

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1444). 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.

**Loretta L. Petty,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

[FR Doc. 02-11797 Filed 5-10-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education

**AGENCY:** President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of two forthcoming meetings of the President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education (Commission). This notice also describes the functions of the Commission. Notice of these meetings are required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and is intended to notify the public of their opportunity to attend.

**DATES:** May 30 and 31, 2002, June 12 and 13, 2002.

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

**ADDRESSES:** The two Commission meetings will be held in Washington, DC. However, the specific locations for each meeting are not now determined. The Commission will make the specific location for each meeting available on its website as soon as meeting space is secured.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** C. Todd Jones, Executive Director, or Troy R. Justesen, Deputy Executive Director, at (202) 208-1312. The fax number is (202) 208-1593 and e-mail address is [troy.justesen@ed.gov](mailto:troy.justesen@ed.gov) or via the Commission's web site at: <http://www.ed.gov/inits/commissionsboards/whspecialeducation/sitemap.html>

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Commission is established under Executive Order 13227 dated October 2, 2001. The Commission's function is to collect information and study issues related to Federal, State, and local special education programs with the goal of recommending policies for improving the educational performance of students with disabilities. In furtherance of its duties, the Commission shall invite experts and members of the public to provide information and guidance. The Commission shall prepare and submit a report to the President outlining its findings and recommendations.

Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (*e.g.*, interpreting services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format) should notify Troy R. Justesen, at (202) 219-0704, as soon as possible. Sign language interpreter services will be provided at all meetings. The meeting site will be accessible to individuals with mobility impairments, including those who use wheelchairs.

Unlike all other Commission meetings and hearings, these meetings will not provide a public comment period.

Records are kept of all Commission proceedings, and are available for public inspection at President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education, 80

F Street, NW, Suite 408, Washington, DC 20208 from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST). This notice will not meet the 15-day FACA requirement for announcing meetings in the **Federal Register**; however, a previous notice was printed indicating the date of the upcoming meeting. The notice gives the public more information about the agenda and actual location of the meeting that was not available at the first printing.

### Electronic Access to This Document

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[www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister](http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister)

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

**Note:** The official version of this document is the document 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>

**Robert H. Pasternack,**

*Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

[FR Doc. 02-11814 Filed 5-10-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-M**

## 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-PS26-02NT15375 entitled "Public Resources Invested in Management and Extraction (PRIME)." The Department of Energy (DOE) National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), on behalf of its National Petroleum Technology Office (NPTO), seeks applications for cost-shared long-term (7-10 years), high-risk research and development (R & D), including fundamental research and optimization of important, state-of-the art oil/gas technologies, for future applications on

domestic areas including on state and federal lands and waters. These longer-term, high-risk research activities emphasize new concepts and/or approaches that may lead to significant revolutionary (i.e., not evolutionary) advancements in the state-of-the-art oil/gas technology by reducing risks, costs, and environmental impacts associated with finding and producing U.S. petroleum resources. The projects in this program may be designed to yield specific solutions to exploration and production problems including issues of public lands, and allowing real returns from these lands and waters while preserving the Nation's asset.

The goal is to develop world class technologies that will provide the domestic industry a leadership role in discovery and the development of undiscovered or previously unattainable resources. This new initiative will focus longer-term fundamental R&D in the following three broad areas: (1) Oil and Gas Recovery Technology, (2) Advanced Drilling, Completion, Stimulation, and Operations (ADCS), or (3) Advanced Diagnostic and Imaging Systems (ADIS) and Reservoir Characterization.

**DATES:** The solicitation will be available on the DOE/NETL's Internet address at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business> and on the "Industry Interactive Procurement System" (IIPS) webpage located at <http://e-center.doe.gov> on or about May 31, 2002.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Keith R. Miles, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, P.O. Box 10940, MS 921-107, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, E-mail Address: [miles@netl.doe.gov](mailto:miles@netl.doe.gov), Telephone Number: 412-386-5984.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory's Fossil Energy—Oil and Gas Program plans to initiate a fundamental research and development (R&D) program (PRIME) in exploration and production technologies during FY-2002. This new initiative differs from the current Fossil Energy—Oil and Gas Program in that it stresses high-risk research that may require multiple years to develop from the concept phase. Such R&D activities warrant the longer-term investment of resources from which one to several breakthroughs may result in significant advancements in our understanding and subsequent development in technologies applicable to petroleum exploration and production.

