

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Occupational Safety and Health Administration****Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health: Notice of Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

**ACTION:** Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health: Notice of Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH), established under Section 7 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to advise the Secretary of Labor on issues relating to occupational safety and health programs, policies, and standards in the maritime industries in the United States, will meet in Hampton, Virginia on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 22 and 23, 1998.

**DATES:** The Committee will meet on September 22 and 23, 1998. On September 22, the Committee will meet from 9:00 A.M. until approximately 5:00 P.M.; on September 23, the Committee will meet from 8:30 A.M. until approximately 5:00 P.M.

**ADDRESSES:** The Committee will meet in Ballroom B at the Radisson Hotel Hampton, 700 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton, Virginia 23669 ((757) 727-9700).

Mail comments views, or statements in response to this notice to Larry Liberatore, Maritime Facilitator, Office of Maritime Standards, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3621, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. Phone: (202) 219-8061; Fax: (202) 219-7477.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bonnie Friedman, Director, Office of Information and Consumer Affairs, OSHA; Phone: (202) 219-8151.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** All interested persons are invited to attend the public meetings of MACOSH at the time and place indicated above. Individuals with disabilities wishing to attend should contact Theda Kenney at (202) 219-8061 no later than September 14, 1998, to obtain appropriate accommodations.

**Meeting Agenda**

This meeting will include discussion of the OSHA shipyard strategic planning goals; vertical tandem lifts in the marine cargo handling environment; ship scrapping initiatives and developments; training partnerships; use of hanging scaffolds in shipyards; general OSHA

update, including a standards update and an update on the shipyard fire protection negotiated rulemaking committee.

**Public Participation**

Written data, views, or comments for consideration by MACOSH on the various agenda items listed above may be submitted, preferably with 25 copies, to Larry Liberatore at the address provided above. Submissions received by September 10, 1998, will be provided to the members of the committee and will be included in the record of the meeting. Requests to make oral presentations to the Committee may be granted if time permits. Anyone wishing to make an oral presentation to the Committee on any of the agenda items noted above should notify Larry Liberatore at the address listed above. The request should state the amount of time desired, the capacity in which the person will appear, and a brief outline of the content of the presentation.

**Authority:** This notice is issued under the authority of sections 6(b)(1) and 7(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 655, 656, the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), and 29 CFR part 1912.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 20th day of August, 1998.

**Charles N. Jeffress,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

[FR Doc. 98-23087 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-26-M**

**NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM****Telecommunications Service Priority System Oversight Committee**

**AGENCY:** National Communications System (NCS).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

A meeting of the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System Oversight Committee will convene Tuesday, September 29, 1998, from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the National Communications System, 701 S. Court House Road, Arlington VA.

- Opening/Administrative Remarks.
- Status of the TSP Program.
- CPAS Update.
- Y2K Compliance & Implications.

Anyone interested in attending or presenting additional information to the Committee, please contact CDR Lynne Hicks, Manager, TSP Program Office,

(703) 607-4930, or Betty Hoskin (703) 607-4932 by September 15, 1998.

**Frank McClelland,**

*Technology & Standards Division.*

[FR Doc. 98-23062 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8001-08-M**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION****Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541)**

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit applications received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to these permit applications by September 25, 1998. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 306-1030.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-541), has developed regulations that implement the "Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora" for all United States citizens. The Agreed Measures, developed by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, recommended establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas a requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Specially Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

The applications received are as follows:

Permit Application No. 99-003

1. *Applicant:* Wayne Z. Trivelpiece, Department of Biology, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Take, Enter Site of Special Scientific Interest and Import into the U.S.A. The applicant is continuing a study of the behavioral ecology and population biology of the Adelie, Gentoo, and Chinstrap penguins and the interactions among these species and their principal avian predators: skuas, gulls, sheathbills, and giant petrels. The applicant proposes to band 1000 Adelie and Gentoo penguin chicks, plus adults of all three penguin species, as needed (not greater than 150 per species), to fulfill research goals. In addition, bands will be applied to adults and chicks of the avian predator species as necessary. The applicant will continue a study of the penguins' foraging habits which involves the application of radio-transmitters (TxS), satellite tags (PTTs), and time-depth recorders (TDRs) to a maximum of 50 adult penguins per species. The study of foraging habits also involves the stomach pumping of a maximum of 40 adult penguins per species. Finally the applicant will collect one (1) milliliter blood samples from a maximum of 20 breeding adults of each penguin species for use in DNA analysis.

