

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant Project No. P-2114-116; County Washington; Errata Notice

December 12, 2003.

On November 3, 2003, the Commission issued a "Notice of Application Tendered for Filing with the Commission, Soliciting Additional Study Requests, and Establishing Procedural Schedule for Relicensing and a Deadline for Submission of Final Amendments" in the above-referenced proceeding.

Item "1." of the referenced Notice read "Deadline for filing additional study requests and requests for agency cooperating status: December 22, 2003." The date should have been: December 29, 2003.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7599-8]

Notice of Request for Initial Proposals (IPs) for Projects To Be Funded From the Water Quality Cooperative Agreement Allocation (CFDA 66.463—Water Quality Cooperative Agreements)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA is soliciting Initial Proposals (IPs) from States, Tribes, local governments, universities, non-profits, and other eligible entities, as shown below in the section called Eligible Applicants, interested in applying for Federal assistance for Water Quality Cooperative Agreements (CFDA 66.463) under the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 104(b)(3). EPA Headquarters intends to award an estimated \$3.5 million to eligible applicants through assistance agreements ranging in size from \$10,000 up to \$500,000 for Water Quality Cooperative Agreements, which are for unique and innovative projects

that address the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) program with special emphasis on wet weather activities, *i.e.*, storm water, combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, and concentrated animal feeding operations as well as projects that enhance the ability of the regulated community to deal with non-traditional pollution problems in priority watersheds. From the IPs received, EPA estimates that 30 to 35 projects may be selected to submit full applications.

The Agency intends to make available at least \$200,000 per year of the annual appropriation for Water Quality Cooperative Agreements, from FY 2004 through FY 2005, for projects which address cooling water intake issues to include technical and environmental studies. The Agency has made available \$600,000 from FY 2001 through FY 2003. It is expected that the \$200,000 available for cooling water intake projects in FY 2004 will be used to fund a project approved in a prior year.

The Agency reserves the right to reject all IPs and make no awards.

DATES: EPA will consider all IPs received on or before 5 p.m. Eastern Time, February 17, 2004. IPs received after the due date, may be reviewed at EPA's discretion.

ADDRESSES: It is preferred that IPs be electronically mailed (E-mailed) to WQCA2004@EPA.GOV. If mailed through the postal service or other means, three copies should be sent to: Barry Benroth, 4204M, WQCA2004 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

The following address must be used for delivery of the copies by an overnight delivery or courier service: Barry Benroth, 4204M, WQCA2004, Phone 202-564-0672, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Room 7324 J, EPA East, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barry Benroth by telephone at 202-564-0672 or by E-mail at benroth.barry@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of This Request Is for Initial Proposals

The Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water at EPA Headquarters is requesting IPs from States, Tribes, local governments, non-profit organizations and other eligible entities under the Clean Water Act Section 104(b)(3) for unique and innovative projects that address the

requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) program with special emphasis on wet weather activities, *i.e.*, storm water, and concentrated animal feeding operations as well as projects that enhance the ability of the regulated community to deal with non-traditional pollution problems in priority watersheds.

An organization whose IP is selected for possible Federal assistance must complete an EPA Application for Assistance, including the Federal SF-424 form (Application for Federal Assistance, *see* 40 CFR 30.12 and 31.10).

Organizations who have an existing agreement under this program are eligible to compete with proposals for new awards.

The Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water, EPA Headquarters Has Identified the Following High Priority Areas for Consideration

Assistance agreements awarded under Section 104(b)(3) may only be used to conduct and promote the coordination and acceleration of activities such as research, investigations, experiments, training, education, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effect, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution. These activities, while not defined in the statute, advance the state of knowledge, gather information, or transfer information. For instance, "demonstrations" are generally projects that demonstrate new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches and the results of the project will be disseminated so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained. A project that is accomplished through the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project may be, is not a demonstration. Research projects may include the application of established practices when they contribute to learning about an environmental concept or problem.

The Office of Wastewater Management at EPA Headquarters has identified several subject areas for priority consideration. EPA will award Assistance Agreements for research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies related to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution in the subject areas shown below in bold. Example projects are shown for each area.