

The 2009 Regolith Excavation Challenge is being administered by the California Space Education & Workforce Institute (CSEWI) for NASA. The \$750,000USD prize purse is funded by NASA. This event will be conducted in a format which brings all competitors to a single location for a "head to head" competition.

**DATES:** The 2009 Regolith Excavation Challenge is scheduled for October 17–18, 2009.

**Location:** The 2009 Regolith Excavation Challenge will be held at the NASA Research Park in Moffett Field, California. For more information, see: <http://researchpark.arc.nasa.gov>.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** To register for and get additional information regarding the 2009 Regolith Excavation Challenge including Rules, Team Agreement, eligibility, and prize criteria, visit the Web site: <http://regolith.csewi.org> or contact Mr. Error! Reference source not found. at CSEWI, 3201 Airpark Drive Suite 204, Santa Maria, CA 93455. Phone: 805–349–2633 or e-mail: [matt.everingham@californiaspaceauthority.org](mailto:matt.everingham@californiaspaceauthority.org).

If you have questions or comments regarding the NASA Centennial Challenges Program visit the Web site: <http://www.ipp.nasa.gov/cc> or contact Mr. Andrew Petro, Innovative Partnerships Program Office, NASA Headquarters, 300 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20546–0001. E-mail: [andrew.j.petro@nasa.gov](mailto:andrew.j.petro@nasa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 2009 Regolith Excavation Challenge total purse of \$750,000 will go to the winning teams excavating the most regolith, in excess of 150 kilograms, within a 30-minute duration. The First, Second and Third prizes are \$500,000, \$150,000 and \$100,000, respectively.

In case of individuals, prizes can only be awarded to US Citizens or permanent residents. In the case of corporations or other entities, prizes can only be awarded to those that are incorporated in and maintain a primary place of business in the United States.

Dated: August 18, 2009.

**Douglas A. Comstock,**

*Director, Innovative Partnerships Program Office.*

[FR Doc. E9–20402 Filed 8–25–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510–13–P

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Conservation Act of 1978 Notice of Waste Permit Application Received

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit application received under the Antarctic Conservation Act and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the National Science Foundation (NSF) has received a waste management permit application for the United States Antarctic Program (USAP), submitted to NSF pursuant to regulations issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application on or before September 25, 2009. The permit application 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:** Polly A. Penhale at the above address or at (703) 292–7420.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Antarctic Waste Regulations in 45 CFR part 671 require U.S. citizens, corporations, or other entities to obtain a permit for the use or release of designated pollutants in Antarctica and for the release of any waste in the Antarctic. NSF has received a permit application under this regulation for USAP activities in Antarctica. The permit applicant is: Raytheon Polar Services Company, 7400 South Tucson Way, Centennial, CO 80112.

The permit application applies to USAP activities conducted by all supporting organizations at all USAP facilities and operations in Antarctica. The proposed duration of the permit is from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014.

Raytheon Polar Services Company (RPSC) and other supporting organizations provide broad-based logistical support, technical support, and transportation services to the USAP. This includes the transport of both hazardous and non-hazardous waste from Antarctica to the United States.

RPSC operations include procuring, transporting to Antarctica, and tracking materials containing designated pollutants that are required for USAP operations, and for NSF and NSF grantees. RPSC is also responsible for fuel operations including fuel storage, distribution, and resupply; and record-keeping of fuel use. RPSC collects, stores, and ships both hazardous and non-hazardous waste materials and is responsible for the final disposition of

these materials once they are returned to the United States. RPSC also provides training and technical guidance to enhance the safety and effectiveness of U.S. waste management practices in Antarctica.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9–20564 Filed 8–25–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–348 and 50–364; NRC–2009–0375]

### Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.; Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an Exemption, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 73.5, "Specific exemptions," from 10 CFR Part 73, "Physical protection of plants and materials," for Facility Operating License Nos. NPF–2 and NPF–8, issued to Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC, the licensee), for operation of the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (FNP), located in Houston County, Alabama. In accordance with 10 CFR 51.21, the NRC prepared an environmental assessment documenting its finding. The NRC concluded that the proposed actions will have no significant environmental impact.

#### Environmental Assessment

##### *Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action would exempt the FNP from the required implementation date of March 31, 2010, for several new requirements of 10 CFR part 73. Specifically, FNP would be granted an exemption from being in full compliance with certain new requirements contained in 10 CFR 73.55 by the March 31, 2010, deadline. Instead, SNC has proposed an alternate full compliance implementation date of December 15, 2010, approximately eight and a half months beyond the date required by 10 CFR part 73. The proposed action, an extension of the schedule for completion of certain actions required by the revised 10 CFR part 73, does not involve any physical changes to the reactor, fuel, plant structures, support structures, water, or land at the FNP site.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated