



Funding Opportunity Announcement -

Pesticide Safety Program for Agricultural Workers and Farmworker Children

February 17, 2010

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Funding Opportunity Announcement

Pesticide Safety Program for Agricultural Workers and Farmworker Children

Overview Information

The following list provides key information concerning this funding opportunity:

A. Federal Agency and Office Name:

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxics Substances (OPPTS), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP); Field and External Affairs Division, Certification and Worker Protection Branch

B. Funding Opportunity Title:

Pesticide Safety Program for Agricultural Workers and Farmworker Children;
Request for Applications (RFA)

C. Announcement Type: Initial Announcement

D. Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OPP-2010-001

E. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:

66.716-Surveys, Studies, Demonstrations, Educational Outreach, and Special Projects within the Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances

F. Statutory Authority:

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), Section 20.

G. Dates: Hard copy applications submitted via express delivery only (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.) must be received by Carol Parker on or before 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on **April 5, 2010**. Applications submitted by e-mail must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on **April 5, 2010**, at parker.carol@epa.gov. EPA will not accept applications submitted via fax or 1st Class Mail delivery by U.S. Postal Service. See Section IV for further information.

Brief Description

The Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) is soliciting applications from eligible parties for an EPA cooperative agreement to provide financial assistance to an eligible organization for an education and training pesticide safety program aimed at reducing exposure to pesticides for agricultural workers, their families and the agricultural community. The grantee will conduct a national train-the-trainer program to educate farmworkers about how to reduce risks from pesticides. As part of this program the grantee will also train pesticide safety educators who will work with farmworker service organizations, growers and other members of the agricultural community in key rural areas with high pesticide use and large numbers of farmworkers to conduct interactive pesticide safety programs

for agricultural workers and their families. The grantee may utilize existing worker protection and children protection pesticide safety training and education materials or may develop new and/or improved materials to address pesticide safety issues for farmworkers and farmworker children. Written materials need to be targeted at the low literacy, predominately Spanish speaking agricultural worker population.

This announcement provides qualification and application requirements to those interested in submitting applications for fiscal year 2010. Eligible applicants include: States, U.S. territories or possession, federally recognized Indian tribal governments and Native American Organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, other public or private nonprofit institutions, local governments, and individuals and international entities.

The estimated funding available for award in FY 2010 is expected to be approximately **\$350,000**. At the conclusion of the first one year period of performance, incremental funding of up to **\$400,000** may be made available for each additional year allowing the project to continue for a total of five (5) periods of performance (approximately 5 years) and a total of up to **\$1,950,000** for the five-year period, depending on need and the Agency budget in outlying years.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. History

In August of 1992, EPA's Worker Protection Standard (WPS) (40 CFR, Part 170) was published to require actions to reduce the risk of pesticide poisonings and injuries among agricultural workers and pesticide handlers. The WPS offers protections to more than two and a half million agricultural workers who work with pesticides at more than 560,000 workplaces on farms, forests, nurseries and greenhouses. The WPS contains requirements for pesticide safety training, notification of pesticide applications, use of personal protective equipment, restricted entry intervals following pesticide application, decontamination supplies, and emergency medical assistance.

Since 1995, OPP has provided funding for several research and education programs designed to evaluate and convey pesticide safety information to farmworkers. In 2005, OPP funded a five-year cooperative agreement, The National Agricultural Workers Pesticide Safety Training and Education Program, that trained full-time and part-time educators to teach agricultural workers and their families how to reduce the risks from pesticide hazards. Through these programs over 400,000 farmworkers, farmworker families and community members have been trained and educated in ways to reduce risks from pesticide hazards. These programs have researched and evaluated methods for delivering pesticide safety information to a predominately non-English speaking, low literacy, migrant populations. Curriculum on pesticide safety has been developed and a program on pesticide safety for agricultural workers, their families and community members have been established. Between 50 and 70 educators have been trained yearly about pesticide safety, and education and outreach techniques, which in turn have trained

about 20,000 farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the farmworker community each year.

It is EPA's intent/mission/goal to continue advancing the pesticide safety program for agricultural workers and their families, as well as to address other emerging pesticide safety concerns.

B. Authority

EPA expects to make this award under the authority provided in FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136r) Section 20 which authorizes the Agency to issue grants or cooperative agreements for research, public education, training, monitoring, demonstration and studies. Regulations governing these agreements are found at 40 CFR Part 30 for institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations, and 40 CFR Part 31 for states and local governments. In addition, the provisions in 40 CFR Part 32 on government-wide debarment and suspension; and the provisions in 40 CFR Part 34 governing restrictions on lobbying, apply. All costs incurred under this program must be allowable under the applicable OMB Cost Circulars: A-21 (educational institutions), found at 2 CFR Part 220; OMB Circular A-87 (State, local and Indian Tribal government), found at 2 CFR Part 225 and OMB Circular A-122 (non-profit organizations), found at 2 CFR Part 230. Copies of this circular can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars>. In accordance with EPA policy and the OMB circulars, as appropriate, any recipient of funding must agree not to use assistance funds for lobbying, fund-raising, or political activities (e.g., lobbying members of Congress or lobbying for other Federal grants, cooperative agreements or contracts). See 40 CFR Part 34.

C. Program Description

1. Purpose and Scope.

The cooperative agreement awarded under this program is intended to provide financial assistance to:

- a. Conduct a pesticide safety training and education program for farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community each year on how to reduce exposures to pesticides and prevent pesticide poisoning.
- b. Conduct a national training, education and outreach program for farmworkers and farmworker families in rural agricultural areas, including areas with large farmworker populations and high pesticide use.
- c. Work collaboratively with farmworker support organizations; growers; crew leaders; health clinics; local, state and Federal governments and others in educating farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community about the importance of pesticide safety.

2. Goal and Objectives

The objectives of this project will:

- a. Develop and improve pesticide safety training programs and materials for agricultural workers so they can better protect themselves and their children;
- b. Enhance safe working conditions for agricultural field workers, pesticide applicators and other members of the agricultural community at the local, state, national and international levels;
- c. Promote environmental justice by improving health for low-income, low-literacy, and predominately Latino farmworkers and farmworker children in rural agricultural areas by reducing exposure to pesticides.
- d. Bring together members of the pesticide safety education and agricultural communities to develop improved pesticide safety programs for protecting farmworkers, pesticide applicators and others members of the agricultural community from the health risks associated with pesticide exposure;

3. Activities to be Funded:

Conduct a pesticide safety training and education programs for farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community to reduce exposure to the hazards of pesticides. Key activities to be funded under this cooperative agreement will:

- a. Conduct a pesticide safety program for agricultural workers, their families at the local, state and national level, including in areas with high agricultural worker populations and large hand-labor crops..
- b. Develop and/or utilize a pesticide safety training program, including trainers and materials, which address the predominately Spanish speaking, low literacy level needs of agricultural workers. These programs will be developed working collaboratively with farmworker organizations; health care providers; education and training specialists; migrant health, education, training, agricultural, and environmental organizations and agencies at the local, state, national and international level; universities; pesticide safety applicator specialists; grower associations; and other experts. Materials and training approaches will be reviewed and approved by the EPA Project Officer prior to implementation of the training programs and outreach to insure comprehensive review of existing materials is conducted and the development of any new materials or approaches do not duplicate existing ones. Work might include pilot testing and/or peer reviewing key approaches and materials.
- c. Develop and/or utilize of Worker Protection Standard approved pesticide safety curricula and materials for agricultural workers, as outlined in Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR, Part 170.130, Pesticide Safety Training. The curriculum and materials would convey as a minimum the following information: 1) where and in what form pesticides may be encountered during work activities, 2) hazards of pesticides resulting from toxicity and exposure, including acute and chronic effects, delayed effects, and sensitization, 3) routes through which pesticides can enter the body, 4) signs and symptoms of pesticide poisoning, 5) emergency first aid for pesticide injuries or poisonings, 6) how to obtain emergency medical care, 7) routine and emergency decontamination procedures, including eye flushing techniques, 8) hazards from pesticide residues on clothing, 10) warnings about taking pesticide containers home, and 11) requirements of the Worker Protection

- Standard, including reducing the risks of illness or injury resulting from workers' occupational exposure to pesticides, including application and entry restrictions, the design of the warning sign, posting of warning signs, oral warnings, the availability of specific information about applications, and protection against retaliatory acts.
- d. Conduct a national and/or several regional train-the-trainer workshops for a minimum of 30 pesticide safety educators. Workshops would train trainers of farmworkers about the importance of pesticide safety, provide a review of the curriculum and materials to be used, suggest ways to reach farmworkers and work with growers, crew leaders and other members of the agricultural community to utilize the training, how to get certified as an official trainer by the state. Workshops would also include practice sessions for trainers.
 - e. Establish on-going pesticide safety training programs in at least 15 local sites in rural areas with a minimum of 15 states including key states with high farmworker populations and high pesticide usage.
 - f. Conduct outreach and partnership programs with Federal, state and local programs and agencies; farmworker service providers; growers and grower organizations; migrant health clinics and other members of the agricultural community to help advertise, gain access and set up training workshops for agricultural workers, farmworker families, and other members of the agricultural community to conduct Worker Protection and other pesticide safety programs.
 - g. While this program will be predominately in the United States, these outreach and educational programs may be extended internationally, particularly from which farmworkers migrate to the United States, like Mexico, Central America, or the Caribbean.
 - h. Develop or utilize a pesticide safety training evaluation tools, like a pre and post tests or focus groups, to evaluate the effectiveness of the training program and modify the training program to improve it as necessary.

D. EPA Strategic Plan Linkage and Anticipated Outcomes/Outputs

1. Linkage to EPA Strategic Plan /GPRA Architecture

The award to be made under this announcement is expected to support EPA's Strategic Plan Goal 4 – Healthy Communities and Ecosystems, Objective 4.1 – Chemical, Organism and Pesticide Risks, sub-objective 4.1.J1 – Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk, 4.1.J2 – Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk, and 4.1.J3 – Realize the Value of Pesticides Availability. To see EPA's 2006-2011 Strategic Plan, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/plan/plan.htm>.

2. Outcomes

The term "outcome" means the result, effect or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health-related or programmatic in nature, but must be quantitative. They may not necessarily be achievable within an assistance agreement funding period.

Expected outcomes from this cooperative agreement include, but are not limited to:

- a. Enhancing capabilities, through an increase of knowledge, to assist farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community in preventing and reducing pesticide risks to humans, communities and ecosystems;
- b. Protecting human health from pesticide risk;
- c. Restoring healthy communities by reducing the environmental justice impact on minority and low-income populations of farmworkers and farmworker children.
- d. Protecting the environment from pesticide risks.

3. Outputs

The term “output” means an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work products related to an environmental goal and objective, that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during an assistance agreement funding period.

The anticipated outputs of this cooperative agreement include, but are not limited to:

- a. Develop effective communication and outreach programs to enhance pesticide risk reduction to human health, communities and ecosystems.
- b. Model training and education programs for farmworkers and farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community.
- c. Increase the number of trained farmworkers and other members of the agricultural community in reducing pesticide risk.

II. Award Information

A. Amount of Funding Available

The estimated amount of funding for the cooperative agreement for a five-year period is **\$1,950,000**. The estimated amount of funding available for award in Fiscal Year 2010 is expected to be approximately **\$350,000**. At the conclusion of year one, incremental funding of approximately **\$400,000** may be made available for subsequent years depending on funding availability, satisfactory performance and other applicable considerations, allowing the project to continue for a total of five years.

