

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/208,731 filed 29 Jul 2002, allowed (HHS Reference No. E-122-1997/0-US-04) *Licensing Contact:* Marlene Astor; 301/435-4426; *shinnm@mail.nih.gov*

Niemann-Pick disease is a class of inherited lipid storage diseases. Niemann-Pick Type C disease is an autosomal recessive neurovisceral lipid storage disorder which leads to systemic and neurological abnormalities including ataxia, seizures, and loss of speech. Patients with the disease typically die as children. The biochemical hallmark of Niemann-Pick Type C cells is the abnormal accumulation of unesterified cholesterol in lysosomes, which results in the delayed homeostatic regulation of both uptake and esterification of low density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol. Niemann-Pick Type C is characterized by phenotypic variability. The disease appears at random in families that have no history of the disorder, making diagnosis problematic. This invention provides the human gene for Niemann-Pick Type C disease and the nucleic acid sequences corresponding to the human gene for Niemann-Pick Type C disease. Also provided is the mouse homolog of the human gene. The invention could lead to improved diagnosis and the design of therapies for the disease and improved means of detection of carriers of the gene. In addition, this invention may contribute to the understanding and development of treatments for atherosclerosis, a more common disorder associated with cholesterol buildup that involves the accumulation of fatty tissue inside arteries that blocks blood flow, leading to heart disease and stroke. The invention may also lead to additional discoveries concerning how cholesterol is processed in the body.

This invention is described, in part, in: S.K. Loftus et al., "Murine model of Niemann-Pick C disease: Mutation in a cholesterol homeostasis gene," *Science* 277(5323):232-235, 1997; S.K. Loftus et al., "Rescue of neurodegeneration in Niemann Pick-C mice by a prion-promoter driven Npc1 cDNA transgene," *Human Molec. Genet.* 11(24):3107-14, 2002.

The NHGRI Genetic Disease Research Branch is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate or commercialize Niemann-Pick Type C disease diagnostics and therapies as well as potential applications of the Niemann-Pick Type C gene related to atherosclerosis and cholesterol processing. Please contact Claire T.

Driscoll for more information (telephone: 301/594-2235; e-mail: *cdriscoll@mail.nih.gov*).

Dated: February 10, 2006.

Steven M. Ferguson,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. E6-2363 Filed 2-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Prospective Grant of Exclusive License: Device for Cell Culturing, Monitoring and Containment

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is notice, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c)(1) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services, is contemplating the grant of an exclusive worldwide license to practice the invention embodied in: E-171-2002, "Cell Culturing and Storage Systems, Devices and Methods" U.S. Patent Application 10/334,565 filed December 30, 2002; European Patent Application 03808601.3; rights are also pending in Canada and Australia; to KW Company, LLC, a New York company having its headquarters in Woodstock, New York. The United States of America is the assignee of the patent rights of the above invention. The contemplated exclusive license may be granted in the field of sales of devices for cell culturing, monitoring and containment.

DATES: Only written comments and/or applications for a license received by the NIH Office of Technology Transfer on or before April 24, 2006 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: Michael A. Shmilovich, Esq., Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, MD 20852-3804; Telephone: (301) 435-5019; Facsimile: (301) 402-0220; E-mail: *shmilovm@mail.nih.gov*. A signed confidentiality nondisclosure agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The patent applications intended for licensure disclose and/or cover the following:

E-171-2002/0, "Cell Culturing and Storage Systems, Devices and Methods;"

The invention pertains to a closed chamber that provides an environment for long-term culture of cells such as stems cells of central nervous system (CNS) origin, embryonic stem cells, and other cells. The chamber is designed with top and bottom mounted cover slips that permit the observation of cells in culture under an optical microscope. This chamber has the ability to control volume and pressure of liquids and gases by an inlet tube and outlet tubes at two different vertical positions. The chamber also includes a ball joint assembly that allows for the manipulation of a glass microcapillary/microelectrode to come in close contact with the developing cells. This microcapillary/microelectrode assembly can be used to either administer growth factors (e.g., monitoring growth factor levels such as BMP and CNTF) and also for electrical recording from the cells.

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 sixty (60) 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 contemplated 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: February 10, 2006.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. E6-2360 Filed 2-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5037-N-08]

Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB; Universities Rebuilding America Partnerships: Community Design Program

AGENCY: Office of the Chief Information Officer, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

Information provided will allow public or private accredited nonprofit institutions of higher education granting associate degrees or higher in architecture, urban planning and design, or construction to establish and operate partnerships with and for communities affect by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita or both. Information will enable HUD to select a grantee under a competitive selection process.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* March 23, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB approval Number (2528-0241) and should be sent to: HUD Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503; fax: 202-395-6974.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lillian Deitzer, Reports Management Officer, AYO, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410; e-mail Lillian Deitzer at *Lillian_L_Deitzer@HUD.gov* or telephone (202) 708-2374. This is not a toll-free number. Copies of available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Deitzer.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that the Department of Housing and Urban Development has submitted to OMB a request for approval of the information collection described below. This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affecting agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the

burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Universities Rebuilding America Partnerships: Community Design Program.

OMB Approval Number: 2528-0241.

Form Numbers: SF-424, SF-424-Supplement, HUD-424-CB, SF-LLL, HUD-27300, HUD-2880, HUD-96010.

Description of the Need for the Information and Its Proposed Use: Information provided will allow public or private accredited nonprofit institutions of higher education granting associate degrees or higher in architecture, urban planning and design, or construction to establish and operate partnerships will and for communities affect by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita or both. Information will enable HUD to select a grantee under a competitive selection process.

Frequency of Submission: Semi-annually, Annually.

	Number of respondents	×	Annual responses	×	Hours per response	=	Burden hours
Reporting Burden	20		2.5		44.8		2,240

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 2,240.

Status: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Authority: Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 35, as amended.

Dated: February 13, 2006.

Lillian L. Deitzer,

Departmental Paperwork Reduction Act Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-2358 Filed 2-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Draft Safe Harbor Agreement and Application for an Enhancement of Survival Permit for the Ocelot in South Texas

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Environmental Defense, Inc. (ED) (Applicant) has applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an enhancement of survival permit under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended. The requested permit, which is for a period of 30 years, would authorize the Applicant to issue certificates of inclusion under a Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) to private landowners who would voluntarily agree to carry out habitat improvements for the Texas ocelot subspecies (*Leopardus pardalis albescens*). We invite the public to review and comment on the permit application and the associated draft SHA.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before March 23, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the application, draft SHA, or other related documents may obtain a copy by written or telephone request to Robyn Cobb, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, c/o TAMU-CC, 6300 Ocean Drive, USFWS-Unit 5837, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5837 (361/994-9005). The

application will also be available for public inspection, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the Service's Corpus Christi Office. Comments concerning the application, draft SHA, or other related documents should be submitted in writing to the Field Supervisor at the above address. Please refer to permit number TE-117030-0 when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become a part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robyn Cobb at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Corpus Christi Office, c/o TAMU-CC, 6300 Ocean Drive, USFWS-Unit 5837, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5837 (361/994-9005).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The ocelot was listed as endangered throughout its entire range in 1982. However, this action is proposed for the Texas ocelot subspecies, whose range included much of south, central, and east Texas, and into western Louisiana and Arkansas, as well as much of northern Mexico east of