The applicant also proposes to salvage carcasses and skeletons of penguins and Antarctic flying birds for import into the U.S. for educational and scientific study purposes. The salvaged specimens will be returned to Montana State University for public display and teaching aids in educational programs.

*Location:* Admiralty Bay (SSSI #8), King George Island, South Shetland Islands.

*Dates:* September 25, 1998 to April 1, 1999.

Permit Application No. 99-004

2. *Applicant:* Donald B. Siniff, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, 100 Ecology Building, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Taking, Export from the U.S. and Import into the U.S. The applicant proposes to continue a long-term study of the Weddell seal population surrounding McMurdo Station by tagging, collection of blood, tissue and stomach samples and attaching VHF and satellite-linked radio transmitters. Up to 600 pups and 500 adult Weddell seals will be handled. Tags will be attached to all pups born into the McMurdo Sound population and tags will be replaced on those adults who

have lost their tags. Blood and tissue samples will be collected for current and future research examining the behavioral ecology, paternity and genetic relatedness within and between seal colonies. Additionally, blood samples will be used for examination of blood hormones, blood chemistry and blood parasites and various health parameters. Stomach samples will be taken to supplement the scant data on Weddell seal prey species. These samples will be analyzed in McMurdo or returned to the home institutions in the U.S. VHF transmitters will be attached to the dorsal pelage of male seals using a marine epoxy. The transmitters will permit tracking of the seals local movements around the colonies and time spent above and below the surface throughout the 24 hour day, which may assist in correlating activity with paternity, as determined from the genetic data. The transmitters will be removed or will fall off during the annual molt. The satellite-linked radio transmitters will be attached to the dorsal pelage of adults and pups, which will allow tracking of the seals during the winter-over period. Demographic data collected over the years has shown that pups tagged within the study area are rarely seen for 4-5 years following tagging. The transmitters will help determine where the pups go and will also collect extremely rare data on the adult movements of seals during the winter-over months. Finally the applicant proposes to salvage parts of seal carcasses and import them into the U.S. for use in educational training and research. All captured seals will be released unharmed.

Furthermore, the applicant proposes to export a skull of an Antarctic Weddell seal (*Leptonychotes weddellii*) from the University of Minnesota, through Los Angeles International Airport to McMurdo Station, Antarctica. This skull was salvaged from a dead seal found in McMurdo Sound in 1996 and shipped back to the United States. It is being returned for permanent display in the Cray Science and Engineering Center at McMurdo Station. The skull will serve as an education tool. This particular seal was tagged in 1971 and returned to McMurdo Sound to breed and give birth a minimum of 11 times. Displays such as this are helpful in educating the public to the benefit and productivity of a long term research program.

*Location:* McMurdo Station and McMurdo Sound, Antarctica.

*Dates:* October 1, 1998 to January 31, 2002.

Permit Application No. 99-005

3. *Applicant:* Donald B. Siniff, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, 100 Ecology Building, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Taking, enter Site of special Scientific Interest and Import into the U.S. The applicant proposes to enter the White Island, Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 18, for the purpose of studying the Weddell seal colony. The White Island seal population has been a focus of interest dating to the early 1960's. This group of seals represents a isolated population that is very small and the evidence suggests it has very limited exchange of individuals with the McMurdo Sound population. Since intensive censusing was begun in the late 1980's, no new untagged adults have appeared in the population. Thus, the genetics of this population is of interest because of the possibility of increasing the understanding of such concepts as inbreeding depression and genetic drift. All pups born in this colony since 1991 have been tagged, and in 1997 there was evidence of a pup born to an individual tagged as a pup in 1991. This observation supports the speculation of little or no emigration from the colony. The applicant proposes to set up a temporary camp at White Island that would be occupied by 3-4 people for up to one week in order to continue tagging seal pups and collecting tissue and blood samples for further study. The one week stay is long enough to ensure that each individual at the colony has been identified, which is vital to accurate predictions of population size and relatedness between individuals.

*Location:* North-west White Island, McMurdo Sound (SSSI #18).

*Dates:* October 1, 1998 to January 31, 1999.

