



EPA Funds Small Businesses to Develop Environmental Technologies

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced eight contracts to small businesses to develop innovative technologies to protect the environment, funded through EPA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program. "The green technologies that these SBIR companies are developing will help us address some of today's most pressing environmental and public health issues" said Dr. Thomas A. Burke, EPA's Science Advisor and Deputy Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Research and Development. The phase II contracts announced today provide the companies \$300,000 to further develop and commercialize their products and ideas. Phase II awards are only available to companies that previously submitted research proposals for their innovative technologies and were awarded phase I contracts up to \$100,000.

EPA funds many environmentally-minded small businesses so they can bring their innovative technologies to market. A previous SBIR winner, GVD Corporation, created an environmentally friendly mold-release coating that makes indoor air healthier in manufacturing facilities by reducing the use of harmful chemicals. EPA is one of 11 federal agencies that participate in the SBIR Program, which was enacted in 1982 to strengthen the role of small businesses in federal research and development, create jobs and promote U.S. technical innovation. To be eligible to participate in the SBIR Program, a company must be an organized, for-profit U.S. business and have fewer than 500 employees. For a list of recipients and more information on the SBIR contracts, go to:

<https://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d02490a60ecbb12285257f32005cc13a/fc9a7545d75815ef85257f680067d5f1!OpenDocument>

**DO YOU HAVE ARTICLES FOR THE
SMALLBIZ@EPA NEWSLETTER?
FORWARD TO: LILLIAN HARRIS AT:
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SBA Administrator Announces National Small Business Week Awardees

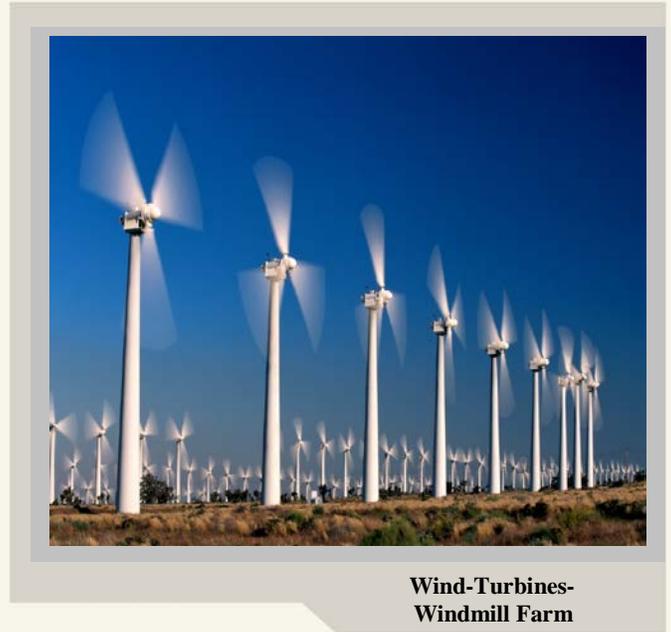
Administrator Maria Contreras-Sweet, the head of the U.S. Small Business Administration, today announced the 2016 National Small Business Week awardees for 17 different categories ranging from exporting, outreach, contracting, lending, disaster recovery to manufacturing and research and development. Last week Contreras-Sweet announced the 54 Small Business Person of the Year state and territorial winners. These recipients are now competing for the 2016 National Small Business Person of the Year. All awardees have been invited to Washington, D.C. to participate in events and ceremonies on May 1-2. National Small Business Week is an important moment when we honor our nation's 28 million small businesses and renew our commitment to fostering the entrepreneurial spirit that is central to small business success. This year's recipients are educators and dynamic leaders in their respective small business fields. It is an honor to celebrate their hard work and success," said Contreras-Sweet. Read more on the recipients and various award categories at: <https://www.sba.gov/content/sba-administrator-announces-national-small-business-week-awardees>

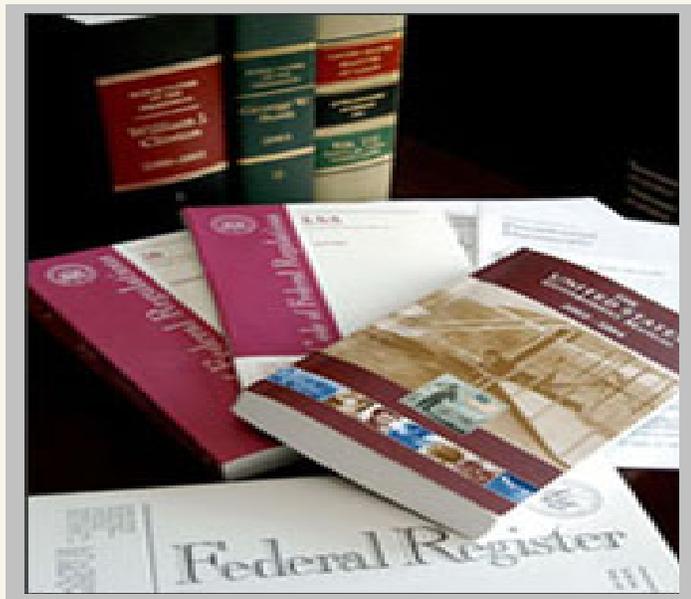
Energy Department Announces Participation in Clean Line's Large-Scale Energy Transmission Project

Building on the Department of Energy's (DOE) ongoing efforts to modernize the grid and accelerate the deployment of renewable energy, today U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz announced that DOE will participate in the development of the Plains & Eastern Clean Line Project (Clean Line), a major clean energy infrastructure project. The Clean Line Project will tap abundant, low-cost wind generation resources in the Oklahoma and Texas panhandle regions to deliver up to 4,000 megawatts of wind power via a 705-mile direct current transmission line — enough energy to power more than 1.5 million homes in the mid-South and Southeast United States. This marks the first use of Congressional authority conferred to DOE as part of Section 1222 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 with the objective of promoting transmission development. Congress passed this provision when it was becoming clear that our nation's transmission infrastructure was beginning to show its age and needed modernization. Congress recognized the need for a modern and resilient grid that could accommodate increasing demands for power with newly available resources. Based on our thorough review of the Clean Line Project, it satisfies the goals for which Congress established DOE's authority.

