DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 27, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Karen Lee, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Karen_F.Lee@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. 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 Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. 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. OMB invites public comment.


S.K. Melancon,
Paralegal Specialist, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Nuclear Security Administration; Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Program


ACTION: Notice of intent to solicit applications.

SUMMARY: In continuation of the Inertial Fusion Science in Support of Stockpile Stewardship Grant Program, the DOE announces that it plans to expand this university program and conduct a competitive solicitation for research projects in additional areas of fundamental science relevant to the NNSA stockpile stewardship program. The stockpile stewardship program is based on a leading-edge scientific approach to meeting the challenges of ensuring the safety, reliability, and performance of the nuclear weapon stockpile in the absence of testing. The Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Program is sponsored by the Office of Research, Development and Simulation, in the DOE/NNSA Office of Defense Programs (DP). When issued, Solicitation No. DE–PS03–01SF22349 will invite universities and academic institutions to submit cooperative agreement or research grant applications. The total amount of funding expected to be available for the Fiscal Year 2002 (FY02) program cycle is approximately $10,000,000. Multiple awards are anticipated.

ADDRESSES: The formal solicitation document will be disseminated electronically as Solicitation Number DE–PS03–01SF22349, Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Program, through the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) located at the following URL: http://e-center.doe.gov. 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 University or Academic Institution into a financial assistance award 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 IIPSSystem. An IIPS “User Guide for Contractor” can be obtained by going to the IIPS Homepage at the following URL: http://e-center.doe.gov and then clicking on the “Help” button. Questions regarding the operation of IIPS may be e-mailed to the IIPS Help Desk at IIPS HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov or call the help desk at (800) 683-0751.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bertha Crisp, Contract Specialist, berthacrisp@oak.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The solicitation document will contain all the information relative to this action for prospective applicants. The solicitation is targeted for release in late September 2001. Pre-applications and applications will be subject to scientific peer review against predetermined, published criteria. Consideration will be given to a broad spectrum of proposed university programs, ranging from single-investigator projects to comprehensive Centers of Excellence. Final selection of successful applications will be made by the DOE/NNSA. It is anticipated that multiple Cooperative Agreements and Research Grants will be awarded within the available funding. The stockpile stewardship mission focuses on both an increased fundamental understanding of basic physical phenomena associated with stockpile performance, safety, and reliability, as well as on sustaining a comprehensive set of core science and technology competencies in the NNSA/DP complex. Under the Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Program, the NNSA will consider applications for university-based research in fields of physical sciences that are relevant to stockpile stewardship and which fall within the areas of research supported by the NNSA/DP Office of Research, Development and Simulation. An objective of the Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Program is to complement the current NNSA/DP Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative (ASCI) Academic Strategic Alliances Program (ASAP) by emphasizing primarily experimental research in the following physical sciences areas:

A. Properties of Materials under Extreme Conditions and 

Hydrodynamics: This research area includes the static and dynamic (i.e., shock-compressed) properties of materials under conditions of high-pressure, high-temperature (1–10 eV regime), high-strain and high-strain-rate, and hydrodynamic experiments in low-energy-density physics regimes where materials properties (strength, etc.) dominate.

B. High-Energy-Density Physics and Fluid Dynamics: This research area includes plasma physics, properties of materials under high-energy-density conditions, inertial fusion, atomic physics, radiation generation, the interaction of radiation with matter, and the physics of turbulence and fluid interfaces.

C. Low-Energy Nuclear Science: This research area includes experimental and theoretical investigations leading to greater accuracy in the knowledge of cross sections of stable and unstable nuclei and corresponding reaction rates for neutron-, γ- and ion-induced reactions of relevance to the stockpile for both simulation and radiochemistry diagnosis.

Additional topics of interest may be added pending clarification of funding for FY02. All work funded through this program will be unclassified.

Issued in Oakland, CA, on August 21, 2001.

Ernest Rios,
Director, Financial Assistance Center, Oakland Operations Office.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7044–2]

Office of Research and Development, National Center for Environmental Assessment, Board of Scientific Counselors’ Subcommittee Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92–463, as amended (5 U.S.C., App. 2) notification is hereby given that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development (ORD), National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA), Board of Scientific Counselors Subcommittee (BOSC), will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on October 10 & 11, 2001. The meeting will begin at 9 am on October 10 and adjourn at approximately 5 pm on October 11. All times noted are Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Charles Glover Building, 808 17th Street, NW., 4th Floor Conference Room, Washington, DC 20006. Seating is limited; therefore, you must notify Joanna Foellmer, Designated Federal Official, Board of Scientific Counselors Subcommittee, to confirm attendance no later than October 4 (address listed below).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joanna Foellmer at (202) 564–3208.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) was established to provide objective and independent counsel to the Office of Research and Development (ORD) on the management and operation of ORD’s research programs. The primary functions of BOSC are (1) to evaluate science and engineering research programs, laboratories, and research-management practices of ORD and recommend actions to improve their quality and/or strengthen their relevance to the mission of the EPA; and (2) to evaluate and provide advice concerning the use of peer review within ORD to sustain and enhance the quality of science in EPA.

In September 1997, a programmatic review of ORD’s National Center of Environmental Assessment (NCEA) by an Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the BOSC provided an opportunity for NCEA to look at its past, present, and future. As part of the review, the staff and management of NCEA prepared a “Self-Study Report,” which was submitted to the BOSC Subcommittee for pre-meeting review. During the meeting, the Subcommittee discussed the Self-Study Report responses with NCEA management and staff. They gathered additional comments from the staff regarding the organization, management, human resources, and their professional relationships with the Agency and with external users of NCEA products. A final report from the BOSC Ad Hoc Subcommittee, dated April 1998, was submitted to NCEA. The final report included the conclusions and recommendations of the Subcommittee based on the input from the meeting, the Self Study Report, and the experience of the Subcommittee.

Since the 1998 report, NCEA has worked to refocus some of its activities and directions in response to the recommendations of the Subcommittee and in the context of the EPA and ORD Strategic Plans. As a next step, standing BOSC Subcommittees have been