

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission****[Docket No. RM98-1-000]****Regulations Governing Off-the-Record
Communications; Public Notice**

July 19, 2002.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance

of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such requests only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record

communication should serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications will be included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications recently received in the Office of the Secretary. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. The documents may be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

EXEMPT

Docket No.	Date filed	Presenter or requester
1. CP01-415-000	7-12-02	Barbara Winn.
2. Project No. 1494-240	7-16-02	Cheryl B. Creekmore.
3. Project No. 1494-240	7-16-02	Stephen S. Adams.
4. Project No. 2055-000	7-16-02	Sandra L. Guchea.
5. Project No. 1494-233	7-17-02	Jim Martin (Frank Ronsse).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-18832 Filed 7-24-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY****[FRL-7248-1]****State Innovation Pilot Grant Program,
Solicitation of Proposals for 2002****AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: On July 19, 2002 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency transmitted a solicitation for proposals for a pilot grant program to support innovation by State environmental regulatory agencies—the "State Innovation Pilot Grant Program," to the fifty-five state and Territorial Secretaries or Commissioners of those agencies.

DATES: Respondents will have until August 19, 2002 to respond with a brief pre-proposal and budget.

ADDRESSES: The URL address for the solicitation package is: <http://www.epa.gov/projectxl/2002state.htm>. Copies of the solicitation package will

also be available from: Gerald Filbin (202-566-2182) (filbin.gerald@epa.gov) (FAX 202-566-2220); Office of Environmental Policy Innovation, Office of Policy Economics and Innovation; US Environmental Protection Agency (1807T); 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gerald Filbin at 202-566-2182.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Announcement of Availability of Solicitation for Pilot State Grants Program: In April 2002, EPA issued its plan for future innovation, published as *Innovating for Better Environmental Results: A Strategy to Guide the Next Generation of Innovation at EPA* (EPA 100-R-02-002; <http://www.epa.gov/opei/strategy>). The Agency's Strategy presents a framework for innovation consisting of four major elements:

(1) Strengthen EPA's innovation partnerships with States and Tribes;
(2) Focus on priority environmental areas:

—Reduce greenhouse gases
—Reduce smog
—Restore and maintain water quality
—Reduce the cost of water and wastewater infrastructure;

(3) Diversify our environmental protection tools and approaches:

—Information resources and technology
—Environmental technology
—Incentives
—Environmental Management Systems
—Results-based goals and measures;

(4) Foster a more "innovation-friendly" organizational culture and systems.

This pilot grant program will seek to strengthen EPA's innovation partnership with States by establishing a new system of funding to facilitate State efforts to address the priority environmental areas targeted in—and use the tools highlighted in—the Strategy. EPA would like to help States build on previous experience and undertake bigger, bolder and more strategic projects which test new models for "next generation" environmental protection and promise better environmental results.

With this 2002 pilot program, EPA is exploring the use of grants and cooperative agreements to support innovation at the State level. For 2002, and contingent upon Congressional approval of a re-programming request, EPA anticipates approximately \$500,000.00 in total will be available for State innovation pilot assistance—this pilot fund will support approximately 3-7 projects that can produce results in