

## **Grants Notice “Mineral Resources External Research Program”**

**Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:** 15.808

**Closing date for applications:** February 24, 2006

**Cost sharing or matching requirement:** No

**Award amounts:** The *total* amount of funding available for the MRERP is \$1,000,000. MRP anticipates making awards in Fiscal Year 2006 for 10 to 20 proposals submitted under this program announcement; however, individual proposals are not restricted to a set level of funding.

**Time frame:** Work performance under these awards must start before October 1, 2006, and the proposed work must be completed no later than one year from the start date.

**Funding instrument type:** Cooperative agreement grant

**Agency:** Department of the Interior

**Category:** U.S. Geological Survey Research and Data Collection

**Eligible Applicants:** Applications will be accepted from any individual who has the ability to conduct research consistent with the Mineral Resources Program goals identified in the “Funding Opportunity Description” section and who is not employed by a Federal agency. Federal employees can be collaborators in proposed research; however, they are prohibited from receiving MRERP funds for salary or other expenses. Applicants can be affiliated (but are not required to be affiliated) with universities, State agencies, Tribal governments or organizations, industry, or other private sector groups. The following proposals are ineligible for consideration under this announcement: • Proposals from U.S. Government agencies or U.S. Government employees. • Proposals from Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC). • Proposals in which there is a real or the appearance of a conflict of interest.

### **Description**

The Mineral Resources Program (MRP) of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is offering a grant and/or cooperative agreement opportunity to universities, State agencies, Tribal governments or organizations, and industry or other private sector organizations that have the ability to conduct research in topics that meet the goals of the Mineral Resources Program.

The long-term goals of the MRP as described in the Five-Year Plan for FY 2006-2010 are as follows:

- Long-term goal 1: Ensure availability of up-to-date quantitative assessments of potential for undiscovered mineral deposits

- Long-term goal 2: Ensure availability of up-to-date geoenvironmental assessments of priority Federal lands
- Long-term goal 3: Ensure availability of reliable geologic, geochemical, geophysical, and mineral locality data for the United States
- Continuing goal: Ensure availability of scientific facilities and services required to achieve MRP goals (geochemical research and development laboratories, geophysical research and development laboratories, and project-level geographic information systems and information management)
- Long-term goal 4: Ensure availability of long-term data sets describing mineral production and consumption For more information on the five-year plan for MRP, refer to <http://minerals.usgs.gov/>. In order for a proposal to be considered for an award, it must be research-based and address one or more of the MRP five-year plan objectives listed above. Proposals may address, but are not required to address, any of the research topics described in the “Selected Research Topics” section below (see also Attachment I). Proposals may also address goals or issues described in current MRP projects; refer to Attachment II for a description of current projects.

In order for a proposal to be considered for an award, **it must be research-based and address one or more of the MRP five-year plan objectives listed above**. Proposals may address, but are not required to address, any of the research topics described in the “Selected Research Topics” section below (see also Attachment I). Proposals may also address goals or issues described in current MRP projects; refer to Attachment II for a description of current projects.

### **Applications**

Applications for this Funding Opportunity Announcement must be accessed, completed, and submitted through Grants.gov at <http://www.grants.gov> to be considered for award. Questions regarding the content of the announcement should be submitted through the “Submit Question” feature of the DOE Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) at <http://e-center.doe.gov>.

**VERY IMPORTANT: In order to access, complete, and submit applications in Grants.gov, you will first need to install PureEdge Viewer on your computer. For a free version of the software, visit the following Web site: <http://www.grants.gov/DownloadViewer>.**

To complete and submit applications through Grants.gov, there are several one-time actions you must complete (e.g., obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, register with the Central Contract Registry (CCR), install the PureEdge Viewer, register with the credential provider, and register with Grants.gov). Applicants who are not yet registered should allow at least 14 days to complete the registration process. Applicants are highly encouraged to register with Grants.gov as soon as possible. Go to <http://www.grants.gov> for full registration instructions. Should you have questions

regarding the operation of Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Contact Center at support@grants.gov or 1-800-518-4726. Contact Center hours of operation are Monday - Friday from 7:00am to 9:00pm Eastern Standard Time.

Applicants are also required to provide 10 stapled, double-sided copies of submitted proposals (text and required forms), by the same deadline, to F. Diane Peters, U.S. Geological Survey, National Center, Office of Acquisition and Grants, Mail Stop 205G, Reston, VA 20192. If you have questions concerning the submission process, please contact Diane Peters at 703-648-7356 or [fpeters@usgs.gov](mailto:fpeters@usgs.gov). Applicants will receive an email response from the USGS Office of Acquisition and Grants to acknowledge receipt of submitted proposals.

**For proposal submission information, proposal review information, award administration information, and more detailed program information, go here: [MRERP Program Announcement](#)**

<http://www.usgs.gov/contracts/Minerals/06MineralsAnn.doc>