Permit Application No. 99-006

4. *Applicant:* Arthur L. DeVries, Ecology, Ethology & Evolution, 515 Morrill Hall, University of Illinois, 505 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

*Activity for Which Permits is Requested:* Introduce Non-Indigenous Species into Antarctica. The applicant proposes to transport 15 New Zealand black cod (*Notothenia angustata*) to the McMurdo Station aquarium where the cod will be cold acclimated in a closed sea-water system. The cod will be used in experiments to determine the role of antifreeze glycopeptides in freezing avoidance and for isolating DNA. The DNA will be screened for the presence of an "unexpressed" antifreeze

glycopeptide gene. Sensitive blood serum freezing habit tests suggest that cold acclimated black cod synthesize small amounts of antifreeze glycopeptide after acclimation to +4° C for 6 weeks.

Some specimens will be injected with purified antifreeze glycopeptides to determine if the presence of the antifreeze glycopeptides in the circulation is sufficient to provide avoidance of freezing or if the antifreeze glycopeptides need to be integrated into the membranes of protected cells by synthetic processes. In addition, some specimens will be injected with small ice crystals and the fate of the ice determined.

The integument of the cod will also be used in experiments to determine whether it is a barrier to ice propagation due to its physical properties or whether antifreeze glycopeptides provide a physio-chemical barrier in conjunction with the integument. The brain lipids will also be analyzed to determine the degree of unsaturation of the phospholipid fatty acids. Upon completion of the experiments, the black cod will be sacrificed and preserved in formalin.

*Location:* McMurdo Station, Ross Island, Antarctica.

*Dates:* October 1, 1998 to February 27, 1999.

Permit Application No. 99-007

5. *Applicant:* William R. Fraser, Biology Department, 310 Lewis Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Taking, Enter Site of Special Scientific Interest and Enter Specially Protected Areas. The applicant is a participant in two long-term ecological research (LTER) programs in the western Antarctic Peninsula region. The focus of the research is to assess how annual environmental variability affects seabird diets, breeding success, growth rates, survival and recruitment, behavior, population trends, foraging success and seasonal dispersal. To accomplish these objectives, the applicant proposes to census populations; capture, mark, and weigh a select number of adults, chicks and eggs; and obtain diet samples through stomach lavage. The applicant proposes to enter the following specially protected areas:

Dion Islands, Marguerite Bay (Specially Protected Area No. 8)—This site has the only known breeding population of Emperor Penguins in the western Antarctic Peninsula. The applicant proposes to conduct a census in order to update the population data

available on this species, since a census has not been conducted in more than two decades.

Litchfield Island, Arthur Harbor (Specially Protected Area No. 17) and Biscoe Point, Anvers Island (Site of Special Interest No. 20)—These two sites near Palmer Station, Anvers Island, will serve as research control areas. The applicant proposes to enter Litchfield Island 2–3 times a week and Biscoe Point up to 5 times a season, for 2–3 hours each visit, to census seabirds and seals and conduct habitat mapping. Heavily vegetated areas will be avoided.

Avian Island, Marguerite Bay (Specially Protected Area No. 21)—This site will serve as an alternate site in the Marguerite Bay region for obtaining Adelie Penguin diet samples and censuses during the annual Palmer LTER research cruise. The applicant proposes to obtain diet samples from 20–25 penguins to determine trends in diets and populations of this species in the Marguerite Bay region to determine if it differs from those in the Palmer Station region due to differences in annual sea ice conditions.

*Location:* Dion Island (SPA #8) and Avian Islands (SPA #21), Marguerite Bay, Litchfield Island (SPA #17) and Biscoe Point, Anvers Island (SSSI #20).

*Dates:* October 1, 1998 to April 30, 2002.

Permit Application No. 99-008

6. *Applicant:* William R. Fraser, Biology Department, 310 Lewis Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Taking; Import into the U.S. The applicant, during the course of normal research, occasionally encounters specimens of various species that have died of natural causes. The applicant proposes to salvage, on an opportunistic basis, specimens of seabirds and seals for import to the U.S. for use in museums and educational institutions.

*Location:* Palmer Station, Anvers Island and vicinity.

*Dates:* October 1, 1998 to April 30, 2000.