B. Funding Restrictions

Indirect costs must be included in the funding amount. In accordance with 40 CFR 30.25 (f), “Recipients are authorized without prior approval or a waiver to: (1) Incur pre-award costs 90 calendar days prior to award. (i) Pre-award costs incurred more than 90 calendar days prior to award require the prior approval of the EPA Award Official. (ii) The applicant must include all pre-award costs in its application. (iii) The applicant incurs such costs at its own risk (i.e., EPA is under no obligation to reimburse such costs if for any reason the recipient does not receive an award or if the award is less than anticipated and inadequate to cover such costs). (iv) EPA will only allow pre-award costs without approval if there are sufficient programmatic reasons for incurring the expenditures prior to the award (e.g., time constraints, weather factors, etc.), they are in conformance with the appropriate cost principles, and any procurement complies with the requirements of this rule.”

C. Funding Type

EPA will award funding in the form of an assistance agreement according to FIFRA Section 20. The award will be in the form of a cooperative agreement with substantial involvement between the EPA Project Officer and the selected applicant in the performance of the work supported. While EPA will negotiate precise terms and conditions relating to substantial involvement as part of the award process, the anticipated substantial Federal involvement would be:

1. Close monitoring of the successful applicant's performance to verify the results proposed by the applicant;
2. Collaboration during performance of the scope of work; and
3. Review and comment on reports, meetings, conferences and materials prepared under the cooperative agreement.

D. Total Number of Awards.

EPA anticipates making one award from this announcement. Funding will be in the form of a cooperative agreement according to FIFRA Section 20. Selection will be based on the criteria established in this announcement.

E. Start Date/Project Duration

The start date for the selected application is **March of 2010**. The proposed project period duration is expected to be five (5) years.

F. Additional Award Information

EPA reserves the right to make no awards under this announcement, or make fewer awards than anticipated. In addition, EPA reserves the right to make additional awards under this announcement, consistent with Agency policy and guidance, if additional funding becomes available after the original selections are made. Any additional selections for awards will be made no later than six months after the original selection decisions.

In appropriate circumstances, EPA reserves the right to partially fund applications by funding discrete activities, portions, or phases of proposed projects. If EPA decides to partially fund an application, it will do so in a manner that does not prejudice any applicants or affect the basis upon which application, or portion thereof, was evaluated and selected for award, and therefore maintains the integrity of the competition and the selection process.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

EPA is soliciting applications from the following eligible entities under this announcement: States, U.S. territories or possessions, federally recognized Indian tribal governments and Native American Organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, other public or

private nonprofit institutions, local governments, and individuals and international entities. For profit organizations are not eligible.

Non-profit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply.

B. Cost Sharing/Matching

There are no cost share requirements for this project.

C. Threshold Eligibility Requirements

These requirements, if not met by the time of application submission, will result in elimination of the application from consideration for funding. Only applications that meet **ALL** of these criteria will be evaluated against the ranking factors in Section V of the announcement. Applicants deemed ineligible for funding consideration as a result of the threshold eligibility review will be notified within 15 calendar days of the ineligibility determination.

1. Applicants must be eligible (See Section III. A) to receive funding under this announcement.
2. Applications must substantially comply with the application submission instructions and requirements set forth in Section IV of this announcement or else they will be rejected. In addition, where a page limit is expressed in Section IV with respect to the application, pages in excess of the page limitation will not be reviewed.
3. Hard copy applications via express delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc) must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on **April 5, 2010**, to contact listed in Section VII.
4. Hard copy applications will only be accepted via an express mail delivery service. EPA will not accept applications submitted via fax or 1st Class Mail delivery by U.S. Postal Service.
5. Applications submitted by e-mail must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on **April 5, 2010**. Please note that if you choose to submit your materials via e-mail, you accept all risks attendant to e-mail submission including server delays.
6. Applications received after the submission due date and time will be considered late and returned to the sender without further consideration unless the applicant can clearly demonstrate that it was late due to EPA mishandling and not the applicant. Applicants should confirm receipt of their application with Carol Parker as soon as possible after the submission deadline. Failure to do so may result in your application not being reviewed.
7. EPA will consider only the first application submitted by each individual investigator. Applications from different investigators within the same organization are acceptable.

8. Congress has prohibited EPA from using its FY 2010 appropriations to award grants to the Association of Community Organizations from Reform Now (ACORN) or any of its subsidiaries and therefore in order to be eligible for funding consideration under this competition all applicants must affirmatively indicate in their application that they are not subject to this prohibition. In addition, since this funding prohibition applies to subawards/subgrants and contracts awarded by grantees, applicants must consider it when preparing proposals.

IV. General Application Instructions

A. General

Applicants must submit a complete, detailed application to include all of the documents described in Section C below. Additional guidance on completing the documents is available through EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/application.htm>.

Applications received after the closing date and time will be returned to the sender without further consideration. All applications must be complete and eligible for award considerations at the time of submission.

B. Mode of Application Submission

Applicants have the option to submit their application in one of two ways: 1) Hard copy via express delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.), or 2) electronically via email. Applications will not be accepted via fax or standard 1st Class Mail delivery by U.S. Postal Service. All applications must be prepared, and include the information, as described in Section IV. C. below, regardless of mode of transmission.

1. Instructions for Hard Copy Submissions

Applicants must submit two complete application packages including all of the documents identified in Section IV. C. of this announcement. In addition, a CD containing separate Adobe PDF files corresponding to each of the documents identified in Section IV. C. of this announcement must be submitted.

Hard Copy Application Submission Deadline

Applications must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Standards Time on **April 5, 2010**, to EPA contact listed in Section VII. All applications received after this due date and time will NOT be considered.

2. Instructions for Electronic Submissions

E-Mail Proposal Submission Deadline. Applications submitted by email to parker.carol@epa.gov must be received on or before 5:00 PM Eastern

Standard Time on **April 5, 2010**. All required documents listed in Section IV.C of this announcement must be attached to the e-mail as separate Adobe PDF files.

Please note that if you choose to submit your materials via e-mail, you are accepting all risks attendant to e-mail submission including server delays and transmission difficulties. E-mail submissions exceeding 15MB will experience transmission delays which will affect when they are received by the Agency. For these size submissions, applicants should submit their application materials via hardcopy or else they may be received late and not considered for funding.

