

NUCLEAR DIVISION NEWS

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Selection procedure outlined

'Request for Proposal' lists major requirements

With the issuance of its "Request for Proposal," the Department of Energy has taken an important step in its selection procedure for a successor contractor to operate the Nuclear Division facilities.

The 276-page document contains information on the nature of the work, qualification and evaluation criteria, representations and certifications, instructions for preparing proposals, and a copy of the proposed contract document.

DOE interests

DOE is seeking specific experience in the management, operation and maintenance of large complex manufacturing, process, and research and development facilities in the following areas:

1. Sophisticated materials working and fabrication to extremely high precision standards utilizing state-of-the-art technologies;

2. Chemical and mechanical engineering and process development and conceptual studies through commercial production; and
3. Broad research and development programs ranging from basic and applied development programs in physical, life and engineering sciences.

Other items DOE will be looking at include: experience in operation of quality assurance programs appropriate to a variety of activities; experience in the conduct of environmental, health and safety programs involving nuclear and nonnuclear materials, processes and facilities; and experience in the management and performance of common support services required for a large complex operation.

In the area of employee relations, DOE will be looking at experience in dealing with labor unions, in personnel administration (including wage and salary administration and equal employment opportunity programs), and the

plan for formulating and implementing compensation and labor relations programs for the contract.

DOE has indicated to the prospective contractors that it is interested in their management approach, proposed organizational structure, and evidence of appropriate delegation of authority to assure viability of activities between DOE contract operations and the contractor's parent company. Prospective contractors will have to furnish a plan for taking over responsibilities from Union Carbide.

DOE also is seeking "interest and commitment" of the prospective contractors' corporate management to achieve excellence in the contract operation.

Status of employees

One of the major items included under qualification criteria is "continuity of employment." Here, DOE explains: "The proposer must state its willingness to (a) employ the bulk of the personnel currently employed; (b) take over the Union Carbide Corporation-Nuclear Division noncontributory pension program for both past and future service; (c) credit employee service with Union Carbide toward any length of service requirements of the replacement contractor for such fringe benefits as vacation and sick leave; and (d) recognize and negotiate in good faith with the current bargaining agents."

With respect to the "bulk of employees," DOE defines these as being all employees other than those holding 27 "key" positions.

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Corporation reports net-income decline

Union Carbide Corporation has reported first-quarter 1983 net income of \$48.1 million, a 47 percent decline from the \$90.8-million figure reported in the first quarter of 1982.

Earnings per share were 69 cents, compared with \$1.32 in the 1982 first quarter. First-quarter 1983 net income and earnings per share were 59 percent and 64 percent higher, respectively, than results of the prior quarter.

Sales for the 1983 first quarter were \$2.19 billion, down 5 percent from the 1982 first-quarter total of \$2.31 billion.

First-quarter results benefited from advance sales of uranium, which provided a net gain of approximately \$10 million.



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