

from the 1998 questionnaire was dropped from the survey.

There are no modifications to the Follow-Up Survey, because the first cycle of the survey (1998) has not yet been completed.

#### Use of the information

The information from the Facilities survey will be used by Federal policymakers, planners, and budget analysis in making policy decisions as well as by academic officials, the S&E establishment, and State agencies that fund universities and colleges. The survey will provide updated data on the status of and trends in S&E research facilities to help policymakers with decisions about the health of academic S&E research, funding, regulations, and reporting guidelines. The Follow-Up Survey will collect additional information to supplement the original survey data. The data collected using the Follow-Up Survey is expected to be used to make more exact and, as a result, more valid judgements concerning the reasonableness of facility costs.

Specifically, the Facilities data will be used in:

- A separate report of the findings for Congress;
- A special report for NIH on the Status of Biomedical Research Facilities;
- Other NSF compilations such as National Patterns of R&D Resources and Science and Engineering Indicators;
- Special reports for other Federal agencies on an as-needed basis; and
- A public release file of collected data in aggregate form made available to researchers on the World Wide Web.

#### Expected Respondents

The sample size for the 1999 survey is planned to be increased to the size of the universe of institutions in the NSF 1997 Survey of Scientific and Engineering Expenditures at Universities and Colleges. This universe is selected to provide nationally representative data for both undergraduate and graduate degree-granting schools. The respondents will have the option to complete the survey on the World Wide Web. Based on experience with similar populations, we expect some forty percent (40%) of the institutions to respond via the Internet. Eligibility for inclusion in the Follow-up Survey is based upon responses to the Facilities Survey. There is no sampling involved in the determination of institutions who will be asked to participate. All qualified institutions will be included in this study. It is estimated that approximately 43

academic institutions will be eligible for the Follow-Up Survey.

#### Burden on the Public

The average completion time for the survey by academic institutions was reduced from 43 to 24 hours between 1988 and 1998. This decrease reflected continued improvements in the questionnaire, institutional databases, and, more recently, the introduction of the option to complete the survey on disk.

Much of the data noted in the the proposed modification are readily available to the respondents. It is expected that the proposed modifications to the questionnaire will decrease burden hours due to the inclusion of skip patterns on the survey itself, clarification of all instructions to the respondent, and the option to use an Internet-based version of the survey. We expect that the overall response time will be an average of 22 hours.

The Follow-Up Survey will be sent to qualifying institutions, of which there is expected to be approximate 43. The completion time per academic institution is expected to average 1.5 hours

Dated: June 25, 1999.

**Suzanne Plimpton,**

*NSF Reports Clearance Officer.*

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#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

##### Committee Management; Renewals

The NSF management officials having responsibility for the 26 advisory committees listed below have determined that renewing these groups for another two years is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Director, National Science Foundation (NSF), by 42 U.S.C. 1861 *et seq.* This determination follows consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration.

1. Advisory Committee for Small Business Industrial Innovation (#61)
2. Advisory Committee for Biological Sciences (#1110)
3. Advisory Committee for Education & Human Resources (#1119)
4. Advisory Committee for Polar Programs (#1130)
5. Advisory Panel for Biochemistry & Molecular Structure & Function (#1134)
6. Advisory Panel for Cell Biology (#1136)

7. Advisory Panel for Developmental Mechanisms (#1141)
8. Advisory Panel for Genetics (#1149)
9. Advisory Panel for Neuroscience (#1158)
10. Advisory Panel for Physiology and Ethnology (#1160)
11. Advisory Committee for Engineering (#1170)
12. Alan T. Waterman Award Committee (#1172)
13. Advisory Panel for Biological Infrastructure (#1215)
14. Special Emphasis Panel in Science & Technology Infrastructure (#1373)
15. Earth Sciences Proposal Review Panel (#1569)
16. Advisory Panel for Ecological Studies (#1751)
17. Advisory Panel for Systematic & Population Biology (#1753)
18. Special Emphasis Panel in Biological Sciences (#1754)
19. Advisory Committee for Geosciences (#1755)
20. Special Emphasis Panel in Geosciences (#1756)
21. Advisory Panel for Anthropological & Geographic Sciences (#1757)
22. Advisory Panel for Cognitive, Psychological & Language Sciences (#1758)
23. Advisory Panel for Economics, Decision & Management Sciences (#1759)
24. Advisory Panel for Methods, Cross-Directorate and Science and Society (#1760)
25. Advisory Panel for Social & Political Sciences (#1761)
26. Special Emphasis Panel in Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (#1766)

Authority for these Committees will expire on June 30, 2001, unless they are renewed. For more information, please contact Karen York, NSF, at (703) 306-1182.

Dated: June 25, 1999.

**Karen J. York,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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#### NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-443]

##### North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation, et al.; Seabrook Station, Unit 1; Notice of Consideration of Approval of Application Regarding Proposed Corporate Merger and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is