Nation's goal of ensuring a future supply of fossil fuel scientists and engineers from a previously underutilized resource.

Eligibility. Eligibility for participation in this Program Solicitation is restricted to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Other Minority Institutions (OMI) recognized by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Department of Education, and identified on the OCR's United States Department of Education list of U.S. Accredited Postsecondary Minority Institutions list in effect on the closing date of the program solicitation. Applications submitted by any institution not on OCR's aforementioned list are ineligible for technical evaluation and award. For information regarding the qualification criteria and process of becoming recognized by the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights as a "Minority Institution", institutions should contact the Education Department directly at the following address: Mr. Peter A. McCabe, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Washington DC 20202, Telephone (202) 205–9567. Note: The Education Department should only be contacted on matters related to Institutional status; questions regarding the Program Solicitation should be directed to Mr. Columbia at DOE by telefacsimile on (412) 892-6216.

Applications from HBCU/OMIaffiliated research institutes must be submitted through the college or university with which they are affiliated. The university (not the university-affiliated research institute) will be the recipient of any resultant DOE grant award. Applications submitted in response to the solicitation must meet the following two criteria: the Principal Investigator or a Co-Principal Investigator must be a teaching professor at the submitting university listed in the application; and at least one student registered at the university is to be compensated for a significant portion of the work performed in the conduct of research proposed in the application. Although it is not required as an application qualification criterion, collaboration with the private sector is encouraged, and applications proposing private sector collaboration may be evaluated more favorably. The solicitation will contain a complete description of the technical evaluation factors and relative importance of each factor. Collaboration by the private sector with the HBCU/

OMI may be in the form of cash cost sharing, consultation, HBCU/OMI access to industrial facilities or equipment, experimental data and/or equipment not available at the university, or as a subgrantee/ subcontractor to the HBCU/OMI.

*Areas of Interest.* In order to develop and sustain a national program of HBCU/OMI research in advanced and fundamental fossil fuel studies, the Department is interested in innovative research and development of advanced concepts pertinent to fossil fuel conversion and utilization limited to the following seven (7) technical topics:

Topic 1—Advanced Environmental Control Technology for Coal Topic 2—Advanced Coal Utilization Topic 3—Coal Liquefaction Technology Topic 4—Heavy Oil Upgrading and Processing

Topic 5—Advanced Environmental and Recovery Technologies for Oil

Topic 6—Natural Gas Supply, Storage, and Processing

Topic 7—Faculty/Student Exploratory Grants

**Note:** This is the *only* topic (Topic seven (7)) under this Program Solicitation wherein the inclusion or exclusion of private sector collaboration will not affect the technical evaluation of the application.

Awards. DOE anticipates issuing financial assistance (grants) for each project selected. DOE reserves the right to support or not support any or all applications received in whole or in part, and to determine how many awards may be made through the solicitation subject to funds available in this fiscal year. The limitation on the maximum DOE funding for each selected grant to be awarded under this Program Solicitation is as follows:

	Maximum award
Topics 1–6:	
To 12 months grant duration	\$85,000.00
13—24 months grant dura- tion	450.000.00
tion 25—36 months grant dura-	150,000.00
tion	200,000.00
Topic 7:	
To 12 months grant duration	15,000.00

Approximately \$850,000 is planned for this solicitation. The total should provide support for four to eight R&D application selections (Topics 1–6), and approximately two to four faculty/student exploratory application selections (Topic 7). Solicitation Release Date. The Program Solicitation is expected to be ready for release on or about November 7, 1997. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the Program Solicitation. To be eligible, applications must be *Received* by the designated DOE office by the closing time and date specified in the Program Solicitation (anticipated to be on or about December 19, 1997, at 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time).

## Dale A. Siciliano,

Contracting Officer, Acquisition and Assistance Division. [FR Doc. 97–29004 Filed 10–31–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### Office of Fossil Energy

[FE Docket Nos. 97–47–NG; 95–36–NG; 97– 60–NG; 92–154–NG; 91–57–NG; 97–61–NG; 97–62–NG; 93–40–NG; 95–66–NG; 97–65– NG; 97–66–NG]

