



**US Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Pesticide Programs**

**Funding Opportunity Announcement
Pesticide Safety Program
Request for Applications (RFA)**

August 18, 2009

Funding Opportunity Announcement

7/9/09

Pesticide Safety Program

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; Request for Applications (RFA)

C. Announcement Type: Initial Announcement

D. Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OPP-2009-005

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 proposals 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 **October 2, 2009**. Proposals submitted by e-mail must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on October 2, 2009, at parker.carol@epa.gov. EPA will not accept proposals 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 to support a national and international pesticide safety program to assess and develop health and safety programs aimed at reducing exposure to pesticides for agricultural workers, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, as well as local, state, national and international organizations and government agencies, and other members of the agricultural community. As part of this program the grantee will examine private and public programs on pesticide safety; organize conferences, workgroups and conduct meetings with experts from the agricultural community; facilitate projects; and develop, pilot test, finalize, distribute, and promote "improved pesticide safety education and training programs and materials". The pesticide safety program will develop and improve pesticide safety training programs and materials for agricultural workers so they can protect themselves, their families and the agricultural

community. The program will also ensure pesticide applicator competence to work with general use and restricted use pesticides safely, improve aerial applicator's programs to prevent drift and enhance safety programs for commercial applicators. The program will assist in the development of proper storage, containment and disposal of pesticide containers. The program will also raise awareness of health care providers about health implications of working with or around pesticides. This program will support reducing risks from pesticide hazards to agricultural workers and pesticide applicators and other members of the agricultural community under Section 20 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

The selected grantee will work with a wide range of pesticide safety stakeholders to ensure that those occupationally exposed to pesticides, including farmworkers, pesticide applicators, growers and others are protected from exposure risks. Grantee duties will include continued monitoring of current pesticide safety programs, conducting meetings and workshops with the agricultural community and pesticide safety experts to assess where program improvement or innovations are needed, and develop interventions, training models and outreach materials to meet evolving needs of the target population. Duties will also include work with health providers to identify, treat and prevent pesticide poisoning. The grantee will also work with states, pesticide safety training experts, pesticide applicators, growers, pesticide producers and retailers, and others to develop programs and materials to insure the safe storage, disposal, containment and containers of pesticides.

This announcement provides qualification and application requirements to those interested in submitting applications for fiscal year 2009. 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 2009 is expected to be approximately \$400,000. At the conclusion of year one, incremental funding of up to \$800,000 may be made available for each additional year, allowing the project to continue for funding a total of five (5) years and total of up to \$3,600,000, depending on need and the Agency budget in outlying years.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. 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.

B. Program Description

1. Purpose and Scope.

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

- a. Reduce the risk of pesticide poisonings and injuries among agricultural workers, pesticide applicators, growers, members of the agricultural community, and the public by providing essential education, training and outreach programs and materials about the potential hazards associated with pesticide chemicals and how to decrease those risks.
- b. Develop more effective pesticide safety programs on local, state, national and international levels to protect farmworkers, pesticide applicators, growers and other members of the agricultural community.
- c. Support a project to work with a wide spectrum of agricultural stakeholders and pesticide safety education and training experts to research, assess and develop improved pesticide safety programs for agricultural workers and their families; pesticide applicators, including general, certified, aerial and commercial applicators; growers; health providers; pesticide producers and retailers; state, national and international agencies and organizations; and other members of the agricultural community.

2. Goal and Objectives

The objectives of this project will:

- a. Bring together diverse members of the pesticide safety education and agricultural communities and to develop improved pesticide safety programs for protecting farmworkers, pesticide applicators and others from the health risks associated with pesticide exposure;
- b. Enhance safe working conditions for agricultural field workers, pesticide applicators and other members of the agricultural community at the state, national and international level;
- c. Develop and improve pesticide safety training programs and materials for agricultural workers so they can protect themselves, their families and the agricultural community;
- d. Ensure pesticide applicator competence to use non-restricted use and restricted use pesticides safely, improve aerial applicator's programs to prevent drift and enhance safety programs for commercial applicators;

- e. Develop pesticide safety programs and materials for proper storage, containment and disposal of pesticide containers; and
- f. Raise awareness of health care providers about health implications of working with or around pesticides.

