

DEC - 1 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jesse Funches, Director
Program Management, Policy
Development, and Analysis Staff
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Richard L. Bangart, Director
Division of Low-Level Waste Management
and Decommissioning, NMSS

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF CARVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF TUSKEGEE
UNIVERSITY'S REVISED PROPOSAL DATED OCTOBER 10, 1989

We have reviewed the above subject unsolicited proposal from the Carver Research Foundation which, if funded, would establish conferences on low-level radioactive waste. We have assessed the proposal against the criteria developed and provided to you in a memo from John Greeves dated June 28, 1989. We note that the proposal addresses most of the comments and concerns outlined in the June 28, 1989 memo, has technical merit, and should be funded contingent on: 1) verification of the proposed line item budget costs; 2) conversion of the proposal from a grant to a cooperative agreement (note: this would allow minimal NRC involvement in structuring the content and due dates of deliverables and fixing the location and sub-contractors); 3) agreement in principle to devote some of the proposed conferences to convene meetings of state regulatory officials; 4) identification and reprogramming of funds; and 5) receipt and approval of the following information:

1. Details of the "Granting System Accountability Mechanisms," discussed on pages 13 and 14 of the proposal, how the mechanisms will work, and identification of the key people who will perform its essential functions.
2. The Solicitor's Identification of and commitment to a reasonable frequency for Project Director-Steering Committee review of "current" speakers and topics for the proposed conferences.
3. The schedule which "Site Coordinators" will adhere to in providing the "reportable items" referred to in Attachment 6 of the proposal.

We have provided the written results of our technical review as an enclosure to this memo and recommend that a meeting be arranged with the solicitor of the grant to discuss the results of our review. If I may be of further assistance, please call me at X23440 or Roy Person of my staff at X20575.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Richard L. Bangart, Director
Division of Low-Level Waste Management
and Decommissioning, NMSS

Distribution: (TICKET # LLWM 89-114) Central File # 426.7 NMSS r/f

RBangart, LLWM	JGreeves, LLWM	MBell, LLRB	JSurmeier, LLTB
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	CKammerer, SLITP	JLepre, LLWM	JJones, LLOB t/f

PDR YES

PDR NO Category: Proprietary or CF Only

ACMW YES NO

SUBJECT ABSTRACT: EVALUATION OF TUSKEGEE UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL
* See Previous Concurrence

OFC :LLOB* :LLOB* :LLOB :LLWM :SLITP

NAME:LPerson/jj :RMacDougall:PLohaus :RBangart :CKammerer

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1. Details of the "Granting System Accountability Mechanisms," discussed on pages 13 and 14 of the proposal, how the mechanisms will work, and identification of the key people who will perform its essential functions.
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JLepre, LLWM JJones, LLOB t/f

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SUBJECT ABSTRACT: EVALUATION OF TUSKEGEE UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL

OFC :LLOB :LLOB :LLOB :LLWM :LLWM :NMSS

NAME:LPerson/jj :RMacDougall:PLOhaus :RBangart : :

Date:11/29/89 :11/30/89 :11/ /89 :11/ /89 :11/ /89 :11/ /89

EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL AGAINST REVIEW CRITERIA

1. POTENTIAL USEFULNESS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR DISSEMINATION OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE TO THE PUBLIC, AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE RESOLUTION OF NUCLEAR RELATED ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

SOLICITOR'S RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE CRITERION:

1. Faculty and student observers will form a panel at each conference site to address questions to each speaker on their presentations. Students will be provided extra credit in accordance with the institutional guidelines of each school (sub-contractor). Members of the public with varying levels of knowledge will attend.
2. Electronic and print media will be contacted to provide coverage by public television, cable, and printed media at each conference site and a video cassette inter-library loan system will be established at each conference site.
3. Pre and post conference "reportable items" have been established for each sub-contractor.

REVIEW CONCLUSIONS AND/OR COMMENTS:

The solicitor's response to this criterion is adequate provided a schedule is developed for submission of the reportable items referred to in Appendix 6 of the proposal, that the details for the convener's conference including schedule and date are worked out with NRC, and that a time table is developed for establishing media coverage prior to any proposed conference date. These proposed schedules and dates should be approved by NRC sufficiently in advance of the conference date. The NRC Division of Low-Level Waste Management and Decommissioning will also potentially use several conferences to convene low-level waste regulator's meetings.

II. "CLARITY OF STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES, METHODS, AND ANTICIPATED RESULTS"

SOLICITOR'S RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE CRITERION:

Statement of Objectives

1. "The Carver Research Foundation (CRF) of Tuskegee University proposes to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to continue its support of the education conference series of distinguished speakers in which the various issues of radioactive waste identification, management, processing, and disposal will be presented throughout the U. S.."
2. The involvement of historically black colleges and universities (HBCU's) and minority institutions (MI's) in the conference series will further enhance the missions of the NRC and fulfill the guidelines addressed in Executive Order 12320 and President George Bush's 1989 Educational and Research Initiatives for HBCU'S/MI'S."

