

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE A FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the intent to issue Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-PS26-05NT42396 entitled State Energy Program (SEP) Special Projects Opportunity for Funding. The Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) is anticipating the availability of financial assistance to the States for a group of special project activities. Funding is being provided by a number of programs in EERE. States may apply to undertake any of the projects being offered by these programs. Financial assistance will be awarded to the States separately for each special project, with activities to be carried out in conjunction with their efforts under SEP. The special project's funding and activities are tracked separately so that the DOE Program Offices may follow the progress of individual projects.

**DATES:** The funding opportunity will be available on the "Industry Interactive Procurement System" (IIPS) webpage located at <http://e-center.doe.gov> on or about February 1, 2005. Applicants can obtain access to the funding opportunity from the address above or through DOE/NETL's website at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>.

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kelly A. McDonald, MS I07  
U.S. Department of Energy  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
PO Box 880 / 3610 Collins Ferry Road  
Morgantown, WV 26507-0880  
E-mail Address: [kelly.mcdonald@netl.doe.gov](mailto:kelly.mcdonald@netl.doe.gov)  
Telephone Number: (304) 285-4113

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:** The proposed projects must meet the relevant requirements of the program providing the funding, as well as of the SEP as specified in the 2005 State Energy Program Special Projects Funding Opportunity. The goals of the special projects activities are to directly involve States in activities to accelerate deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; to facilitate the commercialization of emerging and underutilized technologies; and to increase the responsiveness of Federally-funded technology development efforts to the needs of the marketplace.

Fiscal year 2005 is the tenth year special project activities have been funded in conjunction with the State Energy Program (10 CFR 420). Most of these special projects are related to or based on similar efforts that have been funded by other DOE programs.

### **Availability of Fiscal Year 2005 Funds:**

With this publication, DOE is anticipating the availability of an estimated \$14.7 million in new financial assistance awards from fiscal year 2005 appropriations. DOE's obligation for performance of this Funding Opportunity is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which financial assistance awards can be made.

The awards will be made through a competitive process. The programs that are participating in the State Energy Program Special Projects Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2005, with the estimated amount of funding available for each, are as follows:

- **Clean Cities:** This program will provide funds to support the deployment of alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) in the following six categories: (1) Projects that promote acquisition of commercially-available AFVs that maximize alternative fuel use, especially medium- and heavy-duty highway vehicles; (2) projects that promote AFV infrastructure development; (3) projects that promote idle reduction technologies; (4) projects that promote

acquisition of heavy-duty hybrid electric vehicles; (5) projects that promote the acquisition of AFV school buses and refueling infrastructure; and (6) projects that support coalition activities (\$4,000,000).

- Industrial Technology Program: The objective of this program is to work with national, State and regional industrial partners to plan and conduct outreach and technical assistance activities that target the most energy-intensive industrial plants in the State (\$2,000,000).
- Building Codes and Standards: This program will support States' actions to adopt, update, implement, enforce and evaluate the effectiveness of their residential and commercial building energy codes (\$1,650,000).
- Rebuild America: This program supports Rebuild America State Programs, which are consistent with the Rebuild America Strategic Plan that identifies specific and measurable building and related energy saving projects. The goal is for 50 percent of the partnerships to have completed at least one major building renovation project by 2005. The partnerships must define a program and process that would show a significant opportunity for completion of building projects (\$3,700,000).
- Building America: Applications under this program should include research that coordinates with Building America's goal of creating building system performance packages that make new houses 40 percent to 70 percent more energy efficient than those built to local building code standards. Existing houses should be 30 percent more energy efficient than the local building code (\$500,000).
- Solar Technology Program: The objective of this program is to perform the necessary measurements to determine the range of environmental conditions that must be considered for micro inverters (\$250,000).
- State Wind Energy Support: Applications will be sought for instrumentation of existing tall towers (100 meters or taller) in coastal and barrier island areas suitable for potential wind power development and in wind applications in the treatment, movement and use of water resources (\$375,000).
- Distributed Energy and Electric Reliability – Regional Combined Cooling Heating and Power Applications Centers: The objectives of the Regional Application Centers will be to provide essential and appropriate applied research and development support, focused on the technology transfer and deployment of advanced Combined Heat and Power (CHP) technologies. The Regional Application Centers will achieve this objective through targeted education and outreach programs, as well as project assistance (\$1,200,000).
- Biomass: This program will support the development of innovative State or local incentives and projects that will facilitate increased market development for bio-based power, fuels, and other valuable products (\$500,000).
- EERE/Air Quality Integration: To quantify and verify the air emission reductions, energy benefits and economic benefits of existing SEP or SEP Special Projects funded energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. All projects should be replicable in another area of the country and build capacity within State agencies (\$150,000).
- Federal Energy Management Program: Applications should promote and facilitate sustainable design and construction, energy efficient operations and maintenance, distributed and renewable energy, renewable energy purchases, siting of renewable power on Federal sites, and assessment and implementation of load and energy reduction techniques (\$400,000).

