

to the Chairman, Department of Defense Wage Committee, 4000 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-4000.

Dated: March 15, 1999.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.033]

Office of Postsecondary Education; Federal Work-Study Programs

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of the closing date for filing the "Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work-Colleges Program."

SUMMARY: The Secretary gives notice to institutions of higher education of the deadline for an eligible institution to apply for participation in the Work-Colleges Program and to apply for funding under that program for the 1999-2000 award year (July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000) by submitting to the Secretary an "Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work-Colleges Program."

The Work-Colleges Program along with the Federal Work-Study Program and the Job Location and Development Program are known collectively as the Federal Work-Study programs. The Work-Colleges Program is authorized by part C of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA).

CLOSING DATE: To participate in the Work-Colleges Program and to apply for funds for that program for the 1999-2000 award year, an eligible institution must mail or hand-deliver its "Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work-Colleges Program" to the Department on or before April 23, 1999. The Department will not accept the form by facsimile transmission. The form must be submitted to the Institutional Financial Management Division at one of the addresses indicated below.

ADDRESSES: *Applications and Agreements Delivered by Mail.* An institutional application and agreement delivered by mail must be addressed to Mr. Richard Coppage, Work-Colleges Program, Institutional Financial Management Division, U.S. Department of Education, P.O. Box 23781, Washington D.C. 20026-0781. An applicant must show proof of mailing

consisting of one of the following: (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark; (2) a legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service; (3) a dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier; or (4) any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of Education. An institution is encouraged to use certified or at least first class mail.

An institution should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an institution should check with its local post office.

If an institutional application and agreement is sent through the U.S. Postal Service, the Secretary does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing: (1) a private metered postmark, or (2) a mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

Institutions that submit an institutional application and agreement after the closing date of April 23, 1999, will not be considered for participation or funding under the Work-Colleges Program for award year 1999-2000.

Applications and Agreements Delivered by Hand. An institutional application and agreement delivered by hand must be taken to Mr. Richard Coppage, Work-Colleges Program, Campus-Based Financial Operations Branch, Institutional Financial Management Division, Accounting and Financial Management Service, Office of Student Financial Assistance, U.S. Department of Education, Room 4714, Regional Office Building 3, 7th and D Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. Hand-delivered institutional applications and agreements will be accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time) daily, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays. An institutional application and agreement for the 1999-2000 award year that is delivered by hand will not be accepted after 4:30 p.m. on April 23, 1999.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Work-Colleges Program, the Secretary allocates funds when available for that program to eligible institutions. The Secretary will not allocate funds under the Work-Colleges Program for award year 1999-2000 to any eligible institution unless the institution files its "Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work-Colleges Program" by the closing date.

To apply for participation and funding under the Work-Colleges Program, an institution must satisfy the definition of "work-college" in section 448(e) of the HEA. The term "work-

college" under the HEA means an eligible institution that (1) is a public or private nonprofit institution with a commitment to community service; (2) has operated a comprehensive work-learning program for at least two years; (3) requires all resident students to participate in a comprehensive work-learning program and the provision of services as an integral part of the institution's educational program and as part of the institution's educational philosophy; and (4) provides students participating in the comprehensive work-learning program with the opportunity to contribute to their education and to the welfare of the community as a whole.

Applicable Regulations

The following regulations apply to the Work-Colleges Program:

- (1) Student Assistance General Provisions, 34 CFR Part 668.
- (2) General Provisions for the Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Work-Study Program, and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program, 34 CFR Part 673.
- (3) Federal Work-Study Programs, 34 CFR Part 675.
- (4) Institutional Eligibility Under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, 34 CFR Part 600.
- (5) New Restrictions on Lobbying, 34 CFR Part 82.
- (6) Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants), 34 CFR Part 85.
- (7) Drug-Free Schools and Campuses, 34 CFR Part 86.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Richard Coppage, Work-Colleges Program, Institutional Financial Management Division, U.S. Department of Education, P.O. Box 23781, Washington, D.C. 20026-0781. Telephone (202) 708-4694. 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 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

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

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

Program Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2756b.

Dated: March 16, 1999.

