Environmental Protection Specialist, Environmental Management Division, USIBWC, 4171 North Mesa Street, C–310, El Paso, Texas 79902. A public hearing is scheduled from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2004 at the USIBWC Headquarters, First Floor Conference Room, 4171 North Mesa Street, El Paso, Texas 79902 to present your verbal or written comments.

Copies of the DEIS are available for inspection and review at the following locations: Branigan Memorial Library, 200 East Picacho Avenue, Las Cruces, New Mexico; El Paso Public Library, 501 North Oregon Street, El Paso, Texas; New Mexico State University Library, Las Cruces, New Mexico; University Library, The University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas; and United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, 4171 North Mesa Street, El Paso, Texas. A copy of the DEIS will also be posted at the USIBWC Web site at *www.ibwc.state.gov* ''IBWC News.''

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Douglas Echlin, Lead Environmental Protection Specialist, Environmental Management Division, USIBWC, 4171 North Mesa Street, C–310, El Paso, Texas 79902 or call 915/832–4741. e-mail: *dougechlin@ibwc.state.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USIBWC is evaluating long-term river management alternatives for the Rio Grande Canalization Project (RGCP), a narrow river corridor that extends 105.4 river miles along the Rio Grande, from below Percha Dam in Sierra County, New Mexico to American Dam in El Paso, Texas. The RGCP is operated and maintained by the USIBWC and was constructed to facilitate water deliveries to the Rincon and Mesilla Valleys in New Mexico, El Paso Valley in Texas, and Juarez Valley in Mexico. The project also includes a levee system for flood control.

The USIBWC currently implements operation and maintenance procedures to enhance ecosystem functions within the RGCP; however, alterations to the river and floodway from events that pre-date RGCP construction continue to affect the river and floodway. Therefore, USIBWC recognizes the need to accomplish flood control, water delivery, and operations and maintenance activities in a manner that enhances and restores the riparian ecosystem.

River management alternatives were considered and developed over a three-year-long public consultation process that included input from the general public and stakeholders such as regulatory agencies, irrigation districts, and environmental organizations. The No Action Alternative and three potential action alternatives were selected for further evaluation in the DEIS. Levee rehabilitation, changes associated with grazing leases to improve erosion control, floodway management, and river restoration including aquatic habitat diversification and riparian vegetation development are measures considered in the action alternatives. The USIBWC will select a preferred alternative after public comment on the DEIS.

A copy of the DEIS has been filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with 40 CFR parts 1500–1508 and USIBWC procedures. Written comments concerning the DEIS will be accepted at the address provided above until February 10, 2004.

Dated: December 18, 2003.

Mario Lewis,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 03–31664 Filed 12–23–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–03–U

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation of 1978, Public Law 95–541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy, Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation published notices in the **Federal Register** of permit applications received from the following applicants on:

William Gilmore (2004–011), August 19, 2003; Howard Evans (2004–005), September 29, 2003; Paul R. Renne (2004–017), October 27, 2003; and Thomas A. Day (2004–018), November 10, 2003.

Permits were issued to these four applicants on December 15, 2003.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer.

[FR Doc. 03–31617 Filed 12–23–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Earthscope Science and Education Advisory Committee; 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: EarthScope Science and Education Advisory Committee (#16638).

Dates/Time: 8 p.m.–9:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 21, 2004, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Thursday, January 22 and 23, 2004. 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m. Saturday, January 24, 2004.

Place: Sheraton 4-Points Hotel, 1201 K Street NW., Washington, DC.

Type of Meeting: Part-Open (see agenda below).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. James H. Whitcomb, Division of Earth Sciences, National Science Foundation, Suite 785, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, Phone 703–292–8553.

Minutes: May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

Purpose of Meeting: To carry out EarthScope proposal and management review, including program evaluation, GPRA assessments, and access to privileged materials; and to provide advice, recommendations, and oversight concerning EarthScope construction, operation, science and education support.

Agenda:

January 21, 2004

8 p.m.–9 p.m. Closed—Discussions regarding proposals and personnel decisions.