Applicants submitting their application materials through e-mail should confirm receipt of the materials from EPA with Contact listed in Section VII as soon as possible after submission.

If you have not received a confirmation of receipt from EPA within 15 days of the proposal deadline, please contact the EPA contact in Section VII. Failure to do so may result in your proposal not being reviewed.

C. Content of Application Submission.

Applicants must submit a complete, detailed application package which includes all of the documents described below. Additional guidance on completing the documents is available through EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment (<http://www.epa.gov/ogd>).

The following forms and documents are required under this announcement:

1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
2. Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)
3. EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54
4. Assurances for NonConstruction Programs (SF-424B)
5. EPA Form 6600-06, Lobbying Form – Certification Regarding Lobbying
6. EPA Form 4700-4 – Preaward Compliance Review Report
7. Project Narrative – (prepared as described below)
8. Budget Narrative
9. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL), if applicable
10. Proposal Appendices
11. Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if indirect costs are included in the project budget)

The application package must include all of the following materials:

1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (no page number) Complete the form. There are no attachments. Be sure to include organization fax number and

email address in Block 5 of the form. Clearly state the total funding amount requested for the **ENTIRE** project period in Block 15.

Please note that the organizational Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number must be included on the SF-424. Organizations may obtain a DUNS number at no cost by calling the toll free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711.

2. Budget Information for NonConstruction Programs (SF-424A) (no page number). Complete the form. There are no attachments. The total amount of federal funding requested for the project period should be shown on line 5(e) and on line 6(k) of SF-424A. If indirect costs are included, the amount of indirect costs should be entered on line 6(j). The indirect cost rate (i.e., a percentage), the base (e.g., personnel costs and fringe benefits), and the total amount should also be indicated on line 22. If indirect costs are requested, a copy of the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement must be submitted as part of the application package. (See instructions for document 11. below).

If you are submitting a hard copy application package, blank SF-424, SF-424A, SF-424B forms can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/application.htm>

3. EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54 (no page number) Complete the form. There are no attachments. If additional pages are needed, attach these additional pages to your front page. Include a header on the additional pages with the form number and your name.

4. Assurances for NonConstruction Programs (SF-424B) (no page number) Complete the form. There are no attachments.

5. EPA Form 6600-06, Lobbying Form – Certification Regarding Lobbying (no page number) Complete the form. There are no attachments.

6. EPA Form 4700-4, Pre-award Compliance Review Report (no page number) Complete the form. There are no attachments. Disregard the line in the upper right for inserting an EPA Project Control Number.

7. Project Narrative

- a. **Cover Page (Page 1).** On the cover page list the following information with your letterhead:

EPA docket ID number: EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-001

Project Title:

Project Coordinator:

Organization Name and Address:

Telephone No.: Fax No.: Email Address:

Project Duration (including Starting Date and Ending Date):

First Year Funding Request:

Subsequent Years Funding Requests:

Total Funding Request (for the entire project):

Indicate if this application is a continuation of a previously EPA funded project:

Yes_____ No_____

If yes, please provide the following:

EPA Assistance Number: _____

Budget Period of Project: _____

- b. **Table of Contents:** A one page table listing the different parts of the proposal and the page number on which each part begins.
- c. **Executive Summary:** The Executive Summary should be a stand alone document, not to exceed one (1) page, containing the specifics of what is proposed and what you expect to accomplish regarding measuring results or movement toward achieving project goals. This summary should identify the measurable environmental results you expect including potential human health and ecological benefits.
- d. **Proposal Narrative:** (Includes Part I-VIII): Parts I-VIII listed below MUST NOT exceed twelve (12) double spaced pages.

Part I. Project title. Descriptive project title.

Part II. Objectives: A numbered list (1, 2, etc.) of concisely written project objectives. In most cases, each objective can be stated in a single sentence. These objectives should be specific and clearly stated.

Part III. Justification: For each objective listed in Part II above, discuss the potential outcome in terms of impact to pesticide regulatory programs, and environmental and human health protection. This section should be numbered with a justification corresponding to each objective.

Part IV. Background Information: Explain your current state of knowledge of the proposed project. This may be in the form of a summary of programs currently in progress or past activities.

Part V. Resources: Describe the human resources, potential collaborators, partnerships, coalitions and/or existing networks you offer to increase possibility of project success. State the roles these people or organizations will play in the program.

Part VI. Approach and Methods: Describe in detail how the program will be carried out. Describe how the approach or system that will be used to administer this pesticide safety project cost-effectively and how it will

support the program goals. Include a well-conceived work plan that is realistic and appropriate to achieving the identified objectives and that demonstrates the following:

- a. *Expertise in language and literacy needs of farmworkers.* Applicant must have expertise in providing education, training and other services to the needs of the farmworker population. Since the farmworker population has an average educational level of only the sixth grade, applicants must demonstrate expertise in reaching low literacy level populations. Also, since 84% of farmworkers speak Spanish, applicants must demonstrate an ability to present pesticide safety information in Spanish.
- b. *Ability to provide comprehensive Worker Protection Standard pesticide safety program for farmworkers, farmworker families and agricultural community members.* Applicants must demonstrate the capacity of providing comprehensive worker training including key pesticide safety information, as outlined in the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR, Part 170.130, as well as experience and/or capacity to present pesticide safety information to protect farmworker children.
- c. *Extensive outreach strategies to farmworkers and rural communities.* Applicants must develop extensive outreach strategies that include areas where farmworkers work and reside. Applicants must demonstrate abilities to train farmworkers and their families in labor camps, work sites on growers' property, in community centers, in churches, migrant health clinics, in schools, and farmworker employment and training offices. In addition, applicants must have the ability to conduct outreach programs with growers and small farmers and work with them to deliver pesticide training programs to their workers.
- d. *National network of offices in at least 15 agricultural areas with high farmworker populations in at least 15 states.* Since farmworkers live and work in hard to reach rural areas, applicants must describe how the training program would work with affiliate farmworker support offices in those 15 or more agricultural areas in close proximity to farmworkers in at least 15 states.
- e. *Broad educational program with over 30 outreach trainers in pesticide safety.* Applicants must demonstrate that they have experience conducting effective pesticide safety education and training for farmworkers and a comprehensive curriculum for reaching farmworkers about pesticide safety. Applicants must have a staff of at least 30 full-time outreach workers whose main job is training farmworkers to prevent exposure to pesticides.
- f. *Ability to train a minimum of 14,000 farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community each year about pesticide safety.* Since there are approximately two and a half million farmworkers and 20% of these are new workers who enter the

U. S. agricultural workforce every year, the applicant must demonstrate the ability to train at least 10,000 farmworkers a year about pesticide safety measures including minimum criteria outlined in the Worker Protection Standards, 40 CFR, Part 170.130.

