

# DOE

# NEWS

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## SIX PROPOSALS CHOSEN FOR INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAM

The Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have announced a new round of grants under a program designed to enhance U.S. industry's global competitiveness through energy efficiency. Six proposals of 31 submitted have been selected for \$1.4 million in grants under the National Industrial Competitiveness through Environment, Energy and Economics (NICE<sup>3</sup>) program.

DOE's Assistant Secretary for Conservation and Renewable Energy, J. Michael Davis said, "The winning proposals demonstrate a key theme of President Bush's National Energy Strategy -- that energy efficiency goes hand in hand with improved environmental quality and economic competitiveness."

Davis noted that each project demonstrates the interest of the private sector in collaborating with the government to develop new technology to reduce industrial waste.

"Reducing energy use and minimizing waste can be good business," Davis said.

Linda J. Fisher, EPA's Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances, said,

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"These programs demonstrate that environmental protection and industrial competitiveness are not mutually exclusive goals. By building environmental considerations into our technological choices, we can have more efficient industries, reduced energy use, and a cleaner environment."

NICE<sup>3</sup> was launched as a seven-state pilot program in 1991 by the Departments of Energy and Commerce and the Environmental Protection Agency. Under the program, states and private participants provide at least half of the funding for the projects, which are jointly sponsored by state agencies. Proposals were sought from the seven states with the highest energy and pollution abatement costs: California, Illinois, Louisiana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Texas.

Of the six applicants selected to receive grants, three were recommended for award to Ohio companies. These are:

- Western Reserve Manufacturing Company of Lorain, Ohio. The proposal is to eliminate corrosive, polluting waste gases while improving the quality of casting of barstock, which is used in the manufacturing of bearings, bushings and other critical machinery parts. NICE<sup>3</sup> will provide \$241,000 of the \$700,000 total cost. If adopted nationally, energy savings are estimated at 206 billion BTU per year and the avoided pollution at 108 million pounds per year.
- AAP St. Marys, of St. Marys, Ohio. This project will introduce a new, more efficient technology for remelting the considerable volume of aluminum chips produced by the company's manufacturing process, which transforms aluminum ingot into finished cast aluminum wheels for automobiles. NICE<sup>3</sup> will provide \$200,000 of the \$1.2 million total cost. Estimated national energy savings are 117 million BTU per year with pollution prevention of 5.6 million pounds annually.
- Fasson Films Division, Avery Dennison of Painesville, Ohio. This project will substitute an ultra-violet curing system for solvents in the manufacture of pressure-sensitive labels. NICE<sup>3</sup> will provide \$240,000 of the \$700,000 total cost. National energy savings are estimated at 604 billion BTU per year with annual pollution prevention of 7 million pounds of hazardous waste.

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Two proposals are to be funded in California:

- Ultrasonic Products Inc. of Chancel Island Harbor, California. This project will demonstrate a new ultrasonic dishwashing technology, eliminating the use of caustic detergents. NICE<sup>3</sup> will provide \$220,000 of the \$440,000 total cost. If adopted nationally, 7.5 billion gallons of waste water could be saved and national energy cost savings are estimated at \$75.6 million per year.
- California Integrated Waste Management Board. This project will demonstrate how a typical paper product manufacturer can substitute 40% of its requirement for fiber with mixed quality recycled paper. NICE<sup>3</sup> will provide \$100,000 of the \$310,000 total cost. The potential for energy savings nationally for the papermaking industry are 800 billion BTU per year and prevention of annual pollution of 1.9 billion pounds per year.

One proposal is to be funded in New Jersey:

- Dupont Merck Pharmaceutical Company of Trenton, New Jersey. This project will demonstrate a substitute for the use of solvents in cleaning chemical tanks or drums through ultrasonic cleaning technology. NICE<sup>3</sup> will provide \$399,000 of the \$1,006,000 total cost. The estimated potential savings in energy is 112 million BTU per year with pollution prevention of 177,000 pounds of solvent annually.

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