

Technology program provides grants to consortia that are helping future teachers become proficient in the use of modern learning technologies. This program addresses looming teacher shortages by developing well-qualified, technology-proficient teachers, who are prepared to teach in 21st century schools. This program provides support for two types of grants: implementation grants and catalyst grants.

Eligible Applicants: Only consortia may receive grants under this program. A consortium must include at least two members. Consortium members may include institutions of higher education (IHEs), schools of education, State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), private schools, professional associations, foundations, museums, libraries, for profit agencies and organizations, nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, and others.

Note: In each consortium a participating nonprofit member must be designated as the "applicant" for purposes of 34 CFR 75.128 and must act as the fiscal agent.

Applications Available: December 15, 2000.

Deadline for Receipt of Applications: February 22, 2001.

Note: All application materials must be received on or before the deadline date. Pursuant to 34 CFR 614.8 an application for a grant under this program must be received by the deadline date announced in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 8, 2001.

Estimated Available Funds: \$31,750,000. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process before the end of the fiscal year, if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$200,000–\$500,000 for implementation grants, and \$500,000–\$700,000 for catalyst grants.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$350,000 for implementation grants, and \$600,000 for catalyst grants.

Estimated Number of Awards: 65 implementation grants, and 15 catalyst grants.

Project Period: 36 months for implementation grants, and 36 months for catalyst grants.

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

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75 (except for 75.102), 77, 79, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; (b)

The regulation for this program is 34 CFR part 614. The selection criteria and factors to be used for this competition will be provided in the application package.

Application Review Procedures: The Secretary announces the use of a multi-tier review process to evaluate all applications submitted for new awards under the FY 2001 Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program. The Secretary takes this action to ensure a thorough review and assessment of the large number of applications that are expected to be received under the FY 2001 competition. This multi-tier review process does not affect the contents of applications in this competition.

For Applications Contact: Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, Suite 6160, Washington DC 20202–5131. Telephone: (202) 502–7788. Fax: (202) 502–7775. Via Internet: <http://www.ed.gov/teachtech>

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pat Pilkerton, Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, Suite 6160, Washington DC 20202–5131. Telephone: (202) 502–7788. E-mail: pat_pilkerton@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

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

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites: <http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm> <http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1–888–293–6498; or in Washington, DC, area at (202) 512–1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6832.

Dated: December 11, 2000.

A. Lee Frischler,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 00–31973 Filed 12–14–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Use of Tests as Part of High-Stakes Decision-Making for Students: A Resource Guide for Educators and Policymakers

AGENCY: Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of availability of final document.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights announces the availability of a final document entitled "The Use of Tests as Part of High-Stakes Decision-Making for Students: A Resource Guide for Educators and Policymakers." The resource guide is designed to provide educators and policymakers with an informative and practical tool that will assist in their development and implementation of policies that involve the use of tests in making high-stakes decisions for students. The guide provides information about relevant Federal non-discrimination standards and professionally recognized test measurement principles, as well as a collection of resources related to the non-discrimination and test measurement principles discussed in the guide.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Address requests for copies of the final document to Jeanette J. Lim, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5212 Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202–1100. Telephone: 1–800–421–3481. For all requests submitted by letter, you must include the term "Testing Guide." If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the TDD number at 1–877–521–2172. The final document is also available through the

Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/testing>

If you prefer to send your request through the Internet, use the following address: ocr@ed.gov

You must include the term "Testing Guide" in the subject line of your electronic message.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audio-tape, or computer diskette) by contacting the Office for Civil Rights' Customer Service Team at 1-800-421-3481.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 6, 2000, we published a notice of availability of and a request for comments on the draft document entitled "The Use of Tests When Making High-Stakes Decisions for Students: A Resource Guide for Educators and Policymakers" in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 41643). The purpose of the resource guide is to provide educators and policymakers with information about Federal non-discrimination standards and test measurement principles concerning the proper use of tests as part of decision-making that has high-stakes consequences for students.

Earlier versions of the draft resource guide have been reviewed by the National Academy of Science's Board on Testing and Assessment (BOTA), the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, and dozens of groups and individuals, including educators, parents, teachers, business leaders, policymakers, test publishers, civil rights groups, individual Members of Congress, and others. BOTA conducted a public hearing on the resource guide on January 26, 2000.

In response to our invitation in the previous **Federal Register** notice of availability, 40 parties submitted comments on the draft document. We have considered these comments in drafting the final guide.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm>
<http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, 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 (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this notice is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: December 12, 2000.

Norma V. Cantu,

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

[FR Doc. 00-31999 Filed 12-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-42-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Application

December 11, 2000.

On November 30, 2000, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia), P.O. Box 1273, Charleston, West Virginia 25325-1273, filed an application in Docket No. CP01-42-000 pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Section 157.18 of the Commission's Regulations for permission and approval to abandon by sale to Nicole Gas Production, LTD (Nicole), an Ohio limited liability company, certain natural gas facilities in West Virginia and Pennsylvania (Facilities) and authorization to abandon the related service associated with the Facilities, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the commission and open to public inspection. The filing may be viewed at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Columbia states that the Facilities to be sold to Nicole were certificated by the Commission as transmission and storage facilities, which were constructed and operated as part of a low pressure transmission system that transported locally produced gas to Columbia's mainline for system supply and redelivery to various markets. Also included in the proposed sale is Columbia's Holbrook Storage Field. Holbrook was constructed in 1950. Columbia does not propose the separate sale of base gas in connection with the proposed sale since it has determined that the recovery of remaining base gas is such a small volume (approximately 1 Bcf) that it is economically unrecoverable. In lieu of Columbia filing a separate Section 4 filing, Columbia asks that the Commission waive its requirement and accept the information provided within the application in

Exhibits Z-2 and Z-3 as its notice to terminate service.

Columbia and Nicole entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement dated September 27, 2000 for the Facilities. Columbia will also sell Nicole various non-jurisdictional facilities (known as the CHEWP System) that the Commission approved for sale in Docket No. CP97-127-000,¹ as well as an additional 23.24 miles of 2- to 16-inch pipeline which was not part of the CP97-127-000 proceeding. The Facilities will be sold for a negotiated amount of \$3,655,00. Nicole has advised Columbia that it intends to operate the Facilities as gathering facilities and to use the Facilities primarily for production and gathering activities. Columbia seeks such authorization on or before May 1, 2001.

According to Columbia, Nicole will assume the obligation to continue operating the Facilities, providing both firm and interruptible service to Columbia's customers receiving service through the Facilities on the date of closing, on terms and conditions acceptable to both Nicole and the customers, as well as to the mainline tap consumers of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania and Mountaineer Gas Company. Thus, there will be no material change to, or interruption in, the services currently being provided to customers through the Facilities. Columbia does not propose any construction or facility removal in connection with the proposed abandonment.

Questions regarding the details of this proposed abandonment should be directed to Victoria J. Hamilton, Certificate Coordinator, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, P.O. Box 1273, Charleston, West Virginia 25325-1273, call (304) 357-2297.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this abandonment. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this abandonment should, on or before January 2, 2001, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit

¹ 79 FERC ¶ 61,045 (1997).