procedures devices; and to provide training to all mining personnel before the proposed alternative method is implemented. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

#### **Request for Comments**

Persons interested in these petitions may furnish written comments. These comments must be filed with the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 627, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before February 28, 1997. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated: January 22, 1997.

Patricia W. Silvey,

Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances.

[FR Doc. 97–2122 Filed 1–28–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4510–43–P

# NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

# Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92– 463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

*Name:* Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences (1756).

*Date and Time:* February 21, 1997; 8:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

*Place:* Room #770, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Michael Mayhew, Program Director, Education and Human Resources Program, Division of Earth Sciences, Room 785, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306–1557.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Applications as part of the selection process for awards.

*Reason for Closing:* The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act. Dated: January 24, 1997. M. Rebecca Winkler, *Committee Management Officer.* [FR Doc. 97–2228 Filed 1–28–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

### Special Emphasis Panel in Human Resource Development; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92– 463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

Name and Committee Code: Special Emphasis Panel in Human Resource Development (#1199)

*Date and Time:* February 20, 1997: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; February 21, 1997: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 330, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

*Contact Person*: Dr. Bobby Wilson, Program Director, Human Resource Development Division, Room 815, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230 Telephone: (703) 306– 1634.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate formal proposals submitted to the Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) Program as part of the selection process for awards.

*Reason for Closing:* The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 24, 1997.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–2227 Filed 1–28–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

# Advisory Panel for Long Term Projects in Environmental Biology; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92– 463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

*Name:* Advisory Panel for Long Term Projects in Environmental Biology.

*Date and Time:* February 24–26, 1997. *Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 310, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Meredith Lane, Division of Environmental Biology, Room 635, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306–1481.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate Biotic Surveys and Inventory proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

*Reason for Closing:* The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 24, 1997.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-2226 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## Special Emphasis Panel in Physics; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces that a Special Emphasis Panel in Physics (1208) will be holding telephone conferences for the purpose of reviewing proposals submitted to the Theoretical Physics Program. In order to review the large volume of proposals, telephone panel conferences will be held February 18-21(6), and February 24-28(6), 1997. All meetings will be closed to the public and will be held at the National Science Foundation, Room 1015, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA between 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Boris Kayser, Program Director for Theoretical Physics, Division of Physics, Room 1015, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306–1889.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

*Reason for Closing:* The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), 4 and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 24, 1997.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–2225 Filed 1–28–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 7555–01–M