

invited to submit comments on or before July 15, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments regarding the emergency review should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Desk Officer: Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget; 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the Internet address [Lauren\\_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Lauren_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. ED invites public comment. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: May 10, 2002.

**Joseph Schubart,**

*Acting Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

#### Office of Postsecondary Education

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program.

*Abstract:* The information is required of institutions of higher education designated as Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Qualified Graduate Programs. Title III, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. This information will be used for the evaluation process to determine whether proposed activities are consistent with the legislation and to determine dollar share of congressional appropriation.

*Additional Information:* Administrative requirements have forced this collection to be processed under an emergency schedule. Public comments are due to OMB by May 29, 2002. The regular, three-year clearance public comments are due to the Department of Education by July 29, 2002.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 117.

Burden Hours: 2,106.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 1576. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address [vivan.reese@ed.gov](mailto:vivan.reese@ed.gov). Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address [OCIO\\_RIMG@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements, contact Joseph Schubart at (202) 708-9266 or via his Internet address [Joe.Schubart@ed.gov](mailto:Joe.Schubart@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.

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#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Number DE-PS36-02GO92008]

#### Solicitation for Financial Assistance Applications; Inventions and Innovation Program

**AGENCY:** Golden Field Office, Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation for financial assistance applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy's Office of Industrial Technologies (OIT) is funding a competitive grant program entitled the Inventions and Innovation (I&I) Program. The goals of the I&I Program are to improve energy efficiency through the promotion of innovative ideas and inventions that have a significant, potential energy impact and a potential, future commercial market. The following mission focus industries, comprised of the most energy intensive industries in the U.S. manufacturing sector, are of particular interest to the Program: Agriculture, Aluminum, Chemicals, Forest products, Glass, Metal-casting, Mining, Petroleum, and Steel. Category 1 and category 2 applications are open to all the mission focus industries and the building, transportation, and power sectors.

**DATES:** DOE issued the solicitation on April 29, 2002. The deadline for receipt of applications is 3 p.m. Mountain Time on June 28, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** All Golden Field Office (GO) solicitations will be posted on the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) Web Site at <http://e-center.doe.gov>; however, you may access them, along with IIPS instructions, through links on the GO Web Site at: <http://www.golden.doe.gov/businessopportunities.html> by clicking on "Solicitations." IIPS provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial assistance applications, and evaluating the applications in a paperless environment. Completed applications are required to be submitted via IIPS. Individuals who have the authority to enter their company into a legally binding contract/agreement and intend to submit proposals/applications via the IIPS system must register and receive confirmation that they are registered prior to being able to submit an application on the IIPS system.

Questions regarding the operation of IIPS may be e-mailed to the IIPS Help Desk at [IIPS\\_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov](mailto:IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov) or call the help desk at (800) 683-0751.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Margo Gorin, Contract Specialist, at [go\\_1&1@nrel.gov](mailto:go_1&1@nrel.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Solicitation Specifications**

Eligibility requirements include the following: (1) Individuals that are U.S. citizens, either native-born or naturalized; (2) small businesses (as defined by the Small Business Administration) that are U.S. owned, as defined in 10 CFR Part 600.501; or (3) institutions of higher learning located in the U.S. Individual inventors and very small businesses (15 or fewer employees) are especially encouraged to participate. More than one application may be submitted by an applicant for different innovations. However, funding will be limited to one award per applicant, per cycle. Also more than one organization may be involved in an application as long as the lead organization and lead financial assistance management responsibilities are defined. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number assigned to the I&I Program is 81.036. Cost sharing by applicants and/or cooperating participants is not required but highly encouraged. In addition to direct financial contributions, cost sharing can include beneficial services or items such as manpower, equipment, consultants, and computer time that are allowable in accordance with applicable cost principles.

