

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 3, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Dan Chenok, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U. S. C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

Dated: October 28, 1997.

**Linda C. Tague,**

*Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

**Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services**

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Survey of Consumer Choice and Satisfaction in the Choice Demonstration Projects.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 217.

Burden Hours: 54.

*Abstract:* As mandated in P.L. 102-569, RSA/ED is conducting an evaluation of the "effects of increased choice on consumers" in seven demonstration projects funded under the legislation. The independent evaluator, InfoUse, will survey a random sample of 217 current and former project participants. Respondents are working-aged persons with disabilities who have received vocational rehabilitation services through the demonstration projects. The results will determine the extent to which the demonstration projects have increased consumer choice and satisfaction with vocational rehabilitation planning, service purchasing, and outcomes. The results will inform key Congressional and Administration policy-makers, personnel in the 82 state vocational rehabilitation agencies, private rehabilitation providers, and organizations serving consumers of vocational rehabilitation.

[FR Doc. 97-28996 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Notice of Restricted Eligibility Support of Advanced Fossil Resource Utilization Research by Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Institutions**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Federal Energy Technology Center (FETC).

**ACTION:** Notice of restricted eligibility.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy announces that it intends to conduct a competitive Program Solicitation and award financial assistance (grants) to U.S. Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Institutions in support of innovative research and development of advanced

concepts pertinent to fossil resource conversion and utilization. Applications will be subjected to a review by a DOE technical panel, and awards will be made to a limited number of applicants on the basis of the scientific merit of the application, application of relevant program policy factors, and the availability of funds. Collaboration with private industry is encouraged.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. John R. Columbia, U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Technology Center, Acquisition and Assistance Division, P.O. Box 10940, MS 921-143, Pittsburgh PA 15236-0940, Telephone: (412) 892-6219, FAX: (412) 892-6216. The solicitation (created in Word Perfect 6.1 for Windows) will be released on DOE's FETC World Wide Web Server Internet System (<http://www.fetc.doe.gov/business>) on or about November 7, 1997. If applicants do not have Internet capability or experience difficulty accessing the solicitation file, a 3.5" double sided/high density diskette copy of the solicitation will be available, upon receipt of a written request submitted via facsimile (fax) at (412) 892-6216 or e-mail at [columbia@fetc.doe.gov](mailto:columbia@fetc.doe.gov). No telephone requests will be honored for request of diskettes.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Solicitation.* "Support of Advanced Fossil Resource Utilization Research by Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Institutions".

*Objectives.* Through Program Solicitation No. DE-PS26-98FT40047, the Department of Energy seeks applications from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Other Minority Institutions (OMI) and HBCU/OMI-affiliated research institutes for innovative research and development of advanced concepts pertinent to fossil resource conversion and utilization. The resultant grants are intended to maintain and upgrade educational, training, and research capabilities of our HBCU/OMI in the fields of science and technology related to fossil energy resources; to foster private sector participation, collaboration, and interaction with HBCU/OMI; and to provide for the exchange of technical information and to raise the overall level of HBCU/OMI competitiveness with other institutions in the field of fossil energy research and development. Thus, the establishment of linkages between the HBCU/OMI and the private sector fossil energy community is critical to the success of this program, and consistent with the

Nation's goal of ensuring a future supply of fossil fuel scientists and engineers from a previously under-utilized resource.

**Eligibility.** Eligibility for participation in this Program Solicitation is restricted to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Other Minority Institutions (OMI) recognized by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Department of Education, and identified on the OCR's United States Department of Education list of U.S. Accredited Postsecondary Minority Institutions list in effect on the closing date of the program solicitation. *Applications submitted by any institution not on OCR's aforementioned list are ineligible for technical evaluation and award.* For information regarding the qualification criteria and process of becoming recognized by the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights as a "Minority Institution", institutions should contact the Education Department directly at the following address: Mr. Peter A. McCabe, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Washington DC 20202, Telephone (202) 205-9567. Note: The Education Department should only be contacted on matters related to Institutional status; questions regarding the Program Solicitation should be directed to Mr. Columbia at DOE by telefacsimile on (412) 892-6216.

