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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135g.

Dated: April 10, 1998.

Patricia W. McNeil,

Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA Nos.: 84.133A and 84.133B]

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; Notice Reinviting Applications and Pre-application Meetings for New Awards for a Dissemination and Utilization (D&U) Project and a Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) for Fiscal Year (FY) 1998

Purpose: On May 9, 1997 a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 25770) inviting applications for new FY 1997 awards for: (1) A D&U project to improve the utilization of existing and emerging rehabilitation technology in the State vocational rehabilitation program; and (2) an RRTC on effective interventions for children and youth with disabilities who exhibit severe problem behaviors. Satisfactory applications were not received for these priority areas. On November 13, 1997 (62 FR 60942) a notice was published in the **Federal Register** reinviting applications for these same priority areas. Again, satisfactory applications were not received for these priority areas. There is, however, a continuing need for these projects.

The purposes of this notice are: (1) to reinvite applications for a D&U project to improve the utilization of existing and emerging rehabilitation technology in the State vocational rehabilitation program and an RRTC on effective interventions for children and youth with disabilities who exhibit severe problem behaviors for FY 1998; and (2) To invite interested parties to participate in pre-application meetings to discuss the funding priorities and receive technical assistance through individual consultation and information

about the funding priorities. The notice of final funding priorities establishing the required activities for these projects was published on May 9, 1997 in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 25760). The notice reinviting applications and a complete application package, including selection criteria for these projects, was published on November 13, 1997 in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 60942).

Eligible Applicants: Parties eligible to apply for grants under this program are States; public or private agencies, including for-profit agencies; public or private organizations, including for-profit organizations, institutions of higher education; and Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Applications Available: April 15, 1998.

Pre-Application Meetings: Interested parties are invited to participate in pre-application meetings to discuss the funding priorities for a D&U project to improve the utilization of existing and emerging rehabilitation technology in the State vocational rehabilitation program and an RRTC on effective interventions for children and youth who exhibit severe problem behaviors, and to receive technical assistance through individual consultation and information about the funding priority. The pre-application meetings to discuss these funding priorities will be held at the Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Switzer Building, Room 1002, 330 C St. SW, Washington, DC between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. NIDRR staff will also be available at this location from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on that same day to provide technical assistance through individual consultation and information about the funding priority. NIDRR will make alternate arrangements to accommodate interested parties who are unable to attend the pre-application meeting in person.

The pre-application meeting for the D&U project to improve the utilization of existing and emerging rehabilitation technology in the State vocational rehabilitation program will held on Monday, May 11, 1998.

The pre-application meeting for RRTC on effective interventions for children and youth with disabilities who exhibit severe problem behaviors will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 1998.

Priority: (1) The D&U project to improve the utilization of existing and emerging rehabilitation technology in

the State vocational rehabilitation program, and (2) the RRTC on effective interventions for children and youth who exhibit severe problem behaviors general requirements and final priority published in the **Federal Register** on May 9, 1997 (62 FR 25760) apply to this competition.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86; (b) the regulations for this program in 34 CFR Part 350; (c) the notice of final priorities published in the **Federal Register** on May 9, 1997 (62 FR 25760); and the notice inviting applications published in the **Federal Register** on November 13, 1997 (62 FR 60942).

For Further Information Contact: In order to obtain further information about the funding priority and the pre-application meeting on the D&U project to improve the utilization of existing and emerging rehabilitation technology in the State vocational rehabilitation program contact Richard Johnson, U.S. Department of Education, Room 3415 Switzer Building, 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202. Telephone: (202) 205-8203. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-8198.

In order to obtain further information about the funding priority and the pre-application meeting on the RRTC on effective interventions for children and youth who exhibit severe problem behaviors, contact Roseann Rafferty, U.S. Department of Education, Room 3428 Switzer Building, 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202. Telephone: (202) 205-5867. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-2742.

In order to obtain an application package, contact Donna Nangle, U.S. Department of Education, Room 3423 Switzer Building, 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202. Telephone: (202) 205-5880. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-8887.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

APPLICATION NOTICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998 DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH PROJECTS, CFDA NO. 84-133A, REHABILITATION RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTERS, CFDA NO. 84-133B

| Funding priority | Deadline for transmittal of applications | Estimated number of awards | Maximum award amount (per year)* | Project period (months) |
|---|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) D & U: Improving the Utilization of Emerging and Existing Rehabilitation Technology in State VR Programs. | July 9, 1998 | 1 | \$500,000 | 60 |
| (2) RRTC: Effective Interventions for Children and Youth who Exhibit Severe Problem Behaviors. | July 9, 1998 | 1 | 600,000 | 60 |

* Note: The Secretary will reject without consideration or evaluation any application that proposes a project funding level that exceeds the stated maximum award amount per year (See 34 CFR 75.104(b)).

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Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**.

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 761a and 762.

Dated: April 8, 1998.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement Notification for Implementation of the Wetland Mitigation Bank at the Savannah River Site (SRS)

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notification of floodplain and wetlands involvement.

SUMMARY: DOE proposes to implement a wetland mitigation bank program at SRS. A wetland mitigation bank is a regulatory accounting program which

provides advanced compensation for unavoidable wetland losses due to development activities. The proposed action is needed to support future projects at SRS which would require wetland impact mitigation or compensation. The proposed action is embodied in an interagency Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DOE and several Federal and State environmental regulatory agencies. In accordance with title 10 CFR Part 1022, DOE will prepare a floodplain and wetlands assessment and will perform this proposed action in a manner so as to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain or wetlands.

DATES: Comments on the proposed action due on or before April 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding this assessment should be addressed to Andrew R. Grainger, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance Officer, Savannah River Operations Office, Building 773-42A, Room 212, Aiken, South Carolina 29808. The fax/phone number is (800) 881-7292. The e-mail address is nepa@srs.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON GENERAL FLOODPLAIN/WETLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS, CONTACT: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U. S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585. Telephone (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

A location map showing SRS and further information can be obtained from the Savannah River Operations Office (see ADDRESSES above).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed DOE action entails the implementation of a wetland mitigation bank program at SRS, located near Aiken, South Carolina. A wetland mitigation bank is a regulatory accounting program which provides advanced compensation for unavoidable wetland losses due to development activities. The purpose of the proposed

action is to provide the DOE Savannah River Operations Office (SR) with a compensatory alternative for unavoidable wetland losses associated with future authorized construction and environmental restoration projects in SRS wetlands. In addition, the proposed action would enable DOE-SR to gain credit for wetland restoration work that would not otherwise be accomplished through alternative programs or means. Future projects such as the remediation of waste sites and the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges on SRS probably will impact some wetland areas. By establishing a wetland mitigation bank prior to such impacts, DOE-SR can incorporate mitigation efforts required for new projects in a more timely manner. For future remediation and construction projects that require compensatory wetland mitigation, the bank would save the time and money needed to locate a suitable wetland for restoration and to obtain approval for its use.

This proposed action would encompass both the general mitigation activities on SRS wetlands and the overall management of the resulting site "banking" program. In all instances, wetland impact avoidance and minimization would be employed prior to being able to use compensatory mitigation. This wetland mitigation bank would be a dedicated bank, to be used for SRS project needs only. The proposed action would be implemented in conjunction with the landscape-scale land use planning effort that is currently being developed at SRS. The existence of degraded wetlands, channelized streams, and thermally-impacted swamp forests in proximity to a large tract of high-quality forested wetlands and old-age upland forest provide DOE-SR the opportunity to develop a bank with a high probability of success. A key advantage for establishing the bank at SRS is the presence of experienced land management and research groups on site.