

Substrate, Navy Case No. 82,672.//U.S. Patent No. 6,593,212: Method for Making Electro-Optical Devices Using a Hydrogen Ion Splitting Technique, Navy Case No. 79,639.//U.S. Patent No. 7,358,152: Wafer Bonding of Thinned Electronic Materials and Circuits to High Performance Substrate, Navy Case No. 84,023.//U.S. Patent No. 7,535,100: Wafer Bonding of Thinned Electronic Materials and Circuits to High Performance Substrates, Navy Case No. 84,023 and any continuations, divisionals or re-issues thereof.”

DATES: Anyone wishing to object to the grant of this license must file written objections along with supporting evidence, if any, not later than June 17, 2010.

Dated: May 27, 2010.

L.R. Almand,

Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2010-13283 Filed 6-1-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Overview Information; Technology and Media Services for Individuals With Disabilities—Television Access; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.327C.

Dates:

Applications Available: June 2, 2010.

Deadline for Transmittal of

Applications: July 19, 2010.

Deadline for Intergovernmental

Review: September 15, 2010.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purposes of the Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities program are to: (1) Improve results for children with disabilities by promoting the development, demonstration, and use of technology; (2) support educational media services activities designed to be of educational value in the classroom setting to children with disabilities; and (3) provide support for captioning and video description that are appropriate for use in the classroom setting.

Priority: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(v), this priority is from allowable activities specified in the statute, or otherwise authorized in the statute (see sections 674(c) and 681(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2010 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:
Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities—Television Access

Background

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is responsible for implementing and monitoring compliance with the captioning requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act). Consistent with the Act, the FCC requires most television programs to be captioned, but provides for certain exemptions to this requirement. The FCC does not have similar requirements or exemptions in place for video description, which provides access to television programs for individuals with blindness or low vision. Therefore, only a limited number of television programs include video description. The following Web sites provide more information on captioning and video description: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/closedcaption.html> and <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/video-description.html>.

The Department has made awards for television access since 1995 in order to provide video description and captioning under the Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities program. The following Web site contains abstracts of previously funded projects: <http://publicddb.tadnet.org/>. (Use the keyword search function with the term “video description.”) Despite these efforts, not all television programs that are appropriate for use in the classroom setting for children with disabilities are being video described or captioned.

Priority: The purpose of this absolute priority for Television Access is to fund cooperative agreements that will improve the learning opportunities for children with disabilities by providing access to television programming through video description and captioning. This project will support access—through video description and captioning—to widely available television programs that are appropriate for use in the classroom setting and are not otherwise required to be captioned by the FCC.

To be considered for funding under this absolute priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects

funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative requirements specified in the priority.

Application Requirements. To meet the requirements of this priority, the applicant, at a minimum, must—

(a) Include in the application, the criteria the applicant will use to select television programs of high educational value that are widely available and are appropriate for use in the classroom setting for children with disabilities at the preschool, elementary, or secondary level. The application must also discuss how, in selecting the programming to be video described, or video described and captioned, the applicant will take into account the preferences of educators, students with disabilities, and the parents of these students;

(b) Identify, in the application, the extent to which the programming selected for video description or video description and captioning is widely available;

(c) Identify, in the application, the total number of program hours proposed to be made accessible through video description, or video description and captioning under the project.

(d) Specify, in the application, the cost per hour for video description and, if the applicant is proposing both video description and captioning, the cost per hour for video description and for captioning;

(e) For each program to be video described or video described and captioned, identify, in the application, the source of any private or other public support, and the projected dollar amount of that support, if any;

(f) Provide evidence, in the application, of the willingness of potential program providers or program owners, as appropriate, to permit and facilitate the video description or the video description and captioning of their programs;

(g) Provide, in the application, assurances from potential program providers or program owners, as appropriate, stating that, after their programming is video described or video described and captioned, the program providers or program owners, as appropriate, will require that the programming made accessible under this project will continue to contain those video descriptions or video descriptions and captions;

(h) Identify, in the application, the anticipated shelf-life and range of distribution of the programming that it proposes to video describe or video describe and caption under this project, without further costs to the project;

(i) If the applicant is proposing both video description and captioning, provide, in the application, assurances from potential program providers or program owners, as appropriate, stating that programming captioned under this project would not otherwise be captioned to meet the FCC's captioning requirements, or are specifically exempt from the FCC's captioning requirements; and

(j) Budget for the project director to attend an annual three-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, DC, and another annual two-day trip to Washington, DC to collaborate with the Federal project officer and the other projects funded under this priority to share information, and to discuss findings and methods of dissemination.

Programmatic and Administrative Requirements. In addition, projects must—

(a) Establish a diverse consumer advisory group that includes individuals with vision or hearing loss, parents of children with disabilities, educators, and individuals from under-represented groups. This group must convene at least annually for the purpose of certifying that each program to be video described or video described and captioned with project funds is of high educational value and is appropriate for use in a preschool, elementary, or secondary level classroom for children with disabilities, taking into account the educational needs, including the intellectual, cognitive, social and emotional needs, of children;

(b) Implement procedures for monitoring the extent to which the quality of the captions and video descriptions developed under this project increase the availability and usefulness of the television program for children with disabilities, and use this information to make refinements in project operations; and

(c) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a format that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities and requirements. Section 681(d) of IDEA, however, makes the public comment requirements of the APA inapplicable to the priority in this notice.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1474 and 1481(d).

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General

Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education (IHEs) only.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$2,500,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$400,000–\$500,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$450,000.

Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$500,000 for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the **Federal Register**.

Estimated Number of Awards: 5.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* State educational agencies (SEAs); local educational agencies (LEAs); public charter schools that are LEAs under State law; IHEs; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* This competition does not require cost sharing or matching.

3. *Other: General Requirements—(a)* The projects funded under this competition must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities (see section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this competition must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA).

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Address to Request Application Package:* Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), U.S. Department of Education, P.O. Box 22207, Alexandria, VA 22304. Telephone, toll free: 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (703) 605-6794. If you

use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call, toll free: 1-877-576-7734.

You can contact ED Pubs at its Web site, also: <http://www.EDPubs.gov> or at its e-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov.

If you request an application package from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.327C.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the person or team listed under *Accessible Format* in section VIII of this notice.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission:* Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this competition.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 50 pages, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial. An application submitted in any other font (including Times Roman or Arial Narrow) will not be accepted. [Please include the bracketed language or similar language only if it is accurate.]

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the résumés, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, the page limit does apply to all of the application narrative section (Part III).

We will reject your application if you exceed the page limit; or if you apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. *Submission Dates and Times:*
Applications Available: June 2, 2010.
Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: July 19, 2010.

Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically using the Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application) accessible through the Department's e-Grants site, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery, please refer to section IV. 7. *Other Submission Requirements* of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: September 15, 2010.

4. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.

5. *Funding Restrictions:* We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. *Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and Central Contractor Registry:* To do business with the Department of Education (1) you must have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN); (2) you must register both of those numbers with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR), the Government's primary registrant database; and (3) you must provide those same numbers on your application.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet. A DUNS number can be created within one business day.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN,

please allow 2–5 weeks for your TIN to become active.

The CCR registration process may take five or more business days to complete. If you are currently registered with the CCR, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your CCR registration on an annual basis. This may take three or more business days to complete.

7. *Other Submission Requirements:*

Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically or in paper format by mail or hand delivery.

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications.*

If you choose to submit your application to us electronically, you must use e-Application, accessible through the Department's e-Grants Web site at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

While completing your electronic application, you will be entering data online that will be saved into a database. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

Please note the following:

- Your participation in e-Application is voluntary.
- You must complete the electronic submission of your grant application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. E-Application will not accept an application for this competition after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the application process.

- The hours of operation of the e-Grants Web site are 6:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. Wednesday; and 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 8:00 p.m. Sunday, Washington, DC time. Please note that, because of maintenance, the system is unavailable between 8:00 p.m. on Sundays and 6:00 a.m. on Mondays, and between 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and 6:00 a.m. on Thursdays, Washington, DC time. Any modifications to these hours are posted on the e-Grants Web site.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: The Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for

SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. You must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified in this paragraph or submit a password protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- Prior to submitting your electronic application, you may wish to print a copy of it for your records.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment that will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).

- Within three working days after submitting your electronic application, fax a signed copy of the SF 424 to the Application Control Center after following these steps:

(1) Print SF 424 from e-Application.

(2) The applicant's Authorizing Representative must sign this form.

(3) Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of the hard-copy signature page of the SF 424.

(4) Fax the signed SF 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 245–6272.

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on other forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of System Unavailability: If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because e-Application is unavailable, we will grant you an extension of one business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery. We will grant this extension if—

(1) You are a registered user of e-Application and you have initiated an electronic application for this competition; and

(2) (a) E-Application is unavailable for 60 minutes or more between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date; or

(b) E-Application is unavailable for any period of time between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

We must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension. To request this extension or to confirm our acknowledgment of any system

unavailability, you may contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** (see VII. Agency Contact) or (2) the e-Grants help desk at 1-888-336-8930. If e-Application is unavailable due to technical problems with the system and, therefore, the application deadline is extended, an e-mail will be sent to all registered users who have initiated an e-Application.

Extensions referred to in this section apply only to the unavailability of e-Application. If e-Application is available, and, for any reason, you are unable to submit your application electronically or you do not receive an automatic acknowledgment of your submission, you may submit your application in paper format by mail or hand delivery in accordance with the instructions in this notice.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you submit your application in paper format by mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier), you must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.327C) LBJ Basement Level 1, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260.