3. Activities to be Funded:

In working with a wide spectrum of agricultural experts and stakeholders, the cooperative agreement will fund the continued development of improved national and international pesticide safety training and education programs to reduce exposure to the hazards of pesticides. Key activities to be funded under this cooperative agreement will:

- a. Assess and develop model state, national and international pesticide safety training, education and outreach programs and materials for agricultural workers and their families. These programs will be developed working collaboratively through conferences, workgroups and on-going engagement with farmworker organizations; health care providers; education and training specialists; migrant health and education organizations and agencies at the local, state, national and international level; universities; pesticide safety applicator specialists; grower associations; and other experts. Work would include pilot testing and/or peer reviewing key approaches and materials.
- b. Assess programs and needs to develop model state, national and international training, education and outreach programs and materials on pesticide safety for applicators, including general, certified, aerial and commercial applicators. Work with experts on pesticide applicator safety and certification to develop model state, national and international pesticide safety and training programs, materials and core and category examinations for applicators and handlers of agricultural pesticides.
- c. Evaluate existing international pesticide safety training and educational programs for agricultural workers, pesticide applicators and others, and develop standard models to provide improved training and education across borders, working with international governments' environmental and agricultural agencies, and organizations; pesticide producers; and other members of the international agricultural community.
- d. Assess and develop model pesticide safety programs and materials on pesticide storage, disposal, containment and containers, working closely with state departments of agriculture and environmental protection; pesticide safety training experts; pesticide producers and retailers; pesticide mixers, loaders and applicators, commercial and aerial applicators; and other members of the state, national and international pesticide stewardship community.
- e. Assess pesticide hazard communications programs and develop a model program which would provide additional information on specific pesticide hazards, working cooperatively with a broad range of agricultural interests at the state, national and international level.
- f. Transform recommendations for prevention and improved identification and treatment of pesticide illnesses into model education, training and outreach programs and materials, working with key members of the health care provider

community; including experts and representatives from migrant and rural health care clinics, hospitals, medical colleges and universities, state and national medical educators and others.

C. History

In August of 1992, EPA issued the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) rule (40 CFR Part 170) to reduce the risk of pesticide poisonings and injuries among agricultural workers and pesticide handlers. The WPS offers protections to approximately two million agricultural workers and pesticide handlers who work with pesticides at more than 500,000 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.

In addition to the Worker Protection Standard, EPA's Certification of Pesticide Applicators rule (40 CFR Part 171) has been in effect since 1974. EPA's pesticide applicator certification program ensures that pesticide applicators have the knowledge and ability to use restricted use pesticides (RUP) safely and effectively. The Part 171 regulations require that applicators be certified as competent to apply RUPs in accordance with national standards. Certification Programs are conducted by states, territories, tribes, and Federal agencies in accordance with these national standards and Federally approved plans for the certification of applicators. EPA provides funding to states, tribes and territories to conduct certification programs, and EPA also provides funding to the Cooperative Extension Service to assist in the training of certified applicators. Applicator training programs address safe use of pesticides and a range of environmental issues such as endangered species and water quality protection. Approximately one million pesticide applicators are currently certified nationwide, including more than 550,000 private applicators and about 400,000 commercial applicators.

A broad spectrum of farmworkers, pesticide handlers, Cooperative Extension Service, growers, commercial applicators, safety trainers, local, state, regional, national and international organizations and agencies have worked together to develop comprehensive recommendations for programs and policies to protect human health and the environment from pesticide risks. In addition, numerous model programs and materials were developed, pilot tested and distributed nationally and internationally to help reduce risk from pesticides.