“Moving remote and plentiful power to areas where electricity is in high demand is essential for building the grid of the future,” Secretary Moniz said. “Building modern transmission that delivers renewable energy to more homes and businesses will create jobs, cut carbon emissions, and enhance the reliability of our grid.” The project is expected to create supply chain jobs in Arkansas and Oklahoma to build the new infrastructure that will be constructed, operated and maintained in both states. Clean Line has announced a \$300 million agreement with Pelco, an Oklahoma company, to build the project's tubular steel transmission structures. Clean Line has also identified three Arkansas companies to build infrastructure that supports the project, such as transmission conductors and glass insulators. For more information, go to:

<http://energy.gov/articles/energy-department-announces-participation-clean-line-s-large-scale-energy-transmission-1>





EPA Report: Diesel Engine Grants Program Nets Major Air, Public Health Benefits

According to a new report by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, clean diesel grants have greatly improved public health by cutting harmful pollution that causes premature deaths, asthma attacks, and missed school and workdays. The agency estimates that clean diesel funding generates up to \$13 of public health benefits for every \$1 spent on diesel projects. This third report to Congress presents the final results from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and covers fiscal years 2009-2011. "This report shows that our diesel program is providing immediate health benefits while cutting the pollution that contributes to climate change," said Deborah Jordan, EPA's Air Division Director for the Pacific Southwest. "We are reducing exposure to diesel pollution by funding cleaner trucks, trains, and heavy equipment which helps communities that are disproportionately impacted, such as those near ports, rail yards and heavily traveled roads." Read more about the report at:

<https://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/6ad03f9d72ddcf0185257f840071277c!OpenDocument>

EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

SUBJECT: Revisions to Ambient Monitoring Quality Assurance and Other Requirements

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-28/pdf/2016-06226.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 81, No. 59, Monday, March 28, 2016/Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Final Rule

SUMMARY: This action promulgates revisions to ambient air monitoring requirements for criteria pollutants. These revisions include adding and harmonizing definitions; clarifying annual monitoring network plan public notice requirements; revising network design requirements; system modifications and operating schedules; clarifying data certification, data submittal and archiving procedures; reorganizing and clarifying quality assurance requirements; and revising certain network design criteria for non-source oriented lead monitoring

SUBJECT: Rulemaking to Affirm Interim Amendments to Dates in Federal Implementation Plans Addressing Interstate Transport of Ozone and Fine Particulate Matter

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-14/pdf/2016-04889.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 81, No. 49, Monday, March 14, 2016 /Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Final Rule

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is affirming and making permanent certain amendments previously made on an interim basis to the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) provisions implementing the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR).

EPA's Office of Small Business Programs will be Hosting Several Activities in Celebration of National Small Business Week, May 1-7, 2016.

One such activity is a three day training conference for the state Small Business Ombudsmen (SBOs) and Small Business Environmental Assistance Providers (SBEAPs) as well as for the EPA Small Business/DBE Coordinators. Essentially, it is two separate training efforts blended into one conference with a joint opening session and consecutive training sessions throughout the three day training. Help us celebrate National Small Business Week by joining us for our various activities.

Activities and Contact Persons are:

- Small Business Week Kick Off Event (for EPA HQ Staff) (May 3rd): Pat Durrant
Durrant.Patricia@epa.gov
- 2016 Office of Small Business Programs' Small Business Coordinators and State Partners Training Conference (May 3rd): Paula Hoag
Hoag.Paula@epa.gov
- Deputy Administrator and Small Business Trade Association Meeting (May 4th): Joan B. Rogers
Rogers.JoanB@epa.gov
- EPA Small Business Administrator's Awards Ceremony (May 5th): Lamont Norwood
Norwood.Lamont@epa.gov
- EPA Contractors Outreach Event (May 6th): Lamont Norwood
Norwood.Lamont@epa.gov

<http://www2.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses>

Proposed Changes to the Risk Management Program (RMP) Rule

The U.S. EPA is proposing to amend the Accidental Release Prevention Requirements of Risk Management Programs (RMP) under the Clean Air Act, Section 112(r)(7). The proposed revisions aim to modernize its chemical safety and security regulations, guidance, and policies are required under Executive Order (EO) 13650. EO 13650 directs the federal government to carry out a number of tasks intended to prevent chemical accidents, such as the explosion in West, Texas on April 17, 2013.

- An additional requirement for the process hazard analysis (PHA) required for Program 3 processes,
- Enhancements to the emergency preparedness requirements,
- Increased public availability of chemical hazard information, and
- Several other changes to certain regulatory definitions and data elements submitted in the RMPs.

Comments are due by May 13, 2016. See Federal Register at:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-14/pdf/2016-05191.pdf>