

* Provide market participants who wish to hold CRRs an adequate opportunity to obtain them?

* Properly maintain existing rights and obligations for transmission service in the transition to the full network model?

* Properly maintain existing rights and obligations to provide energy and capacity in the transition to the full network model?

* Adequately protect customers from congestion charges consistent with existing implicit and explicit transmission rights?

* Affect scheduling or other rights under existing contracts?

Panelists

Ann Cohn, Southern California Edison Company

Lorenzo Kristof, California Independent System Operator

Phil Auclair, Mirant

Jim Caldwell, American Wind Energy Association

Joe Desmond, Silicon Valley Manufacturers 12–12:10 p.m.—Break

12:10–1:30 p.m.—Transitional Issues: Existing Transmission Contracts (ETCs) and Bilateral Contracts

Discussion Topics:

Does the CAISO MD02 Proposal:

* Adequately alleviate “phantom congestion” and its financial impact?

* Properly incorporates rights under bilateral contracts and ETCs into the overall market?

* Clearly address any impact of LMP on contracts that have only a broadly defined delivery point, *i.e.*, seller’s choice contracts?

Panelists

Steve Metague, Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Brian Theaker, California Independent System Operator

Tony Braun, California Municipal Utilities Association

Steve Schleimer, Calpine Corp.

Pete Garriss, California Department of Water Resources

Tom Hoatson, Goldman Sachs

1:30–2:30 p.m.—Lunch

2:30–2:45 p.m.—Opening Remarks

• California Public Utilities Commission Presentation: Overview of Current Procurement Proceeding and Energy Action Plan and Infrastructure Development in California—Paul Clanon

2:45–3:45 p.m.—Market Mitigation, Resource Adequacy under the White Paper and its Relationship to Market Design Elements

Discussion Topics

How is California addressing Resource Adequacy and does it:

* Create a structure that supports long-term pricing and investment?

* Result in the appropriate signals for load and generation to forward contract?

* Provide for the appropriate relationship between resource adequacy and the ISO market design elements, such as market power mitigation?

* Provide for an appropriate mechanism for financing new power plants and retaining existing merchant generation in operation?

Panelists

Curtis Kebler, Reliant Resources, Inc.

Jim Hendry, California Public Utilities Commission

Keith Casey, California Independent System Operator

Jan Smutney-Jones, Independent Energy Producers Association

Severin Borenstein, University of California Energy Institute

3:45–4:30 p.m.—Regional Decision-making: The Western Grid and State/Regional Committees

Discussion Topics

* Are there any additional processes that need to be overlaid to achieve broader regional views/goals, especially where one state comprises an RSC?

* Is it necessary to formalize a structure to address such western issues as transmission planning, access to market data for regulatory authorities, and market monitoring? If so, what are some possible vehicles for creating such a structure?

* How would recognition of an RSC be gained from FERC?

* How will a single-state RSC ensure regional infrastructure planning, *e.g.*, bridge the various regional processes such as STEP and Northwest Planning?

Panelists

Steve Greenleaf, California Independent System Operator

Gary Ackerman, Western Power Trading Forum

Don Garber, San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Barbara Hale, California Public Utilities Commission

Yakout Mansour, British Columbia Transmission Co.

Sunne Wright McPeak, California Power Authority

4:30–5 p.m.—Discussion of Next Steps

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7583–2]

Request for Applications, Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of financial assistance for project assistance.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the participating agencies are soliciting individual research proposals of up to 3 years duration, and depending on appropriations, multi-disciplinary regional studies of 3 to 5 years duration for the Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms (ECOHAB) program. This program provides support

for research on algal species whose populations may cause or result in deleterious effects on ecosystems and human health. Studies of the causes of such blooms, their detection, effects, mitigation, and control in U.S. coastal waters (including estuaries and Great Lakes) are solicited. This document details the requirements for applications for research support that will be considered by the Federal research partnership. The complete program announcement can be accessed on the Internet at <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/> under “Science To Achieve Results (STAR) Research Grants”.

DATES: The deadline for applications is January 28, 2004 by 4 EST.

ADDRESSES: Submit the original and eighteen copies of your proposal to the Coastal Ocean Program Office, N/SCI2, SSMC#4, 8th Floor, Room 8243, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The required forms for applications with instructions are accessible on the Internet at <http://es.epa.gov/ncerqa/rfa/forms/download.html>. Forms may be printed from this site.

Awards: Final selection of awardees by the participating agencies will be determined on the basis of peer and panel recommendations, applicability of the proposed effort to the interests of an agency, and the availability of funds. It is anticipated that each award will be made and be administered by a single agency; however, in the case of multi-institutional projects, two or more agencies may provide assistance. In the latter case, each agency may provide funding for an individual project component and/or institution. Applications recommended for funding will require additional certifications, possibly a revised budget, responses to any comments or suggestions offered by the reviewers, and an electronic version of the revised project abstract. Awards will be subject to the terms and conditions of the sponsoring agency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Technical Information: Quay Dortch, ECOHAB Coordinator, CSCOR/COP Office, 301–713–3338/ext 157, e-mail: quay.dortch@noaa.gov. Administrative Information: Gina Perovich, EPA/NCER, 202–564–2248, e-mail: perovich.gina@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Program Goals and Topic Areas

The National Center for Environmental Research/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); the Coastal Ocean Program and the Office of Protected Resources/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(NOAA)/Department of Commerce; the Directorate for Geosciences, Division of Ocean Sciences/National Science Foundation (NSF); the Office of Naval Research (ONR)/Department of Defense; and the Office of Earth Science/National Aeronautics Space Administration (NASA) are cooperating in an opportunity for investigators to propose activities to address fundamental ecological and oceanographic questions related to the national harmful algal bloom (HAB) problem.

