

determination of comparability are closed to the public in order that each country may be properly notified of the decision.

**Supplementary Information:** Pursuant to section 481 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended in 1992 (20 U.S.C. 1088), the Secretary established within the Department of Education the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation. The Committee's responsibilities are to (1) evaluate the standards of accreditation applied to applicant foreign medical schools; and (2) determine the comparability of those standards to standards for accreditation applied to United States medical schools.

**For Further Information Contact:** Bonnie LeBold, Executive Director, National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation, 7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3082, ROB #3, Washington, DC 20202-7563. Telephone: (202) 260-3636. Beginning February 22, 1999, you may call to obtain the identity of the countries whose standards are to be evaluated during this meeting.

**Greg Woods,**

*Chief Operating Officer, Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs.*

[FR Doc. 99-2235 Filed 1-29-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 99-03; Environmental Meteorology Program—Vertical Transport and Mixing

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of Extension of Application Due Date.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), published a Notice in the **Federal Register** on December 22, 1998, announcing its interest in receiving applications for the Environmental Meteorology Program (EMP), Vertical Transport and Mixing (VTMX) Science Team. Since the publication of the Notice and due to unforeseen circumstances, OBER is changing the date that formal applications are due.

In the **Federal Register** of December 22, 1998, in FR Doc. 98-33858, on page 70758 under the **DATES** heading, formal applications in response to this notice were requested by 4:30 p.m., E.S.T., March 12, 1999. With this Notice of Extension, OBER is changing the due

date for formal applications from March 12, 1999, to 4:30 p.m., E.S.T., March 30, 1999. Also, stated in the original notice, applicants were urged to access web site <http://www.pnl.gov/VTMX> to review abstracts of proposals from DOE laboratory scientists that will be tentatively selected for funding. These abstracts were to be posted there by February 12, 1999. This date is being changed to February 26, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Peter Lunn, telephone: (303) 903-4819.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 22, 1999.

**John Rodney Clark,**

*Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.*

[FR Doc. 99-2309 Filed 1-29-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 99-14; Low Dose Radiation Research Program

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice inviting grant applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Offices of Science (SC) and Environmental Management (EM), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announce their interest in receiving applications for research that supports the Low Dose Radiation Research Program. Research is sought in the following areas:

- (1) Low dose radiation vs. endogenous oxidative damage—the same or different?
- (2) Understanding biological responses to radiation and oxidative damage.
- (3) Thresholds for low dose radiation—fact or fiction?
- (4) Genetic factors that affect individual susceptibility to low dose radiation.
- (5) Communication of research results.

This Program uses modern molecular tools to develop a better scientific basis for understanding exposures and risks to humans from low dose radiation that can be used to achieve acceptable levels of human health protection at the lowest possible cost. Proposed basic research should contribute to EM needs by decreasing health risks to the public and workers from low dose radiation, providing opportunities for major cost reductions in cleaning up DOE's environmental problems, and reducing the time required to achieve EM's mission goals.

**DATES:** Potential applicants should submit a one page preapplication referencing Program Notice 99-14 by 4:30 P.M. E.S.T., February 23, 1999. A response to preapplications discussing the potential program relevance of a formal application generally will be communicated within 7 days of receipt.

The deadline for receipt of formal applications is 4:30 P.M., E.D.T., April 13, 1999, in order to be accepted for merit review and to permit timely consideration for award in FY 1999 and FY 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Preapplications referencing Program Notice 99-14, should be sent by E-mail to [joanne.corcoran@science.doe.gov](mailto:joanne.corcoran@science.doe.gov). Preapplications will also be accepted if mailed to the following address: Ms. Joanne Corcoran, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC-72, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290.

Formal applications, referencing Program Notice 99-14, should be sent to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, ATTN: Program Notice 99-14. This address must be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express, commercial mail delivery service, or when hand carried by the applicant.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. David Thomassen, telephone: (301) 903-9817, E-mail:

[david.thomassen@science.doe.gov](mailto:david.thomassen@science.doe.gov), Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC-72, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290 or Mr. Mark Gilbertson, Office of Science and Risk Policy, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Environmental Management, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585, telephone: (202) 586-7150, E-mail: [mark.gilbertson@em.doe.gov](mailto:mark.gilbertson@em.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Low Dose Radiation Research Program

#### *Background and Overview*

Each and every cell in the human body is constantly engaged in a life and death struggle to survive "in spite of itself." Normal physiological processes needed for cell survival generate toxic oxidative products that are damaging, even mutagenic, and potentially carcinogenic. Yet cells and people survive because of the cell's remarkable capacity to repair the majority, if not all, of this oxidative damage. We don't know, however, the relationship