

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Operated by Battelle for the
U.S. Department of Energy

January 12, 2001

TO: ALL POTENTIAL OFFERORS

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTER
SYSTEM NUMBER TWO [HPCS-2]

Battelle, Pacific Northwest Division operating the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) for the Department of Energy needs information to begin planning for the replacement of the present high performance computer system (HPCS-1) which is now contained within the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL). Initial contemplations of a replacement machine is that it will be a balanced, multi-teraflop, computing platform purchased via a lease of approximately \$21-25 million which includes maintenance over a three year period.

Battelle is interested in understanding a potential offeror's current generation terascale computing technology as well as the future technologies which could be delivered by the end of this calendar year. Of special interest are any facility modifications required for the target computing platform specifically:

- Power;
- Air cooling; and,
- Space (dimensional) requirements including weight and density.

In addition, information regarding the staging of the delivery of the platform is important in order to ensure that the production facility is available to our users as soon as possible after the expected award date. An aggressive rough order of magnitude schedule is to issue a request for proposals in the April timeframe and to award a contract in October, 2001. Delivery would be required not later than the beginning of calendar year 2002. Funds are not presently available to award this acquisition; however, funding is expected during the 2002 Fiscal Year.

BATTELLE DOES NOT INTEND TO AWARD A CONTRACT ON THE BASIS OF THIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION OR TO OTHERWISE PAY FOR THE INFORMATION SOLICITED.

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If you are interested in furnishing information, please schedule a meeting by calling Ms. Lori Freeland at (509) 375-2412 or use any of the nomenclature at the bottom of the first page of this correspondence to reach the undersigned. Battelle is interested in completing this process of initial market research by February 15, 2001. Therefore, time is of the essence in responding. We look forward to hearing from you.

Truly yours,

Thomas A. McGarry
Sr. Contract Specialist