

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. R. J. Erickson, Staff Patent Attorney, Office of Naval Research, ONR 00CC, Ballston Tower One, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22217-5660, telephone (703) 696-4001.

(Authority: 35 U.S.C. 207, 37 CFR Part 404)

Dated: June 2, 1998.

Lou Rae Langevin,

LT, JAGC, USN, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Golden Field Office; Notice of Solicitation for Financial Assistance Applications; National Industrial Competitiveness Through Energy, Environment and Economics (NICE³)

AGENCY: Golden Field Office, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation for financial assistance applications for the national industrial competitiveness through energy, environment and economics (NICE³), DE-PS36-98GO10294.

SUMMARY: The Office of Industrial Technologies of the Department of Energy, Golden Field Office is funding a State Grant Program entitled National Industrial Competitiveness through Energy, Environment and Economics (NICE³). The goals of the NICE³ Program are to improve energy efficiency, promote cleaner production, and to improve competitiveness in industry. The intent of the NICE³ program is to fund innovative projects that have completed the research and development stage and are ready to demonstrate a fully integrated commercial unit. Some industrial technologies that the NICE³ program has funded follow: SO₃ Cleaning Process in the Manufacture of Semiconductors; Innovative Design of a Brick Kiln Using Low Thermal Mass Technology; Continuously Reform Electroless Nickel Plating Solutions; Fiber Loading for Paper Manufacture; and HCl Acid Recovery System. For the past eight years the NICE³ program has offered 88 grants (approximately \$29.3 million) to fund innovative industrial technologies. In 1998 the Department of Energy offered \$3.8 million in grants to 10 U.S. companies in 8 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

DATES: DOE expects to issue the solicitation on June 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: To obtain a copy of the solicitation, once issued, eligible parties may write to the U.S. Department of

Energy Golden Field Office, Attention: Jim Damm, Contract Specialist, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, Colorado 80401. Facsimiles and electronic mail are acceptable and can be transmitted to (303) 275-4788 or jim_damm@nrel.gov. Beginning June 15, 1998, applicants are encouraged to obtain an electronic copy through the Golden Field Office Home Page at <http://www.eren.doe.gov/golden/solicitations.htm>. Only written requests for the solicitation will be honored.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Damm, Contract Specialist at 303-275-4744 or Eric Hass at 303-275-4728.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Restricted Eligibility

Eligible applicants for purposes of funding under the program include any authorized agency of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States. For convenience, the term State in this notice refers to all eligible State agency applicants. Local governments, State and private universities, private non-profits, private businesses and individuals, who are not eligible as direct applicants, must work with the appropriate State agencies in developing projects and forming participation arrangements. DOE requires these types of cooperative arrangements in support of program goals. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number assigned to this program is 81.105. Cost sharing is required by all participants. The Federal Government will provide up to 50 percent of the funds for the project. The remaining funds must be provided by the eligible applicants and/or cooperating project participants. Cost sharing, by industry/State partners, beyond the 50 percent required match is desirable. In addition to direct financial contributions, cost sharing can include beneficial services or items, such as manpower, equipment, consultants and computer time that are allowable in accordance with applicable cost principles. The inclusion of industrial partners is required for a proposal to be considered responsive to the solicitation to be eligible for grant consideration. A State agency application signed by an authorized State official is required for a proposal to be responsive.

Availability of Funds in FY 1999

With this publication, DOE is announcing the availability of up to \$6 million in grant/cooperative agreement funds for fiscal year 1999. The awards will be made through a competitive

process. In response to the solicitation, a State agency may include up to 10 percent, not to exceed \$25,000 per project, for State agency program support. The Federal share of grants including State agency program support may range up to \$425,000 with a maximum of \$400,000 for the industrial partner. Projects may cover a period of up to 3 years. DOE reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the proposals submitted in response to this notice.

Issued in Golden, Colorado, on June 5, 1998.

Dated: June 4, 1998.

John W. Meeker,

Chief, Procurement, GO.

[FR Doc. 98-15721 Filed 6-11-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-571-000]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

June 8, 1998.

Take notice that on May 29, 1998, as clarified on June 4, 1998, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR), 500 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243, filed in Docket No. CP98-571-000 an abbreviated application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act and Sections 157.7 and 157.18 of the Commission's Regulations to abandon a firm natural gas transportation service for Texas Gas Transmission Corporation (Texas Gas) performed under ANR's Rate Schedule X-63, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

ANR states that the transportation service was originally authorized by the Commission in an order issued January 13, 1977 in Docket No. CP75-125-000, and involved the transportation by ANR on a firm basis of up to 196,640 Mcf per day from West Cameron Area Block 167 in offshore Louisiana, to a point of interconnection with Texas Gas' pipeline facilities in Acadia Parish, Louisiana and/or up to 100,000 Mcf per day to an interconnection with Texas Gas at Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

No facilities are proposed to be abandoned, and ANR requests an effective date of June 15, 1998 for the abandonment authorization.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before June 29,