- g. *Expertise, ability and/or experience in conducting pesticide safety outreach campaigns to protect farmworkers, farmworker children and other members of the agricultural community.* In addition to conducting specific pesticide safety and education training to farmworkers and farmworker families, applicant must demonstrate ability to conduct broad outreach pesticide safety campaigns to protect farmworkers and farmworker children and other members of the agricultural community through the media, general educational outreach, farmworker health programs, migrant education and/or other farmworker support organizations.

Part VII. Performance Measures and Expected Outcomes/Outputs:

State how you will evaluate the success of the program in terms of measurable environmental results (See Section I.). The proposal narrative should include performance measures that demonstrate the progress or environmental benefits of the project. Any project assessments are required to provide measurable outputs and outcomes. All applications should include the following elements for the reporting of project measures:

1. Documentation showing training and education programs for farmworkers, farmworker families, and/or other members of the agricultural community.
2. Documentation on effective communication and outreach programs to enhance pesticide risk reduction to human health, communities and ecosystems.
3. Documentation showing increased number of farmworkers and other members of the agricultural community trained in reducing pesticide risk.
4. Documentation demonstrating outreach and partnership with farmworker support organizations, health clinics, state agencies, growers and other members of the agricultural community in conducting pesticide safety education and training programs.
5. Capacity for a national network of farmworker support organizations in at least 15 agricultural areas with high farmworker populations in at least 15 states with a minimum of 30 full-time outreach workers whose main job is training farmworkers to prevent exposure to pesticides.

Part VIII. Programmatic Capability and Environmental Results Past Performance:

Submit a list of federally [and/or non-federally if applicable] funded assistance agreements (assistance agreements include Federal grants and cooperative agreements but not Federal contracts) similar in size, scope and relevance to the proposed project that your organization performed within the last three years (no more than 5 agreements, and preferably EPA agreements) and describe (i) whether, and how, you were able to successfully complete and manage those agreements and (ii) your history of meeting the reporting requirements under those agreements including whether you adequately and timely reported on your progress towards achieving the expected outputs and outcomes of those agreements (and if not, explain why not) and whether you submitted acceptable final technical reports under the agreements. In evaluating applicants under these factors in Section V, EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources, including information from EPA files and from current/prior grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information provided by the applicant). If you do not have any relevant or available past performance or past reporting information, please indicate this in the proposal and you will receive a neutral score for these factors (a neutral score is half of the total points available in a subset of possible points). If you do not provide any response for these items, you may receive a score of 0 for these factors.

In addition, provide information on your organizational experience and plan for timely and successfully achieving the objectives of the proposed project, and your staff expertise/qualifications, staff knowledge, and resources or ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the goals of the proposed project.

8. Budget Narrative

In addition to the SF-424A form, prepare a detailed itemized budget linking the cost of each objective with the budget. Explain the need for funding and cost-effectiveness under each of the appropriate budget categories. Under travel, include the travel location(s), estimated number of trips, estimated total mileage and number of nights' lodging required throughout the entire project period. For guidelines and a sample budget see <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/budget%20sample.pdf>.

NOTE on Management Fees: When formulating budgets for applications, applicants must not include management fees or similar charges in excess of the direct costs and indirect costs at the rate approved by the applicants cognizant audit agency, or at the rate provided for by the terms of the agreement negotiated with EPA. The term "management fees or similar charges" refers to expenses added to the direct costs in order to accumulate and reserve funds for ongoing business expenses, unforeseen liabilities, or for other similar costs that are not allowable

under EPA assistance agreements. Management fees or similar charges may not be used to improve or expand the project funded under this agreement, except to the extent authorized as a direct cost of carrying out the scope of work.

You must submit a copy of your organization's Indirect Cost Rate Agreement as part of the application package if your proposed budget includes indirect costs.

9. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL).

Complete the form if your organization is involved in lobbying activities.

10. Application Appendices

Any appendices must be included in the grant application as attachments to the project application and will not count as part of the page limit for the project application. There is no page limit to these attachments.

11. Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. Attach a copy of your organization's Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.

D. General Submission Information

1. Coalitions

Groups of two or more eligible applicants may choose to form a coalition and submit a single application for this assistance agreement. However, one entity must be responsible for the grant. Coalitions must identify which eligible organization will be the recipient of the cooperative agreement, and which eligible organization(s) will be subawardees of the recipient. Subawards or subgrants must be consistent with the definition of that term in 40 CFR Parts 30.2(ff) and 31.3. The recipient which administers the cooperative agreement is accountable to the EPA for proper expenditure of the funds and all reporting and will be the point of contact for the coalition. As provided in 40 CFR Parts 30.2(gg) and 31.3, subrecipients or subgrantees are accountable to the recipient or grantee for proper use of EPA funding. Coalitions may not include for profit organizations that will provide services or products to the successful applicant. For profit organizations are not eligible for subawards. Any contracts for services or products funded with EPA financial assistance must be awarded under the competitive procurement procedures of 40 CFR Parts 30 and 31. The regulations also contain limitations on consultant compensation. Applicants are not required to identify contractors or consultants in the application. Moreover, the fact a successful applicant has named a specific contractor or consultant in the application EPA approves does not relieve it of its obligation to comply with competitive procurement requirements or consultant compensation limitations.

