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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[TA-W-36, 586]

Reda, A Camco Company, Bartlesville, Oklahoma; Notice of Termination of Investigation

Pursuant to Section 221 of the Trade Act of 1974, an investigation was initiated on July 26, 1999 in response to a worker petition on behalf of workers at REDA, A Camco Company, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

The petitioner has requested that the petition be withdrawn. Consequently, further investigation in this case would serve no purpose, and the investigation has been terminated.

Signed in Washington, D.C. this 26th day of July, 1999.

Grant D. Beale,

Program Manager, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) H-1B Technical Skill Training Grants

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds and solicitation for grant applications (SGA).

SUMMARY: *This notice contains all of the necessary information and forms needed to apply for grant funding.* The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), announces the availability of grant funds for skill training programs for unemployed and employed workers. Funding for these grants is coming from the user fee mandated for applicants for new H-1B nonimmigrant visa workers and established under the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA).

Eligible applicants for these grants will be private industry councils (PICs) established under Section 102 of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) established under section 117 of the

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) that will carry out such programs or projects through one-stop delivery systems established under section 121 of WIA, or regional consortia of PICs or local boards. Regional consortia may be interstate.

WIA provides a framework for a national workforce investment and employment system designed to meet both the needs of the nation's businesses and the needs of job seekers and workers who want to further their careers. ACWIA will provide resources for skill training in occupations that are in employer demand; one measure of this demand is employer H-1B applications for workers. In particular, industries that appear to generate the most H-1B demand include information technology and health. Appendix A to this Solicitation provides information on the kinds of occupations certified under the H-1B program by the Department of Labor for Fiscal Year 1999 (Oct. 1, 1998 to May 1999), and the number of job openings certified in each occupation.

This notice describes the application submission requirements, the process that eligible entities must use to apply for funds covered by this solicitation, and how grantees will be selected. It is anticipated that about \$25 million will be available for funding the projects covered in this first-round solicitation, that approximately fifteen to twenty projects will be selected for funding, and that the maximum grant award will not exceed \$1.5 million. There is a 50 percent non-Federal matching requirement.

DATES: Applications for grant awards will be accepted commencing August 16, 1999. The closing date for receipt of applications shall be 75 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register** at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) at the address below.

ADDRESSES: Applications shall be mailed to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Federal Assistance, Attention: Diemle Phan, SGA/DFA 99-019, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S-4203, Washington, D.C. 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions should be faxed to Diemle Phan, Grants Management Specialist, Division of Federal Assistance, Fax (202) 219-8739. This is not a toll free number. All inquiries should include the SGA number (DFA 99-019) and a contact name, fax and phone number. This solicitation will also be published on the Internet on the Employment and Training Administration's Homepage at

<http://www.doleta.gov>. Award notifications will also be published on this Homepage.

BACKGROUND: This initiative will build on recent ETA initiatives, specifically the June 1998 dislocated worker technology demonstration and the new dislocated worker technology demonstration. These two recent efforts were intended to strengthen linkages between employers experiencing skill shortages in specific occupations and the publicly funded workforce development system. In June 1998, \$7.5 million in JTPA Title III dislocated worker funds was awarded to 11 organizations throughout the country to train workers in skills related to the information technology industry. In June 1999, over \$9.57 million was awarded to 10 grantees to train dislocated workers in the skills necessary to obtain work requiring advanced skills in occupations in manufacturing industry settings, including computers and electronics manufacturing, machinery and motor vehicles, chemicals and petroleum, specialized instruments and devices, and biomedics.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: ETA is soliciting proposals on a competitive basis for the conduct of demonstration projects to provide technical skills training for workers, including both employed and unemployed workers.

This announcement consists of three parts:

- Part I discusses the procedures for eligible applicants who wish to apply for these funds.
- Part II provides the detailed Statement of Work together with applicable reporting requirements.
- Part III describes the selection process/criteria for award.

Legislative Mandate

The relevant portions of ACWIA dealing with the establishment of a fund for implementing a program of H-1B skill training grants state:

“Section 286(s)—H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account

(1) In General—There is established in the general fund of the Treasury a separate account, which shall be known as the “H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account.” Notwithstanding any other section of this title, there shall be deposited as offsetting receipts into the account all fees collected under section 214(c)(9).

(2) Use of Fees for Job Training—56.3 percent of amounts deposited into the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account shall remain available to the Secretary