

submit a Milestones Plan is estimated to average approximately 120 hours per respondent. This is a one-time burden. State NPDES permitting authorities' burden to review the Milestones Plans is estimated at 16 hours per respondent as an initial burden with an average recurring annual review burden of 6 hours per respondent. Agency burden to review the Milestones Plans is estimated at 20 hours per respondent as an initial burden with an average recurring annual review burden of 4 hours per respondent. The total initial cost for the 29 mills anticipated to enroll in the VATIP and thus be required to develop a Milestones Plan is estimated at \$480,900. The total initial burden incurred by State permitting authorities and EPA for review of the Milestones Plans is estimated at \$15,680 and \$19,600, respectively. The total recurring burden incurred by State permitting authorities and EPA for periodic review of the Milestones Plans is estimated at \$5,880 and \$3,920, respectively. There is no recurring burden for mill respondents associated with this information collection.

Dated: October 5, 2001.

Geoffrey H. Grubbs,

Director, Office of Science and Technology
[FR Doc. 01-25968 Filed 10-15-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7093-9]

Investigator-Initiated Grants: Request for Applications

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of request for applications.

SUMMARY: This notice provides information on the availability of fiscal year 2002 investigator-initiated grants program announcements, in which the areas of research interest, eligibility and submission requirements, evaluation criteria, and implementation schedules are set forth. Grants will be competitively awarded following peer review.

DATES: Receipt dates vary depending on the specific research areas within the solicitations and are listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Center for Environmental Research (8703R), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20460. The complete announcement can be accessed on the Internet from the EPA

home page: <http://www.epa.gov/ncercqa> under "announcements."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In its Requests for Applications (RFA) the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites research grant applications for the following areas: (1) Epidemiologic Research on Health Effects of Long-term Exposure to Ambient Particulate Matter and Other Air Pollutants and (2) Development of Watershed Classification Systems for Diagnosis of Biological Impairment in Watersheds. Applications must be received no later than 4 p.m. ET on January 18, 2002 for topic (1) and January 30, 2002 for topic (2). The RFAs provide relevant background information, summarize EPA's interest in the topic areas, and describe the application and review process.

Contact persons for the Particulate Matter RFA are Stacey Katz (katz.stacey@epa.gov), telephone 202-564-8201 and Gail Robarge (robarge.gail@epa.gov), telephone 202-564-8301. Contact person for the Watershed Classification RFA is William Stelz (stelz.william@epa.gov), telephone 202-564-6834.

Dated: October 1, 2001.

Peter W. Preuss,

Director, National Center for Environmental Research.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[WH-FRL-7084-6]

U.S. EPA Reschedule Notice of the Public Meeting on the Draft Strategy for Waterborne Microbial Disease

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This action announces the rescheduled public meeting on the Draft Strategy for Waterborne Microbial Disease. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is holding a meeting on November 6, 2001, to present to interested parties the Draft Strategy for Waterborne Microbial Disease. The draft Strategy explains suggested approaches to reducing microbial pollution of the Nation's waters. Interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the approaches listed in the draft Strategy at this meeting. In addition interested parties may provide written comments on the draft strategy by November 15, 2001.

DATES: The public meeting concerning the Draft Strategy for Waterborne Microbial Disease will be held November 6, 2001, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Crystal City Hotel, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, in the Dewey conference room. Sciences, Inc. (an EPA contractor) will provide logistical support for the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the meeting, please contact Ms. Harriet McCollum at Sciences, Inc., 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314; phone (703) 684-0123; fax (703) 684-2223, or email at hmccollum@sciences.com.

Approximately 100 seats will be available on a first-come, first serve basis. On-site registration for the meeting will begin at 8 am, EST. Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting may pre-register by phone by contacting Ms. McCollum by October 24, 2001. Those registered by October 24, 2001 will receive background materials prior to the meeting.

For information concerning the Draft Strategy for Waterborne Microbial Disease, or a copy of the draft Strategy please, contact Lisa Almodovar, at the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, (MC-4304), Washington, DC 20460; phone: (202) 260-1310, fax: (202) 260-1036 or email at almodovar.lisa@epa.gov. Copies of the draft Strategy are available on EPA's Internet at www.epa.gov/ost/criteria/microbialdraft.pdf.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA, States, local governments and the private sector have made significant strides in reducing water pollution. Much of this progress is the result of controls on pollution from industries and sewage treatment facilities. Despite this progress, States report that about 30% of the waters they assess do not meet clean water goals. Today, water pollution problems are caused by a wide range of diffuse sources (e.g. pollutant runoff from agricultural lands, stormwater flows from cities, inadequate sewage treatment, and seepage into ground water). Many of these sources contribute microbial contaminants to waterbodies and this contamination impairs the use of waters for recreational, fishing, and shellfish growing purposes and limits use of waters as a source of drinking water.

In response to growing evidence of significant microbial contamination of waters, the Office of Water has prepared a Draft Strategy for Waterborne Microbial Disease. This draft Strategy