The three areas of interest for this solicitation are:

#### **Area of Interest 1—Oil and Gas Recovery Technology**

The production research program has historically targeted oil reservoirs that contain around 200 billion barrels of oil that are potentially recoverable by conventional Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) methods. This program has been subdivided into the areas, (1) chemical methods, (2) gas flooding, (3) microbial methods, (4) heavy oil recovery, (5) novel methods, and (6) reservoir simulation. Each area addresses one or more specific portions of the resource base.

However, new technologies and concepts are being developed so there may be new areas that do not fit into the present EOR methods. This initiative is to focus on new technologies with longer-term R&D potential (recovery processes which are only at the concept stage), which may help recover additional oil but are currently outside the traditional methods.

#### **Area of Interest 2—Advanced Drilling, Completion, Stimulation, and Operations (ADCS)**

Currently producers and service providers in the oil and gas industry are being asked to reach deeper depths with a minimum of damage to the producing formation and at a cost well below traditional methods. What the industry needs is safe, lower cost drilling systems whose use can be considered value added and not simply a cost to the project. Technology that increases the ultimate production and creates access to the remote sites with a minimum disturbance and have the ability to drill and complete wells while protecting the environment is essential in the effort to develop remote areas.

DOE is looking for projects with the potential to create technological breakthroughs and surmount the current barriers to drilling and production. Projects should use an integrated system approach to the problems. The needs identified as high priority by a group of industry and research representatives in the ADCS area are:

- Miniaturization and materials development—The operational and mobilization costs associated with drilling and completion must be reduced significantly without sacrificing any performance. It will be necessary to develop beyond our current capabilities in the offshore and deep onshore to access the deeper targets economically and also to reduce the exploration costs. Research to improved performance and reliability must increase radically in order to reach some targets. DOE is accepting proposals for revolutionary

development that would come into use after 2010. Such breakthroughs could lead to reductions in mobilization costs and increase the economics of a prospect. This may be achieved through breakthroughs in the following areas:

- (1) Materials development that would allow the design of lighter, yet robust systems for drilling and operations.

- (2) Miniaturization without loss of performance or reliability would effectively reduce space and weight requirements so critical to remote locations and ultra-deep offshore development and exploration.

- Fluid/flow identification—It is critical to identify flow and fluids the horizontal leg of a well and in multi-lateral wells. The need for "smart pipes" and robust diverse sensors are suitable for such work. In particular, the identification must be in space. Parameters could include pressure, temperature, density, specific gravity, flow rate, flow volume, acoustics, orientation, motion or vibration, electrical or acoustical conductivity, radioactivity, and chemical composition.

- Separation technology—Downhole separation technology along with seafloor separation technology will be critical to the offshore industry and reduce the costs associated with produced water and waste issues. The technology has not advanced to fully address multi-lateral well designs or separation in the horizontal leg of a well. Proposals are sought for two topics in this area:

- (1) Issues related to downhole separation—Radical design of downhole separation technology is critical to handle higher flow rates, fit into 8" diameter and less wells, operate effectively at high water cuts, be able to handle solids, maintain better separation efficiency and high product quality.

- (2) Subsea separation—The separation technology suitable to reduce cost associated with water lifting to the surface and address the associated disposal issues could create economic targets offshore that are currently marginal. Significant breakthroughs in this area are sought.

#### **Area of Interest 3—Advanced Diagnostic and Imaging Systems (ADIS) and Reservoir Characterization**

High risk, long term new research applications are solicited for finding new domestic oil/gas reserves. The research may be focused to develop innovative geologic system models and exploration concepts for analysis of U.S. basins for new and overlooked fairways (field-to-basin scales).

The potential is focused on the development and application of new geoscientific and engineering concepts in high oil/gas potential basins on public lands and waters. Technology is needed to increase accuracy and resolution of seismic and other geological and geophysical methods. New methodology is solicited for interpretation and integration of multiple technology, and data sets into refined geologic and engineering models that guide discovery of new oil reserves, oil field development, and management for maximum economic oil recovery.

