

their surroundings, including traffic intersections and roundabouts;

(b) Based upon the activities described in paragraph (a), investigate, evaluate, and develop new planning strategies, environmental features, and electronic travel aids that can be used by blind and visually impaired pedestrians to safely and independently, navigate their surroundings, including traffic intersections and roundabouts; and

(c) Develop and explore various strategies for strengthening partnerships with industry to facilitate the development and implementation of new designs, technologies and applications that are appropriate for blind and visually impaired pedestrians to use for wayfinding.

In addition to activities proposed by the applicant to carry out these purposes, the project must:

- Collaborate on research projects of mutual interest with relevant projects such as the NIDRR-funded RERCs on Low Vision and Blindness and Information Technology Access as identified through consultation with the NIDRR project officer;

- Collaborate with relevant Federal agencies responsible for the administration of public laws that address access to and usability of traffic intersection for individuals with disabilities such as the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and other relevant Federal agencies identified by NIDRR; and

- Involve individuals who are blind and visually impaired in all aspects of this project.

Applicable Program Regulations: 34 CFR part 350.

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 762(g) and 764(a).

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister>

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Note: The official version of this document is published in the **Federal Register**. Free

Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html> (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 84.133A, Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project and Centers Program)

Dated: April 10, 2001.

Francis V. Corrigan,

Deputy Director, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.

[FR Doc. 01-10499 Filed 4-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Initiative on Cooperative Programs with States for Research, Development and Demonstration

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of competitive financial assistance solicitation.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing a competitive solicitation for applications for cooperative agreements to pursue applied research, development and demonstration involving energy efficiency. Demonstrations will be limited to field tests that are primarily designed to provide critical operational feedback to researchers and/or manufacturers for the purpose of improving technical performance or lowering costs. The solicitation will not support demonstration projects intended primarily to stimulate market acceptance or build institutional support for available technologies. It is estimated that funding of approximately \$6 million will be available for 6 to 10 awards under this solicitation in fiscal year 2001. Projects may be for a maximum of three years with total DOE funding of no more than \$1,000,000 (DOE funding of approximately of \$300,000 per year). The following areas of interest have been identified: (1) Buildings; (2) State Industries of the Future; (3) Combined Heat and Power and Distributed Power; and (4) Transportation.

DATES: The formal solicitation document, which includes greater detail about specific program areas of interest, application instructions, due dates and evaluation criteria, is available on the Golden Field Office website (see address below). Prospective applicants will be required to submit a pre-application, not

longer than two pages, by May 4, 2001. Any pre-applications which have been submitted to DOE under this solicitation in 2001, prior to this published notice, are not required to be re-submitted. All pre-applications must be submitted by an eligible applicant. A response to the pre-application encouraging or discouraging a formal application will be communicated to the applicant. Submission of a pre-application is a requirement for submitting an application under this solicitation.

ADDRESSES: The formal solicitation document is available electronically as Solicitation No. DE-PS36-01GO90010 through the Golden Field Office's World Wide Web site at: <http://www.golden.doe.gov/businessopportunities.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Golden Field Office, 1617 Cole Blvd., Golden, CO 80401. The Contract Specialist is James Damm, at FAX (303) 275-4788 or e-mail at gostate@nrel.gov. All questions or comments concerning this announcement must be in writing and should be directed to the attention of Mr. Damm. The preferred method of submitting questions and/or comments is through e-mail. Only questions and comments submitted to Mr. Damm will be considered. Questions and/or comments requiring coordination with EERE program officials will be directed by Mr. Damm to the cognizant offices.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Proposals will be subject to the objective merit review procedures for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). Eligibility for this assistance is restricted to state agencies, (including state energy offices or organizations that represent state energy offices), and organizations that represent state energy research entities. Institutions of higher education are not eligible to be recipients under this solicitation. However, these institutions can participate as subawardees to eligible applicants. Eligible applicants may enter teaming arrangements with industry, DOE national laboratories, institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, and Native American organizations.

