

or on behalf of (1) another Federal agency; (2) a Federally Funded Research and Development Center sponsored by another Federal agency; or (3) a Department of Energy (DOE) Management Operating (M&O) contractor will not be eligible for award under this solicitation. However, an application that includes performance of a portion of the work by a DOE M&O contractor will be evaluated and may be considered for award subject to the provisions to be set forth in Program Solicitation DE-PS26-03NT15391.

(Note: The limit on participation by an M&O contractor for an individual project under this solicitation cannot exceed 25% of the total project cost).

Once released, the solicitation will be available for downloading from the IIPS Internet page. At this Internet site you will also be able to register with IIPS, enabling you to submit an application. If you need technical assistance in registering or for any other IIPS function, call the IIPS Help Desk at (800) 683-0751 or E-mail the Help Desk personnel at IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov. The solicitation will only be made available in IIPS, no hard (paper) copies of the solicitation and related documents will be made available.

Prospective applicants who would like to be notified as soon as the solicitation is available should subscribe to the Business Alert Mailing List at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>. Once you subscribe, you will receive an announcement by E-mail that the solicitation has been released to the public. Telephone requests, written requests, E-mail requests, or facsimile requests for a copy of the solicitation package will not be accepted and/or honored. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the solicitation. The actual solicitation document will allow for requests for explanation and/or interpretation.

Issued in Pittsburgh, PA on November 22, 2002.

Dale A. Siciliano,

Director, Acquisition and Assistance Division.
[FR Doc. 02-30408 Filed 11-29-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Energy Technology Laboratory; Notice of Availability of a Financial Assistance Solicitation

AGENCY: National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of availability of a Financial Assistance Solicitation.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intent to issue Financial Assistance Solicitation No. DE-PS26-03NT41716 entitled "Gasification Technologies Fundamental Research." This solicitation is intended to support near-term fundamental gasification technologies research projects that are: (1) Fundamental in nature, and (2) Important for the commercial success of gasification technologies. It is anticipated that the resultant projects will provide fundamental data useful to many organizations across the industry to help move gasification technologies toward the commercial marketplace. A secondary objective is to increase university involvement with the Gasification Technologies Program to ensure the inclusion of fresh, innovative ideas in the program, and to educate future scientists and engineers in gasification technologies.

DATES: The solicitation will be available on the "Industry Interactive Procurement System" (IIPS) webpage located at <http://e-center.doe.gov> on or about November 27, 2002. Applicants can obtain access to the solicitation from the address above or through DOE/NETL's Web site at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Keith L. Carrington, MS 107, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, P.O. Box 880, Morgantown, WV 26507-0880, E-mail Address: keith.carrington@netl.doe.gov, Telephone Number: (304) 285-4456.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: It is anticipated that this action will consist of a single solicitation focused on three specific topic areas. Last year, the Gasification Technologies Product Team held interviews with industry organizations to gain industry's perspective on barriers to the commercial success of gasification technologies. This resulted in a list of specific research and development areas for product team consideration. This solicitation will address some of the near-term fundamental research needs described on this industry-generated list, chosen and modified by the Gasification Technologies Product Team based on additional input from industry and the needs of the DOE Gasification Technologies Program. The following two websites contain background information on gasification technologies: <http://www.netl.doe.gov/coalpower/gasification/> & <http://www.gasification.org/resource/library/>

[library.html](#). The program solicitation will focus on the following three topic areas:

1. Develop technologies to remove the barriers preventing the economic use of low ranked (sub-bituminous and lignite) coals. Examples: (a) New/improved approaches for increasing the thermal stability of dewatered lignite. (b) Process/technology to create a higher energy density feed slurry, including understanding the critical properties changed by the process in terms of feed systems.

2. Develop improved materials to increase equipment life or reliability in the gasifier and through the process to the syngas cooler inlet. The net result of the material improvement must have potential to be an economic advantage to the gasification industry. Examples: (a) Improve feed system injector materials to increase the injector life. (b) Increase the life of gasifier refractory, by creating a more robust refractory, through investigation of refractory reactivity with gasifier contaminants and techniques to improve refractory stability, etc. (c) Metal alloys/fabrication that can survive in the gasifier environment long enough to: (1) Assist the development of more robust instrumentation (current average lifetime of thermocouples is 30-45 days), or (2) Permit metal candle filter use at temperatures approaching those in the gasifier (current metal filters have an operation limit of about one year at 450 °C).

3. Develop innovative, less expensive approaches to resolve environmental and/or economic concerns with coal gasification fuel gas contaminants and combustion flue gas pollutants, including the need for ultra clean feed gas for chemical production. Examples: (a) Conduct a mercury balance on the gasification process. (b) Create an added value technology or study for solid or chemical by products such as the concentration of mercury from conventional removal system for sale, creation of a process using high purity sulfur to make a more lucrative product, etc. (c) More effective/less expensive reduction of pollutants and/or trace contaminants in the combustion flue gas. (d) New instrumentation/techniques to measure trace metal concentrations in a high-temperature, high-pressure, reducing environment.

