

meetings. Meeting times and locations are:

#### *Evening Scoping Meeting*

Date: May 21, 2002.

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Place: Concrete High School

Multipurpose Room, 7830 Superior Avenue, Concrete, Washington.

#### *Morning Scoping Meeting*

Date: May 22, 2002.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Place: Cottontree Inn, 2401 Riverside Drive, Mount Vernon, Washington.

Copies of SD1 outlining the subject areas to be addressed in an EA were distributed to the parties on the Commission's mailing list. Copies of SD1 will be available at the scoping meetings or may be viewed on the web at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov) using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

#### **Site Visit**

Commission staff and Puget will have a site visit to the Baker River Project at 10:00 a.m. on May 21, 2002. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend. All participants should meet at the Baker River Project Visitor Center at 46110 East Main Street, Concrete, Washington. Any person interested in attending the site visit should call the Baker Message Line at 1-888-225-5773 (option 5, extension 81-3110) or send an email to [bakerlicense@puget.com](mailto:bakerlicense@puget.com). Puget will supply on-site transportation for the site visit.

#### **Objectives**

At the scoping meetings, Commission staff will: (1) Summarize the environmental issues tentatively identified for analysis in the EA; (2) solicit from meeting participants all available information, especially quantifiable data, on the resources at issue; (3) encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the EA, including viewpoints in opposition to, or in support of, Commission staff's preliminary views; (4) determine the resource issues to be addressed in the EA; and (5) identify those issues that require a detailed analysis, as well as those issues that do not require a detailed analysis. Individuals, organizations, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the scoping meetings and to assist Commission staff in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed in an EA. Both scoping meetings will be recorded by a

stenographer and the transcripts will become part of the Commission's official record for this project.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-10145 Filed 4-24-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

#### **Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice**

April 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 received in the Office of the Secretary within the preceding 14 days. 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. Docket No. CP01-153-000.	4-18-02	Charles P. Pope.
2. Project No. 1494-232.	4-19-02	Mike Brady.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-10146 Filed 4-24-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[OPP-2002-0014; FRL-6833-5]

### **Region III Strategic Agriculture Grants; Notice of Availability**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** EPA Region III is announcing the availability of approximately \$150,000 in fiscal year (FY) 2002 grant/cooperative agreement funds under section 20 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as amended, (the Act), for grants to States and federally recognized Native American Tribes for research, public education, training, monitoring, demonstration, and studies. For convenience, the term "State" in this notice refers to all eligible applicants.

**DATES:** In order to be considered for funding during the FY 2002 award cycle, all applications must be received by EPA Region III on or before May 28, 2002. EPA will make its award decisions by May 31, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit applications to the contact under Unit V. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susie Chun, Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, Mail code 3WC32, Waste Chemicals and Management Division, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029; telephone number: (215) 814-2469; fax

number: (215) 814-3113; e-mail address: chun.susie@epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. General Information**

*A. Does this Action Apply to Me?*

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to eligible applicants who primarily operate out of and will conduct the project in one of the following Region III States: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

*B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document and Other Related Documents?*

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations," "Regulations and Proposed Rules," and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register—Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

2. *By mail or in person.* Contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**II. Availability of FY 2002 Funds**

With this publication, EPA Region III is announcing the availability of approximately \$150,000 in grant/cooperative agreement funds for FY 2002. Region III is seeking to fund three grants. The Agency has delegated grant making authority to the EPA Regional Offices. EPA Region III is responsible for the solicitation of interest, the screening of proposals, and the selection of projects. Grant guidance will be provided to all applicants along with any supplementary information Region III may wish to provide. All applicants must address the criteria listed under Unit IV.B. of this document. Interested applicants should contact the Regional Strategic Agriculture Initiative Coordinator listed under Unit V. for more information.

**III. Eligible Applicants**

In accordance with the Act ". . . Federal agencies, universities, or others

as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the act, . . ." are eligible to receive a grant. Eligible applicants for purposes of funding under this grant program include those operating within the six EPA Region III States (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia), and any agency or instrumentality of a Region III State including State universities and non-profit organizations operating within a Region III State. For convenience, the term "State" in this notice refers to all eligible applicants.

**IV. Activities and Criteria**

*A. General*

The goal of the Strategic Agriculture Initiative Grant Program is to reduce the risks and use of pesticides in agricultural settings. Another goal is to rapidly spread available technology and information about ways to reduce dependence on the more highly toxic pesticides.

*B. Criteria*

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and experience of the applicant relative to the proposed project.

- Does the applicant demonstrate experience in the field of the proposed activity?
- Does the applicant have the properly trained staff, facilities, or infrastructure in place to conduct the project?

2. Consistency of applicant's proposed project with the risk reduction goal of the Strategic Agriculture Initiative.

3. Provision for a quantitative or qualitative evaluation of the project's success at achieving the stated goals.

- Is the project designed in such a way that it is possible to measure and document the results quantitatively and qualitatively?
- Does the applicant identify the method that will be used to measure and document the project's results quantitatively and qualitatively?
- Will the project assess or suggest a means for measuring progress in reducing risk associated with the use of pesticides?

4. Likelihood the project can be replicated to benefit other communities or the product may have broad utility to a widespread audience. Can this project, taking into account typical staff and financial restraints, be replicated by similar organizations in different locations to address the same or similar problem?

*C. Program Management*

Awards of FY 2002 funds will be managed through EPA Region III. Quality Management Plans and Quality Assurance Project Plans may be required, depending on the nature of the project and the data collected. Contact your Regional Strategic Agriculture Initiative Coordinator for more information about this requirement.

*D. Contacts*

Interested applicants must contact the appropriate EPA Regional Strategic Agriculture Initiative Coordinator listed under Unit V. to obtain specific instructions, regional criteria, and guidance for submitting proposals.

**V. Region III Strategic Agriculture Initiative Program Contact**

Region III: (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia), Susie Chun, (3WC32), 1650 Arch St., Philadelphia, PA 19103; telephone (215) 814-2469; fax number: (215) 814-3113; e-mail address: chun.susie@epa.gov.

**VI. Submission to Congress and the Comptroller General**

Under the Agency's current interpretation of the definition of a "rule," grant solicitations such as this which are competitively awarded on the basis of selection criteria, are considered rules for the purpose of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). The CRA, 5 U.S.C. 801*et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA), generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rules must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. This rule is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

**List of Subjects**

Environmental protection, Pesticides.

Dated: April 11, 2002.

**James W. Newsom,**

*Acting Regional Administrator, Region III.*

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