- Does the project support multiorganizational partnerships across the public and private sectors? Will the project include leveraging funds among the partnering organizations? Applicant's proposals will be given more consideration to the extent that matching funds or in-kind services from participating partners are included.
- Does the proposal address global, transboundary, or other international environmental issues directly affecting the United States or lower the cost of innovative technologies for use in the United States.

In addition, the following considerations relate to particular subtopics:

- Policy framework proposals will be reviewed with respect to their capability to advance the goals and activities of ETI; breadth of applicability of the expected results; and potential to reduce barriers and create incentives; and projected probability of success.
- Proposals embracing the theme of innovation capacity should specifically be designed to be self-sustaining after ETI funds are expended.
- Domestic diffusion proposals must be customer-based, and should emphasize pollution prevention technology approaches. Special consideration will be given to projects that support small businesses and/or small communities.
- International diffusion proposals should address global or international environmental issues that directly affect the United States. Proposals should also result in improving U.S. competitiveness and trade objectives in the international arena.

#### The Application

Application forms and instructions are available in the EPA Research Grants Application Kit. Interested investigators should review the materials in this kit before preparing an application for assistance. The kits can be obtained at the following address: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, Office of Exploratory Research (8703), 401 M Street SW., Washington DC 20460.

Each application for assistance must consist of Application for Federal Assistance Forms (Standard Forms (SF): 424 and 424A), separate sheets that provide the budget breakdowns for each year of the project, the resumes of the principal investigator and co-workers, the abstract of the proposed project, and a project narrative. All certifications must be signed and included with the application.

The closing date for application submission is COB May 1, 1995.

To be considered, the original and eight copies of the fully developed research grant application, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the Application for Federal Assistance Forms, must be received by the EPA Office of Exploratory Research no later than the above closing date. Informal, incomplete, or unsigned proposals will not be considered. Completed applications should be sent via regular or express mail to: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, Office of Exploratory Research (8703), 401 M Street SW., Washington DC 20460

Applications sent via express mail should have the following telephone number listed on the express mail label: (202) 260–7445.

# **Special Instructions**

The following special instructions apply to all applicants responding to this request for application.

- Applications must unbound and clipped or stapled. The SF-424 must be the first page of the application. Budget information should immediately follow the SF-424. All certification forms should be placed at the end of the application.
- Applicants must be identified by printing "ETI95" in block 10 of the SF–424. This will facilitate proper assignment and review of the application.
- A one-page abstract must be included with the application.
- The "project narrative" section of the application must not exceed 25, consecutively-numbered, 8½ x 11 inch pages of standard type (i.e.,12 point), including tables, graphs, and figures. For purposes of this limitation, the "project narrative" section of the application consists of the following five items:
- 1. Description of Project
- 2. Objectives
- 3. Results or Benefits Expected
- 4. Approach
- 5. General Project Information.

Any attachments, appendices, and other references for the narrative section may be included but must remain within the 25-page limitation.

Appendices will not be considered an integral part of the application.

Items not included under the 25-page limitation are the SF-424 and other forms, budgets, resumes, and the abstract. Resumes must not exceed two consecutively-numbered pages for each investigator and should focus on education, positions held, and most recent or related publications.

Applications not meeting these requirements will be returned to the applicant without review.

### **Guidelines and Limitations**

All recipients are required to provide a minimum of 1% of the total project cost, which may not be taken from Federal sources. Subcontracts for research to be conducted under the grant should not exceed 40% of the total direct cost of the grant for each year in which the subcontract is awarded.

# **Eligibility**

Nonprofit institutions located within the U.S., including public and private colleges and universities, are eligible under all existing authorizations. Federal agencies and federal employees as well as state and local governments are not eligible to participate it this program. Potential applicants who are uncertain of their eligibility should contact EPA's Grants Operations Branch at (202) 260–9266.

#### **Proprietary Information**

By submitting an application in response to this solicitation, the applicant grants EPA permission to share the application with technical reviewers both within and outside of the Agency.

Applications containing proprietary or other types of confidential information will be immediately returned to the applicant without review.

### **Funding Mechanisms**

The funding mechanism for all awards issued under this solicitation will consist of a grant agreement between EPA and the recipient. In accordance with Public Law 95–225, a grant is used to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by Federal statute rather than acquisition for the direct benefit of the Agency.

# **Minority Institution Assistance**

Pre-application assistance is available upon request for potential investigators representing institutions identified by the Secretary, Department of Education, as Historically Black Colleges or Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACUs), or Native American or Tribal Colleges. For further information on minority assistance, contact Charles Mitchell by telephone at (202) 260–7448, by faxing a written request to (202) 260–0211, or by mailing it to the address for EPA's Office of Exploratory Research shown below.