

Resource Conservation Funds 2006 Request for Initial Proposals

Agency Name: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Funding Opportunity Name: Solid Waste Management Assistance

Announcement Type: Initial Announcement

Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-R9-WST-06-004

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 66.808

Overview

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 is soliciting proposals to fund projects that address solid waste reduction and management. Funds will be awarded pursuant to Section 8001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. §6981. Funding will be in the form of cooperative agreements. Funds will be awarded to applicants carrying out projects that serve the following states and territories: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the U.S. territories in the Pacific Islands, and the lands in Indian Country belonging to over 140 federally recognized tribes which fall under EPA Region 9's geographic area.

The aim of this funding is to support innovative ideas with the goal of fostering positive change. Projects may include studies, surveys, investigations, demonstrations, training, and public education programs. All demonstration projects must demonstrate applications, technologies, methods or approaches that are new, innovative or experimental. A project that is carried out through a routine or established practice is not a demonstration. This solicitation describes the program goals and gives general information on the application and selection process, proposal format, and evaluation criteria. This solicitation and additional EPA Region 9 Solid Waste and Pollution Prevention Program funding information is available on the Internet at:
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/solid/funding.html>

The goal of the program is to promote recycling and solid waste reduction projects that will:

- have a significant national environmental impact; and/or
- address a significant environmental issue in an area of Region 9 with limited waste reduction activities; and/or
- foster market mechanisms or market development.

Important Dates:

February 7, 2006-- Request for Initial Proposals posted on the web and synopsized on Grants.gov.

March 27, 2006-- Initial proposals must be postmarked by or received through Grants.gov by this date.

April 10, 2006--EPA notifies finalists to prepare full proposals.

April 24, 2006--Full proposals must be postmarked or received through Grants.gov by this date.

May 8, 2006--Initial approvals identified and sponsors of projects selected for funding will be requested to submit a formal application package.

May 18, 2006--Application and workplan must be postmarked by or received through Grants.gov

October 2006--Awards made.

The above dates (other than the March 27, 2006 initial proposal submission date) are anticipated dates and may be subject to change.

Contents of Full Text Announcement:

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Resource Conservation Funds 2006 Request for Initial Proposals

EPA-R9-WST-06-004

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

The purpose of this grant program is to preserve and restore land by using innovative waste management practices and by reducing the risks posed by releases of harmful substances. Projects may include studies, surveys, investigations, demonstrations, training, and public education programs. All demonstration projects must demonstrate applications, technologies, methods or approaches that are new, innovative or experimental. A project that is carried out through a routine or established practice is not a demonstration.

Funds will be awarded to applicants carrying out projects that serve the following states and territories: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the U.S. territories in the Pacific Islands, and the lands in Indian Country belonging to over 140 federally recognized tribes which fall under EPA Region 9's geographic area. This program supports EPA's strategic goal of land preservation and restoration. Special emphasis will be on the following Region 9 priorities. In addition, applicants should carefully review the evaluation criteria in Section V. of this solicitation. This funding opportunity links to EPA's Strategic Plan through sub-objective 3.1.1: Reduce Waste Generation and Increase Recycling, for more information see:

<http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/plan/2003sp.pdf>

Outcomes and outputs from this funding will help reduce materials use through product and process redesign, and increase materials and energy recovery from wastes otherwise requiring disposal.

Region 9 - Resource Conservation Funds Program Priorities:

These priorities reflect national priorities of EPA's Resource Conservation Challenge (RCC), for more information on this program please see: <http://www.epa.gov/rcc/>. Specifically, EPA Region 9 seeks to fund proposals that fit into one or more of the following priorities:

Provide education and outreach, technical assistance or spur innovative approaches to promote:

- green building
- environmentally preferable purchasing
- anaerobic digestion of food waste and the organic portion of the waste stream

Reducing the generation and disposal of the following materials and waste streams through reuse, recycling, composting, or market development:

- construction and demolition debris
- green waste and the organic portion of the waste stream

Region 9 Tribal Resource Conservation and Solid Waste Funds:

Please see the Tribal Solid Waste Goals in Section IX for additional information for tribes and tribal organizations in Region 9.

Environmental Results: Outputs and Outcomes

Pursuant to EPA Order 5700.7, “*Environmental Results under EPA Assistance Agreements*,” EPA requires that all grant and cooperative agreement recipients adequately address environmental outputs and outcomes. Outputs and outcomes differ both in their nature, and in how they are measured.