2. Intergovernmental Review

Applicants must comply with the Intergovernmental Review Process and/or consultation provisions of Executive Order 12372 or Section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act, if applicable, which are contained in 40 CFR Part 29.

Further information regarding this requirement will be provided if your application is selected for funding.

3. Allowable Costs

EPA grant funds may only be used for purposes set forth in the assistance agreement, and must be consistent with the statutory authority for the award. Assistance agreement funds may not be used to match funds for other federal grants, lobbying or intervention in federal regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings. In addition, Federal funds may not be used to sue the Federal government or any other governmental entity. All costs identified in the budget must conform to applicable Federal Cost Principles contained in OMB Circular A87; A122; and A21 as appropriate.

4. Confidential Business Information

In accordance with 40 CFR 2.203, applicants may claim all or a portion of their application package as confidential business information. EPA will evaluate confidentiality claims in accordance with 40 CFR Part 2. Applicants must clearly mark applications or portions thereof that they claim as confidential. If no claim of confidentiality is made, EPA is not required to make the inquiry to the applicant otherwise required by 40 CFR 2.204(c)(2) prior to disclosure. However, competitive applications are considered confidential and protected from disclosure prior to the completion of the competitive selection process.

5. Pre-Application Assistance and Communications

In accordance with EPA's Assistance Agreement Competition Policy (EPA Order 5700.5A1), EPA staff will not meet with individual applicants to discuss draft applications, provide informal comments on draft applications, or provide advice to applicants on how to respond to ranking criteria. Applicants are responsible for the contents of their applications. However, EPA will respond to questions in writing from individual applicants regarding threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the submission of the application, and requests for clarification about the announcement.

6. Contracts and Subawards

a. Can funding be used for the applicant to make subawards, acquire contract services, or fund partnerships? EPA awards funds to one eligible applicant as the recipient even if other eligible applicants are named as partners or coapplicants or members of a coalition or consortium. The recipient is accountable to EPA for the proper expenditure of funds.

Funding may be used to provide subgrants or subawards of financial assistance, which includes using subawards or subgrants to fund partnerships, provided the recipient complies with applicable requirements for subawards or subgrants including those contained in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as appropriate. Applicants must compete contracts for services and products, including consultant contracts, and conduct cost and price analyses, to the extent required by the procurement provisions of the regulations at 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as appropriate. The regulations also contain limitations on consultant compensation. Applicants are not required to identify subawardees/subgrantees and/or

contractors (including consultants) in their application. However, if they do, the fact that an applicant selected for award has named a specific subawardee/subgrantee, contractor, or consultant in the application EPA selects for funding does not relieve the applicant of its obligations to comply with subaward/subgrant and/or competitive procurement requirements as appropriate. Please note that applicants may not award sole source contracts to consulting, engineering or other firms assisting applicants with the application solely based on the firm's role in preparing the application.

Successful applicants cannot use subgrants or subawards to avoid requirements in EPA grant regulations for competitive procurement by using these instruments to acquire commercial services or products from for profit organizations to carry out its assistance agreement. The nature of the transaction between the recipient and the subawardee or subgrantee must be consistent with the standards for distinguishing between vendor transactions and subrecipient assistance under Subpart B Section 210 of OMB Circular A133 , and the definitions of subaward at 40 CFR 30.2(ff) or subgrant at 40 CFR 31.3, as applicable. EPA will not be a party to these transactions. Applicants acquiring commercial goods or services must comply with the competitive procurement standards in 40 CFR Part 30 or 40 CFR Part 31.36 and cannot use a subaward/subgrant as the funding mechanism.

b. How will an applicant's proposed subawardees/subgrantees and contractors be considered during the evaluation process described in Section V of the announcement? Section V of the announcement describes the evaluation criteria and evaluation process that will be used by EPA to make selections under this announcement. During this evaluation, except for those criteria that relate to the applicant's own qualifications, past performance, and reporting history, the review panel will consider, as appropriate and relevant, the qualifications, expertise, and experience of:

- 1) An applicant's named subawardees/subgrantees identified in the application if the applicant demonstrates in the application that if it receives an award that the subaward/subgrant will be properly awarded consistent with the applicable regulations in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31. For example, applicants must not use subawards/subgrants to obtain commercial services or products from for profit firms or individual consultants.
- 2) An applicant's named contractor(s), including consultants, identified in the application if the applicant demonstrates in its application that the contractor(s) was selected in compliance with the competitive Procurement Standards in 40 CFR Part 30 or 40 CFR 31.36 as appropriate. For example, an applicant must demonstrate that it selected the contractor(s) competitively or that a proper noncompetitive sole source award consistent with the regulations will be made to the contractor(s), that efforts were made to provide small and disadvantaged businesses with opportunities to compete, and that some form of cost or price analysis was conducted. EPA may not accept sole source justifications for contracts for services or products that are otherwise readily available in the commercial marketplace.

EPA will not consider the qualifications, experience, and expertise of named

subawardees/subgrantees and/or named contractor(s) during the application evaluation process unless the applicant complies with these requirements.

V. Application Review Information

The Agency Contact listed in Section VII will send an email acknowledgment to each applicant upon receipt of their application.

