

Pilot Project for Electronic Submission of Applications

In FY 2003, the U.S. Department of Education is continuing to expand its pilot project of electronic submission of applications to include additional formula grant programs and additional discretionary grant competitions. The Special Education—State Program Improvement Grants Program—CFDA No. 84.323A is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under this program, you may submit your application to us in either electronic or paper format.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application) portion of the Grant Administration and Payment System (GAPS). Users of e-Application will be entering data on-line while completing their applications. You may not e-mail a soft copy of a grant application to us. If you participate in this voluntary pilot project by submitting an application electronically, the data you enter on-line will be saved into a database. We request your participation in e-Application. We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for improvement.

If you participate in e-Application, please note the following:

- Your participation is voluntary.
- You will not receive any additional point value because you submit a grant application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit an application in paper format. When you enter the e-Application system, you will find information about its hours of operation.

- You may submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).

- Within three working days after submitting your electronic application, fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424) to the Application Control Center after following these steps:

- (1) Print ED 424 from the e-Application system.

- (2) The institution's Authorizing Representative must sign this form.

- (3) Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of the hard copy signature page of the ED 424.

- (4) Fax the signed ED 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 260-1349.

- We may request that you give us original signatures on all other forms at a later date.

- *Closing Date Extension in Case of System Unavailability:* If you elect to participate in the e-Application pilot for the Special Education—State Program Improvement Grants Program and you are prevented from submitting your application on the closing date because the e-Application system is unavailable, we will grant you an extension of one business day in order to transmit your application electronically, by mail or hand delivery. For us to grant this extension—

- (1) You must be a registered user of e-Application, and have initiated an e-Application for this competition; and

- (2)(a) The e-Application system must be unavailable for 60 minutes or more between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date; or

- (b) The e-Application system must be unavailable for any period of time during the last hour of operation (that is, for any period of time between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time) on the deadline date.

The Department must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension.

To request this extension you must contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or (2) the e-GRANTS help desk at 1-888-336-8930.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Special Education—State Program Improvement Grants Program at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

We have included additional information about the e-Application pilot project (see Parity Guidelines between Paper and Electronic Applications) in the application package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3317, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 205-8207.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on

request to the Grants and Contracts Services Team under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternative format the standard forms included in the application package.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the previous site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1405, 1461, 1472, 1474, and 1487.

Dated: May 20, 2003.

Loretta Petty Chittum,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period for the Revised Draft Hanford Site Solid (Radioactive and Hazardous) Waste Program Environmental Impact Statement, Richland, WA

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In response to requests for extension of the public comment period

for the Revised Draft Hanford Site Solid (Radioactive and Hazardous) Waste Program Environmental Impact Statement, Richland, Washington, the U.S. Department of Energy has extended the public comment period by 15 days. The comment period began April 11, 2003, and will now run until June 11, 2003 instead of May 27, 2003.

The Revised Draft EIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with ongoing activities of the Hanford Site Solid Waste Program, disposal of immobilized low-activity wastes from Hanford tank waste processing, and reasonably foreseeable treatment, storage and disposal facilities and activities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request information about the revised draft EIS or to be placed on the EIS distribution list, contact: Mr. Michael S. Collins, HSW EIS Document Manager, Richland Operations Office, U.S. Department of Energy, A6-38, Post Office Box 550, Richland, Washington, 99352-0550. Telephone and voice mail: (800) 426-4914. Fax: (509) 372-1926. Electronic mail: hsweis@rl.doe.gov.

For general information about the DOE NEPA process, contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0119. Fax: (202) 586-7031. Telephone: (202) 586-4600. Voice mail: (800) 472-2756.

Issued in Richland, Washington, on this 19th day of May 2003.

Keith A. Klein,

Manager, Richland Operations Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Payments in Lieu of Taxes Under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954; Guidelines

AGENCY: Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: DOE publishes policy guidelines it uses to guide decisions with regard to applications by State or local jurisdictions for discretionary payments in lieu of taxes with regard to eligible real property that is not subject to State and local taxation because it is owned by the United States, is under the custody and control of DOE, and is used to carry out activities authorized by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The guidelines in this Notice are effective May 27, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: You may contact Mary L. Rosicky, ME-11, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, telephone (202) 586-9354, e-mail, marylou.rosicky@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (AEA), DOE carries out a variety of national defense and energy research and development activities at sites that are located in various States and are owned by the United States Government. Section 168 of the AEA (42 U.S.C. 2208) authorizes DOE to provide discretionary payments to State or local government authorities where AEA sites are located. These payments are in lieu of real property taxes that State and local jurisdictions may not collect because they are precluded by the United States Constitution from taxing real property owned by the Federal Government. These discretionary financial assistance payments in lieu of taxes, which are subject to the availability of funds, are commonly referred to as "PILT payments".

In the past, DOE has decided, on a case-by-case basis, whether an application for PILT assistance should be approved and, if so, how much the annual PILT payments should be. In making such decisions, DOE has employed a policy consisting largely of internal procedures, application content criteria, evaluation criteria, and standard provisions for assistance agreements. The application content and evaluation criteria have either implemented requirements of section 168 or have been the result of case-by-case decisions.

The purpose of this notice is to state publicly, and without significant change, the policies regarding PILT payments that DOE has been applying to PILT applicants and recipients, and intends to continue to apply, on a case-by-case basis.

The Secretary of Energy has approved issuance of this notice.

Issued in Washington, DC on May 8, 2003.

James T. Campbell,

Acting Director, Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation/Acting Chief Financial Officer.

Guidelines for Payments in Lieu of Taxes Under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954

I. Purpose and Scope

These guidelines set forth policies that DOE intends to apply when making

case-by-case determinations on applications for payments in lieu of taxes (PILT) under section 168 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2208). PILT is discretionary financial assistance that DOE may provide subject to the availability of funds. PILT is not an entitlement.

II. Authority

These guidelines are authorized by sections 161 and 168 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2201, 2208).

III. Applicability

A. These guidelines apply to any DOE facility (including facilities of the National Nuclear Security Administration) located on real property owned by the United States, under the custody and control of DOE, and at which activities authorized or required under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 are carried on, if the real property was subject to State and local taxation immediately prior to acquisition by the United States.

B. These guidelines do not affect existing agreements between DOE and State or local governments that preclude PILT on all or part of real property under custody and control of DOE.

C. These guidelines apply to an initial application for PILT that is submitted to DOE, and to an application or request to change the basis for or amount of a PILT payment under an existing agreement between DOE and a State or local government. DOE will treat any application or request to change the basis for or amount of a PILT payment under an existing agreement as an initial application under these guidelines.

IV. Definitions

As used in these guidelines:

A. "Condition In Which It Was Acquired" means the physical description, definition, and real property classification used to determine the assessed valuation of the real property in the last year that such property was on the State or local tax rolls prior to acquisition by the Federal Government.

B. "Revised PILT Payment" means a change in PILT payment that is based on a reclassification of the property to a new tax classification or category, an increase or decrease in the amount of land used to calculate the PILT payment, or other significant change in the method of calculating the PILT payment. "Revised PILT Payment" does not mean a PILT payment that is changed solely because of Taxing Authority jurisdiction-wide adjustments to tax assessments or to tax rates.