- **OUTPUTS:** The term “output” means an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work products related to an environmental goal and objective, that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during an assistance agreement funding period.
- **OUTCOMES:** The term “outcome” means the result, effect or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health-related or programmatic in nature, but must be quantitative. They may not necessarily be achievable within an assistance agreement funding period.

Expected outcomes from this program include, but are not limited to the following:

- increase the amount of material being recycled or composted
- measure quantitative and qualitative reductions in waste generation, use of toxics in products, or materials use in products or processes.

Anticipated outputs from this program include:

- educational and outreach materials for the public and businesses
- development of tools to increase the purchase of environmentally preferable products
- partnerships established between federal and non-federal programs to provide resource conservation and improved materials management to reduce waste disposal

To estimate the anticipated outputs and outcomes of your proposal, EPA encourages you to refer to the Measurement Fact Sheet at:

http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/rcra_measurements.html.

EPA will **NOT** fund proposals to:

- purchase capital equipment (e.g., trucks, tractors, front-loaders, etc.)
- fund construction or construction planning
- acquire land or interest in land
- provide any subsidy for the price of recovered resources.

II. Award Information

Under this announcement, EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$120,000 in cooperative agreements this year for Region 9 Resource Conservation Funds; an additional \$100,000 will be available for Tribal Solid Waste projects. EPA Region 9 anticipates awarding approximately 4 and 7 cooperative agreements ranging in size from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

A cooperative agreement is a type of grant. Under a cooperative agreement, EPA provides financial assistance and is substantially involved in the project. While EPA's role will vary from project to project, EPA expects to have substantial technical interaction with the recipient throughout the performance of the project. For such projects, EPA may review and approve project phases, review and approve provisions within proposed subgrants and contracts, collaborate with the recipient on the scope of work and mode of operation of the project, closely monitor the recipient's performance, approve any proposed changes to work plan and/or budget, approve qualifications of key personnel, and review and comment on reports prepared under the assistance agreement.

All projects should have an anticipated start date of October 1, 2006. Proposed project periods may be up to two (2) years.

Funding for these projects is not guaranteed and is subject to the availability of funds and the evaluation of proposals based on the criteria in this announcement. Selected applicants may be offered funds in an amount less than the proposal requests. EPA reserves the right to partially-fund proposals by funding discrete activities, projects, or phases of proposed proposals. If EPA decides to partially fund proposals, it will do so in a manner that does not prejudice any applicants or affect the basis upon which the proposal, or portion thereof, was evaluated and selected for award, and that maintains the integrity of the competition and evaluation/selection process.

Should additional funding for awards become available, EPA may make additional awards under this announcement so long as the additional award selections are made no later than four months from the date of the original selections under this solicitation. The additional selections must be made in accordance with the terms of this announcement and EPA policy. EPA reserves the right to reject all proposals or applications and make no awards under this announcement.

III. Eligibility Information

Applicant Eligibility

Proposals will be accepted from States, Indian Tribes, interstate, intrastate and local government agencies and instrumentalities; and non-profit organizations (including those deemed similar to commercial concerns under Attachment C of OMB Circular A-122), educational institutions, and hospitals. For-profit organizations and individuals who are applying on behalf of for profit organizations are not eligible.

Non-profit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply.

An applicant may submit more than one proposal if the proposals are for different projects.

An applicant may submit a proposal in hardcopy by postal mail or electronically through Grants.gov. Applicants may NOT submit a proposal using both methods. Applicants must choose only ONE method. If you submit a proposal using both methods your proposal will be rejected.

Proposals must substantially comply with the application/proposal submission instructions and requirements set forth in Section IV of this announcement or else they will be rejected. In addition, where a page limit is expressed in Section IV with respect to the proposal and/or parts of the proposal, pages in excess of the page limitation will not be reviewed. Proposals must be received by the EPA [or "postmarked by"] or through www.grants.gov on or before the solicitation closing date published in Section IV of this announcement. Proposals received after the published closing date will be returned to the sender without further consideration.

Project Eligibility

Scientific research projects are ineligible for funding.

Any proposals that do not meet the applicant or project eligibility requirements will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

No matching funds are required.

