

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION****Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research; Notice of Meeting**

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

*Name and Committee Code:* Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research #1203.  
*Date & Time:* November 25, 1997; 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

*Place:* NSF Conference Room 1060, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Carmen Huber, Program Director, Division of Materials Research, Room 1065, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, Telephone: (703) 306-1996.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning support for the 1998 Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Site competition in the area of materials research.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate proposals submitted to NSF as a part of the selection process for awards.

*Reason for Closing:* The activity being evaluated may 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: October 31, 1997.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-29320 Filed 11-5-97; 8:45 am]

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**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION****Advisory Panel for Social and Political Science; Notice of Meetings**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, and amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meetings:

*Name:* Advisory Panel for Social and Political Science (#1761).

*Date and Time:* November 20-21, 1997; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Place:* Department of Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1472.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Frank Scioli and Dr. Rick Wilson, Program Directors for Political Science, National Science Foundation. Telephone: (703) 306-1761.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate the political science proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

*Date & Time:* December 8-9, 1997; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, Stafford Place, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 970, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Harmon Hosch, Program Director, Law and Social Science, National Science Foundation. Telephone (703) 306-1762.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate the Law and Social Science Proposals as a part of the selection process for awards.

*Date & Time:* December 11-12, 1997 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, Stafford Place, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 380, Arlington, VA 22230

*Contact Person:* Dr. William S. Bainbridge, National Science Foundation, Telephone (703) 306-1756

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate the Sociology proposals as a part of the selection process for awards.

*Type of Meetings:* Closed

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning support for research proposals submitted to the 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: October 31, 1997.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[Docket No. 50-416]

**Exemption**

In the matter of Entergy Operations, Inc., System Energy Resources, Inc., South Mississippi Electric Power Association, Entergy Mississippi, Inc.; (Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1)

**I**

Entergy Operations, Inc. (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. NPF-29, which authorizes operation of Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (GGNS). The operating license provides, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) now and hereafter in effect.

The facility is a General Electric boiling water reactor at the licensee's site in Claiborne County, Mississippi.

**II**

Title 10 CFR 70.24, "Criticality Accident Requirements," paragraph (a) states, in part, that "Each licensee authorized to possess special nuclear material [SNM] in a quantity exceeding 700 grams of contained uranium-235, 520 grams of contained uranium-233, 450 grams of plutonium, 1,500 grams of contained uranium-235 if no uranium enriched to more than 4 percent by weight of uranium-235 is present, 450 grams of any combination thereof, or one-half such quantities if massive moderators or reflectors made of graphite, heavy water or beryllium may be present, shall maintain in each area in which such licensed special nuclear material is handled, used, or stored, a monitoring system meeting the requirements of [10 CFR 70.24](a)(1) or (a)(2), as appropriate, and using gamma- or neutron-sensitive radiation detectors which will energize clearly audible alarm signals if accidental criticality occurs. This section is not intended to require underwater monitoring when special nuclear material is handled or stored beneath water shielding or to require monitoring systems when special nuclear material is being transported when packaged in accordance with the requirements of Part 71 [(i.e., 10 CFR Part 71, "Packaging and Transportation of Radioactive Material,")] of this chapter."

The licensee meets the quantity criteria in 10 CFR 70.24(a) and is, therefore, required to have a criticality accident monitoring system in each area in which SNM in any form is handled, used, or stored. The licensee has proposed an exemption to this requirement for the storage of two forms of SNM at the site: (1) not-in-use in-core nuclear instrumentation (e.g., source range monitors) and (2) onsite unirradiated fuel. For the unirradiated fuel, the exemption is requested for the following cases:

- The interval when the fuel, packaged for shipment to the site in accordance with 10 CFR Part 71, is taken from the shipping truck to the plant area where the Part 71 packaging is removed.
- The storage of the unirradiated fuel in the new fuel vault (NFV), instead of the spent fuel pool, after the packaging is removed.

The very small quantity of SNM present in the nuclear instrumentation is in the form of thin coatings within the instrumentation and the unirradiated fuel assemblies would only be removed from the NRC-approved packaging in areas where criticality monitors are in use, and stored in either the NFV or the