

grants will be awarded within the available funding. The unique resources of the NLUF are available to scientists for state-of-the-art experiments primarily in the area of inertial confinement fusion (ICF) and related plasma physics. Other areas such as spectroscopy of highly ionized atoms, laboratory astrophysics, fundamental physics, material science, and biology and chemistry will be considered on a secondary basis.

The LLE was established in 1970 to investigate the interaction of high power lasers with matter. Available at the LLE for NLUF researchers is the upgraded OMEGA LASER, a 30 kJ UV 60 beam laser system (at 0.35 μm) suitable for direct-drive ICF implosions, and the Glass Development Laser (GDL), a 1 trillion watt, single beam prototype for the OMEGA (at 0.35 μm). The systems are suitable for a variety of experiments including laser-plasma interactions and atomic spectroscopy. The NLUF program for FY97 is to concentrate on experiments that can be done with the OMEGA laser at the University of Rochester and development of diagnostic techniques suitable for the OMEGA system.

Measurements of the laser coupling, laser-plasma interactions, core temperature, and core density are needed to determine the characteristics of the target implosions. Diagnostic techniques could include either new instrumentation, development of analysis tools, or development of targets that are applicable for 30 kJ implosions. Additional information about the facilities and potential collaboration at the NLUF can be obtained from: Dr. James Knauer, Manager, National Laser Users' Facility, University of Rochester/LLE, 250 East River Road, Rochester, NY 14623.

Issued in Oakland, CA, March 20, 1996.
Joan Macrusky,
Chief, Financial Assistance Branch, Program Acquisition and Assistance Division.
[FR Doc. 96-8499 Filed 4-4-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Office of Energy Research

Energy Research Financial Assistance Program Notice 96-13: Research in Photochemistry

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).
ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) of the Office of Energy Research (ER), U.S. Department of Energy, hereby announces its interest in

receiving grant applications in support of the Photochemistry and Radiation Sciences program, as described in the recent workshop report entitled, "Research Opportunities in Photochemical Sciences".

DATES: Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a brief preapplication. All preapplications, referencing Program Notice 96-13, should be received not later than 4:30 PM, E.D.T., April 30, 1996. A response discussing the potential program relevance of a formal application generally will be communicated to the applicant within 15 days of receipt. The deadline for receipt of the formal applications is 4:30 PM, E.D.T., May 29, 1996, in order to be accepted for merit review and to permit timely consideration for award in fiscal year 1996.

ADDRESSES: All preapplications, referencing Program Notice 96-13, should be sent to Dr. Silvia E. Ronco, Chemical Sciences Division, ER-141, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, Office of Energy Research, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290.

After receiving notification from DOE concerning successful preapplications, applicants may prepare formal applications and send them to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Research, Grants and Contracts Division, ER-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290, Attn: Program Notice 96-13. The above address for formal applications also must be used when submitting formal applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, any commercial mail delivery service, or when handcarried by the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Silvia E. Ronco, Chemical Sciences Division, ER-141, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290. Telephone: (301) 903-6891.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A workshop entitled "Research Opportunities in Photochemical Sciences", organized by the Office of Basic Energy Sciences, was held February 5-8, 1996 in Estes Park, Colorado. The purpose of that meeting was to provide a forum to discuss and highlight the importance and relevance of basic research in various facets of photochemistry and related scientific fields to present and future technologies. There is a report available to the scientific and energy technology community, which contains a Recommendations for Future Research

section via the Internet using the following E-mail address: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/bes/chm/chmhome.html>. The Chemical Sciences Division interests are in the areas of Photochemistry. The Materials Sciences Division has continuing interest in photovoltaic materials and their materials chemistry.

The brief preapplication should consist of two to three pages of narrative describing the research objectives and methods of accomplishment. Telephone and FAX numbers are required parts of the preapplication, and electronic mail addresses are desirable.

It is anticipated that up to \$500,000 can be made available for grant awards during FY 1996, contingent upon availability of appropriated funds. The number of awards and the range of funding will depend on the number of applications received and selected for award. Multiple-year funding of grant awards is expected and is also contingent upon availability of funds. Renewal of the award for another term will be dependent upon success factors such as publications and peer-review of the renewal application. Applications will be subjected to formal merit review and will be evaluated against the following criteria which are listed in descending order of importance as set forth in 10 CFR Part 605:

1. Scientific and/or technical merit of the project;
2. Appropriateness of the proposed method or approach;
3. Competency of applicant's personnel and adequacy of proposed resources;
4. Reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget.

In fiscal year 1997, it is expected that funds will be available to support research in photochemistry, subject to fiscal year 1997 appropriations. Complete information about the photochemistry program may be obtained from either Dr. Silvia E. Ronco at the above address or from Dr. Mary E. Gress at the same address or at (301)903-5827. To be considered for possible fiscal 1997 funding, potential applicants may submit applications at any time after the May 29, 1996 due date set forth in this notice. The submission of brief preapplications prior to submitting formal applications is encouraged. Information about the development, submission, and the selection process, and other policies and procedures may be found in 10 CFR Part 605, and in the Application Guide for the Office of Energy Research Financial Assistance Program. The Application Guide is available from the U.S. Department of Energy, Chemical Sciences Division,

Office of Energy Research, ER-141, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290. Telephone requests may be made by calling (301) 903-5820. Electronic access to ER's Financial Assistance Guide is possible via the Internet using the following E-mail address: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>.

The catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 81.049, and the solicitation control number is ERFAP 10 CFR Part 605.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 25, 1996.

John Rodney Clark,

Associate Director for Resource Management, Office of Energy Research.

[FR Doc. 96-8501 Filed 4-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Energy Research Financial Assistance Program Notice 96-14; High Performance Computing and Communications Grand Challenge Applications

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The staff of the Mathematical, Information, and Computational Sciences (MICS) Division of the Office of Computational and Technology Research (OCTR), Office of Energy Research (ER), U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its interest in receiving grant applications for research grants for High Performance Computing and Communications Grand Challenge Applications.

DATES: Formal applications submitted in response to this notice must be received not later than 4:30 p.m. E.D.T., June 15, 1996, to permit timely consideration for award early in fiscal year 1997.

ADDRESSES: Formal applications, referencing Program Notice 96-14, should be forwarded to: U. S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Research, Grants and Contracts Division, ER-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290, Attn: Program Notice 96-14. The above address also must be used when submitting formal applications by U. S. Postal Service Express Mail, any commercial mail delivery service, or when handcarried by the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Walter C. Ermler, Office of Energy Research, U.S. Department of Energy, OCTR/MICS, ER-31, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, Tel: (301) 903-5800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: High Performance Computing and Communications (HPCC) Grand Challenge Applications (GCAs) address computation-intensive fundamental problems in science and engineering whose solutions can be advanced by applying HPCC technologies and resources. This solicitation constitutes Phase II of the DOE HPCC GCAs program. DOE GCAs will be restricted to DOE mission areas and relevant research programs of the DOE Office of Energy Research.

Each of the GCA projects will be comprised of two components, Research and Infrastructure. The three-year program for 3-6 GCAs will designate a total of \$3-6M per year, subject to the availability of FY 1997 funds, to a scientific or engineering Research component which will be accompanied by an Infrastructure component that will provide the required computational, storage, networking, and software support. The value of this enabling Infrastructure component is anticipated to be a total of \$6-12M per year. Support for the Research component will be provided to the sponsoring institution(s) of the PI(s) while the funding of the Infrastructure component will be allocated directly to the computing centers(s) providing the enabling computational support. This requires that the GCAs are substantial collaborations between the PI(s) and the professional staff at the computing center(s) at which the computational research is to be carried out and that grant applications reflect this structure. Furthermore, applications must describe in detail the requirements from the computing centers housing the computational platforms to be used for the research.

The OCTR/MICS-supported platforms are operated in the following computing centers: the Advanced Computing Laboratory of Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Center for Computational Sciences of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Mathematics and Computer Sciences Division of Argonne National Laboratory, and the National Energy Research Supercomputer Center of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. While use of resources housed at facilities operated by other government agencies, academia, or private industry are acceptable, at least one of the platforms for carrying out the proposed research must be located at a computing center supported by OCTR/MICS. Furthermore, Infrastructure funds can only be allocated to one or more of the four OCTR/MICS-supported facilities. Information concerning platforms at

these centers may be found through URL at the following:

<http://www.er.doe.gov/production/octr/mics/index.html>

Applications will be subjected to formal merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following evaluation criteria listed in descending order of importance as codified for review of applications from the academic and industrial sectors in 10 CFR part 605:

1. Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Project
 2. Appropriateness of the Proposed Method or Approach
 3. Competency of Applicant's Personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources
 4. Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget
- Within the Scientific and/or Technical Merit criterion, above, the following subcriteria, listed in priority order, will be used for evaluation purposes:

- i. Fundamental Significance:* A fundamental science or engineering problem that has potential economic, societal, and/or scientific impact and that can be advanced by applying high performance computing resources.
- ii. DOE Mission:* The problem is significant to the missions of the DOE. The pertinent DOE Science or Engineering program in partnership with OCTR/MICS staff must validate the merit of the applications with regard to this criterion.
- iii. HPCC Goals:* The project is consistent with the goals of the Federal interagency HPCC program.
- iv. Enabling Technologies:* Rapid progress in software/hardware technologies should enable a substantial advance on the problem within the next few years. This criterion must be validated by OCTR/MICS staff in partnership with the pertinent DOE Science or Engineering Program.
- v. Interdisciplinary Approach:* An interdisciplinary approach involving scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and computer/computational scientists is strongly required.
- vi. Support Leveraging:* Funding leverage for the GCA provided by the partners—DOE Program Offices, other agencies, or institutions—will constitute the most sincere form of validation.
- vii. Technology Leveraging:* Probable advances in enabling software or hardware technologies developed by the proposed GCA that benefit other GCAs will be treated favorably, as will GCAs which use advanced software development frameworks.
- viii. Computer Resources:* The application should indicate the