IV. Application and Submission Information

General Information: All proposals must be formatted for 8 1/2" x 11" paper using no smaller than 11 point font with 1" margins. A page equals one side of paper. Hard copy submissions should be made on recycled paper and should be double-sided if possible to reduce waste.

Confidential Business Information: In accordance with 40 CFR §2.203, applicants may claim all or a portion of their application/proposal as confidential business information. EPA will evaluate confidentiality claims in accordance with 40 CFR Part 2. Applicants must clearly mark applications/proposals or portions of applications/proposals they claim as confidential. If no claim of confidentiality is made, EPA is not required to make the inquiry to the applicant otherwise required by 40 CFR 2.204(c) (2) prior to disclosure.

It is recommended that confidential business information not be included in your proposal.

Step 1 - Submit Initial Proposal: Initial proposals must be limited to 2 pages. The proposal should provide EPA with a profile of the applicant, the purpose of your project, a *brief* explanation of how you plan to accomplish your project, and an estimate of the time and money needed to complete your project (see format below). Incomplete proposals or proposals that do not substantially comply with the following format are NOT eligible and will not be reviewed or considered. Email and fax submissions are NOT eligible and will not be reviewed or considered.

Initial Proposal Format -- 2 page limit (This information is required no matter what the mode of submission is used, grants.gov or hardcopy).

1. Applicant's name, primary contacts, address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail (if available).
2. Background information about lead organization, and other participants/partners. Background should focus on experience related to the project proposal and grant management abilities, programmatic capacity, and past performance managing Federal agency assistance agreements.
3. Summary of the project. In addition to describing the purpose of the project and how it will be implemented applicants must describe how the project relates to Region 9 priorities.
4. Project goals and objectives:
 - What you will achieve?
 - What the project impact will be?
 - Whom the project will benefit?
 - How you plan to determine the project's effectiveness?
 - How will project results be measured and how will that relate to environmental improvements, specifically outputs and/or outcomes?
5. Project timeline (provide an overall schedule, lasting no more than 24 months).
 - Estimated project budget. Estimates should be made for personnel, travel, supplies, contracts, and any indirect costs.

Initial proposals must be received by close of business (5:00 pm PST) March 27, 2006.

Step 2 - EPA Notifies Applicants Selected to Develop Full Proposals: After the initial proposals are ranked by EPA, we will notify selected applicants by April 10, 2006, to prepare a full proposal. The format and review criteria for full proposals will remain the same, but an expanded submission with additional detail will be required. This will include a more detailed full proposal responding to the review criteria including past performance information, a workplan of less than 5 pages, a budget, and letters of commitment from project partners, if applicable. Full proposals have a 10 page limit.

Past Performance: Submit a list of all Federal agency assistance agreements performed within the last three years, and describe how you documented or reported on whether you were making progress toward achieving the expected results under those agreements. If you were not making progress did you adequately document why not? In evaluating applicants under this factor, EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources, including information from EPA files and from current and prior

Federal agency grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information provided by the applicant). Those applicants whose initial proposal merited further consideration and who are asked to submit detailed proposals will be evaluated on the programmatic capability ranking factor. Programmatic capability will evaluate the applicant's technical ability to successfully carry out the proposed project taking into account such factors as history in meeting reporting requirements on current assistance agreements, staff expertise, staff knowledge, and resources or the ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the goals of the project.

Step 3 - Full Proposal: Selected applicants must submit a full proposal. **PLEASE SEND THE FULL PROPOSAL ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH GRANTS.GOV OR POSTMARKED BY April 24, 2006, TO:**

Adrienne Priselac
U.S. EPA Region 9, WST-7
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Full proposals submitted after April 24, 2006, will not be considered.

Step 4 - Full Proposals Selected: EPA will review the full proposals and make final selections by **May 8, 2006**. Applicants chosen for funding will be asked to negotiate a final workplan with EPA and to complete a federal application for assistance. Please note that if your proposal is selected that **does not** constitute an award.

Submission of initial and full proposals:

Applicants may choose to apply under this announcement in *one of two ways*. If you wish to apply with a hard copy submission, please follow the instructions under "Hard Copy Submission" below. If you wish to apply electronically via Grants.gov, please follow the appropriate instructions under "Electronic Application" below. EPA encourages applicants to submit their application materials electronically through <http://www.grants.gov>. You may NOT submit a proposal using both methods. You must choose only ONE method. If you submit a proposal using both methods your proposal will be rejected.

1. Hard Copy Submissions

Application materials submitted via mail/commercial delivery service. Initial proposals must be postmarked by **March 27, 2006**, and full proposals must be postmarked by **April 24, 2006**. Applications postmarked after these due dates will not be considered for funding. The original and one copy of your proposal must be submitted to the address below:

Adrienne Priselac, Resource Conservation Funds Proposals
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street (WST-7)
San Francisco, CA 94105

2. Electronic Submissions

All applications must be electronically stamped via Grants.gov. Initial proposals must be

electronically stamped by March 27, 2006, and full proposals must be electronically stamped by April 24, 2006. Applications submitted via Grants.gov **after** this due date will **not** be considered for funding.

If you wish to apply electronically via Grants.gov, the electronic submission of your proposal/application must be made by an official representative of your institution who is registered with Grants.gov and authorized to sign applications for Federal assistance. For more information, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on “Get Started,” and then click on “For AORs” (Authorized Organization Representative) on the left side of the page. *Note that the registration process may take a week or longer to complete.* If your organization is not currently registered with Grants.gov, please encourage your office to designate an AOR and ask that individual to begin the registration process as soon as possible.

To begin the application process for this grant program, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on the “Apply for Grants” tab at the top of the page. Then click on “Apply Step 1: Download a Grant Application Package and Application Instructions” to download the PureEdge viewer and obtain the application package and instructions for applying under this announcement using grants.gov (https://apply.grants.gov/forms_apps_idx.html). You may retrieve the application package and instructions by entering the Funding Opportunity Number, **EPA-R9-WST-06-004**, or the CFDA number 66.808, in the space provided. Then complete and submit the application package as indicated. You may also be able to access the application package by clicking on the button at the bottom right side of the synopsis on Grants.gov that says Apply for Grant Electronically.

Application/proposal materials submitted through Grants.gov will be time/date stamped electronically.

Please be sure to download and read the instructions and the application package at the Grants.gov web site. See Attachment 1 for further instructions on submitting an application package through the Grants.gov web site.

If you have any technical difficulties while applying electronically, please refer to <http://www.grants.gov/CustomerSupport> or the toll free Contact Center: 1-800-518-4726.

Intergovernmental Review: Applicants (except for Indian Tribes and Tribal Consortia) must comply with the Intergovernmental Review Process and/or consultation provisions of Executive Order 12372. EPA’s implementing regulations for this Executive Order can be found at 40 CFR §29.1-29.13.

Confidential Business Information: In accordance with 40 CFR §2.203, applicants may claim all or a portion of their application/proposal as confidential business information. EPA will evaluate confidentiality claims in accordance with 40 CFR Part 2. Applicants must clearly mark applications/proposals or portions of applications/proposals they claim as confidential. If no claim of confidentiality is made, EPA is not required to make the inquiry to the applicant otherwise required by 40 CFR 2.204(c) (2) prior to disclosure.

DUNS: All applicants applying for funding must have a Dun and Bradstreet Universal Data Numbering System (DUNS) number. Applicants who do not already have a DUNS number may find instructions for obtaining one at the following website: <http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>. A DUNS number may also be obtained by calling 1-866-705-5711.

Initial Proposal/Application Communications and Assistance:

In accordance with EPA's Competition Policy of January 11, 2005 (EPA Order 5700.5A1), EPA staff will not meet with individual applicants to discuss draft proposals, provide informal comments on draft proposals, or provide advice to applicants on how to respond to ranking criteria. EPA Region 9 will respond to questions from individual applicants regarding threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the submission of the proposal, and requests for clarification about the announcement. Applicants are responsible for the contents of their applications.

V. Application Review Information

Each eligible proposal will be evaluated by a panel of EPA staff based on the criteria set forth below, using the corresponding point values listed. Please make sure that your proposal addresses each criterion. The evaluation criteria and corresponding point values are listed below. The maximum score is 100 points. An EPA selection panel of EPA staff from a cross-section of programs will score each initial proposal and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal. The review team will select approximately 12 applicants to submit full proposals.

- A second EPA selection panel of EPA staff from a cross-section of programs will score each full proposal and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal. The review panel will submit its finalist recommendations to the Regional selection official who will consider the review panel rankings and recommendations and in addition may consider the following factors: 1) the geographic distribution of funds, 2) the distribution across the priority funding categories (green building, environmentally preferable purchasing, anaerobic digestion, construction and demolition debris, green waste and the organic portion of the waste stream). See Section VIII. for tribal funding priorities. Selected organizations will be notified and requested to submit a full application.

Conflict of Interest: Reviewers will be required to sign a disclosure of conflict of interest form and will be removed from review of proposals where real or potential conflict of interest exists and cannot be mitigated.

Evaluation Criteria

Both Initial and Full Proposals will be reviewed by EPA using the following criteria. Why are using the same criteria to evaluate initial and final

1. Project Description (10 points)

- Does the proposal present a clear description of priority environmental problems or environmental significance of the issues which the project will address?
- Are the goals and tasks clear and concise? Are the tasks budget, timeline etc., realistic?

- Does the applicant appear qualified to successfully accomplish the proposed project?
2. **Project Objective/Goals (15 points)**
 - How well does the proposal meet one or more of the objectives listed under the Program Goals?
 - Does the proposal address a priority waste stream, a significant national environmental issue or serve an underserved area of Region 9?
 - Does the proposal specify realistic goals and objectives that deal with the environmental problems or issues identified?
 3. **Project Benefits/Impacts (40 points)**
 - Does the project include a well-conceived strategy to achieve goals and objectives?
 - Does the project leverage other resources, including in-kind contributions and make effective and judicious use of the requested federal grant funds?
 - Does the project take a creative, innovative approach and/or implement successful models from other areas?
 - Will partnerships be formed as a result of the project?
 - Will the project deliverables be transferable or useful to others?
 - Would the project benefit from EPA money, and then become self-sustaining beyond EPA funding?
 4. **Measurability of Project Results (25 points)**
 - Does the project contain clear output and or outcome measures of success? Measure of success should be either measures of environmental improvement, or should be directly linked to such measures. EPA will look for quantitative and qualitative measurability.
 - Will the project lead to measurable environmental improvements (e.g., amount of pollution prevented; waste reduced, reused, recycled, or resources conserved)?
 - Will measurable results be available within 24 months?
 - Will the project lead to the creation of jobs or other economic development?
 - Will the project effectively tracking and measuring progress toward achieving expected outputs and outcomes?
 - Does the project include an effective communication plan for the results?
 5. **Experience with EPA and other federally-funded grant programs (10 points)**

Applicants will be evaluated based on the extent to which they adequately documented the achievement of expected outputs and outcomes under EPA and other Federal agency assistance agreements performed within the last three years or adequately explained why the expected outputs and outcomes were not achieved. EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider other relevant information, including information from Agency files and from prior (and current if appropriate) grantors the applicant had agreements with. Programmatic capability will also be considered.

VI. Award Administration Information

If your proposal is selected for funding, you will need to complete a formal application, including a detailed workplan, for Federal funding. An application kit containing financial and administrative forms and general information on Federal grants will be mailed to award recipients. Blank forms may also be obtained at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/applying.html>.

Receipt of an application kit is not a guarantee of funding, nor is it an authorization to begin performance on the selected project. Deadlines must be met and the application and work plan must be approved by EPA for funding to occur.

Regulations governing the award and administration of this grant program can be found at 40 CFR Part 30 (for institutions of higher learning, hospitals, and non-profit organizations) and 40 CFR Part 31 (for States, Tribes, and local governments). Regulations may be viewed at <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/grants/regulations.html> .

All costs incurred under this program must be allowable under the applicable OMB Cost Circulars. Copies of the circulars can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars>. In certain circumstances costs incurred prior to the grant award may be eligible for reimbursement. However, this does not include any costs associated with responding to this solicitation or in finalizing the application package. If costs are incurred before the award, they are incurred at the applicant's or grantee's own risk.

Nonprofit applicants that are recommended for funding under this announcement may be subject to pre-award administrative capability reviews consistent with Sections 8.b, 8.c, and 9.d of EPA Order 5700.8, 'EPA Policy on Assessing Capabilities of Non-Profit Applicants for Managing Assistance Awards' which can be found at http://www.epa.gov/ogd/grants/award/5700_8.pdf. Nonprofit applicants that qualify for funding may, depending on the size of the award, be required to fill out and submit to the Grants Management Office the Administrative Capability Form, with supporting documents, contained in Appendix A of EPA Order 5700.8.

