with an emphasis on those areas that have had the most extensive programmatic or public interest. The decision in this Record of Decision will be reflected in DOE/NNSA budget requests and management practices. However, the actual implementation of these decisions is dependent on DOE/NNSA funding levels and allocations of DOE/NNSA budgets across competing priorities.

Planning Basis Operations

DOE/NNSA remains committed to meeting the NNSA Weapons Stockpile Management Program requirements assigned to Y–12, as described in the Final SWEIS. As part of its implementation of the Preferred Alternative, DOE will continue all activities associated with the resumption of remaining enriched uranium operations that were shut-down due to the Y–12 1994 stand-down. The planning basis operations level also includes continuing the current, planned, and weapons-directed activities associated with the major components of the Weapons Stockpile Management Program. Other DOE Program activities at Y–12 would continue at current levels for the foreseeable future, including those conducted by Environmental Management; Nuclear Nonproliferation and National Security; Nuclear Energy Science and Technology; and Nondefense Research and Development Program activities by ORNL, the Work-for-Other Program, and Technology Transfer Program.

The Department has decided that under the Preferred Alternative, operations at Y–12 associated with long-term storage of HEU, including transport and receiving, would be transferred to the new HEU Materials Facility, when completed. In addition, current special materials operations would be replaced by operations in the new Special Materials Complex, when completed.

HEU Storage Mission

The Department has decided to construct the new HEU Materials Facility at Site A as described in Section 3.2.3.2 of the Final Y–12 SWEIS. Site A is the Y–12 West Portal Parking Lot, located just north of Portal 16. Site A was selected over Site B based on overall cost, proximity to the major Y–12 production manufacturing facilities, construction phase security issues and impact on current production activities, and environmental impacts. The HEU Materials Facility would be used for long-term storage of Categories I and II HEU. The new facility would provide the capacity to store approximately 14,000 cans and 14,000 drums of HEU, a surge capacity area for an additional 4,000 drums, and a storage area for materials currently under international safeguards. Constructing the new facility would consolidate and modernize the HEU storage operations at Y–12. Consolidating HEU in the HEU Materials Facility would enable Y–12 to meet its HEU storage mission in a more safe and efficient manner; improve nuclear materials security and accountability; minimize the number of personnel required for operations and security; and enhance worker and public health and safety, and environmental protection.

Special Materials Mission

The Department has decided to construct the Special Materials Complex at Y–12. A location for construction of the Special Materials Complex has not been decided. Ongoing studies involving the Special Materials mission and project configuration and design needs must be completed before a decision on a location for these facilities can be made. The engineering design for this facility will proceed while the Department is completing the project review and additional studies. Once these studies are completed, DOE/NNSA intends to review the Site-Wide EIS for completeness and amend the Site-Wide and ROD, as appropriate, to announce the site selection. Constructing the Special Materials Complex would modernize special materials operations at Y–12, reduce the health risk to workers and the public, and ensure efficient production of adequate quantities of special materials (*e.g.,* beryllium) to meet projected nuclear weapons stockpile requirements for the next 50 years.

Mitigation Measures

The Site-Wide EIS includes a discussion of existing programs and plans and controls built into the operations at Y–12, including operating within applicable regulations, DOE Orders, contractual requirements and approved polices and procedures. No new mitigation measures were identified. It is unnecessary to prepare a Mitigation Action Plan under 10 CFR 1021.331.

Conclusion

DOE/NNSA has considered environmental impacts, stakeholders' concerns, and national policy in its decisions regarding the management and use of Y–12. The analysis contained in the Site-Wide EIS is both programmatic and site-specific in detail. It is programmatic from the perspective of broad, multi-use facility management and site-specific in the detailed project and program activity analysis. The impacts identified in the Site-Wide EIS were based on conservative estimates and assumptions. In this regard, the analyses bound the impacts of the alternatives evaluated in the Site-Wide EIS.

DOE has decided to implement Alternative 4 (No Action—Planning Basis Operations Alternative Plus Construct and Operate a New HEU Materials Facility and Special Materials Complex), i.e., the Preferred Alternative in the Final Site-Wide EIS. The location for the HEU Materials Facility construction is in the area identified as Site A (the Y–12 West Portal Parking Lot) in the Final Site-Wide EIS. A location for construction of the Special Materials Complex has not been decided. Ongoing studies involving the special materials mission and project configuration and design needs must be completed before a decision on a location for the Special Materials Complex can be made.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 4th day of February, 2002.

Spencer Abraham,

Secretary of Energy.

[FR Doc. 02–6034 Filed 3–12–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Number DE–PS07–02ID14268]

Manufacture, Installation, and Testing of New Environmentally Friendly Hydropower Turbine Designs

AGENCY: Idaho Operations Office, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of availability of financial assistance solicitation.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Idaho Operations Office (ID) is seeking applications from hydropower site developers who are currently planning or conducting the rehabilitation of an in-place hydroelectric unit or installation of a new hydroelectric unit(s) which will have a power output of 1 MW or greater; and are willing to use environmentally friendly technologies identified by DOE. DOE will only consider sites located in U.S. (50 states) and Canada.

