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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., room 3317, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 260-9382.

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

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact persons listed in the preceding paragraph.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format by contacting the Department at the address listed. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

Intergovernmental Review

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

In accordance with the order, we intend this document to provide early notification of the Department's specific plans and actions for those programs.

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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:

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Dated: May 17, 2000.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 00-12923 Filed 5-22-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Environmental Management; Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board; Notice of Renewal

Pursuant to Section 14(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), and in accordance with title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 101-6.1015(a), and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board has been renewed for a two-year period beginning May 16, 2000.

The purpose of the Board is to provide the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management with advice and recommendations on environmental management projects and issues such as future use, risk management, transportation, long-term stewardship, and budget prioritization activities, from the perspective of affected groups and State and local government. Board membership will reflect the full diversity of views in the affected community and region and be composed primarily of people who are directly affected by Department of Energy (DOE) site cleanup activities. Members will include potentially affected and interested stakeholders from local government, Indian Tribes, environmental and civic groups, labor organizations, universities, waste management and environmental restoration firms, and other interested parties. Representatives from the DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and State governments will be ex-officio members of the Board. Selection and appointment of Board members will be accomplished using procedures designed to ensure diverse membership and a balance of viewpoints. Consensus recommendations to the DOE from the Board on the resolution of numerous and difficult issues will help achieve DOE's objective of an integrated environmental management program.

The Secretary of Energy has determined that renewal of the Environmental Management Site-

Specific Advisory Board is necessary in order to conduct DOE's business and is in the public interest. The Board will operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and the rules and regulations issued in the implementation of those acts.

Further information regarding this advisory board may be obtained from Rachel M. Samuel at (202) 586-3279.

Issued in Washington DC on May 16, 2000.

James N. Solit,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Competitive Financial Assistance for the Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of Financial Assistance Solicitation DE-PS01-00NN20115; Biological Detection and Enabling Science.

SUMMARY: The Office of Research and Engineering (NN-20) of the Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation (NN), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications for its Chemical and Biological Nonproliferation Program. Research is sought for experimental and computational studies for biological detection and the underlying enabling science.

DATES: The formal solicitation document, which will include greater detail about specific program areas of interest, application instructions, and evaluation criteria, is expected to be issued in early June 2000. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a brief two to four page pre-application. All pre-applications, referencing solicitation DE-PS01-00NN20115, should be received by DOE by 2:30 p.m., EST, June 23, 2000. A response encouraging or discouraging the submission of a formal application will be communicated by electronic mail by June 30, 2000. The due date for applications in response to the formal solicitation will be 2:30 p.m., EST, July 28, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Both pre-applications and applications should be submitted electronically through the Department's Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) located at <http://doe-iips.pr.doe.gov>. Further information and

instructions for using the IIPS system are provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Leotta, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Headquarters Procurement Services, ATTN: MA-542, 1000 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20585, telephone number (202) 426-0063, facsimile number (202) 426-0168 or e-mail at: David.Leotta@hq.doe.gov. Questions or comments related to using the Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) should be directed to the IIPS help-line at 1-800-683-0751. The preferred method of submitting questions is through e-mail. Only questions and/or comments submitted to Mr. Leotta will be considered. Questions or comments that are technical in nature will be directed by Mr. Leotta to the program office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The formal solicitation document will be disseminated electronically as solicitation number DE-PS01-00NN20115 through the Department's Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) located on the *Doing Business with DOE* Homepage located at <http://doe-iips.pr.doe.gov>. This is the primary way for the Office of Headquarters Procurement Services to conduct competitive acquisitions and financial assistance transactions. IIPS provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial assistance applications and proposals, evaluating, and awarding various instruments in a paperless environment. To get more information about IIPS and to register your organization, go to <http://www.doe-iips.pr.doe.gov>. Click on one of the buttons on the left-hand side of the screen (information, register, log-in or browse IIPS). Registration is a prerequisite to the submission of an application, and applicants are encouraged to register as soon as possible. A help document, which describes how IIPS works, can be found at the bottom of the main page.

The Chemical and Biological Nonproliferation Program (CBNP) is an applied research and development program that seeks to develop advanced technologies and capabilities to counter the domestic chemical and biological threat. The program supports a diverse set of technology development efforts and related demonstration programs in areas including: biological detection, modeling, decontamination and the underlying biological sciences. Additional information on the program content and context are available on the CBNP website at: www.nn.doe.gov/cbnp.

Biological Detection and Enabling Science

A key component in the U.S. strategy to counter the threat posed by biological agents is biological detection. Early detection of a biological attack whether by direct detection of airborne biological agents, or rapid detection of those who have been exposed (pre-symptomatic) is essential to minimize the impact of such attacks. The DOE program is investing in technological approaches that have the potential to provide rapid detection of a suite of agents with high sensitivity and high selectivity. The existing portfolio of CBNP-supported projects are described on the CBNP website (www.nn.doe.gov/cbnp).

The CBNP is interested in projects that will further the knowledge of, and lead to improvements in, and techniques to bind and recognize specific biological pathogens. Selected projects will contribute to the public purpose by enhancing the understanding of the general scientific area of biological recognition, and will complement existing detector development projects underway within the CBNP. We are particularly interested in approaches that would ultimately lead to improved biological detection through higher sensitivity, specificity or shelf-life of reagents, or via decreased dependence on reagent use or sample preparation. Technological approaches need not be antigen-based, but may include nucleic acid recognition or other possible mechanisms.

Examples of possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Structurally-based ligand design
- Molecularly imprinted polymers
- Combinatorial receptor design
- Phage display

Preference will be given to those applications that seek to develop approaches that will have broad generality to classes of pathogens. In addition, applications that propose to use biological targets relevant to the CBNP mission will be preferred over those that focus loosely on surrogate compounds.

The Statutory authority for this program is listed under the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 81.113.

Carol M. Rueter,

Director, Division C, Office of Headquarters Procurement Services.

[FR Doc. 00-12932 Filed 5-22-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-389-006]

Columbia Gulf Transmission Company; Notice of Negotiated Rate Filing

May 17, 2000.

Take notice that on May 10, 2000, Columbia Gulf Transmission Company (Columbia Gulf) tendered for filing the following contract for disclosure of a recently negotiated rate transaction:

FTS-1 Service Agreement No. 68346 between Columbia Gulf Transmission Company and Williams Energy Marketing & Trading Company, dated May 8, 2000

Columbia Gulf requests an effective date of June 1, 2000 for this negotiated rate agreement.

Columbia Gulf states that copies of the filing have been served on all parties on the official service list created by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-12861 Filed 5-22-00; 8:45 am]

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