DOE currently has available \$3.5 million for this Program Solicitation (PS) and the proposed budget for this program over 5 years is \$23.5 million of DOE support. The total program of PRIME may be \$30 million for a period of 7–10 years. It is anticipated that between 10–20 cost-shared awards, with a *total* project value estimated at \$1.0 million to \$1.5 million each (i.e., DOE share of project costs estimated at between \$750K–\$1,000K), will be made under this solicitation. The applicant must cost share a minimum of 20% of the total project cost. Projects must be structured with two (2) phases (i.e., Budget Periods) which include: idea and/or concept development (Budget Period 1) and initiation of proof-of-concept activities (Budget Period 2).

The research conducted in this program will provide support for foundation-building R&D in universities and the national laboratories and maintain the leadership of the United States in oil and gas technologies. It is envisioned that a teaming of expertise from academic, private research organizations, state and federal agencies in collaboration with industry may be needed to focus efforts on overcoming key scientific and engineering hurdles. 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 Operating (M&O) contractor will not be eligible for award under this solicitation. However, an application that includes performance of a portion of the work by a DOE National Laboratory and/or M&O contractor will be evaluated and may be considered for award subject to the provisions to be set forth in Program Solicitation DE–PS26–02NT15375. (**Note:** The limit on participation by a National Laboratory and/or M&O contractor for an individual project under this solicitation cannot exceed 25% of the total project cost).

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 subscribe to the Business Alert Mailing List 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 May 3, 2002.

**Dale A. Siciliano,**

*Deputy Director, Acquisition and Assistance Division.*

[FR Doc. 02–11915 Filed 5–10–02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450–01–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–PS26–02NT41488 entitled Gas Storage Program. The Department of Energy's (DOE's) National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), through the Strategic Center for Natural Gas (SCNG), is conducting this solicitation to competitively seek cost-shared applications for research and technology development efforts to enhance operational flexibility and deliverability of the Nation's gas storage system, and provide a cost-effective, safe, and reliable supply of natural gas

to meet demand in new and expanded market regions.

**DATES:** The solicitation will be available on the "Industry Interactive Procurement System" (IIPS) Web page located at <http://e-center.doe.gov> on or about May 8, 2002. Applicants can obtain access to the solicitation from the address above or through DOE/NETL's Web site at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Debra A. Duncan, MS 921–107, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, 626 Cochran's Mill Road, P.O. Box 10940, Pittsburgh, PA 15236–0940, E-mail Address: [duncan@netl.doe.gov](mailto:duncan@netl.doe.gov), Telephone Number: 412–386–5700.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gas Storage Program supports the Strategic Center for Natural Gas' 2020 Vision of the U.S. public enjoying benefits (affordable supply, reliable delivery, and environmental protection) from an increase in gas use. Most natural gas consumed in the U.S. is not produced in the areas where it is most needed. To get gas to the customers, the Nation uses 1.5 million miles of natural gas pipelines capable of moving 111 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of gas daily. However, the amount of gas needed varies at time scales much shorter than can be accommodated by the production and pipeline systems. In general, demand varies seasonally, but the exact timing and magnitude of peak demand is largely determined by the weather, and is therefore unpredictable. As a result, gas is injected into more than 400 storage reservoirs, located near the points of demand, each year from April through October. Roughly 3.8 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of storage gas is available to help meet peak demands. Pipelines and storage work together to comprise a natural gas distribution system that efficiently balances the need for steady year-round production with seasonal variation in use.

All projections of the Nation's near-term energy future call for increased use of natural gas. Gas consumption, now roughly 22 Tcf per year, could grow to more than 30 Tcf per year by 2015. As much as 50 percent of the new gas demand will come from the electric-generation sector, as new plants capitalize on the economic and environmental benefits of gas. This expansion in both the volume and nature of gas use will place significant new burdens on the Nation's pipeline and gas storage systems. These challenges require significant investment in R&D at a time when the gas industry is focusing on reducing