DATES: The issuance date of Solicitation Number DE–PS07–02ID14268 will be on March 6, 2002. The deadline for receipt of applications will be approximately on June 4, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The solicitation in its full text will be available on the Internet at the following URL address: *http://e-*

center.doe.gov. The Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial assistance applications and evaluating the applications in a paperless environment. Completed applications are required to be submitted via IIPS. An IIPS ''User Guide for Contractors'' can be obtained on the IIPS Homepage and then clicking on the ''Help'' button. Questions regarding the operation of IIPS may be e-mailed to the IIPS Help Desk at *IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Layne Isom, Contract Specialist, (208) 526–5633, *isomla@id.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The expected period of performance is 2–5 years. DOE prefers projects that can quickly meet the DOE Hydropower Program goals. The amount of funding available for award is approximately $1 million for 2002, and approximately $2.5 million for each year thereafter through 2006. Federal funding support during the out years may be less or more depending upon availability of funds and the satisfactory progress on individual projects. DOE anticipates awarding one or more cooperative agreements, in accordance with DOE Financial Assistance Regulations of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter II, Subchapter H, Part 600. Applicants who are selected will cost-share up to 50% of the project total cost. The statutory authority for the program is the Federal Non-Nuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93–577). The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number for this program is 81.087, Renewable Energy Research and Development.

Issued in Idaho Falls on March 6, 2002.

Cheryl A. Thompson,

Procurement Services Division.

[FR Doc. 02–6035 Filed 3–12–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 02–19: Innovations in Fusion Energy Confinement Systems

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Fusion Energy Sciences (OFES) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications for innovative experiments in fusion energy confinement systems. Organizations with research projects funded under previous notices for this topic that are now due for continuation funding need not submit; however, those seeking renewal funding in Fiscal Year 2003, should submit a renewal application under this Notice. Successful applications will be funded early in Fiscal Year 2003.

The Office of Fusion Energy Sciences is interested in applications for innovative fusion energy experimental research. The specific areas of interest are:

1. Innovative Approaches to Understanding Plasmas.

2. Innovative Confinement Concepts.

3. Innovative Plasma Operations in Support of Proof of Principle (POP), Performance Extension (PE), and Burning Plasma Experiments.

More specific information on each area of interest is outlined in the general and program specific information section below.

The research should be aimed at experimentally elucidating the physics principles involved. Research projects are sought which are unique, first of a kind and which provide new scientific insights. Although the main thrust of this initiative is experimental, consideration will also be given to applications that are directed at scientific assessment of new concepts, approaches, and plasma operations that are not ready for experimental investigation. Applications for research on existing large experiments, or initiatives in Inertial Fusion Energy should not be submitted in response to this notice. Collaborative applications submitted from different institutions that are directed at a single proposed experiment will be ''bundled'' and reviewed collectively.

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 2003, applications submitted in response to this notice must be received by DOE no later than 4:30 p.m., E.D.T., May 15, 2002. No electronic submissions of formal applications will be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Completed formal applications referencing Program Notice 02–19 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 02–19. The above 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Specific contacts for each area of interest, along with telephone numbers and Internet addresses, are listed below:

Innovative Approaches to Understanding Plasmas: Steve Eckstrand, Research Division, SC–55, Telephone: (301) 903–5546, or by Internet address: *steve.eckstrand@science.doe.gov*

Innovative Confinement Concepts: Dr. Curtis W. Bolton III, Research Division, SC–55, Telephone: (301) 903–4914, or by Internet address: *curt.bolton@science.doe.gov*

Innovative Plasma Operations in Support of POP, PE, and Burning Plasma Experiments: Chuck Finfgeld, Research Division, SC–55, Telephone: (301) 903–3423, or by Internet address: *charles.finfgeld@science.doe.gov*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: General information about development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluations and selection processes, and other policies and procedures may be found in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program and 10 CFR part 605. Electronic access to SC's Financial Assistance Guide and required forms is possible via the Internet using the following Web site address: *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 an application if an award is not made.

In selecting applications for funding, the DOE Office of Fusion Energy Sciences will give priority to applications that can produce experimental results within three to five years after grant initiation. Theoretical research will be accepted for consideration under this Notice when bundled with and in support of an experimental application. The detailed description of the proposed project should contain the following items: (1) A detailed experimental research plan, (2) The specific results or deliverable expected at the end of the project period, (3) Goal of the experiment, (4) Synopsis of the experimental program plan, (5) Adequacy of the facilities and budget, (6) Discussion of why this research would have an important