

*Contact Person:* Dr. Craig Foltz, Acting Director, Division of Astronomical Sciences, Suite 1045, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: 703-292-4909.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations to the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on issues within the field of astronomy and astrophysics that are of mutual interest and concern to the agencies.

*Agenda:* To hear presentations of current programming by representatives from NSF, NASA, DOE and other agencies relevant to astronomy and astrophysics; to discuss current and potential areas of cooperation between the agencies; to formulate recommendations for continued and new areas of cooperation and mechanisms for achieving them.

Dated: January 7, 2009.

**Susanne E. Bolton,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-308 Filed 1-9-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Proposal Review Panel for 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:* Site Visit review of the Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC) at California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Pasadena, CA (DMR) #1203.

*Dates & Times:* Thursday, February 26, 2009; 7:45 a.m.–9 p.m., Friday, February 27, 2009; 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

*Place:* Caltech, Pasadena, CA.

*Type of Meeting:* Part-open.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Rama Bansil, Program Director, Materials Research Science and Engineering Centers Program, Division of Materials Research, Room 1065, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, Telephone (703) 292-8562.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning further support of the MRSEC at Caltech, Pasadena, CA.

*Agenda:*

#### Thursday, February 26, 2009

7:45 a.m.–9 a.m. Closed—Executive Session.

9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Open—Review of the Caltech MRSEC.

4:30 p.m.–6 p.m. Closed—Executive Session.

6 p.m.–9 p.m. Open—Poster Session and Dinner.

#### Friday, February 27, 2009

8 a.m.–9 a.m. Closed—Executive session.

9 a.m.–10:15 a.m. Open—Review of the

Caltech MRSEC.  
10:15 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Closed—Executive Session, Draft and Review Report.

*Reason for Closing:* The work being reviewed may 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. 552 b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 7, 2009.

**Susanne Bolton,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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## 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 Modification Received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of requests to modify permits issued 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 a requested permit modification.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by February 11, 2009. 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) 292-7405.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the 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 Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

*Description of Permit Modification Requested:* The Foundation issued a permit (2009-013) to Dr. Robert Pitman on October 10, 2008. The issued permit allows the applicant to study movement patterns, diet preferences and genetics of Antarctic Killer whales, Minke whales and Humpback whales.

The applicant will be working in the Antarctic Peninsula studying Killer whales and attends to collect bits of their prey which sometimes floats to the surface. The applicant requests a modification of his permit to allow collection of unidentified prey items (mostly marine mammals but possibly penguins) so they can be genetically identified in the lab.

*Location:* Waters in the vicinity of the Antarctic Peninsula.

*Dates:* December 25, 2008 to December 31, 2013.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. E9-232 Filed 1-9-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2008-0065]

### Notice of Availability of Model Application Concerning Technical Specification Improvement to Revise Containment Isolation Valve Completion Times (TSTF-498, Revision 1, for Babcock & Wilcox Plants)

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has prepared a model safety evaluation (SE) relating to the modification of technical specification (TS) 3.6.3, Containment Isolation Valves associated with implementation of BAW-2461-A, "Risk-Informed Justification for Containment Isolation Valve Allowed Outage Time Change." The NRC staff has also prepared a model license amendment request and a model non-significant-hazards consideration (NSHC) determination relating to this matter. The purpose of these models is to permit the NRC to efficiently process amendments that propose to modify TS Completion Times (CTs) for CIVs. Licensees of nuclear power reactors to which the models apply can then request amendments after confirming