

supplement recipients' environmental management capacity.

When funding solid and hazardous waste activities under GAP, AIEO expects the Regions to implement the following principles and funding priorities for FY 2006.²

A. Principles

When making funding decisions for solid and hazardous waste implementation activities, the following principles must be addressed:

- The availability of funding.
- The risk of compromising the development of tribal environmental capacity and overall in program effectiveness areas other than solid and hazardous waste management.
- The reasonableness of costs cited for the proposed activities.
- Whether the proposed activities supplement or improperly duplicate activities funded by the Federal Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project (formerly known as the "Tribal Open Dumps Cleanup Project").
- The proposed activities will have technical review by EPA RCRA regional staff.
- There are no guarantees, either implicit or explicit of future funding for long term projects.
- Higher priority is given to self-sustaining programs, prevention programs and one time cleanups, as environmental outcome based work.
- Use of GAP funding for operations and maintenance activities is given the lowest priority.

B. Priorities

The following are the recommended priorities for use of GAP funding for solid and hazardous waste activities:

1. Expansion for Interagency Coordination

Several Regions have used GAP funds to participate in interagency in efforts to coordinate solid and hazardous waste projects in Indian Country. We encourage those efforts and are supporting similar initiatives at the national level through the Tribal Solid Waste Interagency Work Group, which includes HUD, IHS, BIA, Rural Utility Service, DoD and FAA. AIEO promotes

² The funding principles and priorities for solid and hazardous waste implementation activities were derived from Memorandum from the American Indian Environmental Office on Guidance for Implementation of Solid and Hazardous Waste Activities under the Indian General Assistance Program to Regional Indian Coordinators, Regional Solid Waste Program Managers, Office of Solid Waste, OSWER Tribal Coordinator, and National Indian Work Group (June 7, 2001) (on file with AIEO's GAP National Program Manager).

the use of GAP funds in tandem with other (EPA and non-EPA) Agency resources.

2. Targeted Procedures

The unique status of solid and hazardous waste implementation activities under GAP requires different internal Regional procedures than with GAP capacity building activities. Several Regions are developing procedures for working with their Regional solid and hazardous waste counterparts to review and approve implementation activities. We recommend that all Regions establish such procedures.

3. Continued Review of Implementation Costs

Funding implementation activities under GAP continues to represent a new and potentially resource-intensive area of investment. Regional data has greatly assisted EPA in understanding the impact of this new grant flexibility. Several Regions have indicated that they expect an increase in the number and variety of projects.

Each Region should therefore continue to track and report separately on investments in solid and hazardous waste implementation for FY 2006. The information tracked should include name of recipient, a brief description of the project, and the amount of GAP funding allocated to that specific grant activity. Estimated amounts are acceptable, but should be stated as such.

Please contact Rodges Ankrah at ankrah.rodges@epa.gov before March 7, 2006, if you have any question about data collection.

7. GAP Tracking Electronic Data Entry

AIEO is continuing to develop and define the GAP Tracking System to enable EPA to track environmental tribal activities supported by EPA grants. The GAP Tracking System is for program management, a tool that will allow EPA to better manage the GAP program. To avoid duplication of information, the GAP Tracking System will eventually be linked to other grant and financial reporting systems. When the System becomes operational, grantees will be required to use the system in order to receive GAP funding.

The GAP Tracking System is designed to do the following:

- Allow regional officers to access GAP-related records for their region.
- Wherever possible, read data from existing databases that are a part of the larger Tribal Information Management project.

- Allow regional officers to enter and store GAP-related information in a central GAP-specific database.

- Generate common reports for use by EPA regional officers, tribal officials, EPA programs, and the U.S. Congress and OMB.

- Integrate features that will allow the GAP Tracking Tool to be efficient to use.

- Avoid duplication of information into multiple grant and financial reporting systems.

The GAP Tracking System was NOT designed for the following:

- Allow the entry of records into the Tribal Information Management System (TIMS) databases.

- Allow editing information submitted in previous fiscal years.

The screens, located in Appendix 2 at <http://www.epa.gov/Indian/pdfs/gap2006.pdf>, are a proposed update to the GAP Tracking System. EPA may impose additional requirements to integrate into the current system. Please send your comments on the proposed updates to the GAP Tracking System to Rodges Ankrah at ankrah.rodges@epa.gov by March 7, 2006.

