In contrast, immobilizing of materials in a glass (i.e., vitrification) or a ceramic matrix was not considered desirable because of the cost, specialized equipment required, lack of such equipment on the Hanford Site, and lack of site experience. These factors would result in delays in implementing these alternatives. The lack of site experience and anticipated delays would result in additional health and safety risks.

Another alternative would be to mix the plutonium with uranium to produce a mixed oxide fuel suitable for energy production in a nuclear power reactor. Because of the relatively small quantity of plutonium material being considered, it was not considered reasonable to develop the technology at Hanford to support this alternative.

IV. Availability of the Immobilization Alternative

Copies of the proposed immobilization alternative may be reviewed at the following locations, or may be obtained by calling DOE at 1–888–946–3700:

U.S. Department of Energy, Headquarters, Freedom of Information Reading Room, Forrestall Building, 1000 Independence Ave. SW., Room 1E–0190, Washington, DC 20585, 202/586–3142

DOE Public Reading Room, Washington State University, Tri Cities Branch, 100 Sprout Road, Richland, WA 99352, 509/376–8583

University of Washington, Suzzallo Library, Government Publications, 15th Ave N.E. and Campus Parkway, Seattle, WA 98185, 206/543–1937

Gonzaga University, Foley Center, E. 502 Boone Avenue, Spokane, WA 99258, 509/324–5931

Portland State University, Branford Price Millar Library, SW Harrison and Park, Portland, OR 97207, 503/725–3690

Signed in Richland, Washington, this 25th day of April, 1996 for the United States Department of Energy.

Paul F.X. Dunigan, Jr.,

NEPA Compliance Officer, Richland Operations Office.

[FR Doc. 96–11034 Filed 5–2–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

Notice of Wetlands Involvement for Refurbishment of Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinder Storage Yards C–745–K, L, M, N, and P and Construction of a New Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinder Storage Yard (C–745–T) at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Near Paducah, KY

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of wetlands involvement.

SUMMARY: DOE proposes to renovate existing storage yards and construct a new storage yard to accommodate restacking of approximately 19,000 steel cylinders containing uranium hexafluoride at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) in McCracken County, Kentucky. Construction of the new storage yard would result in the loss (filling) of less than one acre of wetlands. In accordance with 10 CFR Part 1022, DOE will prepare a wetlands assessment and will perform the proposed action in a manner so as to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected wetlands.

DATES: Comments are due to the address below no later than May 20, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: Mr. Jimmie C. Hodges, Paducah Site Manager, U. S. Department of Energy, 5600 Hobbs Road, Paducah, KY 42001. Phone (502) 441–6800.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Further information on the proposed action and wetlands assessment can be obtained from Mr. Jimmie C. Hodges, Paducah Site Manager (see **ADDRESSES** above). Information on general DOE wetlands environmental review requirements is available from: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH–25), U. S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585. Phone (202) 586–4600 or (800) 472–2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PGDP is an operational uranium enrichment facility owned by DOE and operated by the United States Enrichment Corporation. A consequence of the uranium enrichment process is the accumulation of depleted uranium hexafluoride (UF_6). Depleted UF_6, a solid at ambient temperatures, is stored in large steel cylinders weighing up to 14 tons each. DOE is responsible for approximately 32,200 cylinders of UF_6 stored at PGDP. Storage conditions are suboptimal and have resulted in accelerated corrosion of cylinders and have increased the potential for a release of hazardous substances. Consequently, DOE has proposed refurbishment of certain existing yards and construction of a new storage yard (C–745–T).

The C–745–T yard would consist of a concrete pad occupying approximately 43,200 m^2 (450,000 ft^2). The initial construction activities in the storage yard would consist of clearing and grubbing the area and stripping the topsoil. After this excavation, a storm water drainage system would be installed. The excavated area would be filled with soil and gravel to achieve the desired design elevation. A concrete pad would be constructed on top of the fill.

The proposed site for the C–745–T cylinder storage yard is immediately south of existing cylinder yards at the southern end of the plant. Of available sites, DOE considers the proposed site to best meet siting criteria. A different site was initially proposed but was discovered to encompass approximately 1.8 hectares (4.5 acres) of wetlands. In order to minimize impacts to wetlands in accordance with Executive Order 11990, ''Protection of Wetlands,'' and 10 CFR Part 1022, DOE's ''Compliance With Floodplain/Wetlands Environmental Review Requirements,'' DOE selected the current proposed site.

Six small, isolated wetlands are present at the proposed C–745–T yard site. These wetlands are classified as palustrine emergent, palustrine scrub/shrub, and palustrine forested, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wetland classification system. Palustrine wetlands in the vicinity of PGDP are those less than 8 hectares (20 acres) in surface area with a water depth less than 2 m (6.6 ft) during low water. Emergent vegetation is erect, rooted, non-woody; scrub/shrub vegetation is woody not exceeding 6 m (20 ft) in height; and forested vegetation is woody, exceeding 6 m (20 ft) in height.

