

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** University and College Administrators and Water Resources Researchers in Tennessee.

**FROM:** Timothy Gangaware, Associate Director  
Tennessee Water Resources Research Center

**DATE:** November 10, 2003

**SUBJECT:** FY 2004 Water Resources Research Institute Program - Request for Proposals.

In anticipation of availability of funding in FY 2004, the Tennessee Water Resources Research Center (TNWRRC) is sending out a request for proposals for research grants under the Water Resources Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-242), Section 104 grant program. The Tennessee Water Resources Research Center (TNWRRC) will administer the Section 104 Program, which is supported in part by the U.S. Department of Interior - Geological Survey (USGS). The program provides money to TNWRRC to fund small research projects on water related issues of critical importance to the state and region. All faculties of Tennessee's colleges and universities are eligible to apply for these research funds. The following is some general information regarding the program.

***SUBMITTAL DATE:*** 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 15, 2003. Your proposal must be received in the Center's office by that time/date to be available for review. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered for funding in FY 2004. Proposals should be sent to the address at the end of this memo.

***NOTIFICATION:*** You will be notified on or before January 31, 2004, whether your proposal will be included in our program application to the USGS.

We expect to have final approval by the USGS of the Center program application about March 1, 2004.

**EVALUATION:** Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of:

- a. Relevancy of the proposed research to the regional and state water problems.
- b. Potential for proposed research to produce meaningful and publishable results.
- c. Technical merit of the proposed project design and procedures.
- d. Professional competence of the Investigator(s).
- e. Adequacy of the budget information.
- f. Student educational and training opportunities.
- g. Potential for continued support from other funding sources.

**PROGRAM FOCUS:** The purpose of the Section 104 program administered by the TNWRRC is to address major regional and state water problems by supporting research by qualified researchers from the State's colleges and universities. The focus of our program is directed by the major regional and state water resources problems, developed by the Institute Directors of the Southeast/Island Region and the Center's Statewide Advisory Committee. Attachment 1 lists the regional research priorities for the Southeast/Island Region. Research proposals submitted to the TNWRRC **MUST** be responsive to these problem areas. A research project should not consist solely of conventional data collection, tabulation, analysis or equipment development.

**PERFORMANCE PERIOD:** Research projects supported by FY 2004 funds start March 1, 2004 and must be completed no later than February 28, 2005. Research designed to continue beyond that period must be supported by funds from subsequent year appropriations. Performance periods for any project may not exceed 24 months.

**FUNDING:** The maximum award for any TNWRRC grant for FY 2004 will be \$25,000 for a 12-month budget period. Projects may be designed to run beyond February 28, 2005, provided they contain a reportable element at the end of the 12-month period, to be included in the FY 2004 program report. Funding for subsequent years of multi-year projects **IS NOT** guaranteed and continuation proposals for such projects must be submitted in a following year and will be evaluated along with all other proposals received in that given year. Evidence of satisfactory progress in achieving the first year's objectives will be considered in evaluating continuation proposals.

The federal authorizing legislation requires at least **TWO non-Federal dollars for each Federal grant dollar requested**. In addition, indirect or F&A costs are not allowed under the federal cost category. However, indirect costs may be used to provide part of the matching requirement.

For copies of the guidelines for preparation and submittal of your research project, please contact the TNWRRC office at (865) 974-2151 or by fax (865) 974-1838 or by e-mail, [gangwrrc@utk.edu](mailto:gangwrrc@utk.edu). This information will be posted on the TNWRRC website at (<http://eerc.ra.utk.edu/divisions/wrrc>). Statewide distribution of this memorandum is being made. Recipients of this notice are requested to share the information with their colleagues and encourage them to participate in the program. If there are any questions concerning application procedures or potential research projects, please contact the TNWRRC office.

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