ATTENTION: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a meeting of the NASA Earth System Science and Applications Advisory Committee (ESSAAC), Earth Science Information Systems and Services Subcommittee (EISIS), and Oceanography (SIO), 4500 Hubbs Hall, La Jolla, California 92037.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Martha Maiden, Code YF, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546, 202/358-1078. The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Welcome
- Charge to Subcommittee
- Goals and Agenda
- State of Earth Science Enterprise
- (ESE) Data and Information Systems and Services
- Major Issues Identified
- Earth Observation System Data and Information System Technology Snapshot
- Additional and Emerging Systems Technology Snapshot
- Distributed Active Archive Centers’ Technology Snapshot
- User Characterization and Metrics
- Technology Infusion
- Data and Information Management Plan
- Chair’s Remarks/Review of Agenda
- ESE Overview
- Technology Subcommittee Report
- What Makes a Modern Grid?
- Overview of NASA’s Information Infrastructure
- ESE Data & Information Management Plan
- ESE FY03 Performance Discussion
- Progress on Other ESE Plans
- Committee Deliberations

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor’s register.

Michael F. O’Brien, Assistant Administrator for Office of External Relations, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

SUMMARY: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a meeting of the NASA Space Science Advisory Committee (SScAC), Astronomical Search for Origins and Planetary Systems Subcommittee (OS), and Evolution of the Universe Subcommittee; Meeting of the NASA Space Science Advisory Committee (SScAC), Structure and Evolution of the Universe Subcommitte (SEUS).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Paul Hertz, Code SZ, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546, 202/358-0986, paul.hertz@nasa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Associate Administrator’s Report on Space Science Programs
- Astronomy and Physics Director’s Report on Astronomy and Physics Programs
- Theme Scientist’s Report on SEU Theme Program
- Discussion of Astronomy and Physics Research and Technology Programs
- Planning for Future Roadmapping Activities

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor’s register.

Michael F. O’Brien, Assistant Administrator for External Relations, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

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Michael F. O’Brien, Assistant Administrator for External Relations, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Knowledge Base for Post-Fire Safe-Shutdown Analysis, Availability of Draft NUREG 1778

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice of availability for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is announcing the completion and availability of Draft NUREG–1778, “Knowledge Base for Post-Fire Safe- Shutdown Analysis,” January, 2004. The NRC is seeking comment from interested parties on the clarity and utility of the draft NUREG. The NRC will consider comments received in its final issue of NUREG–1778.

DATES: Comment period expires March 29, 2004. Comments submitted after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given except for comments received on or before this date.


A free single copy of Draft NUREG–1778, to the extent of supply, may be requested by writing to Office of the Chief Information Officer, Reproduction and Distribution Services Section, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Printing and Graphics Branch, Washington, DC 20555–0001 facsimile: 301–415–2289; e-mail: DISTRIBUTION@nrc.gov.

Some publications in NUREG-series that are posted at NRC’s Web site address http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/NUREGS/indexnum.html are updated regularly and may differ from the last printed version.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As a result of a major fire that occurred at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant in 1975, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) significantly revised its regulatory framework to enhance fire protection programs (FPPs) at operating nuclear power plants (NPPs). The revised criteria used in this framework had three main objectives to (1) prevent significant fires, (2) ensure the capability to shutdown the reactor and maintain it in a safe-shutdown condition, and (3) minimize radioactive releases to the environment in the event of a significant fire.

Recent Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) studies have shown that the revised criteria are beneficial to safety. Plant design changes required by the new regulatory framework have been effective in preventing a recurrence of a fire event of the severity experienced at Browns Ferry. In addition, according to a 1989 study performed by SNL plant modifications made in response to the new requirements have reduced the core damage frequencies (CDFs) at some plants by a factor of 10.

The NRC’s regulatory framework provides several options for ensuring that structures, systems, and components (SSCs) important to safe shutdown are adequately protected from the effects of fire. Because of the potentially unacceptable consequences that an unmitigated fire may have on plant safety, each operating plant must perform a documented evaluation to demonstrate that, in the event a fire were to initiate and continue to burn (in spite of prevention and mitigation features), the performance of essential shutdown functions will be preserved and radioactive releases to the environment will be minimized. The document that describes this evaluation process and its results is commonly referred to as a “safe-shutdown analysis” (SSA).

Fire protection for NPPs is a complex subject. The purpose of this document is to facilitate understanding of the regulatory framework of the Fire Protection Program by compiling the related knowledge into a single document. This document assumes that the reader has had little or no involvement in the development and/or implementation of fire protection criteria, post-fire safe-shutdown analysis, or any of its related engineering disciplines. The criteria and assumptions described in this document are based on the NRC’s regulatory framework for fire protection, as it was in place at the time of this writing. This document only clarifies existing criteria. This document does not contain any new or different staff positions and does not impose any new requirements.

The knowledge base documented in this NUREG-series report must be used within the context of the licensing basis of each individual plant and with due consideration for the NRC’s BackFit rule, as specified in Title 10, Section 50.109, Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 50.109).

Date at Rockville, Maryland, this 20 day of January, 2004.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John N. Hannon.
Chief, Plant Systems Branch, Division of Systems Safety and Analysis, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 04–1899 Filed 1–28–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC–26338; File No. 812–13022]

IDS Life Insurance Company, et al.,
Notice of Application


AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”).

ACTION: Notice of an application for an order pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Act”) granting exemptions from the provisions of Sections 2(a)(32), 22(c) and 27(i)(2)(A) of the Act and Rule 22c–1 thereunder.


Summary of Application: Applicants seek an order to amend an Existing Order (described below) to grant exemptions from the provisions of Sections 2(a)(32), 22(c) and 27(i)(2)(A) of the Act and Rule 22c–1 thereunder to the extent necessary to permit the recapture of certain credits applied to contributions made under: (i) Certain additional, amended deferred variable annuity contracts, described herein, that IDS Life proposes to issue through the IDS Life Account (the contracts, including certain data pages and endorsements, are collectively referred to herein as the “Amended Contracts”), and (ii) certain additional, amended