

instructional staff in two ways—allowing comparisons to be made over time and examining critical issues surrounding faculty that have developed since the first two studies. This clearance request covers field test and full scale activities for the second phase of the study—collection of information from a nationally representative sample of faculty and instructional staff at postsecondary institutions. This information, together with information collected in the first phase of the study (1850-0665) on the institutions themselves, will provide a source of descriptive, analytical, trend and policy relevant research on the way postsecondary education functions.

Office of the Under Secretary

Type of Review: NEW.

Title: Guidance for Reporting on Waivers Granted by the U.S. Department of Education.

Frequency: Annually.

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

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 20.

Burden Hours: 100.

Abstract: The Department is required by statute to collect reports from state education agencies on the uses of waivers in their states. The purpose of this guidance is to assist states in meeting the statutory requirements. Information from this collection will be used to monitor the progress of waiver recipients in improving teaching and learning and to inform the Department's annual report to Congress on waivers. [FR Doc. 97-31495 Filed 12-1-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Idaho Operations Office; Notice of Intent To Solicit Comments for Financial Assistance Awards

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of intent to solicit comments for financial assistance awards.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Geothermal Technologies, Advanced Drilling Systems Research Program, via the Idaho Operations Office (DOE-ID), is soliciting comments on its draft solicitation for cost-shared cooperative agreements, industry-government Research & Development projects to develop advanced drilling technologies and transfer the results to industry. These new developments can then be

used by the U.S. geothermal industry to solve technical problems.

Comments regarding the draft solicitation are welcome from potential developers, owners and operators of geothermal facilities, including utilities, as well as from manufacturers, universities, and other non-industry groups.

DATES: Comments to the draft solicitation should be sent to the point of contact shown below by January 8, 1998. A copy of the draft solicitation in its full text can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.inel.gov/doi/solicit.html> under Current Solicitations.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding the draft solicitation or requests to be placed on the final solicitation mailing list shall be submitted in writing to: Ms. Peggy Brookshier, U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, 850 Energy Drive, Mail Stop 1220, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563, e-mail: brookspa@inel.gov, Tele: (208) 526-1403, Fax: (208) 526-5964.

It is the agency preference that all submitted comments be received by e-mail. All written comment responses must include name, title, organization, address, phone number, fax number, e-mail address.

A **Federal Register** notice soliciting applications will be published at a later date upon issuance of the final solicitation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael K. Barrett, Contracting Officer at (208) 526-5743 or Peggy Brookshier, Program Manager at (208) 526-1403; U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, 850 Energy Drive, Mail Stop 1221, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The solicitation will be issued pursuant to 10 CFR 600.6(a) with no eligibility restrictions. The statutory authority for the issuance of this solicitation is Pub. L. 93-410, the Geothermal Energy Research, Development & Demonstration Act of 1974. The catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 81.087.

This notice is also intended to promote the formation of industry partnerships, to stimulate interaction among potential participants, and to encourage organizations to investigate creative solutions. Funding for phase I will be available to support several awards for a period of approximately six to twelve months. Funding for phase II will be available to support one or more awards, for a period of 12-24 months. Applications may include Federally Funded Research and Development

Centers, but only as lower tier participants with funding for their expected costs provided through their existing arrangements with the Government.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE FINAL ISSUANCE OF THE SOLICITATION. PLEASE DO NOT SEND APPLICATIONS AT THIS TIME.

Issued in Idaho Falls, ID, November 24, 1997.

B.G. Bauer,

Acting Director, Procurement Services Division.

[FR Doc. 97-31555 Filed 12-1-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Revised Draft Request for Proposals for Waste Acceptance and Transportation Services

AGENCY: Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Request for Comments on a Revised Draft Request for Proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) is responsible under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended (NWPAct), for accepting and transporting spent nuclear fuel (SNF) from commercial nuclear reactor sites to a federal facility for storage or disposal. The Standard Contract for Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and/or High-Level Radioactive Waste (10 CFR part 961) details the arrangements between the Department of Energy (DOE) and the owners and generators of SNF (Purchasers) for the Department to accept the SNF at the Purchasers' sites for transport to a federal facility. Section 137(a)(2) of the NWPAct requires the utilization of private industry to the "fullest extent possible" in the transportation of SNF.

OCRWM anticipates seeking competitive proposals for commercial SNF acceptance and transportation services, including the provision of storage equipment, in accordance with the final version of this revised draft Request for Proposals (RFP). In May 1996, OCRWM published in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 26508) and the *Commerce Business Daily*, a Request for Expression of Interest and Comments on a previous draft Statement of Work for these services. In July 1996, comments were received from interested parties at a presolicitation conference. In December 1996, OCRWM issued a draft