Each application that meets the eligibility requirements set forth in Section III.C will be subjected to a technical and programmatic review. The following criteria will be used in the evaluation process:

- A. Application Review.** All applications will first be reviewed for eligibility purposes (see Section III.C) by the Agency Contact listed in Section VII. Eligible applications will be evaluated by a panel of EPA staff using the selection criteria listed below.
- B. Selection Criteria.** Each eligible application will be evaluated according to the criteria set forth below. Applicants should directly and explicitly address these criteria as part of their application package submittal. Each application will be rated under a points system, with a total of 100 points possible.
1. ***Project Goals and Objectives*** – Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on the following:
 - a. Extent to which the goals and objectives are clearly stated and consistent with the goals of the Agricultural Workers Pesticide Safety Program; (5 points) and
 - b. Extent to which the objectives and justifications describe the impact to national pesticide programs, human health and the environment. (5 points)

(Total = 10 points)
 2. ***Approaches/Methods Proposed to Administer the Program*** – Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully demonstrate cost-effective Approaches and Methods as outlined in Section IV.C.7.d.Part VI:
 - a. Expertise, ability and/or experience in providing education, training and other services to the farmworker population, including demonstrating an ability to present pesticide safety information to low literacy populations in Spanish. (10 points)
 - b. Expertise and experience in providing comprehensive pesticide safety program farmworkers, farmworker families and agricultural community members, including providing comprehensive worker training and key pesticide safety information, as outlined in the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR, Part 170.130, as well as experience and/or capacity to present pesticide safety information to protect farmworker children. (10 points)

- c. Ability and expertise in developing extensive outreach strategies and educational programs to farmworkers in rural communities that include areas where farmworkers work and reside. In addition, ability and expertise in conducting programs with growers and small farmers to deliver pesticide training programs to their workers. (10 points)
- d. Expertise, ability and/or experience in conducting broad outreach campaigns to protect farmworkers and farmworker children and other members of the agricultural community through the media, general educational outreach, farmworker health programs, migrant education and other farmworker support organizations. (10 points)
- e. Ability to train a minimum of 14,000 farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community each year about pesticide safety in a minimum of 15 states with a minimum of 30 full-time trainers. (10 points)

(Total = 50 points)

3. *Programmatic Capability and Environmental Results Past Performance*

Criterion - Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project taking into account the following factors:

- a. Past performance in successfully completing and managing the assistance agreement described in Section IV.C.7.d.Part VIII.(i) of the announcement (5 points),
- b. History of meeting the reporting requirements under the assistance agreements described in Section IV.C.7.d.Part VIII.(ii) of the announcement including whether the applicant submitted acceptable final technical reports under those agreements and the extent to which the applicant adequately and timely reported on their progress towards achieving the expected output and outcomes under those agreements and if such progress was not being made whether the applicant adequately reported why not (5 points),
- c. Organizational experience and plan for cost-effective, timely and successful achievement of the objects of the proposed project described in Section IV.C.7.d.Part VIII (5 points), and
- d. Staff expertise/qualification, staff knowledge, and resources or the ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the goals of the proposed project described in Section IV.C.7.d.Part VIII (5 points).

Note: In evaluating applicants under this criterion, EPA will consider relevant information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources including agency files and prior/current grantors (e.g. to verify and/or supplement the information supplied by the applicant). If you do not have any relevant or available past performance or past reporting information, please indicate this in the proposal and you will receive a neutral score of these subfactors (items a. and b. A neutral score is half of the total points available in a subset of

possible points). If you do not provide any response for these items, you may receive a score of 0 for these factors.

(Total points = 20)

- 4. *Environmental Results/Outcomes and Outputs*** - Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated on the effectiveness of the applicants plan for measuring its progress towards achieving expected project outcomes and outputs as outlined in Section I:

Outcomes: The extent to which the application can demonstrate how the following outcomes might be achieved: a. Enhanced capabilities, through an increase of knowledge to assist farmworkers, growers and other members of the agricultural community in preventing and reducing chemical risks to humans, communities and ecosystems; b. Protecting human health from pesticide risk; c. Restoring healthy communities by reducing the environmental justice impact on minority and low-income populations of farmworkers and farmworker children; and d. Protecting the environment from pesticide risks. (10 points).

Outputs: The extent to which the application can demonstrate how the following outputs might be achieved: a. Development of effective communication and outreach programs to enhance pesticide risk reduction to human health, communities and ecosystems; b. Development of model training and education programs for farmworkers and farmworker families, and other members of the agricultural community; c. Increased number of trained farmworkers and other members of the agricultural community in reducing pesticide risk. (10 points).

(Total Points =20)

C. Selection Official. The final funding decision will be made from the group of top rated proposals (as determined by the EPA review team) by the Chief of the Certification and Worker Protection Branch, Field and External Affairs Division, Office of Pesticide Programs. In making the final funding decisions, the Selection Official may also consider funding availability and cost effectiveness.

VI. Award Administration Information

- A. Award Notices.** Once all of the applications have been reviewed, evaluated, ranked and a selection is made, applicants will be notified of the outcome of the competition via email. The notification is not an authorization to begin performance on the selected project. The notice of award sent via U.S. Mail to the applicant's authorized representative and signed by the EPA Award Official is the authorizing document.

The grantee information for the successful application will be posted through the EPA/OPP website at the conclusion of the competition.

EPA reserves the right to negotiate a decrease in the total amount of available funding, partially fund applications, and reject all applications and make no awards.

- B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements.** The award and administration of the assistance agreement will be governed by the Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to states, tribes, and local governments set forth at 40 CFR Part 31. In addition, the provisions in 40 CFR part 32 regarding government-wide debarment and suspension, and the provisions in 40 CFR part 40 regarding restrictions on lobbying, apply.

All costs incurred under this program must be allowable under the applicable OMB Cost Circular A-87, 2, for institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations, CFR Parts 220 and 225. Copies of this circular can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/>. In accordance with the EPA policy and the OMB circular, any recipient of funding must agree not to use assistance funds for fundraising, or political activities such as lobbying members of Congress or lobbying for other federal grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts. See 40 CFR Part 34.

Nonprofit applicants that are recommended for funding under this announcement will be subject to pre-award administrative capability reviews consistent with Sections 8.b, 8.c, and 9.d of EPA Order 5700.8, 'EPA Policy on Assessing Capabilities of NonProfit Applicants for Managing Assistance Awards' which can be found at http://www.epa.gov/ogd/grants/award/5700_8.pdf. Nonprofit applicants that qualify for funding may, depending on the size of the award, be required to fill out and submit to the Grants Management Office the Administrative Capability Form, with supporting documents, contained in Appendix A of EPA Order 5700.8.