Permit Application No. 99-009

7. *Applicant:* William R. Fraser, Biology Department, 310 Lewis Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Taking; Import into the U.S. The applicant is a participant in two long-term ecological research (LTER) programs in the western Antarctic Peninsula region. The focus of the research is to assess how annual environmental variability affects seabird

diets, breeding success, growth rates, survival and recruitment, behavior, population trends, foraging success and seasonal dispersal. To accomplish these objectives, the applicant proposes to census populations; capture, mark, and weigh a select number of adults, chicks and eggs; obtain diet samples through stomach lavage, place radio/satellite transmitters on some individuals to develop profiles on foraging effort and dispersal; and use developing GIS/GPS technologies to map and characterize breeding habitat features. The applicant estimates 1,700 Adelie penguins, 1,000 Chinstrap penguins, 200 South Polar Skuas, 100 Brown Skuas, 1,000 Giant Fulmars, 500 Blue-eyed Shags and 500 Kelp Gulls will be involved in various parts of the research effort. All seabirds will be released unharmed.

*Location:* Palmer Station, Anvers Island and vicinity.

*Dates:* October 1, 1998 to April 30, 2002.

Permit Application No. 99-010

8. *Applicant:* Rennie S. Holt, Chief Scientist, AMLR Program, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093.

*Activity for Which Permit is Requested:* Taking, Import into the United States, and Enter Site of Special Scientific Interest. The applicant will be conducting ship-supported and land-based studies in the region of the Antarctic Peninsula. Studies encompassing census surveys, attendance, energetics, foraging, and long term monitoring (censusing/tagging) of Antarctic fur seals (*Arctocephalus gazella*) will be conducted at the AMLR Program campsite at Cape Shirreff, Livingston Island (Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 32), Seal Island and on the San Telmo Islands. Up to 80 adult and 1500 pups will be captured and tagged. In addition up to 40 female/pup pairs will be captured to quantify the foraging costs of maternal investment in pups associated with changes in foraging strategies observed. Energetic costs and benefits of different foraging patterns can be determined by simultaneous measurements of energy expenditure (isotope), food intake (isotope), dive depth, duration, time of day and dive frequency (via TDR's swim speed (TDR), and foraging location (satellite transmitter). Attendance information collected from these instrumented females will address issues such as (a) prey availability and subsequent impact on females and pups, and (b) attendance-related factors of pup growth. Milk extraction and gastric lavage/intubation will be used for

energetic studies, providing trophic information.

In addition the applicant proposes to salvage bones and carcasses of dead seals and other cetacean species found on shore for importation to the U.S. These materials will be stored at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center for education and research purposes.

*Location:* Cape Shirreff, Livingston Island (SSSI #32), Byers Peninsula (SSSI #6), South Shetland Island, Antarctic Peninsula.

*Dates:* October 31, 1998 to April 1, 2001.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer, Officer of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 98-23040 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Earth Sciences Proposal Review Panel; 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:* Earth Sciences Proposal Review Panel (1569).

*Date:* September 16, 17, & 18, 1998.

*Time:* 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day.

*Place:* Rooms 365, 370, 390, 730 and 770, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Alan M. Gaines, Section Head, Division of Earth Sciences, Room 785, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA, (703) 306-1553.

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

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate earth sciences 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 proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: August 24, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-23036 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## 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 meeting.

*Name:* Special Emphasis Panel in Materials Research (1203).

*Dates & Times:* September 22, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm and September 23-24, 1998 8:30 am-5:00 pm.

*Place:* National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (NHMFL), Tallahassee, FL.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. W. Lance Haworth, Division of Materials Research, Room 1065, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, Telephone: (703) 306-1815.

*Purpose of Meeting:* Annual NSF progress review of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory.

*Agenda:* Evaluation of progress and plans in the third year of the current five-year award.

*Reason for Closing:* Some of the information presented through the site visit will be of a proprietary or confidential nature, such as financial data, 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: August 24, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-23037 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Special Emphasis Panel in Polar Programs; 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 Polar Programs (1209).

*Date and time:* September 21-23, 1998, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 730, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of meeting:* Closed.

*Contact person:* Dr. Polly A. Penhale, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230 Telephone: (703) 306-1033.

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

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate Antarctic Biology and Medicine 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: August 24, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-23038 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Special Emphasis Panel in Polar Programs; 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 Polar Programs (1209).

*Date and time:* September 21-23, 1998, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 380, Arlington, VA 22230.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Julie Palais, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230 Telephone: (703) 306-1033.

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

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate Antarctic Glaciology 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: August 24, 1998.

**M. Rebecca Winkler,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-23039 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370]

### Duke Energy Corporation; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-9 and NPF-17, issued to Duke Energy Corporation (the licensee), for operation of the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.