

with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Financial and Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

Dated: November 23, 1998.

**Kent H. Hannaman,**

*Leader, Information Management Group,  
Office of the Chief Financial and Chief  
Information Officer.*

**Office of Postsecondary Education**

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Application for Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access Program.

*Frequency:* Every 3 Years.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:* Responses: 50. Burden Hours: 800.

*Abstract:* Collect program and budget information to make grants to institutions of higher education and/or libraries. This information collection is being submitted under the Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grant Information Collections (1890-0001). Therefore, this 30-day public comment period notice will be the only public comment notice published for this information collection.

[FR Doc. 98-31719 Filed 11-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Notice of Solicitation for Financial Assistance Applications; Northeast Regional Biomass Energy Program Management Project**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation for financial assistance applications number DE-PS36-99GO10385.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the DOE

Financial Assistance Rules, 10 CFR 600.8, is announcing its intention to solicit applications for the Northeast Regional Biomass Program (NERBEP) Management Project. The selected applicant will receive financial assistance to manage NERBEP under a financial assistance agreement with DOE.

**DATES:** The solicitation will be issued on or about November 30, 1998.

**AVAILABILITY:** To obtain a copy of the Solicitation once it is issued, interested parties must access the Golden Field Office Application, Award and Solicitation page at <http://www.eren.doe.gov/golden/solicit.htm>, click on "solicitations" and then locate the solicitation number identified above. DOE does not intend to issue written copies of the solicitation.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The major goals of the DOE NERBEP are: to promote biomass energy by creating awareness, a positive image, and confidence in biomass energy technologies within the region; to develop a climate supportive of biomass energy among the general public and relevant government agencies; to assist both the public and private sectors in the responsible development, commercialization, and utilization of biomass energy technologies so that the region achieves full realization of associated energy, economic, and environmental benefits; and to select and perform activities that provide for responsible development of biomass energy within the region. The Northeast Region includes the following states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Applications must address each of the following activities in order to be considered for award. The activities are (1) management and planning, (2) information and outreach, and (3) project oversight and evaluation.

1. Management and Planning includes a plan for the overall management of the project at the state level, including coordination with the DOE Boston Regional Support Office (BRSO) and NERBEP ad hoc steering committees. The responsibility also includes development of resource plans and the provision of technical input to DOE for development of annual operating plans for the NERBEP.

The NERBEP Annual Operating Plan (AOP) is a document which will be prepared each year by the BRSO, with appropriate committee input, which

provides guidance and direction to the program for the following Fiscal Year.

The draft FY '99 AOP will be made an attachment to the solicitation. It will be the responsibility of the recipient to guide the Program in meeting AOP objectives, recommend and implement changes to the AOP as necessary, and assist the BRSO in the preparation and completion of future AOP's.

2. Information and Outreach includes responding to inquiries about the program from interested parties, developing biotech briefs, collecting and contributing articles to support dialogue, and preparing regional biomass energy program reports. The recipient also will coordinate and publish a regional newsletter at least quarterly and will establish and maintain a NERBEP Internet site which provides relevant biomass program information and project summaries.

3. Project Oversight and Evaluation includes the award and administration of subgrants to organizations in the region. The recipient will solicit applications for projects in support of program objectives through a competitive solicitation. Administration of the individual subgrants, including financial commitments, performance tracking, and the provision of periodic reports to DOE, will be the responsibility of the recipient with appropriate oversight from the BRSO.

In response to this solicitation, DOE expects to make a single award. Solicitation number DE-PS36-99GO10385 will include complete information on the program including technical aspects, funding, application preparation instructions, application evaluation criteria, and other factors that will be considered when selecting projects for funding. No pre-application conference is planned. Issuance of the solicitation is planned on or about November 30, 1998, with responses due on January 20, 1999.

Issued in Golden, Colorado, on November 8, 1998.

**John W. Meeker,**

*Chief, Procurement, GO.*

[FR Doc. 98-31809 Filed 11-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Rocky Flats**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770)