**Announcement to WV Energy Researchers**

**DOE EPSCoR State Implementation Grant**

The DOE EPSCoR SIP solicitation announcement for 2015 is not yet out, but if past practice holds, letters of intent will likely be due in March with full proposals due in April 2015. To give faculty sufficient time to develop proposals, we intend to have a pre-proposal competition with a due date of **5:00 PM on** **January 15, 2015**. Pre-proposals should be submitted electronically to jan.taylor@wvresearch.org. An external review will be conducted with the goal of having the top team notified by the middle of February. To facilitate review of the pre-proposals, you are encouraged to **submit a letter of intent with a brief description of your proposal topic area by January 5, 2015.**

Recent solicitations for this program have not changed significantly over the past few years. The 2014 solicitation can be found at <http://science.energy.gov/~/media/grants/pdf/foas/2014/SC_FOA_0001087.pdf>.

 The first three pages of the pre-proposal should address these DOE EPSCoR-specific issues:

1. Applications must present opportunities for enhanced academic research and development competitiveness and if appropriate, industrial or economic competitiveness, for the jurisdiction including plans for acquisition of sustained non-EPSCoR support.

2. Applications must exhibit a coherent focus on one energy-related research area bringing together multiple researchers. The DOE EPSCoR program highlights workforce development through the use of students, postdocs and junior faculty on projects. Proposals that only support senior, well-funded investigators will be at a disadvantage in the review process. Multi-institutional proposals are encouraged.

3. Applications must present a management plan for coordinating multiple investigators working on a common theme. This must include performance milestones and a timetable for achieving project goals and deliverables. Previous experience indicates that strong external advisory boards are a useful tool for managing Implementation Grant awards. DOE EPSCoR strongly encourages their regular use.

4. Applications must identify the topical research area or areas with respect to the relevant DOE Program Office or Offices and the Office's specific program goals and provide evidence that the relevant program office within DOE is willing to provide the required 10% co-funding for the EPSCoR proposal. Investigators should start this process early to obtain commitments by the January 15 deadline. An email from the DoE program manager is sufficient to document the commitment. Please include a copy of the email in this section.

The fourth page should describe the budget (annual expenditures that fall within the expected $1M to $2.5M per year DOE EPSCoR range) for the proposed project.

Technical advice is available from Dr. Richard Bajura, the State DOE EPSCoR Coordinator (rbajura@mail.wvu.edu). Check the [www.wvresearch.org](http://www.wvresearch.org) website for additional helpful information that may be posted.

In addition to the four-page pre-proposal, please provide the following information on the template provided for this use on our website:

Name, Academic Rank, Department, and Institution if different from the PI’s for each member of the research team

Name and organization of any other collaborators