

Dated: July 21, 1997.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-19523 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences: Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences (1756).

Date and Time: August 18, 19 and 20, 8:30 a.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, Room 770.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Ms. Jewel Prendeville, Program Coordinator for the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research and Lower Atmospheric Facility Oversight Section; Division of Atmospheric Sciences; Room 775; 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22230; telephone number (703) 306-1521.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals as part of the selection process of awards.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Professional Opportunities for Women in Research and Education (POWRE) 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 exempted under 5 U.S.C. 552b (c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated July 21, 1997.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Office.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Networking & Communications Research & 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 Panel in Networking & Communications Research & Infrastructure (1207).

Date and Time: August 21-22, 1997; 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Place: Rooms 1175 National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Mark Luker, Program Director, CISE/NCRI, Room 1175, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 725, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1950.

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

Agenda: Reverse site visit to review and evaluate Very High-Speed Backbone Network Service (vBNS) 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: July 21, 1997.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 040-7580]

Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing on Renewal of Source Material License SMB-911 for Fansteel, Inc. in Muskogee, Oklahoma

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Finding of no significant impact and notice of opportunity for a hearing on renewal of source material license SMB-911 for Fansteel, Inc. in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering the renewal of Source Material License SMB-911 for the recovery of Work in Progress (WIP) pond residues at the Fansteel, Inc. (Fansteel) plant located in Muskogee, Oklahoma. The facility will process on-site pond residues to recover valuable metals and to reduce the volume of on-site radioactive materials. The staff has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action, because the renewal will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment for reasons described in the Environmental Assessment (EA).

Summary of the Environmental Assessment

Background

Fansteel has been licensed by the NRC to possess and use source materials at their Muskogee, Oklahoma plant since January 1967. Fansteel was authorized to process ore concentrates and tin slags in the production of refined tantalum products. Fansteel ceased operations in 1990, but on June 20, 1994, submitted a renewal application to reprocess WIP residues located on-site, which were generated as a result of the initial hydrofluoric acid digestion of the ore concentrates. The WIP process will isolate the radioactivity such that the bulk of the WIP material can be used commercially while minimizing the volume of material sent for radioactive waste disposal.

Fansteel's current license expired in July 1994. However, because Fansteel submitted a renewal application on June 20, 1994, the existing license continues to be effective until the application for renewal has been finally determined by the staff in accordance with the timely renewal provision of 10 CFR 40.42(a)(1).

On March 25, 1997, Fansteel was granted an amendment to their license to allow processing of the WIP residues. Renewal of the license was not completed at that time due to unresolved decommissioning issues. Specifically, Fansteel has proposed to dispose of contaminated soils in an on-site containment cell. An EA is currently under development by the NRC, which considers this disposal option. However, the NRC staff has determined that the issue of on-site disposal of contaminated soils will be resolved as a separate licensing action, and, therefore, the NRC staff is now considering renewal of the license.

An EA dated June 17, 1996, was prepared to support the March 25, 1997, WIP amendment and a FONSI was published in the **Federal Register** on June 24, 1996 (61 FR 32466). The scope of the EA included processing of the WIP material, associated waste treatment processes, as well as groundwater remediation. Because the scope of this EA includes all processes to be authorized in renewal of the Fansteel license, the FONSI for license renewal is based on the WIP amendment EA.

Following issuance of the amendment authorizing WIP processing, Fansteel indicated that in conjunction with recovery of metal values from the WIP residues Fansteel also plans to recover fluorides from the waste treatment ponds. This activity, like on-site