Quarterly project status reports and Financial Status Reports will be required. Quarterly reports should describe project activities and provide the EPA Project Officer with information about project development. The Financial Status Report must accurately account for all federal funds expended and identify appropriate use of federal funds.

Disputes: Assistance agreement competition-related disputes will be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures published in 70 FR (Federal Register) 3629, 3630 (January 26, 2005) which can be found at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-1371.html> .

Copies of these procedures may also be requested by contacting the Agency Contact listed below.

VII. Agency Contacts

Resource Conservation Funds:

Adrienne Priselac

Phone: (415) 972-3285

Fax: (415) 947-3530

Email: priselac.adrienne@epa.gov

Tribal Resource Conservation and Solid Waste Funds:

Heather White

OR

Caleb Shaffer

Phone: (415)972-3384

Phone: (415)972-3336

Fax: (415)947-3530

Fax: (415)947-3530

Email: white.heather@epa.gov

Email: shaffer.caleb@epa.gov

VIII. Other Information

Please refer to the Resource Conservation Funds Frequently Asked Questions at <http://www.epa.gov/> or call (415)972-3285 for additional information and/or questions.

For examples of projects funded in past years please see:
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/solid/projects.html>

For additional information about measurement, please see our Measurement Fact Sheet at:
http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/rcra_measurements.html

For other EPA funding opportunities:
<http://www.Grants.gov>

IX. Region 9 Tribal Resource Conservation and Solid Waste Funds - Additional Information and Eligible Activities for Tribes and Tribal Organizations in Region 9

Region 9 is also seeking proposals from tribes and tribal organizations in Region 9 for projects that promote sustainable development of tribal integrated solid waste management programs. Proposed projects may address one or more of the following goals and priorities:

- Promote the development of cleanup, closure, and post-closure programs for open dump waste sites on tribal lands through the development of planning documents and dumping prevention and enforcement programs. **Grant funds cannot pay for cleanup or construction costs.**
- Reduce the burning of residential waste (trash) through outreach, education, ordinance development and enforcement, provision of alternative solid waste disposal methods, or other innovative approaches.
- Conduct training, demonstrations, and public education programs related to solid and

household hazardous waste management strategies, including recycling, composting, or other waste reduction programs, that are protective of human health and the environment.

- Provide seed money for projects that create innovative solutions to barriers to sustainable tribal integrated solid waste management programs, including market research or feasibility studies for recycling.
- Attend, host, or provide solid waste management training. Training could include, but is not limited to, the following: household hazardous waste management training, HAZWHOPPER training, Freon removal training, etc.

In addition, tribes and tribal organizations in Region 9 may submit proposals for projects that meet one or more of the general Resource Conservation Funds (RCF) goals listed in the attached 2006 RCF solicitation.

Please refer to the attached 2006 Region 9 Resource Conservation Funds solicitation “General Information” and “Application and Selection Process” sections for information on award amounts, restrictions on uses of funds, and the general proposal submission process and timeline. Your organization may submit more than one proposal.

Environmental Results: Outputs and Outcomes

Pursuant to EPA Order 5700.5, “*Environmental Results under EPA Assistance Agreements*,” EPA requires that all grant and cooperative agreement recipients adequately address environmental outputs and outcomes. Outputs and outcomes differ both in their nature, and in how they are measured.

- **OUTPUTS:** The term “output” means an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work products related to an environmental goal and objective, that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during an assistance agreement funding period.
- **OUTCOMES:** The term “outcome” means the result, effect or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health-related or programmatic in nature, but must be quantitative. They may not necessarily be achievable within an assistance agreement funding period.

Expected outcomes from this program include, but are not limited to the following:

- increase the amount of material being recycled or composted
- increased understanding of waste being generated in the community through a waste characterization study
- reduction in burning of waste through the development of waste disposal alternatives
- increased technical capacity of tribal environmental staff by attending solid waste related trainings

Anticipated outputs from this program include:

- educational and outreach materials developed for the community
- development of an integrated waste management plan
- development of a recycling feasibility study for the community

EPA will **NOT** fund proposals to:

- **purchase capital equipment (e.g., trucks, tractors, front-loaders, etc.)**
- fund construction or construction planning
- acquire land or interest in land
- provide any subsidy for the price of recovered resources.

Tribes and tribal organizations may contact Heather White at (415) 972-3384 or Caleb Shaffer at (415)972-3336.