

the current alignment, Hopkinsville Interchange Upgrade; Hopkinsville Bypass North; Hopkinsville Bypass South; and Masonville-Casky. The ROD documents the decision to select Alternative 2S, the Hopkinsville Bypass South. Alternative 2S will involve the construction of a rail connector from the Branch Line directly to the CSX main line south of Hopkinsville and south of the Hopkinsville Bypass (KY 8546). It also incorporates a siding track parallel to the existing Branch Line south of Hopkinsville. This was the Army's preferred alternative, and was chosen based on economic, engineering, and operational considerations, as well as potential environmental impacts and public opinion.

Questions or Request for ROD: Questions regarding the ROD, or a request for copies of the document may be directed to Mr. William Ray Haynes, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District, P.O. 59, Louisville, Kentucky 40201-6475, or call (502) 582-6475.

Dated: March 26, 1998.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA (I, L&E).

[FR Doc. 98-8461 Filed 3-31-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.116P]

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)—Special Focus Competition: Disseminating Proven Reforms Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 1998

Purpose of Program: To provide grants or enter into cooperative agreements to improve postsecondary education opportunities by focusing on problem areas or improvement approaches in postsecondary education.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education, combinations of those institutions, and other public and private nonprofit educational institutions and agencies.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: June 5, 1998.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: August 4, 1998.

Applications Available: April 2, 1998.

Available Funds: \$1,280,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$120,000-\$180,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$160,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 8.

Project Period: 27 months.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Applicable Regulations

The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 82, 85 and 86.

Priority

Invitational Priority

The Secretary is particularly interested in applications that meet the following invitational priority. However, an application that meets this invitational priority does not receive competitive or absolute preference over other applications (34 CFR 75.105(c)(1)).

Invitational Priority: Institutions with innovative postsecondary education programs that became fully institutionalized between 1988 and 1997 are invited to apply for funds to disseminate their practices to other campuses.

Methods for Applying Selection Criteria

The Secretary gives equal weight to the listed criteria. Within each of the criteria, the Secretary gives equal weight to each of the factors.

Selection Criteria

In evaluating applications for grants under this competition, the Secretary uses the following selection criteria chosen from those listed in 34 CFR 75.210:

(a) The need for the proposed project, as determined by—

(1) The magnitude or severity of the problem addressed by the proposed project; and

(2) The magnitude of the need for the services to be provided or the activities to be carried out by the proposed project.

(b) The significance of the proposed project, as determined by—

(1) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increased knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies;

(2) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies;

(3) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement; and

(4) The potential replicability of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential

for implementation in a variety of settings.

(c) The quality of the design of the proposed project, as determined by—

(1) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs;

(2) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable; and

(3) The extent to which the design for implementing and evaluating the proposed project will result in information to guide possible replication of project activities or strategies, including information about the effectiveness of the approach or strategies employed by the project.

(d) The quality of the management plan for the proposed project, as determined by the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

(e) The quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project, as determined by—

(1) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and

(2) The extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(f) The quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project, as determined by—

(1) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings;

(2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project; and

(3) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

(g) The adequacy of resources for the proposed project, as determined by—

(1) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project;

(2) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives,

design, and potential significance of the proposed project;

(3) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project;

(4) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization; and

(5) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to such support.

FOR APPLICATIONS OR INFORMATION

CONTACT: Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3100, ROB-3, Washington, D.C. 20202-5175. You may also request applications by calling 202-358-3041 (voice mail) or submitting the name of the competition and your name and postal address to fipse@ed.gov (e-mail). Applications are also listed on the FIPSE Web Site <<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/FIPSE>> For additional program information call Beverly Baker at the FIPSE office (202-708-5750) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format, also, by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

Anyone may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or portable document format (pdf) on the World Wide Web at either of the following sites: <http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm> <http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the pdf reader you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions

about using the pdf, call the U.S. Government Printing Office toll free at 1-888-293-6498.

Anyone may also view these documents in text copy only on an electronic bulletin board of the Department. Telephone: (202) 219-1511 or, toll free, 1-800-222-4922. The documents are located under Option G—Files/Announcements, Bulletins and Press Releases.

Note: The official version of a document is the document published in the **Federal Register**.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135-1135a-11.

Dated: March 27, 1998.

David A. Longanecker,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 98-8525 Filed 3-31-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. OR98-12-000]

Longhorn Partners Pipeline, L.P.; Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order, Application for Authority To Charge Market-Based Rates, and Request for Waiver

March 26, 1998.

Take notice that on March 19, 1998, Longhorn Partners Pipeline, L.P., filed a petition for declaratory order, under Rule 207(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure [18 CFR 385.207(a)(2)], and application for a market power determination, under Part 348 of the Commission's regulations [18 CFR Part 348]. Longhorn also seeks waiver of section 342.2 of the Commission's regulations (18 CFR 342.2).

Longhorn states that it presently is engaged in the conversion and construction of an oil pipeline and expects to file initial rates in October 1998 and commence operations as a common carrier of refined petroleum products in November 1998. Before filing its initial rates, Longhorn seeks an advance determination by the Commission that it will not have market power at its origin in Galena Park, Texas, or at its destination at the El Paso, Texas, gateway. Longhorn also requests a waiver of section 342.2 of the Commission's regulations to allow it to justify initial rates by a market power determination.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest Longhorn's filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with sections 385.211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All motions or protests should be filed on or before April 27, 1998. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the public reference room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-8482 Filed 3-31-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. OA96-13-002]

PECO Energy Company; Notice of Filing

March 26, 1998.

Take notice that on August 15, 1997, PECO Energy Company tendered for filing its compliance filing in the above-referenced docket.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before April 6, 1998. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-8509 Filed 3-31-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M