

second tier of the Department's strategy for completing the funding process. The additional form will serve as the application package for LEAs under the REAP Small, Rural Schools Achievement Program.

Additional Information: The Department of Education requests Emergency Clearance for the information collection entitle Application for the Small, Rural School Achievement Program because a normal clearance is likely to cause a statutory deadline to be missed. The statute requires the Department to make direct grant awards to all eligible LEAs by July 1. With an estimated 4,500 awards to be made by July 1, the Department needs a considerable amount of time to inform potential applicants of the availability of funds and the award process, and to conduct the funding process.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Response: 4,552.

Burden Hours: 3,000.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651, vivian.reese@ed.gov, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov. or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements, contact Kathy Axt at (540) 776-7742 or via her internet address Kathy.Axt@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 02-5123 Filed 3-1-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Federal Interagency Coordinating Council; Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice describes the schedule and agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council (FICC). Notice of this meeting is intended to inform members of the general public of their opportunity to attend the meeting. The FICC will engage in ongoing policy discussions related to young children

with disabilities and their families. Childcare for young children with disabilities and their families will be the topic of this FICC meeting. The meeting will be open and accessible to the general public.

FICC committee meetings will be held on March 13, 2002 in the Mary E. Switzer Building, 330 C Street, SW., Washington, DC, 20202.

DATE AND TIME: FICC Meeting: Thursday, March 14, 2002 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Department of Education, Departmental Auditorium, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202 (near the Federal Center Southwest and L'Enfant metro stops).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bobbi Stettner-Eaton or Obral Vance, U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW., Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 205-5507 (press 3).

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call (202) 205-5637.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FICC is established under section 644 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1484a). The FICC is established to: (1) Minimize duplication across Federal, State, and local agencies of programs and activities relating to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families and preschool services for children with disabilities; (2) ensure effective coordination of Federal early intervention and preschool programs, including Federal technical assistance and support activities; and (3) identify gaps in Federal agency programs and services and barriers to Federal interagency cooperation. To meet these purposes, the FICC seeks to: (1) Identify areas of conflict, overlap, and omissions in interagency policies related to the provision of services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities; (2) develop and implement joint policy interpretations on issues related to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers that cut across Federal agencies, including modifications of regulations to eliminate barriers to interagency programs and activities; and (3) coordinate the provision of technical assistance and dissemination of best practice information. The FICC is chaired by Dr. Robert H. Pasternack, Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

Individuals who need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (i.e., interpreting services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format) should

notify Obral Vance at (202) 205-5507 (press 3) or (202) 205-5637 (TDD) ten days in advance of the meeting. The meeting location is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Summary minutes of the FICC meetings will be maintained and available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW., Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202, from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays, except Federal holidays.

Dated: February 26, 2002.

Loretta L. Petty,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 02-5110 Filed 3-1-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Energy Technology Laboratory; Notice of Availability of a Financial Assistance Solicitation

AGENCY: National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of availability of a financial assistance solicitation.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intent to issue Financial Assistance Solicitation No. DE-PS26-02NT41446 entitled "Development of Technologies and Capabilities for Natural Gas Infrastructure Reliability." This solicitation supports the Natural Gas Infrastructure Reliability product line which is part of the Department of Energy's Strategic Center for Natural Gas. This solicitation competitively seeks cost-shared applications for energy research and development (R&D) related activities that promote the efficient and sound production and use of fossil fuels (coal, natural gas, and oil). The primary purpose of the solicitation is to maintain and enhance the integrity and reliability of the natural gas transmission and distribution pipeline infrastructure. Research directed specifically towards expansion of the pipeline and major references to expansion will be discouraged.

DATES: Potential applicants are required to submit a brief, not to exceed seven pages, pre-application. The deadline for submissions of pre-applications and comprehensive applications will be identified in the solicitation. No comprehensive application will be evaluated unless a pre-application has been received and considered by the DOE. The review process for the pre-