The Golden Field Office has been assigned the responsibility of issuing the solicitation and administering the awards. Ideas that have a significant energy savings impact and future commercial market potential are chosen for financial support through the competitive solicitation process. The I&I Program will provide financial assistance of up to \$40,000 for Category 1 and up to \$200,000 for Category 2 to applications that fall within the "conceptual" and "developmental" stages of development, respectively. To be considered for a Category 2 award, a bench-scale model and/or other preliminary investigations must be complete. Each award may cover a project period of up to one year for Category 1 and up to two years for Category 2. In addition to financial assistance, the I&I Program offers technical guidance and commercialization support to successful applicants through the Resource Centers for Innovation (RCI).

A selection of former projects funded by the I&I Program that have reached commercial markets include the following:

- Meta-Lax Stress Relief Equipment offers distinct advantages over conventional heat treatment methods. It uses less energy, is portable, can handle any size metal part, and treats metal stress in hours versus days.
- Aero Cylinder Technology replaces conventional cylinders by combining air spring bellows into assemblies for use on machines (such as punch presses) to control motion and large masses. The air springs act as counter balancers and press cushioners to eliminate alignment problems. This proper alignment reduces downtime and compressed air losses, resulting in significant energy savings.
- Electro-Optic Inspection of Heat Exchangers is a laser-based, nondestructive evaluation system for inspecting heat exchanger tubing for internal corrosion, erosion, scale buildup, and deformation. Benefits to petrochemical, pulp and paper, and power-generation plants include reduced downtime and increased efficiency.
- Hydrodynamic Multi-Deflection Pad Bearings optimize bearing operation in high-speed, combined heat and power turbines, high-load electric motors or gear boxes, air or gas compressors, and air conditioning refrigeration equipment. Energy loss due to friction is reduced up to forty-percent by using fluids as a wedge between pads and moving parts.

**Availability of Funds for FY 2003**

DOE is announcing the availability of up to \$2.7 million dollars in agreement funds for Fiscal Year 2003. The awards will be made through a competitive solicitation. DOE reserves the right to fund in whole or in part any, all, or none of the proposals submitted in response to this notice.

Issued in Golden, Colorado on April 29, 2002.

**Matthew A. Barron,**

*Acting Director, Office of Acquisition and Financial Assistance, Golden Field Office.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**[Number DE-PS36-02GO92009]**

**Solicitation for Financial Assistance Applications; National Industrial Competitiveness Through Energy, Environment, and Economics (NICE<sup>3</sup>) Program**

**AGENCY:** Golden Field Office, Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation for financial assistance applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy's Office of Industrial Technologies (OIT) is funding a competitive grant program entitled the National Industrial Competitiveness Through Energy, Environment, and Economics (NICE<sup>3</sup>) Program. The goal of the NICE<sup>3</sup> Program is to advance U.S. competitiveness through commercial demonstration of energy efficient and clean production manufacturing and industrial technologies in industry. This is accomplished by providing cost-shared, financial assistance to state and industry partnerships. The following focus industries, which are the dominant energy users and waste generators in the U.S. manufacturing sector, are of particular interest to the DOE program: agriculture, aluminum, chemicals, forest products, glass, metal-casting, mining, petroleum, and steel.

**DATES:** DOE issued the solicitation on May 1, 2002. The deadline for receipt of applications is 3:00 pm Mountain Time on June 28, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** The formal solicitation document will be disseminated electronically as Solicitation Number DE-PS36-02GO92009, National Industrial Competitiveness Through Energy, Environment, and Economics (NICE<sup>3</sup>) Program. Access DOE Golden Field Office Home Page at <http://www.golden.doe.gov/businessopportunities.html>, click on "Solicitations", and then access the solicitation number. The Golden Home Page will also provide instructions on registering and submitting applications in the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) web site. The Solicitation can also be obtained directly through IIPS at <http://e-center.doe.gov> by browsing opportunities by Contracting Activity. DOE will not issue paper copies of the solicitation. IIPS provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial assistance applications, and evaluating the applications in a paperless environment. Completed applications are required to be submitted via IIPS. Individuals who have the authority to