In accordance with 40 CFR 30.54 and 31.45, projects that include the generation or use of environmental data are required to submit a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). This includes efficacy and performance data, surveys and similar results. The award recipient must develop and implement quality assurance and quality control procedures, specifications and documentation that are sufficient to produce data of adequate quality to meet project objectives. The QAPP is the document that provides comprehensive details about the quality assurance/quality control requirements and technical activities that must be implemented to ensure that project objectives are met. The QAPP should be prepared in accordance with EPA QA/R5: EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans. The QAPP must be submitted to the EPA Project Officer at least 30 days prior to the initiation of data collection or data compilation. Requirements for QAPP's can found at http://www.epa.gov/quality1/qa_docs.html.

If a conference or workshop is an element of the project, the applicant will be required to answer the following questions: Who is initiating the conference/workshop/meeting? How will it be advertised? Whose logo will be on the agenda and materials? What is the percentage of participants, i.e. federal, state, local or public? Will the grant recipient prepare the proceedings and disseminate the information back to the targeted community? Will program income be generated from this event?

If indirect costs are budgeted in the assistance application and the nonprofit organization or educational institute does not have a previously established indirect cost rate, it agrees to prepare and submit its indirect cost rate application and/or cost allocation plan in accordance with the appropriate Federal cost principle, OMB Circular A122, "Cost Principles for NonProfit Organizations" or OMB Circular A21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions" within ninety (90) days from the effective date of the award for this assistance agreement.

If a local government does not have a previously established indirect cost rate, it will need to prepare its indirect cost rate application and/or cost allocation plan in accordance with OMB Circular A-87, "Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments." The local government recipient whose cognizant Federal agency has been designated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) must develop and submit its indirect cost rate application for approval to its cognizant Federal agency within six (6) months after the close of the governmental unit's fiscal year. If the cognizant Federal agency has not been identified by the OMB, the local government recipient must still develop (and when required, submit) its application within that period.

EPA awards funds to one eligible applicant as the "recipient" even if other eligible applicants are named as "partners" or "coapplicants" or members of a "coalition" or "consortium". The recipient is accountable to EPA for the proper expenditure of funds.

Funding may be used to acquire services or fund partnerships, provided the recipient follows procurement and subaward or subgrant procedures contained in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as applicable. For profit organizations are not eligible for subawards or subgrants under this announcement but may enter into procurement contracts with recipients.

Successful applicants must compete contracts for services and products and conduct cost and price analyses to the extent required by these regulations. The regulations also contain limitations on consultant compensation. Applicants are not required to identify contractors or consultants in their application. Moreover, the fact that a successful applicant has named a

specific contractor or consultant in the application EPA approves does not relieve it of its obligations to comply with competitive procurement requirements.

Subgrants or subawards may be used to fund partnerships with non profit organizations and governmental entities. Successful applicants cannot use subgrants or subawards to avoid requirements in EPA grant regulations for competitive procurement by using these instruments to acquire commercial services or products to carry out its cooperative agreement. The nature of the transaction between the recipient and the subgrantee must be consistent with the standards for distinguishing between vendor transactions and subrecipient assistance under Subpart B Section .210 of OMB Circular A133, and the definitions of “subaward” at 40 CFR 30.2(ff) or “subgrant” at 40 CFR 31.3, as applicable. EPA will not be a party to these transactions.

C. Human Subjects: A grant applicant must agree to meet all EPA requirements for studies using human subjects prior to implementing any work with these subjects. These requirements are given in 40 C.F.R. § 26. Studies involving intentional exposure of human subjects who are children or pregnant or nursing women are prohibited by Subpart B of 40 CFR Section 26. For observational studies involving children or pregnant women and fetuses please refer to Subparts C & D of 40 CFR Section 26. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regulations at 45 CFR § 46.101(e) have long required "... compliance with pertinent Federal laws or regulations which provide additional protection for human subjects." EPA's regulation 40 C.F.R. Part 26 is such a pertinent Federal regulation. Therefore, the applicant's Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval must state that the applicant's study meets the EPA's regulations at 40 CFR § 26. No work involving human subjects, including recruiting, may be initiated before the EPA has received a copy of the applicant's IRB approval of the project and the EPA has also provided approval. Where human subjects are involved in the research, the recipient must provide evidence of subsequent IRB reviews, including amendments or minor changes of protocol, as part of annual reports

D. Reporting Requirements. The successful applicant will be required to submit quarterly progress reports throughout the duration of the project. Progress reports are due 30 days post each quarter of the project period. Reports should include a description of project activities including accomplishments, successes and lessons learned along with any problems and/or delays. Data on performance measures should be reported in table format whenever possible. Quarterly Financial Status Reports (FSRs) will also be required. A final project report is also required 90 days following the end of the project period according to the same format. All reports can be submitted either electronically or by hard paper copy.

E. Dispute Resolution Process. Assistance agreement competition-related disputes will be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures

published in 70 FR (Federal Register) 3629, 3630 (January 26, 2005) which can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/resolution.htm>. Copies of these procedures may also be requested by contacting the EPA contact listed under section VII.

F. Data Access and Information Release. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-110 has been revised to provide public access to research data through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) under some circumstances. Data that are (1) first produced in a project that is supported in whole or in part with Federal funds and (2) cited publicly and officially by a Federal agency in support of an action that has the force and effect of law (i.e., a regulation) may be accessed through FOIA. If such data are requested by the public, the EPA must ask for it, and the grantee must submit it, in accordance with A-110 and EPA regulations at 40 C.F.R. 30.36.

G. DUNS Number. All applicants are required to provide a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number when applying for a Federal grant or cooperative agreement. Applicants can receive a DUNS number, at no cost, by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711, or visiting the D&B website at: <http://www.dnb.com>

VII. Agency Contact

If you have questions or need additional information regarding this announcement, please contact:

Carol Parker

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