

PENNSYLVANIA WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:

Pre-proposals for water resources research and water resources public education projects authorized under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 are being solicited by the Pennsylvania Water Resources Research Center at Penn State for funding in 2007-08. Approximately four grants of up to \$20,000 each will be awarded. Highest priority is given to projects that accomplish the following objectives:

1. address water resources problems of major importance to Pennsylvania,
2. propose innovative, promising approaches to solving water-related problems
3. assist scientists develop a water research agenda early in their career,
4. provide funding and training for undergraduate and/or graduate students,
5. show evidence of working cooperatively with state agencies and other local clientele groups in the state.

A summary of a recent survey of high priority water research needs in PA is included with this solicitation. Faculty at public or private colleges and universities in Pennsylvania are eligible to submit proposals. **Funding will be available beginning March 1, 2007 pending approval of the U. S. Geological Survey-State Water Resources Research Institute Program budget by Congress.** Project duration is limited to one year. Projects will not be extended beyond one year in order to gain maximum benefit from limited Water Center funding. The Water Resources Research Act requires a 2:1 non-Federal to Federal funding ratio for projects. A final written report for the annual report to USGS will be requested in spring 2008 using a prescribed format as a minimum deliverable from each project.

PRE-PROPOSAL GUIDELINES:

A brief 3-4 page pre-proposal for water resources projects is requested by September 18, 2007. Pre-proposals should be submitted on the attached form and include project title, statement of the critical water problem being addressed, description of potential results, objectives, brief review of proposed methods, opportunities for public education or student training, opportunities for collaboration, a brief budget summary, opportunities for non-Federal matching funds, deliverables from the project (reports, brochures, films, etc.), and information about the principal investigators (include name, title, institution and contact information). Starting and ending dates for projects would be March 1, 2007-February 28, 2008, respectively. In addition, please attach a brief one-page resume' for each PI which is not included in the total page count.

Pre-proposals will be screened by a panel of water resources experts. Full proposals will then be requested for selected highly-rated projects. Suggestions for improvement of the proposal will be given based upon review of preliminary proposals. Final decisions on funding of full proposals will be based upon further reviews and attention given to suggestions for improvement.

BUDGET DETAILS:

Funds can be used to support students, travel, equipment and supplies, sample analyses, etc. Funds are not intended for salary support for faculty or other full-time personnel. The Water Resources Research Act requires a 2:1 non-Federal to Federal funding ratio for projects. Funds may not be used to pay indirect costs; however, indirect costs may be applied toward the matching requirement. Written verification of availability of matching funds will be required from the submitting institution if the proposal is selected for funding.

TIME SCHEDULE:

- Pre-proposals due-**September 25, 2006**
- Requests for full proposals issued by-**October 27, 2006**
- Full proposals due- **November 24, 2006**
- Funding decisions made by- **December 8, 2006**
- Funding available by- **March 1, 2007 (pending approval by Congress)**

MORE INFORMATION/WHERE TO SEND:

Direct questions and send pre-proposals to Dr. David R. DeWalle, Director-PA Center for Water Resources Research, 107 Land and Water Research Building, Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802; drdewalle@psu.edu.