Applications from HBCU/OMI-affiliated research institutes must be submitted through the college or university with which they are affiliated. The university (not the university-affiliated research institute) will be the recipient of any resultant DOE grant award. Applications submitted in response to the solicitation must meet the following two criteria: the Principal Investigator or a Co-Principal Investigator must be a teaching professor at the submitting university listed in the application; and at least one student registered at the university is to be compensated for a significant portion of the work performed in the conduct of research proposed in the application. Although it is not required as an application qualification criterion, collaboration with the private sector is encouraged, and applications proposing private sector collaboration may be evaluated more favorably. The solicitation will contain a complete description of the technical evaluation factors and relative importance of each factor. Collaboration by the private sector with the HBCU/

OMI may be in the form of cash cost sharing, consultation, HBCU/OMI access to industrial facilities or equipment, experimental data and/or equipment not available at the university, or as a subgrantee/subcontractor to the HBCU/OMI.

**Areas of Interest.** In order to develop and sustain a national program of HBCU/OMI research in advanced and fundamental fossil fuel studies, the Department is interested in innovative research and development of advanced concepts pertinent to fossil fuel conversion and utilization limited to the following seven (7) technical topics:

- Topic 1—Advanced Environmental Control Technology for Coal
- Topic 2—Advanced Coal Utilization
- Topic 3—Coal Liquefaction Technology
- Topic 4—Heavy Oil Upgrading and Processing
- Topic 5—Advanced Environmental and Recovery Technologies for Oil
- Topic 6—Natural Gas Supply, Storage, and Processing
- Topic 7—Faculty/Student Exploratory Grants

**Note:** This is the *only* topic (Topic seven (7)) under this Program Solicitation wherein the inclusion or exclusion of private sector collaboration will not affect the technical evaluation of the application.

**Awards.** DOE anticipates issuing financial assistance (grants) for each project selected. DOE reserves the right to support or not support any or all applications received in whole or in part, and to determine how many awards may be made through the solicitation subject to funds available in this fiscal year. The limitation on the maximum DOE funding for each selected grant to be awarded under this Program Solicitation is as follows:

	Maximum award
Topics 1-6:	
To 12 months grant duration	\$85,000.00
13-24 months grant duration .....	150,000.00
25-36 months grant duration .....	200,000.00
Topic 7:	
To 12 months grant duration	15,000.00

Approximately \$850,000 is planned for this solicitation. The total should provide support for four to eight R&D application selections (Topics 1-6), and approximately two to four faculty/student exploratory application selections (Topic 7).

**Solicitation Release Date.** The Program Solicitation is expected to be ready for release on or about November 7, 1997. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the Program Solicitation. To be eligible, applications must be *Received* by the designated DOE office by the closing time and date specified in the Program Solicitation (anticipated to be on or about December 19, 1997, at 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time).

**Dale A. Siciliano,**  
Contracting Officer, Acquisition and Assistance Division.  
[FR Doc. 97-29004 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Office of Fossil Energy**

[FE Docket Nos. 97-47-NG; 95-36-NG; 97-60-NG; 92-154-NG; 91-57-NG; 97-61-NG; 97-62-NG; 93-40-NG; 95-66-NG; 97-65-NG; 97-66-NG]

**Inland Pacific Resources Inc. (Successor to Inland Pacific Energy Services Corp.); Columbia Energy Services Corporation Successor to PennUnion Energy Services, L.L.C.); Barrett Resources Corporation; Gas Company of New Mexico; Duke Energy LNG Sales, Inc.; (Formerly PanEnergy LNG Sales, Inc.); Public Service Company of New Mexico; Amoco Energy Trading Corporation; El Paso Energy Marketing Company (Formerly El Paso Gas Marketing Company); PG&E Texas Industrial Energy, L.P.; (Formerly Valero Industrial Gas, L.P.; PG&E Texas Industrial Energy, L.P.; Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company; Orders Granting, Transferring and Vacating Blanket Authorizations to Import and/or Export Natural Gas**

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.  
**ACTION:** Notice of orders.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy gives notice that it has issued Orders authorizing, transferring and/or vacating various imports and/or exports of natural gas. These Orders are summarized in the attached appendix.

These Orders are available for inspection and copying in the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import and Export Activities, Docket Room, 3F-056, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence