Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. The Chairperson of the Panel is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will, in the Chairperson's judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Any member of the public who wishes to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact the Executive Director at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received at least 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation on the agenda. It is requested that oral presenters provide 15 copies of their statements at the time of their presentations.

Minutes: Available for public review and copying approximately 30 days following the meeting at the Public Reading Room 1E–190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday except Federal holidays.

Issued: Washington, DC, on: December 12, 1989.

J. Robert Franklin,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 89–29263 Filed 12–12–89; 11:24 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–M

Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act; Record of Decision to Proceed with the Clean Coal Technology Demonstration Program

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Decision to proceed with the clean coal technology demonstration program (CCTDP).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR part 1500–1508) for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Department of Energy's (DOE) guidelines for compliance with NEPA (52 FR 47662, December 15, 1987), the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy of the DOE is issuing a Record of Decision on the Clean Coal Technology Demonstration Program (CCTDP). DOE has decided to proceed with the CCTDP. This Record of Decision is based in part on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) on the CCTDP that was published as a draft (DOE/EIS–0146D) in June 1989, and, subsequently, made available for public comment. A final PEIS (DOE/EIS–0146) was prepared incorporating revisions in response to comments from federal agencies and the public and was published in November 1989. More than 400 copies were distributed to Congress, state and federal agencies, environmental organizations, and other interested parties. DOE has considered all comments in preparing the final PEIS and this Record of Decision.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allyn Hemenway, FE–222, Office of Clean Coal Technology, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: (202) 586–7162.

Background

On December 19, 1985, Congress enacted Public Law 99–190 (An Act Making Appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1986 and for Other Purposes). Included in this act were provisions for funds to conduct cost-shared, clean coal technology projects for constructing and operating facilities to demonstrate the feasibility of future clean coal applications. Congress mandated that a DOE solicitation be issued within 60 days, proposals received within 120 days, and selections made within 180 days. By Congressional direction, DOE issued a Program Opportunity Notice (PON) in February 1986. A programmatic NEPA evaluation was conducted as part of the competitive evaluation process. As a result of this solicitation and the subsequent evaluation process, a number of clean coal technology demonstration projects were selected and cooperative agreements were negotiated.

Public Law 100–202 (An Act Making Appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1988 and for Other Purposes) was signed into law in December 1987. This law provided funds to conduct cost-shared Innovative Clean Coal Technology (ICCT) projects to demonstrate emerging clean coal technologies that are capable of retrofitting or repowering existing facilities. This time Congress mandated that a DOE solicitation was to be issued within 60 days, proposals received within 150 days, and selections made within 310 days from enactment. During this period DOE completed a Programmatic Environmental Impact Analysis (DOE/PEIA–0002, U.S. Department of Energy, September 1988) which was made available to the public. A second PON was issued by DOE and resulted in the selection of a number of cost-shared clean coal technology demonstration projects.

Language in Public Law 100–446 (Making Appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1989 and for Other Purposes) established a schedule for a third solicitation. A PON was issued on May 1, 1989 and project selection will be made on or before January 1, 1990 as mandated by Public Law 101–45 (An Act Making Supplemental Appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1989 and for Other Purposes). DOE has now completed a final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement with full public participation. Additional Congressional appropriations and DOE solicitations are anticipated for this program.

Program Description

The CCTDP is a technology demonstration program jointly funded by the federal government and industry. The program will select the best and most promising of the advanced coal-based utilization, processing, and emission control technologies and, over the next decade, advance their technical, environmental, and economic performance to the point where the private sector can introduce the demonstrated technologies into the commercial marketplace. These demonstrations will be on a scale large enough to generate all data from design, construction, and operation that are necessary for the private sector to judge their commercial potential and to make informed, confident decisions on commercial readiness. Further, these technologies will address, and may reduce and/or eliminate, the environmental and economic impediments that limit the full consideration of coal as an energy resource.

Technologies to be demonstrated must be capable of providing for the expanded use of coal, or for the repowering or retrofitting of existing facilities. Such existing facilities can be designed to use any conventional fuel (e.g., coal, oil, gas) or a new fuel form and can be either stationary or mobile.

Repowering technologies replace a major portion of an existing facility not only to achieve a significant emissions reduction but also to increase facility capacity, extend facility life, improve system efficiency, and/or provide for the use of a new fuel form. Repowering can increase capacity from 10% to 150% and may be more cost-effective than retiring older units and replacing them with new plants. It also offers the opportunity to efficiently and reliably integrate

emissions control and power generation technologies. Repowering technologies include circulating atmospheric fluidized-bed combustion, pressurized fluidized-bed combustion, integrated gasification combined cycle, and integrated gasifier-fuel cell.

The retrofit technologies are divided into three classes: (1) New Source Performance Standard (NSPS) capable, which include those technologies that, when applied singly, meet both sulfur dioxide (SO_2) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) NSPS requirements and thus can be retrofitted on existing plants and also be used for new plants; (2) partial NSPS capable, which include those technologies that, when applied singly, will control emissions of either SO_2 or NO_x to NSPS levels and thus could be retrofitted on existing plants but could not be applied singly to new plants to meet full NSPS requirements; and (3) new fuel forms, which include those technologies that chemically or physically alter the state of coal to produce a new fuel form with the objective of mitigating emissions of SO_2 and/or NO_x.

The strategy being implemented to achieve the goal of the CCTDP is to conduct a multiphase effort consisting of at least five separate solicitations for projects, each with individual objectives that, when integrated, will make available technology options on a schedule consistent with the demands of the energy market and responsive to the relevant environmental considerations. Project selection has already occurred for two of the solicitations (i.e., Clean Coal Technology-I and Clean Coal Technology-II) and site-specific project design and environmental review are underway. A significant common element of this multiphase effort is the capture and transfer to the private sector and international community of a data base containing sufficient technical, environmental, economic, and operational information to allow potential commercial users to confidently screen the technologies to select those which meet their operational requirements.

Future solicitations are in the planning stage and, as with the previous solicitations, will be consistent with Congressional guidance and administration policy. This guidance and policy will include implementing the recommendations of the Special Envoys' Report on Acid Rain, the President's Task Force on Regulatory Relief, and the Innovative Control Technology Advisory Panel (ICTAP). The views of other interested parties such as the National Coal Council, potential industrial participants, and states will also be considered to the maximum possible extent.

Description of Alternatives

As described in the final PEIS, DOE's proposed action is to continue the CCTDP, which assumes CCTDP projects are selected for cost-shared federal funding in the third and future solicitations and that successfully demonstrated technologies undergo widespread commercialization by 2010. Under the proposed action alternative, 22 generic clean coal technologies that cover the range of technologies that are anticipated for the proposed action have been analyzed for their environmental consequences. The other alternative that DOE considered in the final PEIS is the no-action alternative, which assumes that the CCTDP is not implemented and conventional coal technologies continue to be used.

Basis for Decision

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), DOE analyzed the environmental consequences of the proposed action in the final PEIS. The proposed action alternative assumes that the CCTDP is continued and that successfully demonstrated technologies undergo widespread commercialization by the year 2010. The no-action alternative assumes the CCTDP is not continued.

DOE concluded that the CCTDP would have a substantial beneficial effect on air quality in the year 2010 compared to the no-action alternative. Under widespread commercialization, the repowering and retrofit-NSPS capable technologies could lead to a significant reduction in SO_2 relative to the no-action alternative in 2010. The SO_2 reduction in the case of repowering ranges between 29% and 48% while the reduction for NSPS capable retrofit technologies is 30% to 45%. The potential emission levels in 2010 range between approximately 15 and 20 million tons of SO_2 per year for both the repowering category and the NSPS capable retrofit technologies. This would be below the 1985 SO_2 levels of approximately 24 million tons per year and the 2010 no-action alternative level of approximately 28 million tons per year. This significant reduction in SO_2 reflects the fact that both of these categories of technologies could be applied to the slate of unregulated plants still in service in 2010 and all new plants put into service between 1985 and 2010. The retrofit-partial NSPS capable technologies are applied only to the unregulated sources which exist in 2010. These technologies could result in SO_2 reduction between 30% and 48%. It should be noted that some of these retrofit technologies do not control SO_2 and therefore would not impact SO_2 emissions. The new fuel forms retrofit technologies could reduce SO_2 emissions up to 26%.

Widespread commercialization of the repowering technologies could also lead to a substantial reduction in NO_x. The analysis shows that reductions of 14% to 17% or approximately 4 to 5 million tons of NO_x per year could be achieved as compared to the 2010 no-action alternative emission level of approximately 27 million tons per year. Even with widespread commercialization NO_x emissions would grow from the 1985 baseline of approximately 17 million tons per year because NO_x controls are not expected to keep pace with the increase in coal use. The NSPS capable retrofit technologies, for which NO_x control is an integral part, could lead to reduction of approximately 33% or approximately 9 million tons per year from the 2010 no-action alternative levels. The NO_x control technologies contained in the retrofit partial NSPS capable category could lead to a reduction of approximately 15%, whereas the new fuel forms retrofit technologies would impact NO_x ±3% relative to the 2010 no-action alternative emission levels.

Repowering is the only category where all technologies could lead to a measurable reduction in CO_2. This reduction is directly attributable to the improved efficiencies associated with these technologies, particularly the gasifier fuel cell, integrated gasifier combined cycle and pressurized fluidized-bed. Reductions of 5% to 12% from the 2010 no-action alternative level of approximately 7100 million tons of CO_2 released per year could be achieved by the repowering technologies. The gas reburning technology in the retrofit partial NSPS capable category could lead to a reduction in CO_2 of approximately 2% if it were applied to 100% of its applicable market. The slight increase in CO_2 under the new fuel forms category is based on the fact that combustion of residual oil produces less CO_2 than combustion of coal derived fuels.

Both repowering and NSPS capable retrofit technologies would have an impact on solid waste generation. For the repowering technologies, the change in national emissions relative to the 2010 no-action alternative level of approximately 540 million tons per year ranges between a 16% reduction and an 8% increase. This equates to a 105% to 165% increase in solid waste above the 1985 level of approximately 220 million

tons per year and is directly related to the increase in energy use and the fact that reductions in SO_2 are traded off against a potential increase in solid waste. The analysis of the NSPS capable technologies leads to essentially the same results with the range between a 22% reduction and a 19% increase in solid waste. The partial NSPS capable technologies could reduce solid waste by approximately 2% or lead to an increase of approximately 8% over the 2010 no-action alternative level of approximately 540 million tons per year. The new fuel forms retrofit technologies will, in most cases, lead to an increase in solid waste generation. The maximum level of increase is estimated to be approximately 23% or approximately 125 million tons per year over the 2010 no-action alternative level. Clean coal technology solid waste is produced in a dry form, and would be easier to handle and dispose of than flue gas desulfurization sludge, and would require less area per ton.

Considerations in the Implementation of the Decision

DOE will continue the CCTDP and select demonstration projects for cost-shared funding with industry. The PEIS, which is part of an overall NEPA compliance plan for the CCTDP, contains a description of generic technologies that are representative of specific types of technologies to be demonstrated under the CCTDP. From these generic technologies, forecasts are developed which describe potential environmental impacts that could occur from widespread deployment of commercial scale facilities. A second part of the NEPA compliance plan involves the preparation of preselection project-specific environmental review reports prepared by CCTDP Source Evaluation Boards (SEBs) for each solicitation. Because these reports contain SEB-sensitive information as well as business confidential and proprietary information, they can not be made available to the public. The Source Selection Official will consider the PEIS, along with the preselection project-specific environmental reviews, as part of the selection process. The third element of the NEPA compliance plan is the preparation of site-specific NEPA documentation for each CCTDP demonstration project selected to receive financial assistance. These site-specific documents will be made available to the public.

The demonstration projects selected under the CCTDP will provide sufficient technical, economic, operational, environmental, and health and safety information to allow potential users to confidently screen the technologies for those that meet their operational requirements for commercial use. As part of the CCTDP, the industrial participant in the demonstration project is required to develop and execute an environmental monitoring plan (EMP) during the demonstration.

Conclusion

DOE has analyzed and weighed the costs, benefits, schedule, and environmental impacts of the proposed action and the no-action alternatives in its decision to continue the CCTDP. Based on this analysis, DOE has selected the proposed alternative to continue the CCTDP. As the analysis of environmental impacts shows, the commercialization of clean coal technologies would have a substantial beneficial effect on air quality in the year 2010 compared to the no-action alternative. Therefore, the selected alternative of the proposed action is the environmentally preferable alternative. The reductions in SO_2 and NO_x emissions are expected to contribute to an amelioration of current impacts of acidic deposition, although the degree and rate of recovery is uncertain. The clean coal technologies could also lead to reduced emissions of CO_2 if higher efficiency technologies, such as repowering technologies, were employed in the production of electricity. The analysis shows that the amount of solid waste generated by the various clean coal technologies varies greatly. However, the impacts of disposing of these wastes could be somewhat less significant than for the no-action alternative because of their dry form.

Based on the conclusions of the PEIS, DOE has decided to continue the CCTDP, subject to authorization and appropriation of funds by Congress.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 11, 1989.

Michael R. McElwrath,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Fossil Energy.

[FR Doc. 89-29173 Filed 12-13-89; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6450-01-M

Dr. Richard M. Lambrecht; Notice of Intent Grant Exclusive Patent License

AGENCY: Office of the General Counsel, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of intent to grant exclusive patent license.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of an intent to grant to Dr. Richard M. Lambrecht of Quoque, NY, an exclusive license to practice in the United States the invention described in U.S. Patent No. 4,681,727, entitled "Process for Providing Astatine-211 for Radiopharmaceutical Use." The patent is owned by the United States of America, as represented by the Department of Energy (DOE).

DOE intends to grant the license, upon a final determination in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c), unless within 60 days of this notice the Assistant General Counsel for Patents, Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, receives in writing any of the following, together with supporting documents:

(1) A statement from any person setting forth reasons why it would not be in the best interests of the United States to grant the proposed license; or

(ii) An application for a nonexclusive license to the invention in the United States, in which applicant states that he already has brought the invention to practical application or is likely to bring the invention to practical application expeditiously.

DATE: Written comments or nonexclusive license applications are to be received at the address listed below no later than February 12, 1990.

ADDRESS: Office of Assistant General Counsel for Patents, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert J. Marchick, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Patents, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, room 6F-067, 1000 Independence Avenue, 20585; Telephone (202) 586-4792.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 35 U.S.C. 209(c) provides the Department with authority to grant exclusive licenses in Department-owned inventions, where a determination can be made, among other things, that the desired practical application of the invention has not been achieved, or is not likely expeditiously to be achieved, under a nonexclusive license. The statute and implementing regulations (37 CFR 404) require that the necessary determinations be made after public notice and opportunity for filing written objections.

Dr. Richard M. Lambrecht of Quoque, NY, has applied for an exclusive license to practice the invention embodied in U.S. Patent No. 4,681,727 entitled "Process for Providing Astatine-211 for Pharmaceutical Use." Applicant has plans for commercialization of the invention, contingent on obtaining exclusivity. The proposed license will be exclusive, subject to a license and other rights retained by the U.S. Government, and will be subject to a negotiated

royalty. The Department will review all timely written responses to this notice, and will grant the license if, after expiration of the 60-day notice period, and after consideration is made, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c), that the license grant is in the public interest.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 8, 1989.

Stephen A. Wakefield,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 89-29179 Filed 12-13-89; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-M

Office of Energy Research

Special Research Grant Program Notice 90-2; Energy Biosciences (Biological Energy Research)

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Basic Energy Sciences of the Office of Energy Research (OER), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its interest in receiving preapplications from potential applicants for research funding in the Energy Biosciences program area. The intent in asking for a preapplication is to save the time and effort of applicants from writing and submitting a formal project application that may be inappropriate for the program. The preliminary screening of research ideas is aimed also at relieving some of the burden of the scientific community in reviewing an excessive number of research applications. The preapplication should consist of a two to three page concept paper about the research being contemplated as a formal application to the annual Energy Biosciences notice of funding availability. The concept paper should focus on the objectives of the planned research, its scientific goals and their significance, an outline of the approaches planned, and any other information that relates to the planned research. No budget information or biographical data need be included; nor is an institutional endorsement necessary. The application is an informal inquiry about the technical suitability for a submission. A response indicating appropriateness in preparing a formal application will be sent from the Division of Energy Biosciences office no later than March 10, 1990. The deadline for receipt of formal applications is June 11, 1990.

DATES: For timely consideration, all preapplications should be received by February 15, 1990. However, earlier submissions will be gladly accepted.

ADDRESS: Preapplications referencing Program Notice 90-2 should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, ER-17, Division of Energy Biosciences, Washington, DC 20545, ATTN: Program Notice 90-2.

PREAPPLICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION: Before preparing a formal application, potential applicants should submit a brief preapplication in accordance with 10 CFR.600(d)(2) which consists of two to three pages of narrative describing research objectives. These will be reviewed relative to the scope and the research needs of the Energy Biosciences program. For timely consideration, all preapplications should be received by February 15, 1990. However, earlier submissions will be gladly accepted. Preapplications should be sent to the following address: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, Division of Energy Biosciences, ER-17, Washington, DC 20545, (301) 353-2873. A response which is based on these preapplications and which discusses the potential program relevance of a formal application will be communicated by March 10, 1990. For further information contact: Ms. Pat Snyder, Division of Energy Biosciences, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, ER-17, Washington, DC 20545, (301) 353-2873.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Funds are expected to be available for new grant awards in FY 1991. The magnitude of these funds will depend on the budget process. The principal purpose in using preapplications at this time is to reduce the expenditures of time and effort of all parties. Information about development and submission of applications, eligiblity, limitations, evaluations and selection processes, and other policies and procedures may be found at 10 CFR part 605. Application kits for formal submissions and copies of 10 CFR part 605 are available from the same office listed under "Address" section of this Notice. Telephone requests may be made by calling (301) 353-2873. Instructions for preparation of an application are included in the application kit. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this program is 81.409.

Issued in Washington, DC on November 30, 1989.

D.D. Mayhew,

Deputy Director for Management, Office of Energy Research.

[FR Doc. 89-29180 Filed 12-13-89; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-M

Office of Fossil Energy

Coal Policy Committee, National Coal Council, Open Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

Name: Coal Policy Committee of the National Coal Council.

Date and Time: Tuesday, January 9, 1990, 11:00 a.m.

Place: Hyatt-Regency, DFW Airport Hotel, Dallas, TX.

Contact: Margie D. Biggerstaff, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy (FE-1), Washington, DC 20585, TelephoneL 202/586-4695.

Purpose of the Parent Council: To provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy on matters relating to coal and coal industry issues.

Purpose of the Meeting: To discuss new studies.

Tentative Agenda:

Call to order by Irving Leibson, Chairman.
Remarks by DOE representative (invited).
Update and discussion on "The Future Long-Range Role of Coal in the Energy Strategy of the United States."
Discuss any other business properly brought before the National Coal Council Coal Policy Committee.
Adjournment.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. The Chairman of the Committee is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Any member of the public who wishes to file a written statement with the Committee will be permitted to do so, either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Ms. Margie D. Biggerstaff at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received at least 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provisions will be made to include the presentation on the agenda.

Transcripts: Available for public review and copying at the Public Reading Room, room 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC., between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC., on December 8, 1989.

J. Robert Franklin,

Deputy Advisory Committee, Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 89-29175 Filed 12-13-89; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-M