Applications by DOE management and operating contractors (M&O) will not be eligible for award. However, applications that include performance of a portion of the project, not to exceed 50 percent of the total effort, by an M&O contractor will be eligible provided that the proposed use of any such entity is specifically authorized in writing by the

DOE Contracting Officer or authorized designee responsible for the M&O.

This solicitation provides opportunities to leverage funds for Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) designed to advance technologies that promote energy efficiency. A minimum of 20 percent non-Federal cost-sharing will be required for all projects receiving awards. Any proposed cost-sharing above the minimum 20 percent will be given favorable consideration in the selection process.

The Office of EERE implements DOE's strategic objectives of increasing the efficiency and productivity of energy use, while limiting environmental impacts; reducing the vulnerability of the U.S. economy to disruptions in energy supplies; ensuring that a competitive electric utility industry is in place that can deliver adequate and affordable supplies with reduced environmental impacts; supporting U.S. energy, environmental, and economic interests in global markets; and delivering leading-edge technologies.

The purpose of the solicitation is to pursue applied research, development, and demonstration (including field testing) with state energy offices and state energy research organizations in the following technology areas (or combination of technology areas) as described below:

1. Building Technologies

A. Whole Buildings

Through a whole building (or "systems engineering") approach, individual building components and subsystems are considered collectively in terms of their interactions and joint impacts on building occupants and building operating performance. Projects should focus on the following topics: daylighting, indoor environmental quality, commissioning and controls.

B. Building Components

Building Equipment—energy conversion and control equipment supplying lighting, space conditioning (heating, cooling, dehumidification and ventilation), water heating, refrigeration, laundry, computing and information services and conveniences to building occupants and commercial operations. Specific needs include electric heat pump water heating, lighting controls, thermal distribution, unitary HVAC systems performance and dehumidification.

Building Envelope—materials, components and systems for the

windows, walls, roofs, foundations, and other elements which comprise building exteriors and provide thermal integrity and daylighting. Specific research needs include moisture research and window systems.

2. State Industries of the Future

Specific needs include the following:

Projects will be considered for funding that have been identified through a State Industries of the Future needs assessment exercise (local industry identification of priority research, development and demonstration needs that will result in enhanced energy efficiency, waste reduction and operational performance for that industry.) Only projects that address the nine Office of Industrial Technologies Industries of the Future will be considered. These industries are agriculture, aluminum, chemicals, forest products, glass, metal casting, mining, petroleum refining and steel. (Please visit our website at www.oit.doe.gov for a detailed explanation of the Industries of the Future.)

Projects will be considered for funding that are not specifically addressed in one of the Office of Industrial Technologies national industry specific solicitations. Projects considered for funding will be projects that state industries have determined will address priority energy, environmental and operational needs, but are not included in the current national level solicitations. These needs might have either a state specific or national focus.

Participating state agencies are highly encouraged to partner with a State Land Grant University. Proposals will discuss how the Land Grant Extension Service will be utilized to promote the technology and to disseminate results to the local industrial and manufacturing communities. Other partners including other universities, research institutions and laboratories may also be included in the project.

3. Combined Heat and Power (CHP) and Distributed Power

Applications will be accepted for work involving distributed power and combined heat and power technologies. This work includes, but is not limited to, applied research and field testing to address:

(a) Transmission constraints, interconnect barriers, and to encourage strategic placement of distributed power technologies, consistent and streamlined siting and permitting regulations, and an equipment pre-

certification program to avoid long and costly permitting delays;

(b) New commercial and industrial development and urban infill redevelopment for distributed generation utilizing several DOE developed technologies (e.g., fuel cells, microturbines, industrial turbines, photovoltaics, wind, solar geothermal and energy storage) and demand-side management measures to examine systemic operational parameters and capabilities;

(c) Advanced distributed power and combined heat and power technologies at state and federal facilities; and

(d) Hybrid applications (e.g., hybrid wind/fuel cell/microturbine applications) for institutional and commercial application.

