

*e. Applicant's Past Performance:* DOE reserves the right to solicit from available sources relevant information concerning an applicant's past performance and may consider such information in its evaluation.

*f. Commitment of Public Funds:* The Contracting Officer is the only individual who can legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds in connection with the proposed award. Any other commitment, either explicit or implied, is invalid.

*g. Effective Period of Application:* All applications should remain in effect for at least 180 days from the closing date.

*h. Availability of Funds:* The actual amount of funds to be obligated will be subject to availability of funds appropriated by Congress.

*i. Loans under DOE Minority Economic Impact (MEI) Loan Program:* Applicants are advised that loans under the DOE Minority Economic Impact (MEI) Loan Program are not available to finance the cost of preparing an application pursuant to this solicitation.

*j. Assurances and Certifications:* DOE requires the submission of preaward assurances of compliance and certifications which are mandated by law. The assurance and certification forms will be provided in the application package.

*k. Questions and Answers:* Questions regarding this solicitation should be submitted in writing to the DOE Contract Specialist no later than April 10, 1995. Questions and answers will be issued in writing as an amendment to this solicitation.

*l. Preaward Costs:* The government is not liable for any costs incurred in preparation of an application. Awardees may incur preaward costs up to ninety (90) days prior to the effective date of award. Should the awardee take such action, it is done so at the awardee's risk and does not impose any obligation on the DOE to issue an award.

*m. Patents, Data, and Copyrights:* Applicants are advised that patents, data, and copyrights will be treated in accordance with 10 CFR 600.33.

*n. Environmental Impact:* An applicant environmental checklist will be provided in the DOE application package. Award will not be made until the environmental checklist is completed. An environmental review of the environmental checklist and the application will be conducted by DOE as required by 10 CFR 1021.216.

*o. EPACT:* Applicants shall be required to comply with section 2306 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPACT) (42 U.S.C. 13525), as applicable.

*p. Buy American Act:* Any organization receiving award under this solicitation must comply with the Buy American Provisions of Section 307 of Pub. L. 103-332, Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1995.

Dated: March 9, 1995.

**R. J. Hoyles,**

*Director, Procurement Services Division.*

[FR Doc. 95-7278 Filed 3-23-95; 8:45 am]

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### **Golden Field Office; Federal Assistance Award to National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of Noncompetitive Financial Assistance Award.

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**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the DOE Financial Assistance Rules, 10 CFR 600.7, is announcing its intention to award a cooperative agreement to the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF), for the further development and implementation of a nationwide program for voluntary certification of training programs for alternative fuel vehicle and refueling systems technicians. This program will assist the Office of Transportation Technologies (OTT) programs at DOE, in the implementation of Section 411 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAct). The OTT programs seek to improve transportation energy efficiency and to reduce the nation's dependence on imported fuels. This is not a notice for solicitation of proposals or financial assistance applications.

**ADDRESSES:** Questions regarding this announcement may be addressed to the U.S. Department of Energy, Golden Field Office, 1617 Cole Blvd., Golden, Colorado 80401, Attention: Ms. Ruth E. Adams, Contract Specialist. The telephone number is 303-275-4722.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The applicant organization is a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation founded in 1982. In conjunction with the National Institute of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), the applicant organization has implemented a national standards development and evaluation process for the certification of automotive technician training programs. This program expands the NATEF capability to include alternative fuel technician training programs. The NATEF organization is governed by its 15-member Board of Trustees which

represents virtually every segment of the transportation industry as well as representatives from consumer groups, vocational and other educators, professional technicians, employers of technicians, business leaders, and other affected entities and persons.

In accordance with 10 CFR 600.7, it has been determined that the activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of an activity that will enhance the public benefit derived and for which competition and the delay resulting therefrom would have a significant adverse effect on completion of the activity. The applicant has exclusive domestic capability to perform the activity successfully, based upon its existing automotive technician training program certification process and its experience demonstrating that this process results in nationwide quality improvement of automotive service and repair. DOE knows of no organization other than NATEF which is capable and which is conducting or is planning to conduct development and implementation of certification of training programs for alternative fuel vehicle technicians and alternative fuel refueling-system technicians as proposed by the applicant.

Current Federal funding is available in the amount of \$500,000. A minimum of \$88,000 from non-Federal sources has been committed by NATEF to accomplish the first year of this development program. The project cost over five years is estimated to be \$2,795,634 total, with the DOE share being \$2,318,997 and \$476,637 to be cost-shared by NATEF.

Issued in Golden, Colorado on March 14, 1995.

**John W. Meeker,**

*Chief, Procurement, GO.*

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### **Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

#### **Federal Energy Management Programs Workshops**

**AGENCY:** Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of Training Workshops.

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**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing the fiscal year 1995 training schedule for Federal energy management workshops that will be conducted by the Office of Federal Energy Management Programs in support of the Executive Order 12902