§ 473.20  Public notice and opportunity to object.

(a) In compliance with paragraph (b) of this section and unless provisions of paragraph (c) of this section apply, the manager shall cause to be published in the Commerce Business Daily a statement describing the unsolicited proposal, solicitation, DOE project, or agency project, as appropriate, inviting any interested person to submit a written objection, with supporting information at an appropriate address on or before 30 days from the date of publication, if the person believes that the research and development to be performed does not comply with standards and criteria of § 473.30.

(b) Except as paragraph (c) of this section applies, the manager shall comply with the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section—

(1) Upon receipt of an unsolicited proposal from an applicant;
(2) In any notice of availability of a solicitation;
(3) Prior to beginning a DOE project; or
(4) Prior to beginning an agency project.

(c) Without publishing a notice under paragraph (a) of this section, the manager may reject an unsolicited proposal that does not comply with these regulations or any other generally applicable requirements.

§ 473.21  Supplemental information and rebuttal.

The manager may request additional information from an applicant or any interested person who files an objection under § 473.20.

§ 473.22  Initial review by manager.

(a) Upon expiration of the time for filing information under these regulations, the manager shall—

(1) Review the proposed research and development to be performed under grant, under cooperative agreement, under contract, as a DOE project, or as an agency project and any other pertinent information received under these regulations or otherwise available; and
(2) Initially determine whether the research and development reviewed under paragraph (a)(1) of this section complies with the standards and criteria of § 473.30.

(b) A manager who makes a negative determination under paragraph (a)(2) of this section shall inform the applicant and any interested person who objected of the decision in writing with a brief statement of supporting reasons.

(c) A manager who initially determines that research and development reviewed under this section complies with the standards and criteria of § 473.30 shall cause an interagency review panel to be convened under § 473.23.

§ 473.23  Interagency review panel.

(a) The interagency review panel shall consist of—

(1) A head designated by the Federal agency that employs the manager;
(2) A representative of the DOE if the manager is not an employee of the DOE; and
(3) A representative of any other Federal agency deemed appropriate by the Federal agency that employs the manager.

(b) The interagency review panel shall—

(1) Review the research and development to be performed and consider the information presented by the applicant, in the case of a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract, and by any interested person who filed a statement of objection;
(2) Make a recommendation with a supporting statement of findings to the manager as to whether the research and development to be performed complies with the standards and criteria of § 473.30; and