This announcement provides an opportunity for investigators to propose activities that address areas in the national problem of harmful algal blooms. The primary goal of this interagency program is to provide support for projects that are part of an integrated national effort to address HAB problems. Thus, ECOHAB will consider support for projects ranging from relatively small targeted laboratory or field studies by individual investigators or small teams, to regional studies involving larger teams of investigators conducting coordinated, well-integrated multi-disciplinary field programs.

All studies should address fundamental ecological and oceanographic questions related to HABs. Additionally, larger, regionally focused studies should attempt to determine the linkages between HAB species and their surrounding environments. Modeling efforts should be an integral part of these larger studies and these applications should also identify potential user communities for models and results. Investigators are encouraged to list specific management needs identified in the regional community, document the management sources, and also document how research results will meet those needs.

ECOHAB agencies will consider a wide range of studies for support. Examples of topic areas for proposed projects are provided in the complete announcement (see the **SUMMARY** in this announcement).

ECOHAB will support projects ranging from laboratory studies by individual investigators or small teams, up to larger teams of investigators conducting coordinated, well-integrated, multi-disciplinary regional field studies or cross-regional comparative studies. For individuals and small teams, support may be requested for 1–3 years duration. Projects focused on multi-disciplinary regional studies may request support for 3 to 5 years duration. However, the size and duration of the latter studies are dependent on appropriations, and potential applicants must obtain

permission from the ECOHAB Coordinator (see **CONTACTS** in this announcement) to submit a regional or cross-regional study.

Eligibility: Institutions of higher education and not-for-profit institutions located in the U.S., and State or local governments, are eligible under all existing authorizations. Some participating agencies are authorized to make awards to international institutions, and commercial organizations located in the U.S. Federal agencies and laboratories are eligible if they can produce certifications or documentation which clearly show that they have specific legal authority to receive funds from another Federal agency in excess of their appropriations. Funding for salaries of full time Federal employees will not be allowed. Applications from non-Federal and Federal applicants will be evaluated under the same review/selection process. Proposals from non-Federal applicants that are selected for funding will be funded through a project grant or cooperative agreement under the terms of this announcement. Proposals from Federal agencies or laboratories deemed acceptable and selected for funding will be funded through a medium other than a grant or cooperative agreement, such as inter- or intra-agency transfers, where legal authority exists for such funding. Note that this announcement is not proposing to procure goods and services from Federal applicants; therefore the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535) is not an appropriate legal basis.

How to Apply: The original and eighteen (18) copies of the fully developed application (19 in all) and one (1) additional copy of the abstract, prepared in accordance with the full announcement, must be received by NOAA no later than 4 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date, January 28, 2004.

Program Authorities: For COP: 33 U.S.C. 883d and Pub. L. 105–383; for Office of Protected Resources/NOAA: 16 U.S.C. 1382 and 16 U.S.C. 1421a; EPA: 33 U.S.C 1251 *et seq.* and 40 CFR parts 30 and 40; for NSF: 42 U.S.C. 1861 *et seq.*; for ONR: 10 U.S.C 2358 as amended and 31 U.S.C 6304; and for NASA: 14 CFR part 1260.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers. 11.478 for the Coastal Ocean Program; 11.472 for NOAA/Office of Protected Resources; 66.509 for the Environmental Protection Agency; 47.050 for the National Science Foundation, and 12.300 for the Office of Naval Research.

Dated: October 27, 2003.

John C. Puzak,

Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Research.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7582–9]

Proposed Settlement Under Section 122(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act Regarding the Global Landfill Superfund Site, Middlesex County, NJ

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of proposed administrative settlement and opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Environmental Protection (EPA) is proposing to enter into an administrative settlement to resolve claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended. Notice is being published to inform the public of the proposed settlement and of the opportunity to comment. The administrative settlement is intended to resolve the United States' claims for past response costs against the following potentially responsible parties ("PRPs"): Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc.; Chevron Chemical Company; Consolidated Edison Company of New York; E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co.; FMC Corporation; Jersey Central Power & Light Company d/b/a GPU Energy; Gerdau AmeriSteel-Perth Amboy Mill f/k/a Co-Steel Raritan, f/k/a River Steel Company; Shell Oil Company; Johnson & Johnson; and Merck & Co., Inc. (collectively, "Settling Parties"). The administrative settlement concerns the Global Landfill Superfund Site located in Middlesex County, New Jersey.

In accordance with section 122(h)(i)(1) of CERCLA, notice is hereby given of a proposed administrative settlement concerning the Global Landfill Superfund Site located in Middlesex County, New Jersey. Section 122(h) of CERCLA provides EPA with the authority to consider, compromise and settle certain claims for costs incurred by the United States.

Pursuant to the administrative settlement, the Settling Parties will pay the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \$474,000 as reimbursement of past response costs incurred by EPA in