and procedures are contained in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program and 10 CFR part 605. Electronic access to the application guide and required forms is available on the World Wide Web at: *http://www.science.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html.* DOE is under no obligation to pay for any costs associated with the preparation or submission of applications if an award is not made.

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, DC on August 22, 2001.

John Rodney Clark,

Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.

[FR Doc. 01–21917 Filed 8–29–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Petroleum Industry of the Future

AGENCY: Idaho Operations Office, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Solicitation.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, is seeking applications for cost shared research and development of technologies which will reduce energy consumption, reduce environmental impacts and enhance economic competitiveness of the domestic petroleum industry. The research is to address priorities identified by the petroleum refining industry in the Technology Roadmap for the Petroleum Industry (URL: *http://www.oit.doe.gov/petroleum/pdfs/petroleumroadmap.pdf).*

DATES: The deadline for receipt of applications is 5:00 p.m. EST on October 31, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The formal solicitation document will be disseminated electronically as Solicitation Number DE–PS07–01ID14211, Petroleum Industry of the Future, through the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) located at the following URL: *http://e-center.doe.gov.* IIPS provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial