

NETL Merit Staffing Vacancy Announcement

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY - NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY
(NETL)**

ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: NETL-09-69

OPENING DATE: 04/30/2009

CLOSING DATE: 05/20/2009

POSITION: Economist
GS-110-13/14
(Multiple Positions May Be Filled)

LOCATION: Office of Systems, Analyses and Planning
Integrated Electric Power Systems Division
Morgantown, WV or Pittsburgh, PA

SUBJECT TO:
Financial Disclosure Statement
Agreement Covering Discoveries, Inventions and Improvements
DOE CTAP (See Attached)
DOE ICTAP (See Attached)
1st Year Probationary Period (See Notes)

PROMOTION POTENTIAL: GS-14

SALARY RANGE: (Includes locality pay)
Morgantown, WV: GS-14: \$95,010 - \$123,519 per annum
GS-13: \$80,402 - \$104,425 per annum

Pittsburgh, PA: GS-14: \$96,679 - \$125,688 per annum
GS-13: \$81,815 - \$106,361 per annum

AREA OF CONSIDERATION: Government-Wide -Federal Career/Career Conditional Employees in the Competitive Service and Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the Armed Forces under honorable conditions after substantially completing an initial 3-year term.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: As a member of the Integrated Electric Power Systems Division, the incumbent will perform studies on integrated electric power systems in support of

the U.S. Department of Energy's goal of ensuring that the nation has affordable, reliable, secure, and clean sources of electric power. These studies will include analysis of energy technologies including electric power systems that span production, generation, transmission, distribution, storage, and consumption of energy. The incumbent will compare the cost and performance of current and future electric power systems with the cost and performance of other energy sources (e.g. natural gas, liquid fuels) that serve the energy needs of consumers (e.g. heating and cooling, transportation). The incumbent will be required to create configurations of energy systems including electric power systems for analysis of cost and other performance parameters. The incumbent will be required to assess the impact of policy on development and deployment of energy systems. The incumbent will consider the values placed on energy resources by the energy supply industry, consumers, and society in analysis of energy systems. The incumbent will be required to support research and development programs including life-cycle analysis, strategic planning, and trend analysis. The work products will support informed decisions made by Federal and state government, energy supply industry, regulators, policymakers, and consumers. Primary customers include the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability and NETL Fossil Energy Programs. This vacancy is a full-time position.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must have general and/or specialized experience and any selective placement factors as described below. This requirement is in accordance with the OPM Qualifications Standards Operating Manual, available in any Government Personnel Office, which specifies when and how education may be substituted for the experience.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

A. Degree: Economics, that included at least 21 semester hours in economics and 3 semester hours in statistics, accounting or calculus.

OR

B. Combination of education and experience – courses equivalent to a major in economics, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR GS-13: In addition to meeting basic qualification requirements, candidates must possess 1 year of specialized experience which is directly related to the position being filled and which is equivalent to the GS-12 level in the Federal service.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR GS-14: In addition to meeting basic qualification requirements, candidates must possess 1 year of specialized experience which is directly related to the position being filled and which is equivalent to the GS-13 level in the Federal service.

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE: Specialized experience is experience that included professional experience in economics conducting cost and benefits analyses and business case analyses on energy systems and technologies including integrated systems and technologies that generate, transmit, deliver, store, and consume electric power and analysis and comparison of the cost and performance of electric power systems with alternative non-electric power-based energy solutions.

FOREIGN EDUCATION

Applicants who have completed part or all of their education outside of the U.S. must have their foreign education evaluated by an accredited organization to ensure that the foreign education

is comparable to education received in accredited educational institutions in the U.S. A written evaluation of any foreign education must be provided with your application in response to this vacancy announcement or be received by the closing date of this announcement. For a listing of services that can perform this evaluation, see the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) website at <http://www.naces.org/members.htm>. Failure to provide this evaluation will result in you being found unqualified for the position.

PLEASE NOTE: If your foreign education has already been accepted by an accredited U.S. educational institution as part of a degree program with that institution, you do not need to provide an evaluation of foreign education but must submit a copy of the transcripts listing the degree from the U.S. accredited institution that accepted your foreign education.

BASIS OF EVALUATION: Qualified applicants will be rated against the established quality ranking factors (QRF). The extent to which a candidate possesses each knowledge, skill, and/or ability will be determined by measuring the level of experience, education, and training as they relate to each quality ranking factor. The quality ranking factors listed below have been weighted by the Selecting Official based on their relative importance to the position being filled. **DETERMINATION OF THE “BEST QUALIFIED” GROUP WILL BE BASED SOLELY ON INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE CANDIDATES APPLICATION PACKAGE; THEREFORE, CANDIDATES ARE REQUESTED TO SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS EACH QUALITY RANKING FACTOR AND HIGHLIGHT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THEIR SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE. FAILURE TO ADDRESS THE QUALITY RANKING FACTORS MAY RESULT IN A LOWER RATING.**

1. Knowledge of economic concepts and practices and analysis of economic data, related to the field of energy system design and evaluation including electric power systems. (25%)
2. Ability to perform studies that evaluate the technical and economic performance of energy systems and technologies including electric power systems and technologies. (20%)
3. Knowledge of state-of-the-art and advanced energy systems and technologies. (20%)
4. Knowledge of computational tools used to model and analyze energy systems including process simulation software. (15%)
5. Skill in written communication in order to prepare analytical reports including technical and economic evaluations. (10%)
6. Skill in oral communication in order to present technical and economic analyses. (10%)

NOTES:

The U.S. Department of Energy is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NETL provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the NETL HR Office. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

NOTICE: Federal law requires all employers to verify the identity and employment eligibility of all persons hired to work in the United States. All applicants are subject to Employment Verification (E-Verify).

Eligible veterans may apply for Merit Promotion Vacancy announcements under the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998. Recent amendments to the Act provide Veterans with the opportunity, if selected, for career conditional appointments.

Individuals with a disability and 30% disabled veterans may be considered under special hiring authorities.

Relocation expenses may be paid consistent with the Department's policy and guidance.

Probationary period applies to applicants appointed to their first career conditional appointment.

You must include your Social Security number on your application.

This position is also being announced All Sources (NETL-09-70). Please specify on your application which announcement number(s) you are applying under. Status applicants may apply under either or both vacancy announcements but must specifically identify the vacancy announcement number on each application form.

On vacancy announcements advertised at more than one grade level, applicants must identify the lowest pay or grade level they will accept; otherwise, the applicant will be rated only for the highest grade level for which they are qualified.

Those applicants who do not meet the minimum qualification requirements within 30 days of the closing date of the vacancy announcement will be determined to be "not qualified".

This announcement may be used to fill additional positions with the same title, series and grade, basic qualifications, and identical rating criteria including any selective placement factor(s).

As a condition of employment, new employees are required to arrange for direct deposit of paychecks.

This position is included in the bargaining unit.

For more information about the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), please visit our website at www.netl.doe.gov. The status of all NETL vacancy announcements can be found at www.netl.doe.gov under career opportunities.

TO APPLY: Submit the following: (Note: Applications and any attached materials will not be returned.)

Either a current, completed Optional Application for Federal Employment (OF-612 <http://www.opm.gov/Forms/html/of.asp>), or a Resume (which contains specific information outlined on the attachment to this announcement). Reference the vacancy announcement number on application. **PLEASE PROVIDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS, IF AVAILABLE.**
Electronic version of an application will not be accepted.

Annual Performance Appraisal (current).

Notification of Personnel Action (SF-50) (copy/most recent).

Supplementary statement addressing the quality ranking factors which highlights aspects of your background as they relate to the knowledge, skills, and abilities required by the position. Note: Rankings will be based solely on information contained in your application package. **Failure to address the quality ranking factors may result in a lower rating.**

College Transcript (Unofficial transcript may be submitted, however, if selected an Official Transcript will be required.)

Foreign Education Equivalency (if applicable).