4. Transportation

Projects should focus on field research and technology validations / operational tests designed to maximize the benefits of clean and efficient vehicle technologies. Cooperative projects should focus on the following:

(a) Establishing benefits of emission control technologies:

(1) Develop and validate sophisticated emissions models that can predict the emissions potential for a variety of engine (Compression-ignition, direct injection (CIDI), Spark-ignition, direct injection (SIDI), microturbines) and exhaust after treatment systems in various hybrid electric vehicles (HEV) configurations;

(2) Public sector field-testing of HEV performance (including emission effects) using various alternative fuels; and

(3) Working with a national laboratory or University to develop a simple model of the engine out and tailpipe emissions performance of HEV.

(b) Operational research on refueling infrastructure for alternative fuel vehicles (i.e. high pressure storage, low temperature liquefaction processes, fast charging and convenience charging issues).

(c) Demonstration of the performance, reliability and durability of advanced transportation technologies (i.e. fuel cells, hybrid start/stop propulsion systems, and motor with integrated controller systems) while providing feedback for furthering technology development.

Additional information about the programs of the Office of EERE can be obtained at the Office's Internet site at <http://www.eren.doe.gov>.

Issued in Golden, Colorado, on April 20, 2001.

Jerry L. Zimmer,

Director, Office of Acquisition and Financial Assistance.

[FR Doc. 01-10503 Filed 4-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Paducah

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of Open Meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Paducah. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATE: Thursday, May 17, 2001 5:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

ADDRESS: Paducah Information Age Park Resource Center 2000 McCracken Boulevard Paducah, Kentucky.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: W. Don Seaborg, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Department of Energy Paducah Site Office, Post Office Box 1410, MS-103, Paducah, Kentucky 42001, (270) 441-6806.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration and waste management activities.

Tentative Agenda:

5:30 p.m. Informal Discussion
6:00 p.m. Call to Order
6:10 p.m. Approve Minutes
6:20 p.m. Presentations, Board Response, Public Comments
8:00 p.m. Subcommittee Reports, Board Response, Public Comments
8:30 p.m. Administrative Issues
9:00 p.m. Adjourn

Copies of the final agenda will be available at the meeting.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Pat J. Halsey at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a

fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments as the first item of the meeting agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, between 9:00 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday–Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available at the Department of Energy's Environmental Information Center and Reading Room at 175 Freedom Boulevard, Highway 60, Kevel, Kentucky between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Monday thru Friday or by writing to Pat J. Halsey, Department of Energy Paducah Site Office, Post Office Box 1410, MS-103, Paducah, Kentucky 42001 or by calling her at (270) 441-6802.

Issued at Washington, DC on April 23, 2001.

Belinda G. Hood,

Acting Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-10502 Filed 4-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-320-044]

Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP; Notice of Negotiated Rate Filing

April 23, 2001.

Take notice that on April 19, 2001, Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP (Gulf South) filed with the Commission a contract between Gulf South and the following company for disclosure of a recently negotiated rate transaction. As shown on the contract, Gulf South requests an effective date of April 1, 2001.

Special Negotiated Rate Between Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP and Mobile Gas Services Corporation, Contract No. 27430

Gulf South states that it has served copies of this filing upon all parties on the official service list created by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions

or protests must be filed in accordance with section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining 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 in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-10475 Filed 4-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-320-043]

Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP; Notice of Negotiated Rate Filing

April 23, 2001.

Take notice that on April 19, 2001, Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP (Gulf South) filed with the Commission a contact between Gulf South and the following company for disclosure of a recently negotiated rate transaction. As shown on the contract, Gulf South requests an effective date of May 1, 2001.

Special Negotiated Rate Between Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP and AEP Energy Services, Inc., Contract No. 28691

Gulf South states that it has served copies of this filing upon all parties on the official service list created by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make