

The applicant proposes to capture and restrain 6 adult Emperor penguins for 30 minutes while a 260 gram satellite transmitter is glued to the feathers. The transmitters expected to remain attached for three months before shedding. Twenty Emperor penguins will be captured and held for twenty minutes. During captivity stomach samples will be obtained by stomach lavage. These procedures are the only means of determining diet preferences, diving behavior and distribution patterns of individual birds in the Ross Sea. None of this information is known about Emperor penguins occurring in the Ross Sea during the winter.

*Location:* Ross Sea pack ice. Access is via the R/V Nathaniel B. Palmer.

*Dates:* May 1, 1998 to August 1, 1998.

**Permit Application: 99-002**

2. *Applicant:* William R. Fraser, Department of Biology, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Taking, and Import Into the U.S.

The applicant, as a participant in the Long-Term Ecological Research Program (LTER), is seeking to understand the factors that control the abundance and distribution of seabirds within and between seasons in the LTER study region. Part of this research encompasses understanding seasonal variability in the diets of the region's most common seabirds, of which the early winter period still remains of the least known and one of the most important from an ecological perspective. Research on seabirds in general suggests that winter feeding conditions may determine the survival of annual cohorts and breeding adults, and adult breeding condition in spring, in effect, some of the key variables that influence long-term demography.

The applicant proposes to capture up to 100 Adelie penguins, 100 Chinstrap penguins and 50 Emperor penguins in order to weigh, measure and obtain stomach contents through stomach lavage. The applicant also proposes to kill up to 75 Snow Petrels, 50 Southern Fulmars and 75 Antarctic Petrels in order to obtain measurements, weights and study stomach contents. These seabirds will then be imported into the U.S. for subsequent distribution to museums and teaching collections at various institutions, thus ensuring the full use of these specimens.

*Location:* Bellingshausen Sea, vicinity of Marguerite Bay. Access is via the R/V Lawrence M. Gould.

*Dates:* May 1, 1998 to September 1, 1998.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 98-5611 Filed 3-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

**Special Emphasis Panel In Biological Sciences; 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 Biological Sciences (#1754).

*Date & Time:* March 26-27, 1998 at 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

*Location:* Room 370, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. James T. Callahan, Program Director, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 615, Arlington, Virginia 22230, (703) 306-1469.

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

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate research proposals, submitted to being considered by the Research Collections in Systematics and Ecology Programs as part of the selection process for awards.

*Reasons 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 Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: March 2, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-5745 Filed 3-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

**Earth Sciences Proposal Review Panel; Meeting**

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

*Name:* Earth Sciences Proposal Review Panel (1569).

*Date and Time:* March 25, 1998; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Leonard E. Johnson, Program Director, Continental Dynamics Program, Division of Earth Sciences, Room 785, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230; Telephone: (703) 306-1559.

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

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate Continental Dynamics 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: March 2, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-5748 Filed 3-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

**Special Emphasis Panel in Experimental and Integrative Activities; 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 Experimental and Integrative Activities (1193).

*Date and Time:* March 24, 1998; 8:30 am-5:00 pm.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 360, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person(s):* Michael Foster, Program Director, CISE/EIA, Room 1160, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1980.

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

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate CISE Advanced Resources for Experiments (CARE) 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: March 2, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-5747 Filed 3-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences; 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:* March 25-27, 1998; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

*Place:* University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (USCAR)/UNIDATA, 3300 Mitchell Lane, Suite 170, Boulder, CO 80301.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Clifford Jacobs, Section Head for the USCAR and Lower Atmosphere Facilities Oversight Section, Division of Atmospheric Sciences, Room 775, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone (703) 306-1521.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide and make recommendations concerning the renewal proposal of the five year award to operate the UNIDATA Program Center under management of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR).

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate the renewal proposal for the five year award to operate the UNIDATA Program Center under management of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR).

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

Dated: March 2, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-5750 Filed 3-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Special Emphasis Panel in Human Resource Development; 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:* March 23-24, 1998; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Rooms 310 and 320, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Margrete Klein, Program Director, Human Resource Development Division, Room 815, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230 Telephone: (703) 306-1637.

*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 Women and Girls 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 2, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-5749 Filed 3-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Special Emphasis Panel in Mathematical Sciences; 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 in Mathematical Sciences (1204).

*Date and Time:* March 23-25, 1998, 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M.

*Place:* Room 365, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Ann Boyle, Program Director, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1875.

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

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate proposals concerning the Grants for Vertical Integration of Research and Education in the Mathematical Sciences 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: March 2, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-5746 Filed 3-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-250 and 50-251]

### Florida Power and Light Company; (Turkey Point Units 3 and 4); Exemption

#### I

Florida Power and Light Company (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-31 and DPR-41, which authorize operation of Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 (the facility) at a steady-state reactor power level not in excess of 2300 megawatts thermal per unit. The facility is a pressurized-water reactor located at the licensee's site in Dade County, Florida. The licenses provide, among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC) now or hereafter in effect.

#### II

In exemptions dated March 27, 1984, and August 12, 1987, the staff approved the use of 1-hour rated fire barriers in lieu of 3-hour barriers in certain outdoor areas at Turkey Point Units 3 and 4. In addition, the staff found that, for certain outdoor areas not protected by automatic fire detection and suppression systems, separation of cables and equipment and associated nonsafety circuits of redundant trains by a horizontal distance of 20 feet free of intervening combustibles provided an acceptable level of fire safety.

Based on the results of the industry's Thermo-Lag fire endurance testing program, the licensee concluded that the outdoor Thermo-Lag fire barrier designs cannot achieve a 1-hour fire resistive rating but can achieve a 30-minute fire resistive rating when exposed to a test fire that follows the ASTM E-119 standard time-temperature curve. Because of these test results, the licensee in a letter dated June 15, 1994, requested an exemption to use 30-minute fire barriers for outdoor applications in lieu of the 1-hour fire barriers previously approved; however, the exemption request was withdrawn by letter dated June 28, 1996.

In a letter dated December 12, 1996, the licensee submitted an exemption request (evaluated herein) for outdoor