

McCabe, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Washington DC 20202, Telephone 202-205-9567. Note: The Education Department should only be contacted on matters related to Institutional status; questions regarding the Program Solicitation should be directed to Ms. Mitchell at DOE.

Applications from HBCU/OMI-affiliated research institutes must be submitted through the college or university with which they are affiliated. The university (not the university-affiliated research institute) will be the recipient of any resultant DOE grant award. Applications submitted in response to the solicitation must meet the following two criteria: the Principal Investigator or a Co-Principal Investigator must be a teaching professor at the submitting university listed in the application; and a minimum of 30% of personnel time invoiced under the grant is to pay for student assistance for each year of the grant. Although it is not required as an application qualification criterion, collaboration with the private sector is encouraged, and applications proposing private sector collaboration may be evaluated more favorably. The solicitation will contain a complete description of the technical evaluation factors and relative importance of each factor. Collaboration by the private sector with the HBCU/OMI may be in the form of cash cost sharing, consultation, HBCU/OMI access to industrial facilities or equipment, experimental data and/or equipment not available at the university, or as a subgrantee/subcontractor to the HBCU/OMI.

Areas of Interest: In order to develop and sustain a national program of HBCU/OMI research in advanced and fundamental fossil fuel studies, the Department of Energy is interested in innovative research and development of advanced concepts pertinent to fossil fuel conversion and utilization limited to the following nine (9) technical topics:

- Topic 1—Advanced Environmental Control Technologies for Coal
- Topic 2—Advanced Coal Utilization
- Topic 3—Clean Fuels Technology
- Topic 4—Heavy Oil Upgrading and Processing
- Topic 5—Advanced Recovery, Completion/Stimulation, and Geoscience Technologies for Oil
- Topic 6—Natural Gas Supply, Storage, and Processing
- Topic 7—Infrastructure Reliability for Natural Gas
- Topic 8—Fuel Cells
- Topic 9—Facility/Student Exploratory Research Training Grants

Note: Technical Topic No. 9, *Faculty/Student Exploratory Research Training Grants*, is the only topic under this Program Solicitation wherein the inclusion or exclusion of private sector collaboration will not affect the technical evaluation of the application.

Awards: DOE anticipates issuing financial assistance (grants) for each project selected. DOE reserves the right to support or not support, with or without discussions, any or all applications received in whole or in part, and to determine how many awards may be made through the solicitation subject to funds available in this fiscal year. The limitation on the maximum DOE funding for each selected grant to be awarded under this Program Solicitation is as follows:

	Maximum award
Topics 1–8:	
0–12 months grant duration ..	\$85,000
13–24 months grant duration	150,000
25–36 months grant duration	200,000
Topic 9:	
0–12 months grant duration ..	20,000

Approximately \$900,000 is planned for this solicitation. The total should provide support for four to eight research and development application selections (Topics 1–8), and approximately two to twelve faculty/student exploratory research training application selections (Topic 9).

Solicitation Release Date: The Program Solicitation is expected to be ready for release on or about February 2, 2001. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the Program Solicitation. To be eligible, applications must be received by the designated DOE office by the closing time and date specified in the Program Solicitation (anticipated to be on or about March 20, 2001 at 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time).

Issued in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on January 30, 2001.

William R. Mundorf,

Contracting Officer, Acquisition and Assistance Division.

[FR Doc. 01–3314 Filed 2–7–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. ER99–3144–003, ER99–3144–004 and ER99–3144–005; EC99–80–003, EC99–80–004, and EC99–80–005, ER00–2869–000 and EC00–103–000 (not consolidated)]

Request for Information Regarding Grandfathered Contracts Prior to Convening Session

February 2, 2001.

In the matter of: American Electric Power Service Corporation on behalf of: Appalachian Power Company, Columbus Southern Power Company, Indiana Michigan Power Company, Kentucky Power Company, Kingsport Power Company, Ohio Power Company, Wheeling Power Company, The Detroit Edison Company, First Energy Corporation on behalf of: The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, The Toledo Edison Company, Virginia Electric and Power Company, Consumers Energy Company.

Pursuant to the order in *Alliance Companies, et al.*, 91 FERC ¶ 61,070 (2001), the Commission directed parties with grandfathered contracts whose terms extend beyond the transition period to negotiate amendments or termination of such contracts. To assist the parties, the Commission directed the Director of the Commission's Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) to convene a meeting of the parties to explore the use of an ADR process to foster negotiation and agreement.

All parties with grandfathered agreements that are the subject of the Commission's order, as described above, are requested to contact the DRS. To contact the DRS, please send an e-mail including the name, telephone number and e-mail address of the party contact as well as the title and description of the grandfathered contract(s) involved to Amy.Blauman@ferc.fed.us no later than February 16, 2001. The DRS can also be reached at (202) 208–2143.

The DRS is tentatively planning to hold the convening session during the week of March 4, 2001. However, the DRS will be in contact with the parties who respond to this request to select an appropriate date and location for the meeting. A notice of the date and location of the convening session will be issued at a later date.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01–3262 Filed 2–7–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M