January 22, 2004

8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Open—Review of EarthScope Execution Plan.

1 p.m.–5 p.m. Closed—Review of funding decisions for personnel and subcontracts for construction phase of EarthScope.

January 23, 2004

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Open—Advise on education and outreach Management structure, and revision of volanic area instrumentation.

January 24, 2004

8:30 a.m.–12 p.m. Closed—Review of proposal actions and discussion of proposals still under review.

Reason for Closing: Session having to do with proposal and awards for specific grants, contracts, or other arrangements may properly be closed to the public under 5 U.S.C. 522b(c)(4), (6),

and (9)(B) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: December 19, 2003.

Susanne Bolton,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03–31716 Filed 12–23–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of the OMB review of information collection and solicitation of public comment.

SUMMARY: The NRC has recently submitted to OMB for review the following proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The NRC hereby informs potential respondents that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and that a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

1. *Type of submission, new, revision, or extension:* Revision.

2. *The title of the information collection:* 10 CFR part 50, ''Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities'.

3. *The form number if applicable:* Not applicable.

4. *How often the collection is required:* As necessary in order for NRC to meet its responsibilities to conduct a detailed review of applications for licenses and amendments thereto to construct and operate nuclear power plants, preliminary or final design approvals, design certifications, research and test facilities, reprocessing plants and other utilization and production facilities, licensed pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and to monitor their activities.

5. *Who will be required or asked to report:* Licensees and applicants for nuclear power plants and research and test facilities.

6. *An estimate of the number of annual responses:* 7,244 (7,069 responses + 175 recordkeepers).

7. *The estimated number of annual respondents:* 175.

8. *An estimate of the total number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 5.2M: 1.8M hours reporting (average of 259 hrs/response) + 3.4M hours recordkeeping (average of 19K hrs/recordkeeper).

9. *An indication of whether section 3507(d), Pub. L. 104–13 applies:* N/A.

10. *Abstract:* 10 CFR part 50 of the NRC's regulations ''Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities,'' specifies technical information and data to be provided to the NRC or maintained by applicants and licensees so that the NRC may make determinations necessary to protect the health and safety of the public, in accordance with the Act. The reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in 10 CFR part 50 are mandatory for the affected licensees and applicants.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O–1 F21, Rockville, MD 20852. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide Web site: *http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment/omb/index.html*. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions should be directed to the OMB reviewer listed below by January 23, 2004. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given to comments received after this date. OMB Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150–0011), NEOB–10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395–3087.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, (301) 415–7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 18th day of December, 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03–31687 Filed 12–23–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 70–143]

Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc.; Notice of Receipt of Amendment Request and Opportunity To Request a Hearing for Oxide Conversion Building and Effluent Processing Building in the Blended Low-Enriched Uranium Complex

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of amendment request and opportunity to request a hearing.

DATES: A request for a hearing must be filed on or before January 23, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, please contact Michael A. Lamastra, Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop T–8–A–33, Washington, DC 20555–0001. Telephone (301) 415–8139; fax number: (301) 415–5955; e-mail; *mxl2@nrc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received, by letter dated October 23, 2003, a request from Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS), to amend its NRC Special Nuclear Materials License SNM–124, to authorize processing operations in the Oxide Conversion Building (OCB) and the Effluent Processing Building (EPB) at the Blended Low-Enriched Uranium (BLEU) Complex. The request is the third of three license amendment requests planned to support operations associated with downblending and conversion of high-enriched uranium materials to low-enriched uranium oxides.

NFS is currently manufacturing high-enriched nuclear reactor fuel at its facility in Erwin, Tennessee. NFS is constructing a new complex at the Erwin site to manufacture low-enriched nuclear reactor fuel. NFS is requesting this amendment to authorize operations that will convert liquid uranyl nitrate solutions into solid uranium oxide powder as part of the process for downblending and conversion of high-enriched uranium materials into low-enriched uraniumoxide. After the material is converted to uranium oxide powder, it will be transferred to another facility for fabrication of reactor fuel assemblies.