Methods

1. A Conference Steering Committee (or conference management organization) will be formed consisting of an applied physicist, a nuclear engineer, a chemical engineer, a nuclear pharmacist, a plant physiologist, the NRC project officer, a representative of the Southeast Compact Commission and a representative of Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories. The Project Director and Steering committee members will maintain a current awareness file of all candidate speakers from a national and international prospectus who are well versed in one or more of the areas to be presented.
2. The Project Director and Steering Committee will continuously upgrade the list of waste management topic areas to include the most current issues. and will use an approved conference topic and speaker selection process which will include the Carver Research Foundation, Conference Coordinators and NRC. The Project Director and Steering Committee will schedule meetings between NRC recruiting representatives, coordinating site faculty, and superior students prior to, during, and, after conferences to allow for optimal recruiting opportunities.
3. Pre and post conference "reportable items " have been established for each subcontractor to assure documented positive results.

Anticipated Results

"It is important that accurate information about radiation, it's safety factors and the potential benefits of its use be evaluated and presented to the public and public sectors....."

REVIEW CONCLUSIONS AND/OR COMMENTS:

The proposal adequately addresses this criterion provided the solicitor identifies and commits to a reasonable (as approved by the NRC project officer) frequency for Project Director-Steering Committee review of "current" speakers and topics for the proposed conferences.

III. RANGE OF ISSUES COVERED BY THE MEETING AGENDA

SOLICITOR'S RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE CRITERION:

The conference topics will be periodically updated and will focus on, but not be restricted to:

1. Low, medium and/or high level radioactive wastes management and disposal (past, present and future) technologies.
2. Mixed wastes management and disposal techniques.
3. Technology and engineering requirements for radioactive wastes management and disposal.
4. Current litigations pertaining to local, state, regional and federal regulations on radioactive wastes management and disposal involving both non-compact and compact agreement states.
5. Issues specific to disposal facility siting and developmental efforts in low, medium and/or high level radioactive wastes non-compact and compact regions.
6. Academic and industrial consortium agreement for research and development (R&D) technology transfer and educational exchange in radioactive wastes management and disposal areas.
7. Environmental impact and health physic assessments related to radioactive wastes management and disposal.
8. Radioactive wastes identification, management, transport, treatment and disposal technologies.
9. Radioactive wastes cleanup technologies and facilities capabilities.
10. Educational procedures in radioactive wastes personnel protection, safety and basic skills.
11. Radioactive wastes minimization technologies.
12. Radioactive wastes contingency planning programs: Local, regional and national prospectus.
13. Alternative low, medium and high level radioactive wastes disposal technologies.
14. Nuclear accidents: Environmental impact from a global prospectus.
15. Problems, controlling mechanisms and prevention of nuclear accidents.
16. Right to know policies pertaining to radioactive wastes identification, management, processing and disposal.
17. Interstate agreements on radioactive wastes generation, imports, exports and management capabilities.

REVIEW CONCLUSIONS AND/OR COMMENTS:

This criterion is adequately addressed, however, topics should be submitted to NRC for approval once updated.

IV. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF PROJECT SPEAKERS

SOLICITOR'S RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE CRITERION:

1. A pre-selection screening process will be conducted from a pool of nationally and internationally recognized authorities on radwaste management and low-level waste disposal.
2. The Project Director and Steering Committee is to maintain an awareness file of all current speakers who are well versed in the above areas.
3. A list of potential speakers will be submitted to NRC for approval.
4. The Carver Research Foundation, NRC and the conference sub-contractors/coordinators will assess the credentials of all academic faculty chosen to present issues at each site.

REVIEW CONCLUSIONS AND/OR COMMENTS:

This criterion is adequately addressed.

V. REASONABLENESS OF ESTIMATED COST IN RELATION TO ANTICIPATED RESULTS

SOLICITOR'S RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE CRITERION:

A Grant manager and personnel manager computerized accounting system will be instituted. This system will assess the cost effectiveness and usefulness related to anticipated costs and maintain an accurate update on the financial status of the grant. This system will allow identification, at an early stage, any problems and a bi-monthly report will be submitted to NRC. Invoices will be broken down for each conference.

REVIEW CONCLUSIONS AND/OR COMMENTS:

This system will be considered adequate if the details of the grant manager/personnel manager accounting system are provided with an identification of the mechanisms and personnel to make it work. As part of the verification of the estimated costs for this project, the solicitor should also show the basis for the increase in estimated costs over the actual costs incurred in putting on the conference program under the previous grant.