

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7431-5]

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) or Superfund, Section 104(k)(6); Announcement of Extension of Proposal Deadlines for the Competition for the 2003 National Brownfields Job Training Grants**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Notice of the extension of application deadline for submissions of proposals for Brownfields Job Training Grants.

SUMMARY: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will begin to accept proposals for the National Brownfields Job Training Grants on December 17, 2002 (67 FR 242). The deadline for the due date of proposals has been extended until February 14, 2003. This notice refers to **Federal Register** Notice titled "Announcement of Proposal Deadlines for the Competition for the 2003 National Brownfields Job Training Grants."

DATES: This action is effective as of December 27, 2002. The application deadline for proposals for the 2003 job training grants has been extended until February 14, 2003. All proposals must be postmarked by USPS or delivered to U.S. EPA Headquarters no later than February 14, 2003, and a duplicate copy sent to the appropriate U.S. EPA Regional Office.

Obtaining Proposal Guidelines: The proposal guidelines are available via the Internet: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>.

Copies of the proposal guidelines will also be mailed upon request. Requests should be made by calling the U.S. EPA Call Center at the following numbers:

Washington, DC Metro Area at 703-412-9810.

Outside Washington, DC Metro at 1-800-424-9346.

TDD for the Hearing Impaired at 1-800-553-7672.

In order to ensure that the guidelines are received in time to be used in the preparation of the proposal, applicants should request a copy as soon as possible and in any event no later than seven (7) working days before the proposal due date. Applicants who request copies after that date might not receive the proposal guidelines in time to prepare and submit a responsive proposal.

ADDRESSES: Mailing addresses for U.S. EPA Regional Offices and U.S. EPA Headquarters are provided in the Proposal Guidelines.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The U.S. EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Office of Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment, (202) 566-2777.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. This act amended the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (CERCLA) to authorize federal financial assistance for brownfields revitalization, including grants for assessment, cleanup, and job training. Funding for the brownfields job training grants is authorized under section 104(k)(6) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9604(k)(6). Eligibility for Brownfields job training grants is limited to "eligible entities" as defined in section 104(k)(1) of CERCLA and non profit organizations.

Dated: December 19, 2002.

Linda Garczynski,

Director, Office of Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

[FR Doc. 02-32772 Filed 12-26-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7431-6]

Notice of National Environmental Information Exchange Network Grant Guidelines**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation for proposals.

SUMMARY: The goal of the National Environmental Information Exchange Grant Program is to advance the National Environmental Information Exchange Network (Network) by encouraging State and Tribal environmental data integration efforts. The Network was created almost three years ago in an effort to integrate the environmental data management systems of the States, Tribes, and federal government by using the Internet and creating standardized information exchange formats. Completion of this integrated network will enable fast and timely sharing of environmental information from across the country and

improve our ability to more effectively distribute that information to the public.

The Network supports one of the major goals of the President's Management Agenda for E-Government by helping create a seamless, citizen-centered government. The Network uses technologies and approaches that are found in E-commerce and provides an alternative to the historic approaches for exchanging data that rely upon data being processed directly to multiple EPA national data systems. Ultimately, network participants will house information on their own nodes or portals where it will be available upon authorized request.

EPA and the Environmental Council of the States have developed the Network Implementation Plan and the Network Blueprint that further explain the goals and operating principles for the Network. The Network Implementation Plan describes in detail the activities and mechanisms that must be developed to operate and manage the Network; the Network Blueprint document describes the foundation for the Network Implementation Plan. Both documents can be accessed at: <http://www.epa.gov/neengprg/library/>.

The President's fiscal year (FY) 2003 budget, which is now before Congress, includes \$25 million for this grant program. Subject to availability of appropriations for this purpose, EPA plans to select, through a competitive process, grant proposals that will be awarded to States, the District of Columbia, Trust Territories (referred to as States in the remainder of this guidance), and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes (referred to as Tribes in the remainder of this guidance) for capacity building capabilities for Network participation. Tribes will receive funds from a designated set-aside pool of resources. A designated set-aside of funds will also support the Network Administration for States and Tribes. This notice sets forth the process that will be used for selecting proposals and forms necessary to prepare a proposal.

DATES: Proposals must be postmarked and also received electronically by EPA on or before February 18, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Proposals must be submitted by mail or courier to U.S. EPA Headquarters, Office of Information Collection, Attn: Lyn Burger, EPA West, Mail Code 2821T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460 and electronically by e-mail: neengprg@epamail.epa.gov. This notice for request for proposals is final. However, comments and questions may