Declaration of Federal Employment (OF-306 <http://www.opm.gov/Forms/html/of.asp>). This form is required if using the OF-612 or a Resume because it contains a statement certifying that to the best of your knowledge and belief, all of the information on and attached to the OF-306, is true, correct, complete, and made in good faith. False or fraudulent answers to any question on any part of this declaration or its attachments may be grounds for not hiring or for firing after beginning work, and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment.

DD-214 if applying under the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998.

Submit application material to the following office:

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION MS-921-205
U S DEPT OF ENERGY - NETL
P O BOX 10940
PITTSBURGH PA 15236-0940

NETL will accept applications through the U.S. Mail or Express Mail. Hand delivered applications will not be accepted from off-site applicants. If using Express Mail, the street address is: 626 Cochrans Mill Road.

Applications must be received by the Human Resources Division on or before the closing date of the vacancy announcement or be postmarked by closing date and received by the Human Resources Division within 5 calendar days after the closing date. Late applications will not be considered.

Questions regarding this announcement may be addressed to Lisa McCartney at (412) 386-6018 or mccartne@netl.doe.gov.

HOW YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED ABOUT THE STATUS OF YOUR APPLICATION:

You will be notified either by email or mail about the status of your application. If you have additional questions or need other assistance, you may contact the individual listed as the contact person in the vacancy announcement.

SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY CONSIDERATION FOR SURPLUS OR DISPLACED EMPLOYEES

Department of Energy (DOE) SURPLUS OR DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY CONSIDERATION UNDER THE CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CTAP)

If you are currently a DOE employee who has received a Reduction in Force (RIF) separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation you may be entitled to special priority selection under the DOE Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP). To be eligible for special priority selection under the DOE's Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) you must meet all of the following conditions:

1. Displaced Employee is: (A) a current DOE career or career-conditional competitive service employee in tenure Group I or II, at a GS-15 grade level or equivalent and below, who has received a RIF separation notice or notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function outside of the local commuting area; or (B) a current DOE employee in the excepted service, serving on an appointment without time limit, at a GS-15 grade level or equivalent and below, who has been given non-competitive appointment eligibility and selection priority by statute for positions in the competitive service, and who has received a RIF separation notice or notice of proposed removal for declining a transfer of function or directed reassignment outside of the local commuting area.

Surplus Employee is: (A) a current employee serving under an appointment in the competitive service, in tenure Group I or II, at a GS-15 grade level or equivalent and below, who has received a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES) or other official certification issued by DOE indicating that your position is surplus, for example, a notice of position abolishment, or a notice stating that you are eligible for discontinued service retirement; or (B) a current DOE employee serving on an excepted service appointment without time limit, at a GS-15 grade level or equivalent and below, who has been issued a certificate of expected separation or other official agency certification indicating that your position is surplus, for example, a notice of position abolishment or a notice stating that you are eligible for discontinued service retirement, and you have been conferred noncompetitive appointment eligibility and special selection priority by statute for positions in the competitive service.

You must submit one of the following with your application as proof of eligibility for this special selection priority: (A) a copy of the RIF separation notice or notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function outside of the commuting area; (B) Certificate of Expected Separation (CES) or other official notice from DOE indicating that you are surplus or eligible for discontinued service retirement; or (C) other official DOE certification identifying you as being in a surplus organization or occupation.

2. Be applying for a position that is at or below the grade level of the position from which you are being separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are being separated.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This **must** be submitted with your application package.
4. Be currently employed by the DOE in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration; or at DOE's discretion, occupy a position beyond the local

commuting area. An eligible DOE employee outside the local commuting area, can only exercise selection priority when there are no eligible surplus and displaced DOE employees within the local commuting area who apply and are found well qualified.

5. File your application by the Vacancy Announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
6. Individuals who meet eligibility requirement for special priority selection under CTAP must be well qualified to receive consideration for special priority selection. CTAP eligibles will be considered well qualified if they attain at least a rating score of 85 in a numerical rating.

**DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY
CONSIDERATION UNDER THE INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM (ICTAP)**

If you are a displaced Federal employee you may be entitled to receive special priority selection under the ICTAP. To receive this priority consideration you must:

1. Be a displaced Federal employee. You must submit one of the following as proof of eligibility for this special selection priority: a Reduction in Force (RIF) separation notice, or a notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area; documentation, e.g., SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, showing that you were separated as a result of RIF or for declining a transfer of function or directed reassignment to another commuting area; official certification from an agency stating that it cannot place you and your injury compensation has been or is being terminated; official notification from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) that your disability annuity has been or is being terminated; or official notification from the Military Department or National Guard Bureau that you have retired under 5 United States Code 8337(h) or 8456. The following categories of candidates are considered displaced employees.
 - A. Current or former career or career-conditional (tenure Group I or II) at the GS-15 grade level or equivalent and below competitive service employees who:
 1. Received a specific **RIF** separation notice; or a notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function outside the local commuting area;
 2. Separated because of a compensable injury or illness as provided under the provisions of Subchapter I of Chapter 81 of Title 5, United States Code, whose compensation has been terminated, and whose former agency certifies that it is unable to place; or
 3. Retired with a disability under Sections 8337 or 8451 of Title 5, United States Code, and whose disability annuity has been or is being terminated; or
 4. Upon receipt of a RIF separation notice retired **ON** the effective date of the RIF and submits a Standard Form 50 that indicates "Retirement in lieu of RIF"; or
 5. Retired under the discontinued service retirement option; or
 6. Was separated through reduction in force, or removed for declining a transfer of function or directed reassignment outside the local commuting area.
 - OR**
 - B. Former Military Reserve or National Guard Technicians who are receiving a special Office of Personnel Management (OPM) disability retirement annuity under Section 8337(h) or 8456 of Title 5, United States Code.

OR

- C. A current Executive Branch agency employee in the excepted service, serving on an appointment without time limit, at a GS-15 grade level or equivalent and below, who has been given noncompetitive appointment eligibility and selection priority by statute for positions in the competitive service, and who is in receipt of a reduction in force separation notice or notice of proposed removal for declining a transfer of function or directed reassignment outside the local commuting area.

OR

- D. A former Executive Branch agency employee in the excepted service, who served on an appointment without time limit, at a GS-15 grade level or equivalent and below, who has been given noncompetitive appointment eligibility and selection priority by statute for positions in the competitive service, and who has been separated through reduction in force or removed for declining a transfer of function or directed reassignment outside the local commuting area.
2. Be applying for a position at or below the grade level of the position from which you have been separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you were separated.
 3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This **must** be submitted with your application package. (This requirement does not apply to candidates who are eligible due to compensable injury or disability retirement.)
 4. Occupy or be displaced from a position in the same local commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
 5. File your application by the Vacancy Announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
 6. Individuals who meet eligibility requirement for special priority selection under ICTAP must be well qualified to receive consideration for special priority selection. ICTAP eligibles will be considered well qualified if they attain at least a rating score of 85 in a numerical rating.

Here's what your resume or application must contain (in addition to specific information requested in the job vacancy announcement):

JOB INFORMATION

Give the following information related to the job for which you are applying.

Announcement number

Title

Grade(s)

Identify the lowest pay or grade level you will accept. (You will not be considered for jobs which pay less than you indicated.)

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full name

Mailing address (*with ZIP Code*)

Day and evening phone numbers (*with area code*)

Social Security number

Country of citizenship (*Most Federal jobs require United States citizenship.*)

Veterans' preference

Reinstatement eligibility (*If requested, attach SF-50 proof of your career or career-conditional status.*)

Highest Federal civilian grade held (*Also give job series and dates held.*)

EDUCATION

High school

Name, city, and state (ZIP code if known)

Date of diploma or GED

Colleges and universities

Name, city, and state (ZIP code if known)

Majors

Type and year of any degrees received (If no degree, show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hours.)

Send a copy of your college transcript only if the job vacancy announcement requests it.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Give the following information for your paid and nonpaid work experience related to the job for which you are applying. (*Do not send job descriptions.*)

Job title (*include series and grade if Federal job*)

Duties and accomplishments

Employer's name and address

Supervisor's name and phone number

Starting and ending dates (*month and year*)

Hours per week

Salary

Indicate if we may contact your current supervisor.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

Job-related training courses (*title and year*).

Job-related skills, for example, other languages, computer software/hardware, tools, machinery, typing speed

Job-related certificates and licenses (*current only*)

Job-related honors, awards, and special accomplishments, for example, publications, memberships in professional or honor societies, leadership activities, public speaking, and performance awards. (*Give dates but do not send documents unless requested.*)

APPLICANT BACKGROUND SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

PRIVACY INFORMATION

General

The information is provided pursuant to Public Law 935-597 (Privacy Act of 1974), December 31, 1974, for individuals completing Federal records and forms that solicit personal information.

Authority

Sections 1302, 3301, 3304, and 7201 of Title 5 of the U.S. Code.

Purpose and Routine Uses

The information from this survey is used for research and for a Federal equal opportunity recruitment program to help ensure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law.

Effects of Nondisclosure

Providing this information is voluntary. No individual personnel selections are made based on this information.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The information from this survey is used to help ensure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Your responses are **voluntary**. Please answer each of the questions to the best of your ability. Please print entries in pencil or pen. Use only capital letters. Read each item thoroughly before completing the appropriate code number in each box.

Vacancy Announcement No.: NETL-09-69

Date (Month, Day, Year):

Position: Economist, GS-110-13/14

Name:

How did you learn about the particular position or exam for which you are applying? (You may circle up to three choices.)

01--Private Information Service

02--Magazine/Newspaper

03--Radio/TV

04--DOE Home Page

05--NETL Home Page

06--OPM USA Jobs

07--Minorities Job Bank

08--Other WEB sites (Specify): _____

09--Hard Copy of Vacancy Announcement

10--Agency Personnel Department

11--FRS-Federal Career Opportunities Listing

12--Federal/State/Local Job Information Center

13--Religious Organization

14--School or College Counselor or Other Official

15--Friend or Relative Working for the Agency

16--Friend or Relative Not Working for Agency

17--State Employment Office (Unemployment Office)

18--Private Employment Office

19--Other (Specify): _____

Please categorize yourself in terms of the race/ethnic category and sex using the definitions below: (Please circle one.)

RACE/ETHNIC CODE:

A--American Indian or Alaskan Native

Person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

B--Asian or Pacific Islander

Person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.

C--Black, Not of Hispanic Origin

Person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

D--Hispanic

Person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

E--White, Not of Hispanic Origin

Person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.

SEX: (Please circle one.)

1--Male

2--Female

DISABILITY STATUS: (Please circle one.)

You may submit this form as part of your application package; however, it will be removed upon receipt and forwarded to NETL's Office of the Economic Impact and Diversity Manager.

Disability Status Codes:

- 05. I do not have a disability.
- 16. Total deafness in both ears, with or without understandable speech.
- 23. Inability to read ordinary size print, not correctable by glasses (can read oversize print or use assisting device).
- 25. Blind in both eyes (no usable vision, may have some light perception).
- 28. Missing one arm or one leg.
- 33. Missing both hands or both arms or both feet or both legs.
- 35. Missing one hand or arm and one foot or leg.
- 64. Partial paralysis of both hands.
- 65. Partial paralysis of both legs, any part, or both arms, any part.
- 67. Partial paralysis of one side of the body, including one arm and one leg.
- 68. Partial paralysis of three or more major parts of the body (arms and legs).
- 71. Complete paralysis of both hands or both arms or both legs.
- 72. Complete paralysis of one arm or one leg.
- 76. Complete paralysis of lower half of body, including legs.
- 77. Complete paralysis of one side of body, including one arm and one leg.
- 78. Complete paralysis of three or more major parts (of body) (arms and legs).
- 82. Convulsive disorder (e.g., epilepsy).
- 90. Mental retardation (a chronic and lifelong condition involving a limited ability to learn, to be educated, and to be trained for useful productive employment as certified by a state vocational rehabilitation agency).
- 91. Mental or emotional illness (a history of treatment for mental or emotional problems).
- 92. Severe distortion of limbs and/or spine (e.g., dwarfism, severe distortion of the back).
- 06. I have a disability, but it is not listed above. Describe: