

**FFRDC Determination for a Contract Competition**

**APPROVAL TO CONTINUE SPONSORSHIP OF  
THE [insert the name of the laboratory/site/facility]  
AS A FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

The [insert the name of the laboratory/site/facility] is a Department of Energy (DOE) Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) managed and operated by [insert the name of the contractor] under DOE Contract [insert contract number]. The current contract, which serves as the sponsoring agreement, expires [insert date]. [insert one or two sentences briefly describing the laboratory/site/facility mission]. Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 35.017-4 provides for the Head of the sponsoring Agency to approve the continuance of the sponsorship of the FFRDC.

A new sponsoring agreement is currently being procured by the DOE [insert DOE office name], under Request for Proposals (RFP) number [insert RFP number]. The resultant contract from this competitive RFP will include a base period of [insert number of years] years with a [option or award term]/*select appropriate clause* clause that allows the contract to be extended for up to an additional [insert number of years] years. It is anticipated that the new contract will be in place by [insert date].

As Head of the Agency, as defined in FAR 2.101, I hereby determine, pursuant to FAR 35.017-4, that: (1) the technical needs and mission requirements performed by the FFRDC continue to exist at a level consistent with current needs; (2) consideration has been given to alternative sources in meeting DOE's needs; (3) in accordance with current annual assessments of the FFRDC's performance, the FFRDC continues to maintain a high level of performance in meeting the sponsor's needs; (4) the FFRDC has maintained an adequate and cost-effective operation; and (5) the criteria for establishing the FFRDC continue to be satisfied and the sponsoring agreement is in compliance with FAR 35.017-1. Accordingly, I approve the continued operation of [insert the name of the laboratory/site/facility] as a DOE FFRDC for a five year period that will be effective on the date of the new contract award. **[Note - The term of a FFRDC cannot exceed 5 years]**

\_\_\_\_\_  
[insert the Secretary of Energy's name]  
Secretary of Energy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date