It is anticipated that this program solicitation will result in between three (3) to six (6) awards. The period of performance for each award will range from one to three years with budget periods to be established independently based on the logical technical phases of each individual project. Based on

current planning levels, and subject to the availability of future funding, DOE expects to provide up to approximately \$3,600,000 to support work under this solicitation. However, please note that due to DOE's current operation under a continuing resolution, funds are not presently available for this solicitation. Given the objective of this program to increase university involvement in the Gasification Technologies Program, a determination was made to limit recipients under this program solicitation to U.S. colleges and universities and university-affiliated research institutions. Industry collaboration will be encouraged under this program, but only through cost-share and subcontracting arrangements. Subcontracting opportunities by for-profit organizations is limited to no more than 10% of DOE funding provided under the cooperative agreement. In addition, Federal agencies and agents (*i.e.* Management and Operating (M&O) contractors and/or National Laboratories) are prohibited from proposing as a prime contractor or subcontractor under this solicitation. Cost sharing is encouraged, but not required, under the subject program solicitation.

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Issued in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on November 20, 2002.

Dale A. Siciliano,

Director, Acquisition and Assistance Division.
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

International Energy Agency Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Industry Advisory Board (IAB) to the International Energy Agency (IEA) will meet on December 9-10, 2002, at the Chinese State Development Planning Commission in Beijing, China.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Samuel M. Bradley, Assistant General Counsel for International and National Security Programs, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, 202-586-6738.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with section 252(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6272(c)(1)(A)(i)) (EPCA), the following notice of meeting is provided:

A meeting of the Industry Advisory Board (IAB) to the International Energy Agency (IEA) will be held at the Chinese State Development Planning Commission, 38 Yuetannan jie, Xicheng District, Beijing, China 100824 on December 9 and 10, 2002, commencing at 9 a.m. on December 9. The purpose of this notice is to permit attendance by representatives of U.S. company members of the IAB at a meeting of the IEA's China Seminar on Oil Stocks and Emergency Response, which is scheduled to be held at the same time and location. The Agenda for the meeting is under the control of the IEA. It is expected that the IEA will adopt the following Agenda:

Monday, December 9, 2002

- I. Introduction
- II. Opening Remarks and Keynote Speeches
 - Opening Remarks—Mr. Zhang Guobao, Vice-Chairman, SDPC
 - Opening Remarks—Amb. William Ramsay, Deputy Executive Director, IEA
 - China's Energy Security Challenges and Progress in Meeting Them
 - Oil Emergency Challenges: Introduction and Video Presentation of a Hypothetical Disruption Scenario
- III. IEA Oil Security Policies and Procedures
 - Overview of IEA Oil Emergency Response Policies
 - An Industry Perspective on IEA Oil Emergency Response Policies
 - IEA Oil Data Reporting System and Oil Emergency Data Collection
 - Oil Information and Data Collection

- in China
- IV. Oil Disruption and Response Simulation Exercise
 - Replay of the Video Presentation of a Hypothetical Disruption Scenario
 - Oil Disruption and Response Simulation Exercise
 - Presentation on the Lessons Learned from Previous IEA Emergency Response Simulation Exercises
 - Key Points Learned from Today's Simulation Exercise
 - Case Study of the U.S. Oil Disruption Simulation Model
- V. IEA Members' Experience in Emergency Response
 - Overview of Oil Emergency Procedures and Measures in IEA Countries
 - Japan's Experience in Emergency Response
 - The UK's Experience in Emergency Response

Tuesday, December 10, 2002

- I. Introduction
- II. IEA Experiences in Building Oil Stockholding Facilities
 - German Experiences in Building the German Independent Stockholding Agency (EBV)
 - Hungarian Experiences in Establishing the Crude Oil and Oil Product Stockholding Association (KKKSZ)
 - Korean Experience in Building Emergency Oil Stocks by Utilization of Stocks and Facilities
 - SINOPEC Experience in Building Oil Stockholding Facilities and Managing Commercial Stocks
- III. Technical and Operational Aspects of Emergency Stockholding
 - U.S. Experience in the Operation of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve
 - Budget and Operation of a Government Stockholding Agency
 - French Government Experience with the Government-Industry Relationship in the Professional Committee for Strategic Petroleum Stocks (CPSSP)
 - A Major Oil Company's Experience in Managing Commercial and Strategic Oil Stocks
 - CNPC/PetroChina's Experience with the Technical and Operational Aspects of Emergency and Commercial Oil Stockholding
- V. Summary and Closing Remarks

As provided in section 252(c)(1)(A)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6272(c)(1)(A)(ii)), this meeting is open only to representatives of members of the IAB and their counsel; representatives of members of the SEQ; representatives of the Departments of Energy, Justice, and