In 1999, working with numerous health care and educational organizations, the Health Care Providers Initiative was created. It aims to incorporate pesticide information into the education and practice of health care providers. The goal is to improve the recognition, diagnosis, management, and prevention of adverse health effects from pesticide exposures in agricultural areas. As part of this initiative, EPA is working in partnership with the Migrant Clinicians Network to develop a training program for health care providers on how to recognize and manage pesticide poisoning. In addition, EPA is working with the Pacific Northwest Agricultural

Safety and Health Center to develop and incorporate model pesticide recognition and treatment information, as well as information on how to reduce risk into medical and nursing home curricula.

In 2001, EPA published a report, “Clean Sweep Report 2001,” which described state and local government achievements in safely collecting and disposing of agricultural waste Pesticides. In 2005 – 2006, EPA participated on a committee of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers that developed a voluntary consensus standard on how to safely recycle pesticide containers. In August of 2006, EPA issued Standards for Pesticide Containers and Containment which prescribed procedures and standards for safe container design, removal of pesticide residues from containers and other safe storage and disposal practices. EPA has been working with State Departments of Agriculture, The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance, the Cooperative Extension Service, the agricultural chemical industry, agricultural retailers and dealers, and others to implement pesticide safety programs and develop materials and courses on pesticide storage, disposal, containment and recycling to assist in education and implementation.

The current program has been conducted through cooperative agreements with several organizations over the last several years, including the Agricultural Research Institute, the Council on Agricultural Science and Technology, and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Research Foundation. Under this program comprehensive assessments have been undertaken to evaluate the Worker Protection Standard and other national and international programs to protect the agricultural community from the hazards of pesticides. EPA would like to continue the pesticide safety program for agricultural workers, pesticide handlers and health providers and expand the program to include pesticide stewardship (including storage, disposal, recycling and container design), as well as to address other emerging pesticide safety concerns.

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.J# – Pesticides Realizing 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. Enhanced capabilities, through an increase of knowledge, to assist farmworkers; pesticide applicators, including aerial and commercial applicators; growers; chemical producers; pesticide retailers; health providers; local, state, national, and international government organizations and agencies in preventing and reducing chemical risks to humans, communities and ecosystems;
- b. Protecting human health from pesticide risk;
- c. Reducing chemical risks from pesticide containers and storage facilities in communities;
- d. Protecting the environment from pesticide risks; and
- e. Restoring healthy communities by reducing the environmental justice impact on minority and low-income populations of farmworkers.

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. Development of effective communication and outreach programs to enhance pesticide risk reduction to human health, communities and ecosystems.
- b. Model training and education programs for farmworkers, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, state, national and international government agencies and organizations, and other members of the agricultural community.
- c. Increased number of trained farmworkers, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, and/or 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 \$3,700,000. The estimated amount of funding available for award in Fiscal Year 2009 is expected to be approximately \$400,000. At the conclusion of year one, incremental funding of approximately \$800,000 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 preaward costs 90 calendar days prior to award. (i) Preaward 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 preaward 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 preaward 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 will make one award. 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

Award funds for the selected application is expected to be available in September of 2009. The proposed project period 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 the 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 proposals 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. Application packages 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 proposal, pages in excess of the page limitation will not be reviewed.
3. Hard copy proposals via express delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc) must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on **October 2, 2009**, to contact listed in Section VII.
4. Hard copy proposals will only be accepted via an express mail delivery service. EPA will not accept proposals submitted via fax or 1st Class Mail delivery by U.S. Postal Service.
5. Proposals submitted by e-mail must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on **October 2, 2009**. 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. Proposals 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.

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 Proposal Submission

Applicants have the option to submit their proposals in one of two ways: 1) Hard copy via express delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.), or 2) electronically via email. Proposals 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 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 Proposal Submission Deadline

Proposals must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on **October 2, 2009**, to EPA contact listed in Section VII. All proposals received after this due date and time will NOT be considered.