Dated: January 9, 2006.

Benjamin H. Grumbles,

Assistant Administrator for Water.

[FR Doc. 06-1729 Filed 2-23-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also

includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than March 23, 2006.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
(Patrick M. Wilder, Assistant Vice President) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1414:

1. *Community State Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust*, Union Grove, Wisconsin; to increase its ownership to 33.95 percent of the voting shares of Union Bancorporation, Inc., Union Grove, Wisconsin, and thereby indirectly acquire Community State Bank, Union Grove, Wisconsin.

2. *Gerber Bancshares, Inc.*, Argenta, Illinois; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Gerber State Bank, Argenta, Illinois.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
(Glenda Wilson, Community Affairs Officer) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166-2034:

1. *First Banks, Inc.*, Hazelwood, Missouri, and its subsidiary bank, The San Francisco Company, San Francisco, California; to acquire 80 percent of the voting shares of First Independent National Bank, Plano, Texas.

2. *First Banks, Inc.*, Hazelwood, Missouri, and its subsidiary bank holding company, The San Francisco Company, San Francisco, California; to acquire 100 percent of Pittsfield Community Bancorp, Inc., Pittsfield, Illinois, and thereby indirectly acquire Community Bank of Pittsfield, Pittsfield, Illinois.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, February 21, 2006.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E6-2640 Filed 2-23-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; Medicaid Program; Meeting of the Medicaid Commission—March 13–15, 2006

AGENCY: Assistant Secretary for Planning & Evaluation (ASPE), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a public meeting of the Medicaid Commission. Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a)(1) and (a)(2)). The Medicaid Commission will advise the Secretary on ways to modernize the Medicaid program so that it can provide high-quality health care to its beneficiaries in a financially sustainable way.

DATES: *The Meeting:* March 13–15, 2006. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on March 13, 9 a.m. on March 14, and 8:30 a.m. on March 15.

Special Accommodations: Persons attending the meeting who are hearing or visually impaired, or have a condition that requires special assistance or accommodations, are asked to notify the Medicaid Commission by March 3, 2006 (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

ADDRESSES: *The Meeting:* The meeting will be held at the following address: Crowne Plaza-Atlanta-Perimeter N.W., 6345 Powers Ferry Road, NW., Atlanta, GA 30339, United States, telephone: 1 (770) 955-1700, fax: 1 (770) 850-0444.

Web site: You may access up-to-date information on the Medicaid Commission at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/medicaid/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret Reiser, (202) 205-8255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 24, 2005, we published a notice (70 FR 29765) announcing the Medicaid Commission and requesting nominations for individuals to serve on the Medicaid Commission. This notice announces a public meeting of the Medicaid Commission.

Topics of the Meeting

The Commission will discuss options for making longer-term recommendations on the future of the Medicaid program that ensure long-term sustainability. Issues to be addressed may include, but are not limited to: Eligibility, benefit design, and delivery; expanding the number of people covered with quality care while recognizing budget constraints; long term care; quality of care, choice, and

beneficiary satisfaction; and program administration.

Procedure and Agenda

This meeting is open to the public. There will be a public comment period at the meeting. The Commission may limit the number and duration of oral presentations to the time available. We will request that you declare at the meeting whether or not you have any financial involvement related to any services being discussed.

After the presentations and public comment period, the Commission will deliberate openly. Interested persons may observe the deliberations, but the Commission will not hear further comments during this time except at the request of the Chairperson. The Commission will also allow an open public session for any attendee to address issues specific to the topic.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a)(1) and (a)(2).

Dated: February 16, 2006.

Mary M. McGeein,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Office of Disability, Aging and Long-Term Care.

[FR Doc. E6-2608 Filed 2-23-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5150-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Debarment

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Acquisition Management and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has taken final agency action in the following case:

Paul H. Kornak, Stratton VA Medical Center, Albany, New York: Upon recommendations from the Office of Research Integrity (ORI), Acting Assistant Secretary for Health for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Office of Research Oversight (ORO), and the Under Secretary for Health, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), that were based on the criminal convictions of making and using a materially false statement, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1001(a)(3); mail fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 and 1346; and criminally negligent homicide, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 13 and New York Penal Law § 125.10, the HHS debarment official has permanently debarred Mr. Paul Kornak, former