

deflation of the U.S. Trade statistics and the Gross Domestic Product; the indexes are also used in formulating U.S. trade policy and in trade negotiations with other countries. In the private sector, uses of the Import Price Indexes include market analysis, inflation forecasting, contract escalation, and replacement cost accounting.

The IPP indexes are closely followed statistics which are viewed as sensitive indicators of the economic environment. The Department of Commerce uses the monthly statistics to produce monthly and quarterly estimates of inflation-adjusted trade flows. Without continuation of data collection, it would be extremely difficult to construct accurate estimates of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product. In addition, Federal policy-makers in the Department of the

Treasury, the Council of Economic Advisors, and the Federal Reserve Board utilize these statistics on a regular basis to improve these agencies' formulation and evaluation of monetary and fiscal policy, and evaluation of the general business environment.

Current Actions

The IPP continues to modernize data collection and processing to permit more timely release of its indexes and to reduce reporting burden. The IPP is using the telephone rather than personal visits for initiation in limited situations. We believe that initiation by telephone reduces reporting burden with no loss in response. Other potential initiation techniques to reduce burden being reviewed include less frequent sampling of more stable item areas, use of broader

item areas in certain cases, and retention of items initiated in previous samples which reporters still trade. To reduce the time required for processing new items, direct entry of initiation data from the field will be tested. Also, for repricing, the use of fax telephone lines to permit direct collection and entry into our database is being considered. In addition, use of the Internet for monthly repricing is being reviewed, contingent upon the resolution of questions relating to the security of the data.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Title: International Price Program—U.S. Import Price Indexes.

OMB Number: 1220-0026.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Form	Total respondents	Frequency	Total annual responses	Average time per response (hrs.)	Estimated total burden (hrs.)
3007B	1,725	Annually	1,725	1	1,725
3008	1,725	Annually	1,725	.334	576.15
3007D	3,235	Monthly/Quarterly	38,540	.56	21,582.4
Total	4,960	41,990	23,884

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 6th day of March, 1997.

W. Stuart Rust, Jr.,

Acting Chief, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[FR Doc. 97-6148 Filed 3-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-24-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Proposed Collection: Comment Request

Title of Collection: Public Understanding of and Attitudes Toward Science and Technology.

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3508(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the National Science Foundation (NSF) publishes periodic summaries of proposed projects. Such a notice was published at Federal Register 67350,

dated December 20, 1996. No comments were received.

The materials are now being sent to OMB for review. Send any written comments to Desk Officer, OMB, 3145-033, OIRA, OMB, Washington, D.C. 20503. OMB should receive comments within 30 days after the date of this notice.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility, (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated data collection techniques and other forms of information.

Proposed Project: Study of the Public Understanding of and Attitudes Toward Science and Technology—New—A telephone survey of approximately 2,000 adults aged 18 and over.

The proposed survey continues a series of national surveys of public understanding of and attitudes toward science and technology that began in 1972. It is used in the preparation of a chapter in the Science and Engineering

Indicators reports by the National Science Board, as mandated by Section 4(j)(l) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. The Science and Engineering Indicators report and the chapter on public understanding and attitudes are widely used by planners and program development staff in: federal and state agencies, universities, research centers, and similar institutions, and by journalists and other individuals seeking to communicate with the public concerning science and technology. The average burden per respondent is estimated to be 22 minutes, producing a total burden of 733 hours for the complete study.

Dated: March 6, 1997.

Gail A. McHenry,

NSF Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-6070 Filed 3-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Special Emphasis Panel in Networking and Communications Research and Infrastructure; 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 for Connections to the Internet Panel (#1207).

Date and Time: March 26–27, 1997; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 1175, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person(s): Mark Luker, Program Director, CISE/NCRI, Room 1175, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306–1950.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate proposals submitted for the Connections to the Internet Program.

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: March 7, 1997.

Linda Allen-Benton,

Deputy Director, Division of Human Resource Management, Acting Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–6225 Filed 3–11–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Public Hearing in Atlanta, Georgia: Aviation Accident

In connection with its investigation of the accident involving Delta Air Lines, Inc. Flight 1288, MD–88, N927DA, Pensacola Regional Airport, Pensacola, Florida, July 6, 1996, the National Transportation Safety Board will convene a public hearing at 9:00 a.m., (est.) on March 26, 1997, in Ballroom A, at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers Hotel, located at 255 Courtland Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. For more information, contact Shelly Hazle, Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20594, telephone (202) 314–6100.

Dated: March 7, 1997.

Bea Hardesty,

Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 97–6192 Filed 3–11–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7533–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–293]

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR–35 issued to Boston Edison Company (BECO, the licensee) for operation of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station located in Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

The proposed amendment would review and approve the engineering analysis used to evaluate the effects of damping values in the seismic analysis of various Pilgrim Station piping systems. Following NRC approval, BECO would revise the Pilgrim Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) to make the above engineering analysis the design basis of record for the affected piping systems provided in the licensee's January 24, 1997, letter, as supplemented on February 13 and 27, 1997.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

(1) Involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The engineering evaluation referenced above compared newly generated in-structure response spectra for the reactor building using an enhanced reactor building model and included the effects of soil/structure interaction. The results show the new spectra are enveloped by a comparable UFSAR design basis spectra and that piping stresses

are less than design basis allowables. The new spectra differ from the current UFSAR response spectra in that the generic Regulatory Guide 1.60 spectral shape is used to characterize the 0.15g Safe Shutdown Earthquake control motion using a soil/structure interaction analysis with an upgraded structural model to evaluate building response and ASME Code Case N411 damping values for piping analyses.

The new piping stresses computed, as described above, result in less than design basis allowables. Since the stresses are acceptable and the methods to compute them used applicable Standard Review Plan (SRP) guidance, the proposed UFSAR revision does not significantly increase the probability of loss-of-coolant accidents (i.e., piping failures) nor significantly reduce the reliability of piping needed to mitigate the consequences of accidents. Therefore, the proposed revision does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

(2) Create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The revision relates to the method used to compute the response of structures and piping to seismic excitation and does not introduce a new type of failure mode. Since no new accident initiators are created, no new types of accidents can occur. Therefore, the proposed revision does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

(3) Involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The margin of safety for affected piping systems is reduced because the new response spectra results in a reduction of the computed seismic stresses compared to those computed using current UFSAR response spectra. However, this reduction in margin is not significant because the resulting piping stresses are less than design basis allowable values, and the methods used to compute response spectra associated with the 0.15 g Safe Shutdown Earthquake were determined using applicable NRC SRP guidance. Thus, although margin of safety for the affected piping is reduced, it is not a significant reduction in the margin of safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that