

awards and range of funding will depend on the number of applications received and selected for award. Cost sharing is strongly encouraged, but is not required. All DOE/EPSCoR award funds will be provided to the recipient organization within the EPSCoR state for the purpose of supporting activities in the EPSCoR state and may include travel and lodging, faculty or student stipends, materials, services and equipment.

Applications

To minimize undue effort on the part of applicants and reviewers, interested parties are invited and encouraged to submit preapplications. The preapplications will be reviewed relative to the scope and research needs of the Department of Energy. The brief preapplication must consist of (1) one to two pages of narrative describing the research objectives and methods of accomplishment, (2) a letter from the appropriate state EPSCoR coordinator endorsing the preapplication, and (3) a letter of intent from the DOE National Laboratory confirming collaboration on the project. The preapplications will be grouped according to programmatic areas of interest to DOE and will be reviewed by DOE laboratory scientists to determine the priority of the proposed research. Based on this review, DOE/EPSCoR management will recommend formal submission of applications to the Department. Telephone, facsimile numbers, and e-mail address are required parts of the preapplication. Instructions regarding the contents of a preapplication and other preapplication guidelines can be found on the SC Grants and Contracts web site at: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/grants/preapp.html>

In addition to the project description all preapplications and formal applications must include the following information:

1. Applications should explain the relevance of the proposed research to the agency's programmatic needs. On the cover page, applicants should specify the relevant DOE technical program office, and if known, the name of the program manager, and telephone number. DOE program descriptions and the contact person information may be accessed via the web at: <http://www.doe.gov>

2. Applications must demonstrate clear evidence of collaborative intent, including a delineation of each partner's role and contribution to the research effort as well as a "Letter-of-Intent" from the participating DOE National Laboratory, facility, or center.

3. Applications must explain the individual value to both the EPSCoR and the National Laboratory partners. There should be clear objectives, not necessarily the same, for each partner.

Applications will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following evaluation criteria, listed in descending order of importance as codified at 10 CFR Part 605.10(d).

1. Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Project,
2. Appropriateness of the Proposed Method or Approach,
3. Competency of Applicant's Personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources,
4. Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget.

The evaluation will include program policy factors such as the relevance of the proposed research to the terms of the announcement and an agency's programmatic needs. Note, external peer reviewers are selected with regard to both their scientific expertise and the absence of conflict-of-interest issues. Non-federal reviewers will often be used, and submission of an application constitutes agreement that this is acceptable to the investigator(s) and the submitting institution.

Applications received by SC under its current competitive application mechanisms that meet the criteria outlined in this Notice may also be deemed appropriate for consideration under this announcement and may be funded under this program.

General information about the development and submission of preapplications, applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluation, and selection processes, and other policies and procedures are contained in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program and 10 CFR Part 605. Electronic access to the latest version of SC's Financial Assistance Guide is possible via the Internet at the following web site address: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>

Additional information regarding format, preparation and specific requirements may be found at web site address: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/bes/EPSCoR/appL1.HTM>

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 81.049, and the solicitation control number is ERFAP 10 CFR Part 605.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 26, 1999.

Ralph H. DeLorenzo,

Acting Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER99-3127-000]

Bishop Power Company, Inc.; Filing

July 28, 1999.

Take notice that on July 16, 1999, Bishop Power Company, Inc., tendered for filing a request to withdraw its Petition for Acceptance of Initial Rate Schedule, Waivers and Blanket Authority and Request for Expedition filed with the Commission on June 2, 1999, in the above referenced docket.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions and protests should be filed on or before August 6, 1999. Protests will be considered by the Commission to determine the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make Protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

David P. Boegers,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT99-63-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Refund Report

July 28, 1999.

Take notice that on July 23, 1999, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) tendered for filing a refund report on the refunding to its firm