**Restricted Eligibility:**

Eligible applicants under this opportunity are limited to the 50 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Applications must be submitted by the State Energy Office or other agency responsible for administering the State Energy Program pursuant to 10 CFR part 420, although States may work in collaboration with non-State partners. For convenience, the term "State" in the funding opportunity will refer to all eligible applicants.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number assigned to the State Energy Program Special Projects is 81.119.

Requirements for cost-sharing contributions will be addressed in each category in the anticipated opportunity.

**Evaluation Review and Criteria:**

A first tier review for compliance will be conducted by DOE. Applications found to be in compliance will undergo a merit review process by panels comprised of members representing the participating programs at DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. DOE reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all or none of the applications submitted in response to this notice.

Once released, the funding opportunity will be available for downloading from the IIPS Internet page. At this Internet site, an applicant will also be able to register with IIPS, enabling submission of an application. Technical assistance in registering with IIPS, or any other IIPS function, may be obtained via calling the IIPS Help Desk at (800) 683-0751, or E-mailing the Help Desk personnel at [IIPS\\_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov](mailto:IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov). The funding opportunity will only be made available in IIPS, no hard (paper) copies of the opportunity and related documents will be made available. Once the funding opportunity is issued, all questions regarding the opportunity must be submitted via the "Submit Question" feature in IIPS; the Government reserves the right to not answer questions submitted via any method other than the "Submit Question" feature in IIPS. Telephone requests, written requests, E-mail requests, or facsimile requests for a copy of the funding opportunity package will not be accepted and/or honored. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the opportunity.

**Note**

The Department of Energy has issued solicitation DE-PS26-05NT42396. Attached are the master solicitation and the individual categories. Applications must be submitted by the State Energy Office although we may work in collaboration with State partners. The proposed projects must meet the relevant requirements of the program providing the funding, as well as of the State Energy Program (SEP) as specified in the 2005 SEP Special Projects Funding Opportunity. The goals of the special projects activities are to directly involve States in activities to accelerate deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; to facilitate the commercialization of emerging and underutilized technologies; and to increase the responsiveness of Federally-funded technology development efforts to the needs of the marketplace. There will be an estimated \$14.7 million nationwide in new financial assistance awards for Federal fiscal year 2005. These are competitive grants. The following due dates apply:

1. Applications in categories 01A, 01C, 02, 04, 06 and 07 are due to the Florida Energy Office by 5:00 p.m. on April 11, 2005.

2. Applications in categories 01B, 01E, 03, 05, and 10 are due to the Florida Energy Office by 5:00 p.m. on April 13, 2005.

3. Applications in categories 01D, 01F, 08A, 08B, 09 and 11 are due to the Florida Energy Office by 5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2005.

These due dates will allow us ample time to review the applications internally and to make the necessary corrections, format changes and edits as required in consultation with partners. If there are questions please contact the appropriate program manager.