Greg Woods,

Chief Operating Officer, Office of Student Financial Assistance.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Availability of the Commercial Light Water Reactor Final Environmental Impact Statement, the Accelerator Production of Tritium Final Environmental Impact Statement, and the Tritium Extraction Facility Final Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces the availability of three Final Environmental Impact Statements (EISs): (1) the Commercial Light Water Reactor (CLWR) EIS, DOE/EIS-0288; (2) the Accelerator Production of Tritium (APT) EIS, DOE/EIS-0270; and, (3) the Tritium Extraction Facility (TEF) EIS, DOE/EIS-0271. The CLWR EIS evaluates the environmental impacts associated with producing tritium at one or more of five commercial light water reactors operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority. The APT EIS evaluates the environmental impacts associated with constructing and operating a linear accelerator at the Savannah River Site, near Aiken, South Carolina, for the production of tritium. The TEF EIS evaluates the environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of a tritium extraction facility,

at the Savannah River Site, to extract tritium from commercial light water reactor targets and targets of similar design.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the CLWR Final EIS, or its Summary may be obtained by calling 1-800-776-2765, or writing to: Mr. Jay Rose, Office of Technical and Environmental Support, DP-45, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585.

A copy of the APT Final EIS, and/or the TEF Final EIS, or their Summaries may be obtained by calling 1-800-881-7292, or writing to: Andrew Grainger, U.S. Department of Energy, Savannah River Operations, Office, Building 742A, Room 122, Aiken, South Carolina 29802.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information on the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance, EH-42, U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20585, (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for providing the nation with nuclear weapons and ensuring those weapons remain safe and reliable. Tritium, a radioactive isotope of hydrogen, is an essential component of every weapon in the current and projected U.S. nuclear stockpile.

Unlike other nuclear materials used in nuclear weapons, tritium decays at a rate of 5.5 percent per year. Accordingly, as long as the nation relies on a nuclear deterrent, the tritium in each nuclear weapon must be replenished periodically.

At present, the U.S. nuclear weapons complex does not have the capability to produce the amounts of tritium that will be required to support the nation's future stockpile. In 1995, DOE prepared the Tritium Supply and Recycling Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). In that PEIS, DOE considered a range of reasonable alternatives for obtaining the required quantities of tritium. In the December 1995 Record of Decision for the Tritium Supply and Recycling PEIS, DOE decided to pursue a dual-track approach on the two most promising tritium-supply alternatives: (1) to initiate purchase of an existing commercial reactor (operating or partially complete) or irradiation services with an option to purchase the reactor for conversion to a defense facility; and (2) to design, build, and test critical components of an accelerator system for tritium

production (the Savannah River Site was selected as the location for an accelerator, should one be built).

On December 22, 1998, Secretary Bill Richardson announced that commercial light water reactors will be the primary tritium supply technology. The Secretary designated the Watts Bar Unit 1 nuclear reactor near Spring City, Tennessee, and the Sequoyah Unit 1 and 2 nuclear reactors near Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee, as the preferred CLWRs for tritium production. Each of these reactors is operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority. In his December 22, 1998 announcement, the Secretary also designated the APT as the backup technology for tritium supply. As a backup, DOE will continue with developmental activities and preliminary design, but will not construct the accelerator. Finally, in selecting the CLWR as the primary tritium supply technology, the Secretary reaffirmed a prior decision that a new tritium extraction capability will be constructed and operated at the Savannah River Site.

The final CLWR Final EIS is a stand alone document, which incorporates comments on the draft CLWR EIS received from the public. Because there were only minor changes to the APT and TEF draft EISs, DOE will not prepare completely revised documents as final EISs. Rather, DOE finalized the EISs by reference to the draft EISs and have issued these documents as records of changes to the draft EIS. Persons desiring copies of the APT and TEF draft EISs should contact Mr. Grainger at the above address.

No sooner than 30 days after publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**, DOE intends to issue a consolidated Record of Decision to formalize the December programmatic announcement and complete project-specific decisions for the three EIS.

Signed in Washington, DC this 15th day of March 1999, for the United States Department of Energy.

Victor H. Reis,

Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[FE Docket No. PP-197]

Notice Extending the Public Scoping Period Public Service Company of New Mexico

AGENCY: Department of Energy.