applications will be limited to a programmatic review that will result in encouraging or discouraging submission of a comprehensive application. However, discouraged applicants are not prohibited from submitting full applications. A response to the pre-applications will be communicated to the applicant within two weeks after the closing date for the pre-application. All pre-applications must be submitted through the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) system in accordance with the instructions in the solicitation. The solicitation will be available on the "Industry Interactive Procurement System" (IIPS) webpage located at <http://e-center.doe.gov> on or about March 1, 2002. The deadline for submission of pre-applications and comprehensive applications will be identified in the solicitation. Applicants can obtain access to the solicitation from the address above or through DOE/NETL's website at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dona G. Sheehan, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, P.O. Box 10940, MS 921-107, Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940, E-mail Address: sheehan@netl.doe.gov, Telephone Number: 412/386-5918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In an effort to determine the needs of the gas infrastructure industry, NETL sponsored visioning and road mapping workshops allowing representatives from natural gas organizations and industries to define and prioritize research directions necessary to maintain and expand the natural gas infrastructure. The input from these workshops has been summarized in a report entitled "Pathways for Enhanced Integrity, Reliability and Deliverability" and is publicly available on the NETL Website at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/scng/publications/naturalg.pdf>. Applicants are encouraged to review the information contained in this document.

To support the pipeline infrastructure, NETL is requesting R&D applications which will result in the development of technology which supports the current and future natural gas infrastructure. The solicitation will focus on research in the following areas: (1) Transmission systems, (2) distribution systems and (3) technologies which clearly affect both areas. Applicants may propose research in any area which supports the industries needs; however, the proposed work must address, but not necessarily limited to, research needs identified in the visioning and road mapping workshops. In addition to the proposed

R&D effort, applicants will be required to include a discussion of the costs and benefits to ensure that the technology being developed has the potential to result in a useful commercial product which will be utilized by the natural gas infrastructure industry. DOE anticipates issuing cost-shared financial assistance (Cooperative Agreement) awards. DOE reserves the right to support or not support, with or without discussions, any or all applications received in whole or in part, and to determine how many awards will be made. Multiple awards are anticipated. Approximately \$1.5 million of DOE funding is planned.

Applications submitted by, or on behalf of: (1) Another Federal agency; (2) a Federally Funded Research and Development Center sponsored by another Federal agency; or (3) a Department of Energy (DOE) Management and Operating (M&O) contractor will not be eligible for an award under this solicitation. An application may include performance of work by a DOE M&O contractor but that work must not exceed 15% of the total contract value. If a project which includes National Laboratory participation is approved for funding, DOE intends to make an award to the applicant for its portion of the effort and to provide direct funding for the National Laboratories portion of the effort as a Field Work Proposal (FWP).

DOE has determined that a minimum cost share of 25 percent of the total project cost is required for this solicitation. Details of the cost sharing requirement and the specific funding levels will be contained in the solicitation.

Once released, the solicitation will be available for downloading from the IIPS Internet page. At this Internet site you will also be able to register with IIPS, enabling you to submit an application. If you need technical assistance in registering or for any other IIPS function, call the IIPS Help Desk at (800) 683-0751 or E-mail the Help Desk personnel at IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov. The solicitation will only be made available in IIPS, no hard (paper) copies of the solicitation and related documents will be made available.

Prospective applicants who would like to be notified as soon as the solicitation is available should register at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>. Once you subscribe, you will receive an announcement by E-mail that the solicitation has been released to the public. Telephone requests, written requests, E-mail requests, or facsimile requests for a copy of the solicitation package will not be accepted and/or

honored. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the solicitation. The actual solicitation document will allow for requests for explanation and/or interpretation.

Issued in Pittsburgh, PA, on February 21, 2002.

Dale A. Siciliano,

Deputy Director, Acquisition and Assistance Division.

[FR Doc. 02-5067 Filed 3-1-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Hanford

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

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

DATES: Thursday, April 4, 2002, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Friday, April 5, 2002, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Red Lion Hotel/Hanford House, 802 George Washington Way, Richland, WA (509-946-7611).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gail McClure, Public Involvement Program Manager, Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, P.O. Box 550 (A7-75), Richland, WA 99352; Phone: (509) 373-5647; Fax: (509) 376-1563.

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, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda

Thursday, April 4, 2002

- Introduction of Draft Advice on the Tri-Party Agreement Draft Change Package for the Central Plateau Project
- Introduction of Draft Advice on the Hanford Institutional Controls Plan
- Discussion of Top-to-Bottom Review and Introduction of Draft Advice
- Discussion on FY03 and FY04 Budgets
- Overview of Hanford Exposure Scenario (aka Ad Hoc Task Force) Workshop and Introduction of Draft Advice on the Risk Framework for the Central Plateau