The total area of wetlands directly impacted by the proposed action would be 0.32 hectare (0.8 acre). Under the worst case scenario, an additional 0.12 hectare (0.3 acre) of wetlands could be impacted by (1) construction equipment accessing the area or materials and equipment staged in wetland areas, if proper precautions (best management practices) are not followed, or (2) diversion of flow away from a man-made drainage ditch which contains wetlands.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 1022, DOE will prepare a wetlands assessment for the proposed action. The wetlands assessment will be included in the environmental assessment (EA) being prepared for the proposed action in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Issued in Oak Ridge, Tennessee on April 1, 1996.

James L. Elmore,

Alternate NEPA Compliance Officer.

[FR Doc. 96–11033 Filed 5–2–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

Morgantown Energy Technology Center; Research Opportunity Announcement (ROA) Applied Research and Development

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Morgantown Energy Technology Center.

ACTION: Issue of a research opportunity announcement.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy is soliciting proposals for supporting the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Science and Technology's applied research efforts for the development of technologies having potential applications in the Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (EM) program. Technologies which do not duplicate existing work; complement or enhance existing or planned work; and best serve the needs of the EM program are desired. A proposed technology may be a device, process, material, or method that improves DOE's capabilities in the following areas: subsurface containment; mixed waste characterization, treatment, and disposal; tank waste remediation; decontamination and decommissioning; characterization, monitoring, and sensor technology; efficient separations and processing; and robotics technology development program.

For the purpose of this program, ''applied research'' is the systematic application of knowledge toward the production of useful devices, materials, or methods, including design, development, and improvement of prototypes and processes to meet specific requirements. Proposals for basic research are not desired under this ROA. Proposals will not be accepted for which the purpose is demonstration.

It is not the purpose of this solicitation to support, and no proposal will be selected to conduct, support service activities, conference or training activities, or projects which do not conduct research (e.g., paper studies). Proposals submitted in response to this ROA must address one, and only one, of the need areas. If an Offeror has the desire to propose to more than one need area, multiple proposals must be submitted.

DATES: Proposals may be submitted at any time after the issuance date of this ROA up to and including one year after the issue date. Proposals must state an acceptance period of at least 180 days.

ADDRESSES/FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The ROA and an Information Package are available on the Internet at http://www.metc.doe.gov/business/solicita.html. Requests for information concerning the ROA should be submitted in writing to the following address: U.S. Department of Energy, ATTN: Crystal A. Sharp, M.S. I07, Morgantown Energy Technology Center, P.O. Box 880, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, Morgantown, WV, 26507–0880, Phone Number (304) 285–4634, FAX (304) 285–4683, or Internet Address: CSHARP@METC.DOE.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Identification Number and Authority for Issuance

A. DE–RO21–96MC33204.

B. The use of broad agency announcements is authorized by the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984 (CICA) (41 U.S.C. 259(b)(2)) and the Federal Acquisition Regulation at part 6.102(d)(2) as supplemented by the Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation.

C. The internet information package includes a summary, more complete description of the research areas identified in the areas of research section, above, and the following documents: A proposal cover sheet; DOE Representations, Certifications, and Other Statements of Bidders/Offerors; a Certificate of Environmental Safety and Health Program; a Statement of Work format; Standard Form 1411; a cost proposal preparation format; sample reporting requirements; information regarding patent and data clauses and rights; set of standard contract clauses; and a list of references.

James J. Grabulis,

Director, Acquisition and Assistance Division.

[FR Doc. 96–11032 Filed 5–2–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP96–338–000]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

April 29, 1996.

Take notice that, on April 19, 1996, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR), 500 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243, filed an abbreviated application in Docket No. CP96–338–000, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate new storage facilities in the Goodwell Storage Field, in Newaygo County, Michigan, all as more fully set forth in the application, which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

ANR states that data recently obtained from the Goodwell Storage Field's observation wells indicate that the southeastern portion of the storage reservoir cannot be efficiently drained using the storage field's existing injection/withdrawal wells. ANR plans to drill the new horizontal injection/withdrawal well at the southeastern edge of the storage reservoir in the Goodwell Storage Field, and construct approximately 920 feet of 6-inch diameter pipeline to connect the new well to the storage field's gathering system. The estimated cost of the proposed facilities is $568,000.

ANR states that the new well will improve the injection/withdrawal capability in the southeastern portion of the storage reservoir, and may increase withdrawals slightly toward the end of the storage withdrawal season. ANR adds, however, that the new well will not increase the maximum peak-day deliverability or the maximum working storage capacity of the storage field.

ANR plans to drill the new well in the SE ¼ of Section 9, Goodwell Township, Newaygo County, Michigan, from a surface location 127 feet southeast of ANR's Goodwell #57 injection/withdrawal well, encountering the storage reservoir approximately 400 feet southeast of the surface location. ANR plans to complete the new well by drilling approximately 1,500 feet of open drain hole to the southeast, ending in the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 16, in Goodwell Township.

Any person desiring to be heard, or to make any protest with reference to said application should, on or before May 20, 1996, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC, 20426, a motion to intervene or protest 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 Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding, or to participate as a party in any hearing therein, must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application, if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, or if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or the Commission on its own motion