

"The use of Nitroxides in the prophylactic and therapeutic treatment of cancer due to genetic defects" and corresponding foreign patent applications to Varian Biosynergy, Inc., having a place of business in Palo Alto, California. The patent rights in these inventions have been assigned to the United States of America.

The contemplated exclusive license may be limited to use of topical or local tissue application of compounds disclosed and claimed in the invention for the protection of normal tissue against radiation damage caused by radiation therapy of diseased tissue.

**DATES:** Only written comments and/or applications for a license which are received by the NIH Office of Technology Transfer on or before May 8, 2000, will be considered.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for a copy of the patent application, inquiries, comments and other materials relating to the contemplated license should be directed to: Norbert J. Pontzer, J.D., Ph.D., Technology Licensing Specialist, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, MD 20852-3804; Telephone: (301) 496-7736, ext. 284; Facsimile: (301) 402-0220; E-mail: np59n@nih.gov. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent application.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Effective radioprotective drugs could significantly improve the therapeutic ratio of radiation therapy by protecting normal tissues and allowing greater doses of radiation to be delivered to the tumor. One approach to avoid protecting the tumor is local application of the radioprotective drugs to adjacent health tissue. The patent applications claim a new class of metal independent nitroxide compounds that appear capable of protecting tissue against radiation damage if clinically useful, non-toxic formulations that deliver sufficient local tissue concentrations can be developed.

The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within 90 days from the date of this published Notice, NIH receives written evidence and argument that establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Properly filed competing applications for a license filed in response to this notice will be treated as objections to the contemplating license. Comments

and objections submitted in response to this notice will not be made available for public inspection, and, to the extent permitted by law, will not be released under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

Dated: January 31, 2000.

**Jack Spiegel,**

*Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer.*

[FR Doc. 00-2632 Filed 2-4-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of the Assistant Secretary— Water and Science; Central Utah Project Completion Act; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Conversion of a Portion of Strawberry Valley Project Water From Irrigation to Municipal and Industrial Use

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary—Water and Science, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment for the conversion of a portion of Strawberry Valley Project (SVP) water from irrigation to other beneficial uses including municipal and industrial (M&I) use.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Department of the Interior, Central Utah Project Completion Act Office will prepare an Environmental Assessment on the conversion of SVP water from agricultural to municipal and industrial use.

The SVP, authorized December 15, 1905, is one of the earliest Reclamation Projects. The SVP water from the Colorado River Basin is stored in the enlarged Strawberry Reservoir. The SVP water is then conveyed through the Diamond Fork System into the Great Basin where it is delivered through natural stream courses to the Spanish Fork River diversion structure and into the Strawberry Power Canal. The SVP service area is located in south Utah County, Utah. The Strawberry Water Users Association is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the SVP and contractually uses Central Utah Project (CUP) facilities to store and convey SVP water.

Suburban development in the SVP service area has resulted in agricultural land being taken out of production, annexed into the cities, and developed into residential areas. Under the authority of the Water for Miscellaneous Purposes Act of 1920 (43 U.S.C. 521),

the Secretary of the Interior has authority to approve converting a portion of the SVP water from irrigation to M&I use. This conversion will: (1) authorize the conversion of SVP water from irrigation to M&I use; (2) ensure the orderly marketing of CUP and SVP M&I water; (3) provide an adequate water supply to the cities; (4) generate revenue to fund the rehabilitation of SVP facilities; and (5) eliminate unauthorized use of SVP water within the service area. Of the total SVP annual average water supply of about 71,000 acre-feet, approximately 10,200 acre-feet has already been converted and an additional 1,800 acre-feet will be converted from irrigation to M&I use in the foreseeable future with the opportunity to gradually convert additional amounts as growth continues in the area.

The Environmental Assessment will identify potential effects of the proposed action and determine whether those effects are significant. Alternatives identified at this time include the proposed action and the no action alternatives. Issues to be analyzed include impacts on wildlife, cultural resources, special status plants and animals, and water resources.

**DATES:** Public scoping comments relating to issues and potential additional alternatives will be accepted for 30 days following the publication of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Scoping comments should be sent to: Program Coordinator, CUP Completion Act Office, Department of the Interior, 302 East 1860 South, Provo UT 84606-6154.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the CUP Completion Act Office and will be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). They may be published as part of the Environmental Assessment and other related documents.

Dated: February 1, 2000.

**Ronald Johnston,**

*CUP Program Director, Department of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. 00-2640 Filed 2-4-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-RK-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Proposed Finding Against Federal Acknowledgment of the Steilacoom Tribe of Indians

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.