Inland Pacific Resources Inc. (Successor to Inland Pacific Energy Services Corp.); Columbia Energy Services Corporation Successor to PennUnion Energy Services, L.L.C.); **Barrett Resources Corporation; Gas** Company of New Mexico; Duke Energy LNG Sales, Inc.; (Formerly PanEnergy LNG Sales, Inc.); Public Service Company of New Mexico; Amoco Energy Trading Corporation; El Paso **Energy Marketing Company (Formerly** El Paso Gas Marketing Company); PG&E Texas Industrial Energy, L.P. (Formerly Valero Industrial Gas, L.P.; PG&E Texas Industrial Energy, L.P.; **Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line** Company; Orders Granting, **Transferring and Vacating Blanket** Authorizations to Import and/or Export Natural Gas

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE. **ACTION:** Notice of orders.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy gives notice that it has issued Orders authorizing, transferring and/or vacating various imports and/or exports of natural gas. These Orders are summarized in the attached appendix.

These Orders are available for inspection and copying in the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Docket Room, 3F–056, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586–9478. The Docket Room is open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 27, 1997

### Wayne E. Peters,

Manager, Natural Gas Regulation Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Office of Fossil Energy.

# APPENDIX.—BLANKET IMPORT/EXPORT AUTHORIZATIONS GRANTED

[DOE/FE Authority]

	Date		Two-year maximum		
Order No.	Issued	Importer/Exporter FE Docket No.	Import volume	Export volume	Comments
1284–A	09/08/97	Inland Pacific Resources Inc. (Successor to Inland Pa- cific Energy Services Corp.) 97–47–NG.			Transfer of authority.
1055–A	09/09/97	Columbia Energy Services Corporation (Successor to PennUnion Energy Services, L.L.C.) 95–36–NG.			Transfer of authority.
1298	09/15/97	Barrett Resources Corporation 97-60-NG	109.5 Bcf		Import from Canada.
930–A	09/16/97	Gas Company of New Mexico 92–154–NG			Vacate.
569–B	09/15/97	Duke Energy LNG Sales, Inc. (Formerly PanEnergy LNG Sales, Inc.) 91–57–NG.			Name change.
1299	09/16/97	Public Service Company of New Mexico 97-61-NG	300 Bcf	300 Bcf	Import up to a combined total from Canada and Mexico. Ex- port up to a combined total to Canada and Mexico.
1300	09/19/97	Amoco Energy Trading Corporation 97–62–NG		300 Bcf	Export to Mexico.
801–A	09/30/97	El Paso Energy Marketing Company (Formerly El Paso Gas Marketing Company) 93–40–NG.			Vacate.
1084–A	09/30/97	PG&E Texas Industrial Energy, L.P. (Formerly Valero In- dustrial Gas, L.P.) 95–66–NG.			Name change.
1301	09/30/97	PG&E Texas Industrial Energy, L.P. 97-65-NG	300	Bcf	Import and export up to a com- bined total from and to Mexico.
1302	09/30/97	Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company 97-66-NG	5 Bcf	5 Bcf	Export domestic gas to Canada for reimport into the United States.

[FR Doc. 97–29002 Filed 10–31–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## Office of Fossil Energy

[FE Docket Nos. 97–58–NG; 97–57–NG; 97– 55–NG; 96–67–NG; 97–56–NG; 97–59–NG]

MC<sup>2</sup>, Inc.; CMS Marketing, Services and Trading Company; ONXY Gas Marketing Company, L.C., Duke Energy Trading and Marketing, L.L.C. (Formerly PanEnergy Trading and Marketing Services, L.L.C.), Conoco Inc.; Valero Gas Marketing, L.P.; Orders Granting, Transferring and Vacating Blanket Authorizations To Import and/or Export Natural Gas

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Orders.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy gives notice that it has issued Orders authorizing, transferring and/or vacating various imports and/or exports of natural gas. These Orders are summarized in the attached appendix.

These Orders are available for inspection and copying in the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Docket Room, 3F–056, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586–9478. The Docket Room is open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 27, 1997.

### Wayne E. Peters,

Manager, Natural Gas Regulation, Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Office of Fossil Energy.

Attachment.

[DOE/FE Authority]

Order No.	Date is- sued	Importer/Exporter FE Docket No.	Two-year maximum		
			Import volume	Export volume	Comments
1293 1294	08/18/97 08/18/97	MC <sup>2</sup> , Inc. 97–58–NG CMS Marketing, Services and Trading Company 97–57– NG.	600 Bcf 140 Bcf	 140 Bcf	Import from Canada. Import/export from and to Can- ada.