2. Instructions for Electronic Submissions

E-Mail Proposal Submission Deadline. Proposals submitted by email to parker.carol@epa.gov must be received on or before 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on **October 2, 2009**. 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. Application Materials

The following forms and documents are required under this announcement:

1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
2. Budget Information for NonConstruction 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 Proposal – (prepared as described below)
8. Budget Detail
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, PreAward 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 Proposal

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

EPA docket ID number: EPA-HQ-OPP-2009 (leave blank)

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, ability and/or experience in bringing together broad spectrum of agricultural pesticide stakeholders to work together to assess and develop improved pesticide safety programs including*

- model education, training and communications programs and materials.* Applicants must demonstrate expertise in developing pesticide safety programs for agricultural workers; pesticide applicators, including commercial and aerial applicators; health providers; growers; pesticide producers and retailers; state, regional, national and international organizations and agencies; and other members of the agricultural community.
- b. *Expertise and experience in developing, distributing and conducting outreach activities to promote pesticide safety programs and materials from the state to international levels.* Applicant must demonstrate ability in working with agricultural interests and representatives at multiple levels, including state, regional, national and international, to develop improved pesticide safety education and training programs, and conduct outreach activities to promote programs and materials.
 - c. *Ability to identify and employ experts to develop improved programs and materials.* Applicant must demonstrate ability to identify and employ experts to develop model education and training pesticide safety programs and materials for trainers and farmworkers, farmworker families, pesticide applicators, growers, pesticide retailers and states, and others.
 - d. *Expertise in organizing conferences and work groups.* Applicant must demonstrate ability to organize conferences and facilitating work groups with goals of incorporating assessments and recommendations into programs and materials to improve pesticide safety education and training for agricultural workers and their families; pesticide applicators, including certified and non-certified applicators, commercial and aerial applicators; pesticide producers and retailers; state, regional, national and international organizations and agencies; and other members of the agricultural community.
 - e. *Ability to pilot test new programs and materials to finalize model programs.* Applicant must demonstrate experience or expertise in pilot testing model programs for effectiveness in reaching agricultural workers, pesticide applicators, and other members of the agricultural community.

Part VII. Performance Measures and Expected Outcomes/Output:

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 on effective communication and outreach programs to enhance pesticide risk reduction to human health, communities and ecosystems.
2. Documentation showing development of model training and education programs for farmworkers, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, state, national and international government agencies and organizations, and/or other members of the agricultural community.
3. Documentation showing increased number of trained farmworkers, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, health providers and/or others in reducing pesticide risk.

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 Detail

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. Proposal Appendices

Any appendices must be included in the grant proposal as attachments to the project proposal 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 agreements 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 Pesticide Safety Program; (5 points) and
 - b. Extent to which the objectives and justifications describe the impact to national and international 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 bringing together a broad spectrum of pesticide program experts and stakeholders to work together to assess and develop improved pesticide safety programs for agricultural workers; pesticide applicators, including aerial and commercial applicators; growers; health providers; pesticide producers and retailers; state, national and international agencies and organizations; and other members of the agricultural community. (15 points)
- b. Expertise and experience in developing, distributing and conducting outreach activities to promote pesticide safety programs and materials from the state to international levels. (10 points)
- c. Ability to identify and employ experts to develop improved programs and materials. (10 points)
- d. Expertise in organizing conferences and work groups. (5 points)
- e. Ability to pilot test new programs and materials and finalizing model programs. (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; pesticide applicators, including aerial and commercial applicators; growers; chemical producers; pesticide retailers; health providers; local, state, national, and international government organizations and agencies in preventing and reducing chemical risks to humans, communities and ecosystems; b. Protecting human health from pesticide risk; c. Reducing chemical risks from pesticide containers and storage facilities in communities; d. Protecting the environment from pesticide risks; and e. Restoring healthy communities by reducing the environmental justice impact on minority and low-income populations of farmworkers. (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, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, state, national and international government agencies and organizations, and other members of the agricultural community; c. Quantification the success based on number of trained farmworkers, pesticide applicators, growers, health providers, pesticide producers and retailers, 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 other factors, such as: 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 preaward 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.

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

C. 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.

D. 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.

E. 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.

VII. Agency Contact

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

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