Nebraska Center for Energy Sciences Research

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP):
Energy Sciences Education

Letter of Intent (required):  November 15, 2006 – 4:00 PM, CST
Proposal deadline:  December 8, 2006 – 4:00 PM, CST

INTRODUCTION
The Nebraska Center for Energy Sciences Research (NCESR) is a collaboration between the Nebraska Public Power District and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It was established in April 2006 to conduct research on renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, and energy conservation, and to expand economic opportunities and improve the quality of life for Nebraska and the nation.

PROGRAM GOALS
The overall goal of the NCESR is to foster research and education in energy sciences by fostering collaboration among University of Nebraska-Lincoln faculty and other public- and private-sector organizations and businesses working in energy sciences. This RFP specifically targets educational and outreach projects with the following goals:

- Increased student and public awareness of: (1) linkages among energy supply, costs, and economic development at state, national, and global levels, (2) opportunities for development of renewable energy and energy conservation, (3) trade-offs between energy use, environmental quality, conservation of natural resources, and climate change; and (4) career opportunities in energy-related professions and businesses;
- Development of new resident undergraduate course offerings or significant enrichment of existing courses that help prepare students for careers in energy-related professions, or that contribute to increased student awareness of energy issues;
- Establishment of an integrative UNL minor in energy sciences;
- Development of extension education programs, including distance education courses, about energy science and energy-related issues of importance to Nebraska’s citizens and economy, and;
- Increased external funding for educational projects and program development in energy-related areas.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION
The Principal Investigator of each project must be a UNL faculty member, but teams including faculty from other universities/institutions and from the private- and public-sector are encouraged.

FUNDING MECHANISMS
Funding for this initiative is being provided by the Nebraska Public Power District through the UNL Nebraska Center for Energy Sciences Research.

AWARDS:  A total of $80,000 is available in this competition. Maximum award size is $12,000/year, and all projects must be completed in one year. No F&A will be charged to these grants.

FUNDING LIMITATIONS
NCESR funds may be used for supplies and technical support, graduate students, hourly help, and postdocs/research professors. Funds may not be used to replace current funding or for salaries of tenured/tenure-track faculty.

1 Released November 3, 2006
2 A separate RFP was issued in July 2006 for research proposals.
PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

Electronic submission of proposals is required. The electronic version must be in MS Word. No other format will be accepted. Pages must have a minimum of 1-inch margins, text must be in 11 point or larger font. Proposals must be received by 4:00 PM, CST on December 8, 2006. Late proposals will not be accepted. Applications must follow the outline format below. Proposals that do not adhere to page length and other formatting requirements will not be reviewed.

1. Cover sheet with the project title; name, position title, and affiliation (department, center, college) of each principal investigator and co-investigator; signatures of PIs and their chairs/heads, deans/directors; and name, address, phone number and e-mail address of lead PI(s) or contact persons.

2. Abstract (250 word limit, separate sheet).

3. Project Description (total length not to exceed 4 pages excluding citations):
   - Goal and objectives
   - Project justification
   - Work required to develop the course or educational program, and teaching/educational methods to be used
   - Expected educational outcomes, course materials, outputs, and impact vis a vis selection criteria
   - Timeline for activities and accomplishments

4. 1-page budget request and justification (budget page format on following page 3)

5. Biodata/CV for each project team member (two page maximum for each member) to include: contact information; current position, departmental affiliation, and employment history; area of expertise in teaching, research, and/or extension; awards; short list of the most relevant publications; and a short list of the most relevant current grants – including title, funding period, funding agency, and role on the grant.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

1. Letter of Intent (required): November 15, 2006 by 4:00 p.m.
   Include: (i) proposal title, (ii) names, affiliation, phone and email addresses of all investigators.

2. Proposals: December 8, 2006, by 4:00 p.m.

SUBMISSION METHOD AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Letters of intent and proposals should be submitted via email to: aselzer2@unl.edu. If you have questions, please contact Ann Selzer, NCESR Program Manager at (402) 472-6743 or aselzer2@unl.edu.

3 Not required for team members from industry or from state/federal agencies.
NCESR Research Grant Budget Request format 4

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**Budget Justification**

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4 All projects will have a 1-year time frame.