You must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you submit your application in paper format by hand delivery, you (or a courier service) must deliver the original and two copies of your

application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.327C) 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department—

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this grant notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210 and are listed in the application package.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* In the past, the Department has had difficulty finding peer reviewers for certain competitions, because so many individuals who are eligible to serve as peer reviewers have conflicts of interest. The Standing Panel requirements under IDEA also have placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Department has determined that, for some discretionary grant competitions, applications may be separated into two or more groups and ranked and selected for funding within specific groups. This procedure will make it easier for the Department to find peer reviewers, by ensuring that greater numbers of individuals who are eligible to serve as reviewers for any particular group of applicants will not have conflicts of interest. It also will increase the quality, independence, and fairness of the review process, while permitting panel members to review applications under discretionary grant competitions for which they also have submitted applications. However, if the Department decides to select an equal number of applications in each group for funding, this may result in different cut-off points for fundable applications in each group.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>.

4. *Performance Measures:* Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has established a set of performance measures, including long-term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities program. These measures focus on the extent to which projects are of high quality, are relevant to improving outcomes of children with disabilities, and contribute to improving outcomes for children with disabilities. We will collect data on these measures from the projects funded under this competition.

Grantees will be required to report information on their projects' performance in their annual performance reports to the Department (34 CFR 75.590).

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jo Ann McCann, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW.,

room 4076, Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7434.

If you use a TDD, call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5075, PCP, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7363. If you use a TDD, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Electronic Access to This Document: You can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>. To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: May 26, 2010.

Alexa Posny,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2010-13143 Filed 6-1-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of a Waiver of Section 1605 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for Poplar School District, Poplar, MT

ACTION: Notice of a Waiver of Section 1605 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for Poplar School District, Poplar, Montana.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the Department of Education (the Department) announces its waiver of the Buy American requirements in section 1605(a) of the ARRA (Buy American Requirements) for the Poplar School District in Poplar, Montana (Poplar District) and the justification for this waiver. This waiver permits use of imported T8 4-foot electronic ballasts in the Poplar District's lighting project,

which is supported with Impact Aid funds appropriated under the ARRA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department provided Poplar District with an Impact Aid ARRA formula grant for school construction activities authorized under section 8007(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended. The Poplar District proposes to use these funds for a lighting project, but reports that the particular lights needed (T8 4-foot electronic ballasts) for this construction project are not produced in the United States.

In accordance with section 1605(c) of the ARRA, the Department hereby provides notice that it is granting a waiver of the Buy American Requirements for the Poplar District's lighting project. This notice constitutes the detailed written justification that the Department is required to publish in instances when it grants such a waiver pursuant to section 1605(b) of the ARRA.

Section 1605(a) of the ARRA requires that none of the appropriated funds be used for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public building or public work unless all of the iron, steel, and manufactured goods used in the project are produced in the United States. The ARRA further provides that this requirement does not apply, and that a waiver may be granted, when the head of the Federal department or agency involved finds that: (1) Applying these requirements would be inconsistent with the public interest; (2) iron, steel, and relevant manufactured goods are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality; or (3) inclusion of iron, steel, and relevant manufactured goods produced in the United States will increase the overall cost of the project by more than 25 percent.

The Secretary has determined that a section 1605(b) waiver of the Buy American Requirements is appropriate for the Poplar District's lighting project because, based on the Department's research, the particular lights needed for this project are not manufactured in the United States. The Department bases this determination on information provided by the Poplar District as well as the Department's own research. The Poplar District has provided information to the Department documenting that there are no T8 4-foot electronic ballast manufacturers in the United States. In addition, based on the Department's own research (Internet product literature searches) and to the best of the Department's knowledge at the time of

its review of the Poplar District's waiver request, there do not appear to be U.S.-manufactured T8 4-foot electronic ballasts available to the Poplar District for the ARRA-funded lighting project.

Furthermore, the purpose of the ARRA is to stimulate economic recovery, in part, by funding current infrastructure construction, and not to delay projects that are "shovel ready" by requiring the revision of standards and specifications or a new bidding process. The imposition of the Buy American Requirements on such otherwise eligible projects would result in unreasonable delay, and to further delay construction would be in direct conflict with a fundamental economic purpose of the ARRA, which is to create or retain jobs.

The Department has reviewed the Poplar District's waiver request and has determined that the supporting documentation is sufficient to demonstrate that a waiver is justified under section 1605(b)(2) of the ARRA. Having established both a proper basis to specify the particular good required for this project, and that this manufactured good is not available from a producer in the United States, the Poplar District is hereby granted a waiver from the Buy American Requirements reflected in section 1605(a) of the ARRA for the purchase of T8 4-foot electronic ballasts using ARRA funds as specified in the Poplar District's request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kristen Walls-Rivas, Impact Aid Program, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 260-1357 or via Internet: Kristen.Walls-Rivas@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339. Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed in this section.

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